

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Every individual has been born with different characteristics. It brings differences to the way of thinking and influences their future life. This condition clearly happens when they graduate from senior high school and want to enroll to a university. They decide their own major so that they choose to enroll a faculty that they like, for example, Economics, Psychology, Food Technology, English letters, Architecture.

However, English subject can not be rejected in UNIKA Soegijapranata whatever the faculty they choose. After the writer made casual observation at CLT (Center for Language Training), the writer found that Management Economic and Psychology students also learn English. Management Economics and Psychology students get English lesson at CLT while the English department students get the English lesson at UNIKA.

CLT (Center for Language Training) is a part of Unika Soegijapranata as a unit, which gives service to the students of Unika Soegijapranata. Besides, CLT also serves the communities who need English course. CLT teaches English for specific purposes or ESP. This means that CLT develops the materials based on the students' needs, for example the students of Management Economics get English for Management.

English is a compulsory subject because English subject is included in students' curriculum and they have to take it in the first semester. Some students of non-English departments should take English subject until second semester. One of the reasons is the fact that Unika Soegijapranata realizes that English has an important role in international communication. For example, English is very important for someone who wants to seek a job because many factories or companies need employees who have English capability.

As English plays an important role in determining their future careers, it affects the attitudes of the students. For illustration, some students who have a positive attitude learn English with hard effort, but others who have a negative attitude are lazy to study English subject. In other words, the success of the students in the future depends on their attitudes towards the subject.

The reason why the writer is interested in the research on Psychology and Economics, Management study program students' attitudes toward English class is that the writer has found something interesting about their attitudes when learning English. In this study, the writer wants to know the attitudes of Psychology and Economics, Management study program students in learning English language. The writer involved Psychology and Economics, Management study program students because the students must study English class for two semesters.

## **1.2. FIELD OF THE STUDY**

This research is in the field of Linguistics.

### **1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This research is within the domain of Psycholinguistics and SLA concerning on attitudes in learning English.

### **1.4. PROBLEM FORMULATION**

There are two research questions the writer needs to respond. The two research questions are as follows:

1. What are Psychology and Economics, Management study program students' attitudes toward English class?
2. What are the factors that mostly influence their attitudes towards English class?

### **1.5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

Based on the theory of Psycholinguistic and Second Language Acquisition used as the basis of this research, the writer formulated two main problems. They are as follows:

1. To identify the attitudes of Psychology and Economics, Management study program students toward English class.
2. To find out the most influence factors their attitudes toward English class.

## 1.6. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

On this research, the writer finds out about students' attitudes toward English class. Through this research, the writer expects that the readers could have some ideas about the attitudes in learning English. Besides that, the results of this research can help the readers to know the factors that affect their attitude so that students can improve their attitude toward English class. Then, they can achieve success.

## 1.7. DEFINITION OF TERMS

There is a term in this study that needs to be clarified. That is:

### **Attitude**

Attitude is someone's act towards an object. Oppenheim (1984, p.105) states, "Most definitions seem to agree that an attitude is a state of readiness, a tendency to act or react in a certain manner when confronted with certain stimuli."