

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of the Study

English is an international language. It is used in many countries for communication among people from different language backgrounds. In Indonesia, English is a foreign language. Richards (1978, p.5) says that foreign language is a language which is studied primarily to enable one to communicate with native speakers of that language. Also, English language is important to be learnt because nowadays many people in many countries use English for communication with each other in many different fields, such as Economics, Politics, Sociology, Technology, and etcetera. Hutchinson and Waters (1987, p.133) say that "new masses of people want to learn English, not only for the prestige of knowing the language, but also because English has become the international medium of technology and commerce". What Hutchinson and Waters say about English language must be taken into account by Indonesians in order to go through in this globalization era. As has been stated above, English is used in many fields and many specific professions such as Architecture, Business, Civil engineering, Electronics, Economics, Medical, etcetera. Therefore, in its development, English is not only taught as General English but it is also taught more specifically, or commonly called English for Specific Purposes (ESP). However learning ESP

includes much more than specific materials and contents. Learning ESP combines some linguistic skills along with specific information. Teaching or learning language for specific purposes is determined by different needs of learners (such as different professions/ occupations), as Hutchinson and Waters (1987, p.3) say "ESP is based on designing courses to meet learner's needs". Therefore, English for Specific Purposes (ESP) includes specialized programs which are designed to develop the communicative use of English in a specialized field.

One of the areas covered by ESP is the Nursing field. Nursing field in Indonesia grows quite rapidly. Many people think that nurses are physician subordinates, but it is wrong. A nurse is a person whose job is caring for sick people. So, it is clear that a nurse and a doctor are two different professions. Nursing profession today also has a good prospect. As the writer has alluded above, that actually, nursing profession is very promising, as long as she or he is well equipped. Indonesia can obtain more devisa from the nursing field. As reported in Suara Merdeka, one of Semarang's daily newspapers published on 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, the demand for nurses abroad is very high. It is estimated to reach one million nurses in 2020. This fact shows that nurses are really needed abroad. Many advanced countries, such as, America, Canada, Japan, Korea even offer high salaries for nurses. America offers a minimal fee of US\$ 30 per hour. If converted in the currency of rupiahs, the nurse's salary there in one month can reach 50 million rupiahs, (Suara Merdeka, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2008). Japan still also needs 15.900 nurses in 2010. This can be a great chance for

Indonesian nurses to get big income in their field; besides contributing devisa for Indonesia. Although Indonesian nurses are badly needed overseas, there are still many constraints in their foreign language learning process, different working environments, in competency in fulfilling the international standard qualification, and so on. Based on Suara Merdeka 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, advanced countries like America, Canada, Japan, Korea need nurses who have international qualifications, as well as good English commands. Therefore, language is one important thing that must be mastered by the nurses so that they can fulfill the international qualification in the international competition.

In learning a foreign language, there is one thing that cannot be neglected. It is an attitude. An attitude cannot be underestimated because it has significant roles in the learning process. Atkinson (1998, p.569) says that attitudes include the feelings of like and dislike, judgment, and favorable and unfavorable reactions to an object, people, situation, and other aspects. People learn English because they have motivation and they show it in their attitudes.

Thus, as has been explained above, the writer discussed about the type of English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo. The writer wanted to know, whether English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo is General English or English for Specific Purposes, and whether it will support their future careers as nurses or not. The writer also wanted to know about the students' attitudes towards it. Attitudes cannot be neglected because they are related to the success in learning something



(Brown (2000, p.181)). Therefore, in this study the writer also wants to investigate it.

## **1.2.Field of the study**

The field of the study is Linguistics.

## **1.3. Scope of the Study**

In this study, the writer focuses on the type of English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo, whether they use general English or Specific English for Nursing and whether they have positive or negative attitudes in learning English at there.

## **1.4. Problem Formulations**

1. What kind of English is taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo Semarang?
2. What are the students' attitudes towards the English lessons at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo Semarang?

## **1.5. Objectives of the Study**

1. To identify the kind of English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo Semarang.
2. To find out the students' attitudes towards the English lessons at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo Semarang.

## **1.6.Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes that the results of the study can contribute a lot to English for Specific Purposes (ESP) field, particularly in the study of the

type of English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo. It is also expected that the results may motivate both the students of Faculty of Letters, Socgijapranata Catholic University and STIKES Telogorejo about the important role of English language in the real world. Moreover, the writer also hopes that it can be useful for the development of Nursing Academies in particular.

### **1.7. Definitions of Term**

#### **1.7.1 English taught at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo**

There are two types of English; General English and English for Specific Purposes (ESP). English that is used for the nurses is different from General English. The English used is more specific, as it is called English for Specific Purposes (ESP). The nurses use it to support their professions. Hutchinson and Waters (1987, p.3) say "ESP is based on designing courses to meet the learner's needs". Jeremy (2007) adds that ESP is different from General English; ESP (English for Specific Purposes – English for specialties such as nursing/ technology/ banker), and General English (English taught in most schools and private language institutes).

#### **1.7.2. Attitude**

Attitude is someone's emotional reaction towards something. Atkinson (1998, p.569) says that attitudes include the feeling of like and dislike, judgment, and pleased and displeased reaction to an object, people, situation, and other aspects.

#### **1.7.3. The D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo Semarang**

The D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo is one of Nursing Academies in Semarang which is run by Telogorejo Hospital. It is located on Arteri Yos Sudarso, Semarang. Students at the D3 program in nursing of STIKES Telogorejo have been learning English as well as their major, nursing lessons.

