

ABSTRACT

It is realized that English is the number one language in the world as it is used in most aspects of life. English is also spoken as a means of communication. Therefore, it is recommended that people understand English, so they can follow the development of the world.

However, English in Indonesia is a foreign language as it is not usually spoken in Indonesian society. As a result, numbers of Indonesian people do not understand English well.

Eventhough English is taught from Junior Highschools, a lot of Senior Highschool students still do not understand English and they are not able to apply it in everyday life.

In fact, Senior Highschool students are prepared to go to colleges or get a job. Furthermore, English is beneficial for them either to help them study further in colleges or get a job. Still, a lot of them do not try hard to understand English because some of them view that English is difficult to learn or take account of the unimportance of English.

From the reasons above, this study intends to find out the quantitative data concerning the Senior Highschool students' attitudes toward English. This study tries to compare the Senior Highschool students in urban and rural areas in Kudus.

The result of the study is intended to give teachers a better insight about the Senior Highschool students' attitudes toward English, so that if they know that there are some students who do not have positive attitudes toward English, they will be able to encourage or convince them that English is very important nowadays.

To get data for this study, the writer did a field research by using a questionnaire. The data were taken from Senior Highschool students in Kudus, a regency in Central Java. Four schools were involved in the research. Two classes were chosen randomly from each school. Therefore, there were eight classes.

The result of this study indicated that the Senior Highschool students in urban area had more favourable attitudes toward English than those in rural areas as the facilities in urban areas support them to learn English.

