CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background of the Study

English as an international language is used to communicate by most people all over the world. In the globalization era, English plays an important role. Firstly, people have to be able to communicate in English if they want to interact with people in the world. Secondly, English is used for transferring science, knowledge and technology of information. In Indonesia, English becomes a foreign language, which everyone should learn to survive in this Era. So that, for those who cannot speak English they have to do some efforts in understanding English if they do not want to be left behind. In addition, English is also one of the foreign languages taught in Indonesia education system and becomes compulsory at high school so students must learn it.

Students as foreign learners of English should have a motivation in learning English. Motivation is often discussed when the topic has reached to the square of education and learning. Indeed that motivation is very important for the students to understand because it determines what they want to reach through their learning process. Motivation is internal and external drives, directing behavior toward to reach some goals. Maehr and Mayer (in Ormrod, 2003: 368) states that
motivation is something that energizes, directs and sustain behavior; it gets students moving points them in particular direction and keeps them going.

Students’ motivation in learning can be influence by many factors; internal and external factors. For example the external factor is parents. As we know that motivation has big influence for the student in teaching learning process.

Parents have a responsibility to educate and develop their children’s talent for the success of their education. Thus, the parents become the most dominant determiner of their children’s success, especially for their education. According to Siahaan (1986: 9) parents’ role is educating their children in a family is very important because in family a child gets guidance and education firstly from their parents. The parents’ task is as a main and first teacher or educator for their children in growing and developing their mental, physical, and spiritual.

Furthermore, Ghazali (in Abrasyi, 1987: 114) verily that training youngsters is an important and necessary things. Children are mandate. In their parents’ hand, their heart is still pure likes an expensive diamond. If they are accustomed to good thing and educated, they will grow up with a good character and will be happy in the world and here after. On the other hand, if they are accustomed to a bad character and ignored like an animal, they will be completely destroyed. So, one of the most important things of parents’ role is giving attention to the child’s education. Attention is being motivated in everything in a child himself consisting of mind, feeling and activities. In this case, attention given by parents to the child’s motivation in learning English is very important because motivation is necessary in education, without motivation people cannot change their future. By having good motivation in learning English, learners will be easy to access and
transfer information and the learner who has high motivation might have high proficiency in mastering the language.

Therefore, the writer would like to investigate the students’ motivation in learning English and the parents’ attention influence toward students’ motivation in learning English. SLTP Negeri I Karangploso is chosen because students’ motivation in learning English in this school has never been research yet.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the statements of the problems are formulated as follows:

1. How is the parents’ attention toward students’ motivation in learning English at SLTP Negeri I Karangploso?

2. How is the students’ motivation in learning English at SLTP Negeri I Karangploso?

3. Is there any correlation between parents’ attention and students’ motivation in learning English?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To get information of the parents’ attention toward students’ motivation in learning English at SLTP Negeri I Karangploso.

2. To get information of the students’ motivation in learning English at SLTP Negeri I Karangploso.

3. To know the correlation between parents’ attention and students’ motivation in learning English.
1.4 Significance of the Study

The findings of the study are expected to get more information about student’s motivation, parents’ attention and correlation between parents’ attention toward student’s motivation in learning English. This contribution will be useful for the school principal in achieving the success of teaching learning activities in this school especially in English subject.

The result of this study is also expected to provide a feedback to the parents about the importance of parents’ attention to their children’s motivation in learning English. By knowing this, the parents will pay more attention to their children how busy they are so that their children achievement will be better than before.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research focuses on the students’ motivation in learning English, parents’ attention and correlation between parents’ attention toward students’ motivation in learning English. This study is limited on the students’ and their parents at SLTP Negeri I Karangploso.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The definitions of key terms are presented in this study to avoid misunderstanding in using the terms that exist in the study. The terms that need to be defined are as follows:

*Correlation* is interaction or close relationship, or a statistical measurement of the relationship between two variables.

(http://psychology.about.com/od/cindex/g/def_correlation.htm)
Attention is the cognitive process of selectively concentrating on one aspect of the environment while ignoring other things. Attention has also been referred to as the allocation of processing resources. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attention)

Motivation is something that energizes, directs and sustain behavior; it gets students moving points them in particular direction and keeps them going. Maehr and Mayer (in Ormrod, 2003: 368)

Learning is defined as relatively permanent change in our behavior that occurs through one’s experience (Santrock, 2001:238).