

Chapter One

Introduction

In this chapter the researcher presents the background of the study to elaborate the reason why the researcher conducted this research. Furthermore, the statement and limitation of the problem explain the problem that the researcher focused in conducting the research. This chapter also presents the research questions and purposes of the study for teacher, students and institution. Finally, the significance of the study shows how the research will be useful.

Background of the Study

Going to college is one of the choices for students who graduate from senior high school. Society realizes that higher education gives more chances to get job due to the fact that there are many companies that require university fresh graduates. People also assume that bachelor degree is the standard to get a job. Fizzer (2013) stated that for many reasons, nowadays prestigious job commonly requires a high grade degree of employee. The college major decision becomes crucial. It will lead students to the job that match and available to the students who graduate from those major. Sloane (2003) stated that the quantity of schooling is only one way to consider the match between schooling and jobs.

In a university, students choose their college major depending on their study interest or based on the job that they want to have in the future. The factors that might affect students' decision include family, passion, salary, and past experiences. In other words, students' interest of jobs referred, which is highly

influenced by internal and external factor, determine the students' decision in choosing a major at university.

Many universities offer English major, for students'. This major provides foundation for the students to learn and master English. According to Harmer (2007) as cited in Nurhayati, Hendrawaty and Angkarini (2013), "many people learn English because they have moved into a target-language community and they need to be able to operate successfully with that community" (p.82). This means that people also learn English language for larger purposes, because it is not only to become an English teacher but also to fit in some community or jobs that require English mastery. Some people also assume that Education major is popular. It is proven that the top five college majors are business administration and management, psychology, nursing, biology and education (The Princeton Review, 2013).

As one of the popular college majors English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (EED UMY) has focused on preparing the students to be an English teacher. Based on the Vision and Mission of English Education Department of UMY in it is official web, EED UMY has aims to produce graduates who master English education science, general and special skills and attitudes which include the mastery of English, teaching and research. Not only wants it's graduates to master English, but EED UMY also wants it's graduates to possess additional competencies such as entrepreneurship, information technology, and soft skill based on Islamic values.

Although EED UMY has clearly aimed to make its graduates as professional English teachers, in fact the researcher found that not all students

want to work as English teachers. Based on the researcher's experience in the first semester on 2013, there was a teacher who asked about how many students there were who wanted to be an English teacher. It was found out only three students raised their hands. In early 2017, the researcher also asked randomly to the 10 EED students of batch 2014 about their interest in becoming English Teacher. The result showed that from 10 students batch 2014 there were 6 students who did not want to be English teachers. The researcher also asked randomly on EED UMY alumni to ask about their job willingness. The result is from five people, there is just one alumnus who wanted to be an English teacher. One of EED UMY alumni that graduate on 2016 said "I took lecture to add my knowledge and not to create a job; working on job field that is not related to the subject we study is even good, because it means we become more comprehensive". Sloane (2003) gives an example that there is also an English major graduate working as a statistician.

Based on the vision and mission stated previously, EED UMY aims to make students master English and become teachers or researchers. In fact there are some EED UMY students who did not have willingness to work as a teacher in the future. Revealed from this problem it is important to find out the students' job preferences whether being a teacher is the profession that the students want. Based on this perspective the researcher intended to conduct this research.

Statement and Limitation of the Problem

Students who choose EED UMY as their college major know that they will be educated and prepared to be English teacher in the future. In contrast there are some students that are not interested in becoming English teachers. In some condition there are students that choose EED UMY in order to be English teacher,

but they change their mind after they get Entrepreneurship course. In contrast, some students that never think of being a teacher can be interested in becoming English teacher after they get many courses related to teaching skill. Since the information of students' job preferences is important to make any decision and policy, it is important to conduct a research on the EED UMY students' job preferences.

The researcher focused in conducting a research on student's job preferences. Since the job preference is related to some factors, this research also focused on the students' reasons in choosing EED UMY as their major. In addition this research focused on the students' reasons on choosing job.

Research Question

The research questions are formulated as follows :

1. What are the students' main reasons to choose EED of UMY as their major?
2. What are the students' main factors on choosing job
3. What kind of job do the students prefer to have after graduation?

Purpose of the Study

This study investigates the students' job preferences after graduation. To know deeper, the researcher also want to find out the students main reasons to choose EED of UMY as their major. Including the students factors on choosing job.

Significance of Study

The researcher hopes that the result of this research will be beneficial for teachers, students and institutions. This is the significance of this research:

Teacher, The result of this study can give information to the teacher about the desire of EED UMY students to get a job other than being an English teacher. Moreover, the teacher can give more motivation to the student to be English teachers as the result shows the low interest of students to be a teacher.

Student. The aims of this study also want to motivate students about the big chance to become what students' want after graduate. This study also informs students about the kinds of jobs preferred by the students.

Institution. This research is expected to provide iformation to the English Education Department of UMY on the students' job preferences. The result of this study will be useful as basic concideration to evaluate and implement programs.