

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Visually Impaired Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo is a institution under the auspices of Muhammadiyah that purposed to be improved its services, from originally being devoted to the visually impaired and then developed by providing care for non-blind foster children. Based on basic humanity from Visually Impaired Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo, children with visual impairment are God's creatures who are entitled to a proper education,

The students who studied in Visually Impaired Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo needs formal education. In there, the studied was taken place in SLB and also formal school. Visually Impaired Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo provides SLB at various levels of education from elementary to senior high school. SLB is a type of education that is specially for student who have special needs. This course will be different from formal school in general which prioritize student's knowledge. In SLB, student will learn how to be more independent, be able to interact with environment and not feel isolated.

On the other side, the students from Visually Impaired Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo who study in formal school need more attention for learning because the majority of students in the class are normal students. So, the formal school itself should be applied inclusive school for inclusive education.

According Sapon-Shevin in O'Neil (1994), Inclusive education is an education support system that requires children with special needs to learn with

their peers in neighboring schools in daily classes. Stainback (1980) defines that inclusive schools are schools that accommodate all students in the same class. This school offers a good, challenging education program, but tailored to each student's skills and needs, as well as the assistance and help that teachers can provide so that the student can study.

It's not easy to be part of formal school. At the very least, the school should manage itself with innovations for visually impaired students in order to pursue the learning process well. In addition, the school should also be able to raise awareness among all academics that undergraduate students can also follow blind education in public schools.

Based on the need in education, learning is the first factor that must be applied in education because, education and learning has relationship. Both education and learning are two words that are related to the acquisition of knowledge.

There are two factors that influence students in learning. That factor are internal and external factor. Internal factor are the physical condition, skill, intelligent, interest, and learning style. Meanwhile, external factors are learning strategy, school, friend, family and environment. The dominant factor that influence students learning is learning style. According to DePorter and Hernacki (2000) Learning style is a variation of how a person absorbs and then organizes and processes knowledge. Learning styles are not only aspects of interacting with information, seeing, listening, writing and speaking, but also when reacting to something about the learning environment

From the learning style, it will help learners to determine their learning strategies. Strategies are general characteristics that distinguish one individual from another. According to Schumaker and Deshler (2006), "Learning strategy as an individual's approach to a task. This includes how a person thinks and acts when planning, executing, and evaluating the performance of a task and its outcomes." Every students has a different learning strategies and almost all students have a learning strategies such as indirect and direct strategies to overcome the difficulties (Indriastuti, 2017)

Both learning style and learning strategies have a strong influence on learning English. Learning English is widely known at all levels of education. However, presenting English material in an inclusive classroom can be a challenge for teachers because there is no need for learning disabilities, such as reading software, in an inclusive classroom.

Certain learning styles and strategies suitable for learners without visual difficulties may not be appropriate for learners with visual impairments. For visually impaired students, visual learning style can't apply in their learning. Its not the best strategies for them when they want intake information in learning because visually impaired students as an auditory learner that can gain information easily form what they listen, hear or observe

According to the issue, it can be seen that learning style and learning strategies are the factor that can influence the achievement of English. There are many problem dialing with learning style and learning strategies. Both learning style and learning strategies are part of one's personality and everyone is different,

especially Visually Impaired Student. So, the researcher is interested doing research on this study to find out what the learning style and learning strategies and also the difficulties that faced by Visually Impaired Student

1.2 Statement problem

Based on the background of study, the researcher problems are :

- 1) What are the learning difficulties that faced by Visually Impaired Student at Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo?
- 2) What are learning strategies that used by Visually Impaired Student Student at Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo?
- 3) What are learning style that used by Visually Impaired Student Student at Charitable Institution 'Aisyiyah Ponorogo?

1.3 The purpose of study

The purpose of study are :

- 1) To find out the learning difficulties that faced by Visually Impaired Student
- 2) To find out learning strategy that used by Visually Impaired Student
- 3) To find out learning style that used by Visually Impaired Student

1.4 Significance of study

- 1) The students

Hopefully, this research give contribution to researcher's subject case, Visually Impaired Student about their learning style and learning strategies that used by them.

- 2) The teacher

This result of this study is expected to give information and description as a

feedback in order to know what the learning style and learning strategies that used by Visually Impaired Student

3) Other researcher's

Give contribution to the students outside for the differences and difficulties students learning style and learning strategies with students who have special needs.

1.5 Definition of key term

Visually Impaired Student : A condition in which the student's vision significantly affects the functioning of their school, called visual impairment (Taylor and Sternberg, 1989)

Learning style : Learning style is the tendency of students to adapt certain strategies in their learning as a form of responsibility for an approach to learning that is appropriate for learning in the classroom or at school, as well as for teaching in subjects (Fleming and Mills, 1992)

Learning strategies : Language learning strategies are processes that are consciously chosen by learners and that can lead to measures taken to improve the learning or use of a second or foreign language by storing, retaining, remembering and applying information about that language (Cohen, 1998)