

## ABSTRACT

### **Nabila, Salsa (2024) An Investigation of Listening Comprehension Problems Encountered by *Mahasantris* in an Islamic Boarding School in Bandung**

Listening is a critical skill in language learning, involving the ability to process, interpret, and understand spoken language. It forms the foundation of effective communication. This research aims to investigate the listening comprehension abilities of *mahasantris* at an Islamic boarding school in Bandung, aiming to uncover their perceptions and the problems they encounter in listening to English.

The research employed a qualitative methodology and case study research approach, utilizing data analysis, questionnaires, and interviews to gather data. Participants included 21 *mahasantris* in their 7<sup>th</sup> semester at the institution, allowing for an in-depth exploration of their experiences and perspectives. This method ensured a comprehensive understanding of the factors affecting their listening comprehension. The findings from this research reveal that *mahasantris* generally perceive their English listening comprehension abilities as one of the most challenging skills to master. Due to *mahasantris* facing significant issues, including limited vocabulary, difficulties with accents and pronunciation, and restricted exposure to authentic English materials. Psychological aspects such as low self-confidence and anxiety, moreover with external constraints such as lack of resources and teaching materials, further prevent their progress.

In conclusion, the research highlights the importance of addressing both individual and contextual factors that prevent listening comprehension among *mahasantris*. Recommendations relevant and engaging teaching materials, the existence of active listening practices, and providing supportive learning environments. These steps are crucial for equipping *mahasantris* with the skills needed to navigate their professional future.

**Keywords:** *Listening comprehension, Mahasantris, Islamic Boarding School, English language learning, listening comprehension problems.*