

## ABSTRACT

Misbah, Febriansyah (2023): **Coping with Challenges in Learning English Listening in University Context: EFL Students' Strategies**

Listening is the most frequently used language skill in the daily communication of the average human to gain information. Therefore, listening is the most utilized skill to harness information. This research purposes are to explore the challenges of first semester English Education Department of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung and their strategy to cope with the challenges in learning listening activities.

This study took a qualitative approach with a case study design. Thirty-two students of the first semester English Education Department of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung were involved in this research. The data was acquired through the questionnaire with the SILL model to identify challenges students encountered with their strategy and the interview to gain deeper detail of information regarding students who did not consider challenges in the questionnaire as a challenge and possibility of new challenges and their strategy to cope with them. This research can be categorized as qualitative research because this research tries to identify behavior found in the research field.

The results revealed that the challenges most students faced were low audio quality and accent. This is followed by the lack of practice, unfamiliar vocabulary, different cultures, physical conditions (classroom condition and personal mood), and the last is lack of concentration. On the other hand, the strategy used the most throughout the eight challenges was the memory strategy. In addition, the cognitive strategy was in second place, followed by the compensation strategies, the metacognitive strategy, and the affective, while the least strategy used was the social strategy. Additional data regarding new possibilities of challenges and strategies students used was acquired, such as health issues regarding hearing ability, low energy to concentrate due to an empty stomach and self-awareness, regarding the lack of practice. Respectively, students who faced this new challenge took a private English course, practised listening from YouTube, read a person's lip movement, and consumed food first.

It can be concluded that most students faced low audio quality and accent challenges during listening activities, which can be classified into external factors, and memory strategy is the most applied strategy to face the challenges mentioned in the questionnaire and the new challenges and how students cope with them can be identified to enrich the answers for research question one and two.

As a teacher they should pay more attention to the situation for students' listening performance and hopefully, the students will also improve their learning style in learning language skills. The researcher wished this research could be used as a reference

**Keywords:** *Listening English, Challenge, strategy*