

ABSTRACT

The level of success students have in school is strongly influenced by how much they enjoy learning. The motivation to study English varies among students. A mixed-method approach, both quantitative and qualitative, was employed to describe some factors and dominant factors that influence students' interest in learning English. Students in the eighth grade at one public Junior High School in Jakarta, involving 279 participants, were surveyed and interviewed to collect data. 56 individuals, or 20% of the population, were chosen. The findings of this study indicated that internal factors, which consist of physical and non-physical aspects such as attention, readiness, and intelligence could influence students' interest in learning English. Besides, external factors from outside the individuals, such as families and schools—which include teachers and facilities—and peers contribute to their learning interests. The result revealed that the internal factors showed 68,93%, while external factors showed 59,34%. The interview result showed that internal factors have a positive response. Therefore, the result indicated that the internal factor was higher than the external factor in influencing students' interest in learning English. The most influencing in internal factors are psychological, namely intelligence, readiness, and attention, rather than physical factors.

Keywords: Students' interest, Internal Factor, External Factor, and Learning English