

## ABSTRACT

**Ramadhan, Isti R.** 2012. *Slips of the Ear Performed by Senior High School Students Who Learned English As A Foreign Language ( A Case Study at the First Graders of SMA Negeri 6 Surabaya)*. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana degree of the English Department, Airlangga University.

When foreign language learners listen to an English talk, they have several problems in comprehending the language. Therefore, sometimes Indonesian listeners of English talk make mistakes and cannot catch what the speaker's mean. This misperception causes different understanding between the speaker and the listener. This phenomenon is called slips of the ear.

Two questions answered in this thesis are what English words are perceived incorrectly by first graders of SMA Negeri 6 Surabaya who learned English as a foreign language and why do they perceive those words incorrectly. Several blank lyrics was given to the 17 respondents from first graders of SMA Negeri 6 Surabaya who participated in this thesis. The respondents are asked to fill those blank lyrics based on what they heard in "Blinded by the Light" song by Manfred Mann's Earth Band. This song is considered because this song is probably the most misheard lyric of all time and the respondents never heard this song before.

The results obtained from this thesis show that 15 words from 16 missing words in the lyric are perceived incorrectly by the respondents. These 15 words are "light", "revved", "deuce", "runner", "diplomat", "dumps", "mumps", "pumps", "way", "into", "older", "merry", "unpleasing", "calliope", and "ground". The only word which is perceived correctly by all respondents is "night". The discussion is divided into two categories, misperception of monosyllabic words and misperception of polysyllabic words. Finally the writer determines whether the misperception is due to bottom up or top-down model.

**Keywords:** *listening comprehension, misperception, slips of the ear, speech sounds, words.*