

THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE SECOND SEMESTER STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITAS ISLAM MALANG IN SPEAKING COURSES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

SKRIPSI

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ABSTRAK

Wulandari, Ade Erma., 2020. Kesulitan Mahasiswa Semester II Universitas Islam Malang Dalam Mata Kuliah Berbicara Saat Pandemi Covid-19. Skripsi, Jurusan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan, Universitas Islam Malang. Pembimbing I: Diah Retno Widowati, S. Pd. M. Pd, Pembimbing II: Dr. Dzul Fikri, S.S., M. Pd.

Kata Kunci: Kesulitan, Mata Kuliah Berbicara, Pembelajaran Online.

Berbicara adalah salah satu dari empat keterampilan dalam mata pelajaran bahasa Inggris sebagai sarana untuk berkomunikasi dengan orang lain. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah 1) untuk mengetahui kesulitan siswa dalam belajar berbicara melalui pembelajaran online. 2) Untuk mengetahui cara siswa memecahkan masalah dalam pembelajaran berbicara melalui pembelajaran online. Peneliti menggunakan desain kualitatif dalam penelitiannya. Dalam pengumpulan data, peneliti menggunakan kuesioner dan pertanyaan wawancara. Populasi penelitian ini adalah mahasiswa semester dua tahun ajaran 2019/2020 dimana peneliti memilih 47 mahasiswa sebagai subjek penelitian. Analisis data menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan tiga tahap; reduksi data, tampilan data, dan deskripsi.

Untuk mengetahui kesulitan siswa peneliti menggunakan kuesioner dan wawancara dan cara mengatasi kesulitannya peneliti hanya menggunakan wawancara. Teknik pengambilan sampel digunakan sebagai teknik purposive sampling. Teknik purposive sampling digunakan untuk menetapkan karakteristik subjek penelitian. Peneliti memilih responden pada mahasiswa semester dua karena peserta didik tahap awal mengalami kesulitan dalam belajar berbicara.

Dari analisis data tersebut, peneliti menarik beberapa kesimpulan dari permasalahan siswa dalam pembelajaran berbicara bahasa Inggris selama Covid-19 sebagai berikut; Pertama, peneliti menemukan masalah siswa dalam belajar berbicara bahasa Inggris melalui pembelajaran online adalah: keterbatasan kosakata, kesulitan pengucapan, koneksi internet, siswa merasa bosan, dan siswa kurang berlatih. Kedua, cara siswa memecahkan masalah adalah: Meningkatkan penguasaan kosakata, tetap berbicara bahasa Inggris, banyak berlatih, menemukan cara yang tepat untuk belajar bahasa Inggris, dan sistem pendukung Jaringan. Dalam pembelajaran berbicara bahasa Inggris, setiap siswa memiliki permasalahannya sendiri, baik dari siswa itu sendiri maupun dari faktor lain. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menemukan 5 kesulitan dalam pembelajaran berbicara melalui online dan beberapa cara untuk menyelesaikan masalah tersebut yang dapat diterapkan baik oleh mahasiswa maupun dosen.



ABSTRACT

Wulandari, Ade Erma., 2020. The Difficulties of the Second Semester Student' at Universitas Islam Malang in Speaking Course during Covid-19 Pandemic. Thesis, English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, University of Islam Malang. Advisor I: Diah Retno Widowati, S. Pd. M. Pd. Advisor II: Dr. Dzul Fikri, S.S., M. Pd.

Key Words: Difficulty, Speaking Courses, Online Learning.

Speaking is one of the four skills in English subject as a means to communicate with others. The aim of this study is 1) to find out the difficulties by the students in learning speaking through online learning. 2) To investigate the way the students solve the problems in learning speaking through online learning. The researcher used qualitative design in this study. In collecting the data, the researcher used questionnaires and interview questions. The population of this study is second-semester students in the academic year 2019/2020 where the researcher chose 47 students as a subject of this study. The data analyzed by using a descriptive qualitative method with three steps; data reduction, data display, and description.

To know the student's difficulties the researcher used both questionnaires and interview and the way to solve their difficulties the researcher only used interviews. The sampling technique was used as a purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling technique is used to establish characteristics in the research subject. The researcher chose the respondent in the second-semester students because early-stage learners have difficulty in learning speaking.

From the data analysis, the researcher draws some conclusion of the student's problem in learning English speaking during the Covid-19 as follows; first, the researcher found the student's problems in learning English speaking through online learning were: limited vocabulary, pronunciation trouble, internet connection, students feel boring, and students less of practicing. Second, the ways students solve the problems were: Increasing vocabulary mastery, keeping speak English, practicing a lot, finding an appropriate way to learn English, and Networking support systems. In the learning English speaking course, every student has his problems with it either from the students themselves or from the other factors. In this study, the researcher found 5 difficulties in learning speaking through online and some ways to solve those problems that can be applied both by students and lecturers.



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this part, it contains some points related to this study. The researcher presents the background of the study, research of problems, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of study and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the study

English has become a primary language of communication in the world. In Indonesia, English was taught from primary school to university for students of the foreign language. The government of Indonesian is also trying to implement English as a foreign language as efficiently as possible. Therefore, English should be mastered by any foreign language learner. Al-Roud (2016) claimed that most people who learn English have in mind that they like to master the goal of developing proficiency in speaking skills, although it is a difficult task. Students do not speak in English due to the social condition of students which accustomed to using their local languages so that foreign language is difficult to be accepted and communicated. Heriansyah (2012) stated that most learners of foreign languages, speaking in the target language is not an easy task, as learning to speak a foreign language requires more than understanding the grammatical and semantic rules. This is because English as a foreign language, which has a different structrue and vocabulary, is very different from our mother tongue and our national language. The grammar between English and Indonesian is certainly



different. There are aspects or rules between Indonesia and English, especially in terms of structure.

Recently, many English speakers can be found in every country where this language used as a foreign or second language. They use English language as a communication tool to deliver messages to other people. So they need to master speaking skill. Therefore, speaking is one of the English skills in English subject as a tool to communicate with others. People need to communicate when they want to say something and send information. Speakers use the language according to their purpose. Therefore, the speaker must be the listener to get the effective of communication at the same time. Speaking is a crucial skill in second language learning. Although speaking is very important, many students avoided it because of the emphasis of grammar and their environment. Speaking has been absent from the test due to the difficulty in assessing it objectively and the time it takes to implement speaking tests (Clifford, 1987).

Speaking is not only learning about the term of speaking knowledge; it is bigger than that. The way how to know whether students can speak, it can be checked by asking them to say something in English with the background of students' knowledge of the grammar, and vocabulary. Through offering students the practice and oral test, they have to realize that there is a difference between understanding of the language and the ability to use it. Students often need to speak confidently to carry out many transactions. Some students may produce a correct and appropriate sentence, but with a wrong intonation and stress. Most of the students do not dare to speak English because they lack of self-confidence and



limited vocabulary mastery. Both students and teachers need to cooperate to build the students' vocabulary. Metclafe (2000) stated that the more varied your vocabulary, the more interesting and colorful your speech will sound to your audience.

Ur (1996) stated that there are many reasons that cause difficulties in speaking such as inhibition, nothing to say, low contribution, and the use of mother tongue. Besides, Raba'ah (2005) pointed out that many reasons cause difficulties in speaking English. Some of these factors relate to the learners themselves, the teaching method, the syllabus, and the environment. For example, many students are lack the vocabulary available to interpret their sense, and thus, cannot continue the dialogue going. Strategic insufficiencies and organizational deficiencies may be another explanation for not being able to keep the relationship going.

On the other hand, people in Indonesia are having some difficulty in speaking because most of them only know English in school and they do not get in their everyday lives, so there are no more opportunities for them to do it in their everyday lives. So they only have the opportunities to build their ability to speak at school. That's why learning English is very important. These phenomena are not suitable for the purpose of speaking learning. Clear and fluent communication is the main goal of learning to speak. It means that students can communicate with others orally and be able to use their speaking skills in their community and the world as well. Based on previous research conducted by Solihin (2009), it shows that there are some difficulties faced by second-semester students in speaking



classes. He divided the difficulties into three categories: internal factors, teacher factors, supporting factors. The internal factor in speaking class was not responsive to learning speaking because of limited vocabulary and fear of making pronunciation error. In the classroom teaching factor, students were not interested in the activity, students were afraid to express their ideas orally, and they were lazy to participate. Besides that, the students were dominant in the Indonesian language used instead of English. Such things have demonstrated that students at University of Islam Malang still have difficulties in English skill, especially when they are speaking. One of the students who face these difficulties is students at the English speaking course.

This is in line with research that was conducted by Nakhalah (2016) about the problems and difficulties to English students who studies English Language atlas Quds Open University in the Branch of Gaza. The researcher picked a random sample from the population of 14 students who study English Language. Another research was conducted by Heriansyah (2012) about the difficulties of students in the English department. The subjects of this study were all the third-semester students in the English Department but they only took students with the lowest scores.

The above mentioned three previous studies showed the speaking difficulties faced by the students in offline classes. Considering the different situation today, the researcher would like to identify the difficulties of students during Covid-19 pandemic, in which the speaking learning process was done through digital media. So that the essential point of this study is the learning



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process of the participant. The students usually learn English at school but this pandemic they have to online learning. It will affect the way they learn English. Therefore, the difficulty experienced by students in learning English will most be difficult. In this case, the researcher will investigate the process of students in speaking learning English through online learning.

Based on the statement above, this study will be conducted on the secondsemester students of English Department at Universitas Islam Malang in speaking course because the researcher wants to investigate the difficulties of English students in learning process through online learning and the way how to solve the difficulties.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the background of study that has been discussed above, the researcher formulates the problems as follows:

- 1. What difficulties of learning speaking through online learning are faced by the second semester students of English Department of Unisma?
- 2. How do the students solve the problems of learning speaking through online learning?

1.3 Objective of the study

- 1. To find out the difficulties by the students in learning speaking through online learning.
- 2. To investigate the way the students overcome the problems in learning speaking through online learning.



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1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give benefit both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretical benefits

- a. The results of this research are expected to make a valuable contribution to the progress of the general learning theory of speaking skill.
- b. The finding of this research will improve the theory of students' speaking skill.

2. Practical Benefits

a. To Students

By knowing the most beneficial strategies used by their friends and how the strategies work, the students may support each other to minimize the speaking difficulties. In other words it will give information about some possible solutions done by the teacher cope the problems in teaching English so it is hoped to give the contribution in increasing the teaching English, so that the students have better achievement.

b. To Teachers

The result of this research will give a good contribution for English teacher. It will help the teacher to teach their students by knowing the cause of student learning speaking. The teacher might be solved what students' problem in speaking skill. It can make students interested to learn English speaking skill through online learning.



c. To Furthere Researchers

The result of this research can be used as a reference for those who want to conduct research in the English teaching and learning process.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study was conducted at University of Islam Malang in the academic year 2019-2020. The University of Islam Malang is located on Jl. Mayjen Haryono No. 193, Dinoyo, Malang, East Java. The study focused on investigating students' problems in the speaking course. It is specified only to find out the difficulties faced by students in learning speaking and how do they solve the difficulties through online learning. The limitation of this study is 1) the questionnaire used Bahasa Indonesia, 2) the questionnaire translated has to check first, 3) the questionnaire will be given online so researchers cannot control the respondent when filling out the questionnaire.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding or misinterpretation for readers about the keyword, the researcher would like to give an explanation of the terms used in the study.



Difficulty

The difficulty is something that is hard to do in a situation that causes problems. In this case, difficulty means by the researcher is the student difficulties in learning speaking through online learning. The process of students learning English speaking will be different because they need to participate in having a high-speed internet connection to make the learning process run well without disturbing. Besides, students need attention and reflection that refers to their problem. The appropriate activities need to be created by the teacher to solve the problem itself and to make students enthusiastic to get the material.

Speaking Course

Speaking course is a subject in speaking II which is to develop the students' communication. The component of speaking is pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary. Those are will be taught in speaking II and the researcher focus on the student's pronunciation. Students' could not pronounce the word properly especially the word with the same sound but different in meaning. While in speaking II the material that they take from the lecturer is telling stories about an ongoing problem. Basically, the topics were about covid-19 such as the students' activities during the pandemic whether morning or evening routines activities.

Online Learning

Online learning is the learning process and collecting the assignment through digital media with the internet connection. During the COVID-19 pandemic speaking course were conducted online, using the Google meeting media and WhatsApp. Student's difficulties in learning English speaking through



online learning is the learning process and collecting the assignment because of the internet problem. Online learning also makes meetings limited, so the assessment scores are limited. Therefore, student's assessment is focused on student speaking engagement. Every student may have 10-12 grades when face to face, but since each student has 4-6 grades using the internet.





CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter present some points about conclusions and suggestions of the research related to what has been analyzed and discussed considering to the teacher, students and also the researcher in the future.

5.1 Conclusion

This study aims to investigate the students' difficulties and they way to solve the problem in learning speaking through online learning.

The difficulties in learning speaking faced by the English students from the second semester at Universitas Malang need to be solved. The majority of students were unable to speak English clearly and they also were difficult to produce words and sentences in English. In learning speaking English, most of the students have problems. The problem's makes them feel so difficult to say everything by using English. The problems itself can be caused by many factors. But in second the semester students at Universitas Islam Malang. The factors were low mastery vocabulary, pronunciation problem, internet bad connection, students feel boring, and students less of participating.

There are some ways for the students to solve the speaking English problem. In line with this, there are several ways to solve the problem in learning speaking through online learning such as increasing vocabulary mastery, practicing a lot, keeping in speaking English, finding appropriate way, and networking support system.



Based on the results which were obtained from the participants, the researcher concluded problems and ways to solve the problem faced by the second semester students at Universitas Islam Malang.

5.2 Suggestion

From the explanations, there are some general points to be recommended regarding students problems in speaking. Those some suggestions will be helpful recommendation for English lecturer, students, and further researcher as follows:

5.2.1 English Lecturer

- a. The lecture should give motivation to increase the student commitment of the students to learn to speak English through online learning.
- b. Select the most interesting method and media suited to the class situation during the pandemic. So the students will not feel bored to accept the material from the lecturer.

5.2.2 Students

- Students should study hard and practicing a lot, because this is the key to communicate in English.
- The students should increase their vocabulary mastery and pronunciation
 by listening to music and learn from the songs lyric.
- Students should try to speak with a good grammar, even though there will be a mistake while speaking.
- d. Students should not be nervous to share their thoughts.
- e. Students should not be afraid of making mistake.

5.2.3 Further Researcher



For next researcher, they must make something different in doing a research for students and lecturer especially in teaching and learning process in English speaking skill. The researcher also should conduct a study about the suitable media to use in teaching and learning English speaking in online learning.





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