

A STUDY ON SPEAKING DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY THIRD SEMESTER OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF ISLAM MALANG

SKRIPSI

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ABSTRACT

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Speaking is the action of conveying information or expressing thoughts and feelings in spoken language, to be specific in English language. Speaking fluently will help us to deliver what message we want to say, without speaking, the student will have difficulty in learning process and have difficulty to communicate well. Yet, some difficulties faced by the students in learning speaking English. To overcome these difficulties, the students must know what kinds of their difficulties they faced in learning speaking English. Therefore, the writer is interested in conducting this study dealing with the students' difficulties they faced in learning English.

The design of this research is using descriptive mixed method which focuses on the difficulties owned by the students. The purpose of this study is to investigate the students' difficulties in learning speaking English. Participants of this study are the third semester students of English Department at University of Islam Malang from Class A, Class B, and Class C who took speaking subject. The instruments used are questionnaire and interview. There are 10 questions in questionnaire and 2 questions in interview that asking about the students' difficulties. The source of the questionnaire was taken from the previous study. The data is analysed qualitatively and quantitatively.

The finding of the study showed that the majority of the students have difficulties in anxiety, lack of focus, and hard to maintain focus while they are speaking in English which related to psychological aspects difficulties. Other difficulties are lack of vocabulary, mispronunciation, and poor grammar knowledge which related to linguistic aspects difficulties.

In conclusion, the third semester students of English Department at University of Islam Malang have their own difficulties in learning Speaking English. However, the majority of the students face anxiety and lack of vocabulary as their difficulties both in linguistic and psychological factors.

The writer expects that the result of this study can help the lecturers to overcome the students' difficulties and determine what strategies to help them. The students' can also create their own strategies to cope with their own difficulties as they know what kind of their difficulties. The writer also expects that the findings of this research can be additional information for the next writers who are interested to conduct the study with similar topic.



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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the explanation of study's background, research problem, object in this research, scope and limitation, significance study, and several definitions of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Speaking, in addition to reading, writing, and listening, is an important part of the four basics English skills that students are obligated to understand its mechanism. The purpose of this skill is to express a notion, describe a thing or feeling. The hardest thing in speaking is it must be expressed spontaneously with proper pronunciation and following grammatical rules. Speaking has deep connection with listening skill, in speaking process, the participants need to be listening before they react it. The reason is speaking is not only memorizing the sentences in a text, but speaking is spontaneous to express some ideas orally.

Kawai as cited in Fitri (2019), exerts that speaking English as second foreign language is very important for many students. Yet, some of them struggle when practicing their speaking skills. The main issue is students' anxiety and lack of motivation.

Nowadays, English language is used in many aspects of human life because English is accepted language all over the world. There are native and non-native speakers who used this language as international communication method. As for non-native, they still must learn English language to be eligible in speaking fluently

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without major mistake. In learning process, especially in mastering speaking skill, it cannot be denied that will be obstacle.

The students' difficulties of speaking have been researched by Rahmaniah, Asbah, and Nurmasitah (2018). In their research, they used a descriptive quantitative method and questionnaire as the instrument. In general, the results showed that there are internal and external factors that cause non-English students felt difficult in speaking English. Internal factors consist of the quiet students that difficult to learn, difficulty memorizing some words, difficulty recognizing word's pronunciation, poor grammar knowledge, low self-esteem, and fear of being criticized. In addition, one of the external factors is that they rarely speak English both inside and outside the classroom. They would rather speak in their native language than in English.

Other difficulties that have been researched by Zainurrahman and Sangaji (2019) are linguistic and psychological factors. They applied the qualitative descriptive method in this research. They chose interview and speaking rubric as the instrument of the research. The result of the research showed that in the linguistic field, students' knowledge about grammar is very low followed by their difficulties in vocabulary. Another result of the research is that the psychological issue such as hesitance and low self-esteem made them have poor grammar knowledge in their speaking activity

Therefore, on the recommendation from the writer's lecturer, the writer choose the difficulties on speaking as this skill requires spontaneously in its application, the writer wants to find more factors that caused English students felt

difficult in speaking English and also use additional instrument that is interview with the aim to obtain the more detail result. Based on the description above, this

study is entitled "A Study on Speaking Difficulties Encountered by Third Semester

of English Department Students of University of Islam Malang."

1.2 Research Problems

Following the explanation, the writer summarized the problems into two points:

- 1. What are the linguistic difficulties in speaking faced by the third semester of English department students of University of Islam Malang?
- 2. What are the psychological difficulties in speaking faced by the third semester of English department students of University of Islam Malang?

1.3 Objective of the Study

According to problem of the research, this study is purposed to:

- Identify the linguistic difficulties in speaking faced by the third semester of English department students of University of Islam Malang.
- 2. Identify the psychological difficulties in speaking faced by the third semester of English department students of University of Islam Malang.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Hopefully, the solved research problem could be useful practically and theoretically, such as:



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1. Theoretically

The writer hopes that the findings of this study will provide more information to future researchers regarding the problems that students faced in speaking subject.

2. Practically

First, the writer hopes that the result of this study will assist third semester English students at the University of Islam Malang in overcoming difficulties in the speaking subject. Next, the result can be used by the students to cope their difficulties in speaking class. Third, this study hopes will give the writer valuable experience and data

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study was conducted to identify and classify the students' problems in speaking. This study was conducted at the third semester students at University of Islam Malang, and the participants of this study were the third semester students who took speaking subject.

The writer realized that there are several weaknesses. The participants of this study were unable to cover all five classes in this third semester grade based on established standard. The writer only took the three classes with the lowest score in speaking subject in order to seek out the variety of their difficulties they faced.

Another weakness is when collecting the data using interview and because the interview used English, the writer decided to use WhatsApp voice note so the participants could prepare their answers and to avoid participants' stuttering that can led the writer into miscommunication.



1.6 Definitions of the Key Terms

There are some terms in this study that the writer must explain in order to avoid ambiguity while reading it. They are:

- 1. Learning speaking is a process of how to speak fluently with good pronunciation and spelling.
- 2. Learning speaking difficulties refer to the students' obstacles to speak fluently error, pronunciation, and error spelling.





CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to find out the linguistic and psychological difficulties in speaking English faced by the third semester of English department students at University of Islam Malang. The writer used mixed method as the research design for this study. The study was conducted to the third semester student of English Department at University of Islam Malang. The participants are third semester students of English Department at University of Islam Malang who took speaking subject, they are from Class A, Class B, and Class C. The instrument of this study are questionnaire and interviews. There are 10 questions in questionnaire about their feeling in speaking class and 2 questions in interview related to the psychological and linguistic difficulties in speaking English

Next, the observations indicate that each student has various difficulties in speaking English. Although they have various difficulties, the majority of the students experience the same difficulties that relate to their psychology when they are speaking English, which is anxiousness, and lead them difficult to maintain their focus This anxiety could be caused by their lack of confidence towards themselves. Other difficulty in psychological aspect is lack of confidence. Next, majority of the students have lack of vocabulary as the linguistic difficulties. Consequently, they often mispronounce even more, they do not know how to say some words. In addition, this factor could be considered as the reason they feel anxious. The last difficulty in linguistic aspect is poor grammar knowledge where the students are

not be able to determine which sentence must be uses according to the situation and time.

5.2 Suggestion

Following the findings, the writer hopes that the findings will provide further information for future writer who plans to conduct research with similar issues. The writer is also conscious that this study has some limit; as the result, the writer hopes for the future writers will be able to develop more deeper about this topic. Last, the writer hopes that the next writer could conduct real-time interview via several ways such as face to face, phone call, or video call and to avoid the participants who stuttering when they speak English, the future writer could use Indonesian first while doing interview and translate it into English in process of transcribing.

Following that, the writer expects that the findings in this study will support lecturers in developing their own techniques in dealing with students' difficulties in learning English-speaking skills, to be specific on the third semester of the English department at the University of Islam Malang.

Lastly, the study can give more information and ideas about the difficulties in speaking English and also make the students aware and finding their own difficulties in speaking English. Furthermore, the writer hopes that they can create their own strategies to overcome their difficulties.



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