

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In Indonesia, English is taught as a foreign language. The goal of teaching learning English is the students should be able to speak, listen, read and write in English in every grade of school. Because English is the International Language so the Ministry of Education inserted English as the additional subject in Elementary school, and common subject in Junior and senior high school. Actually, the basic purpose of learning English is to enable students to communicate by using English or we can call it as an international language.

English Education Departement in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta is one of university in Surakarta that developing English skill to produce the graduates is skillful in speaking English. It is very important for students to fluent in speaking English. It is also important for students to communication effectively. However, there is just a little student who can speak English fluently and effectively. They need to spend much time to think what they will utter and even they need to write into a piece of paper. It is because of the students has limited vocabularies.

Speaking is effective way to communicate, because speaking takes less time than writing. When speaker can speak English fluently, both speaker and native speaker can enjoy the conversation because they do not need to write and read. But, in the other side, speaking is relatively more difficult than writing, because speaker just have less time to prepare what they want to say to the opponents. Speaker should not let her/his opponents or native speakers wait for long time to get response of the speaker. Therefore, in speaking, students (as speaker) have to be able to think fast to express what they need to say. Students should not have much time to recall their vocabularies, or even to open dictionaries. It will not be able to reach, if students do not practice or make speaking English as their habitual. However, nowadays most students

think that speaking is difficult and it makes them averse to try. In this case, teachers have main role to take interest of their students, so that, their students can enjoy in learning speaking. In fact, students who can speak English fluently are less.

To communicate using English, students should reach the condition when both speakers and listeners understand each other. At this point many problems may occur. Misunderstanding may occur when speakers do not find the appropriate words to express meaning due to the lack of knowledge and vocabularies. To make the communication runs effectively, speaker needs what is called as communication strategies. Stern in Johnson&Johnson (2001:67) defined that communication strategy as “technique of coping with difficulties in communicating in an imperfectly known second language”. From the definition above the researcher concludes that communication strategies are the action by the learner or speaker whenever they have limited of vocabulary and knowledge in target language then they do some strategies to handle the problem in communication. Tarone in Fauziati (2015:36) proposesthree basic criteria which characterize a communication strategy. First, a speaker desires to communicate a meaning X to a listener. Second, the speaker believes that the linguistic or sociolinguistic structure desired to communicate meaning X is not available or is not shared with the listener. Finally, the speaker chooses to avoid to communicate meaning X or to attempt to alternate means to communicate meaning X.

Based on the preliminary study, the students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta often faces some linguistic difficulties. The students often get stuck in the middle of conversation in speaking class. Whenever the difficulties occur, the speaker always tries to find another way to convey meaning, so communication can run effectively and the message can be delivered. Female students are less likely to receive feedback, whether praise, help, or criticism,less likely to have their comments credited, developed, adopted, or even remembered by the group and more likely to be interrupted when they speak or to have other

students answer questions directed to them. However, male students usually ask questions rather than give statements, even if they know an answer use intonations that turn a statement into a question, or accompany their statements with smiles or averted eyes rather than more assertive gestures, such as pointing. Female students would use more communication strategies because female students were very anxious they might hesitate too much so that they forget the words and sentences they intended to say and made many errors. While male students attempted in different types of communication strategies like miming and he often to use his gesture to be able to deliver their message. So there are some differences of both male and female students in using communication strategies.

Based on the fact above, the researcher is interested to analyze the English communication strategies used by male and female students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. This study compared between male and female students of using communication strategy in communication, especially in speaking class. So the researcher gives the title of this research:

“COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS IN SPEAKING CLASS: COMPARATIVE STUDY IN MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA”

B. Limitation of the Study

In this research, it is impossible for the researcher to handle all of the problems. Therefore, the researcher focuses on analyzing on English Communication Strategies by Male and Female Students in speaking class of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah Universitu of Surakarta. There are 20 male and 20 female students from second semester students. The data taken from students' record in speaking class and also from interview.

C. Problem Statements

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates the problem statements as what communication strategies used by male and female students in speaking class of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. The researcher formulates the research questions as follows:

1. What are the types of English Communication Strategies used by male and female Students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta?
2. What is the dominant Communication Strategies used by male and female Students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta?
3. What are the similarities and differences of communication strategies used by male and female student's interaction in speaking class?
4. What are factors contribute to the differences in choice of communication strategies used by male and female students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta?

D. Objectives of the Study

Relating to the problems that are elaborated above, so the purposes of the research are to:

1. Classify the types of English Communication Strategies used by Male and female Students in English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.
2. Classify the dominant Communication Strategies used by male and female Students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.
3. Classify the similarities and differences of communication strategies used by Male and Female student's interaction in speaking class.

4. Classify factors contribute to the differences in choice of communication strategies used by male and female students of English Education Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

E. Significance of the Study

In conducting this research, the researcher believes that the analysis of communication strategy among English students will be beneficial. The significant of the study can be described bellow:

- a. Theoretically, this research hopes that the results can be used as the references who are interested in the same topic. For the other researchers, this research is expected to provide them overviews and references for doing further research in the same field.
- b. Practically, this research will give more view and description about how the students construct communication strategies whenever the students face some difficulties in making communication in speaking class. And the result of the research will make the students understand better what communication strategies are used by English students.