

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter elaborates reason in conducting this study and deals with several points: background of the study, research question, limitation of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, and research paper organization.

1. 1 Background of the Study

English as Lingua Franca has an important role in people life. English language as tool used by people from English as a Native Language (ENL) countries to communicate with people from English as a Second Language (ESL) or English as a Foreign Language (EFL) countries.

In this globalization era, every person needs mastering English language. Mastering English language helps people to take control of communication technology and interact directly among people. “English has reached people globally due to the development and use of information and communication technology” (Virkkula as cited in Ekola, 2016, p.9)

There are four skills in English namely speaking, listening, writing, and reading. “Speaking seems to be the most important skills of all the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) because people who know a language are usually referred to as speakers of that language” (Ur, 1996). According to Nunan (1995) speaking is “to say words orally, to communicate as by talking, to make a request, and to make a speech”. Students have learned English for many years, but they might not able to communicate fluently and accurately because they have lack of necessary knowledge.

In SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara students are taught English for 135 minutes. The students learn English for 135 minutes every week, but only some of them are good at English. Based on preliminary observation, the students barely speak English fluently and accurately. They seems to have difficulties in pronouncing certain words. In addition, the students are afraid of making mistakes and being laughed by their classmate when they are speaking

English. Departing from the observed problem in SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara, this study interested in investigating students' speaking problems and factors that affecting their performance.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of study above, this study formulate the following research questions:

1. What are problems encountered by students of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara when they are learning to speak English?
2. What are the factors that affect speaking performance?

1.3 Objective of the Study

This study aims to investigate factors affecting students' performance. The objectives of this study are:

1. to investigate problems encountered by students of SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara when they are learning to speak English.
2. to investigate factors affecting students' performance during English teaching and learning process in class.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Based on objectives of the study above, this study is expected to give relevant contributions for certain fields. Those contributions categorised into two main points as follows:

1. Theoretical Significance

The result of the study is expected to be references for other researchers in studying speaking problems and factors affecting students' speaking performance.

2. Practical Significance

The result of the study is expected to be teachers' way-out to solve students' speaking problems. The result of the study also expected to be material for teachers and students to improve the quality of speaking English.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Based on the research questions above, this study limits the discussion on problems and factors that affecting students' speaking performance at SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara. In addition, this study focuses on two female English teachers and students class X and XI at SMK Muhammadiyah 2 Klaten Utara.

1.6 Research Paper Organization

The reports of the study comprises 5 chapters.

Chapter 1 is introduction. This chapter consists of background of the study, research question, objective of the study, significant of the study, and limitation of the study.

Chapter 2 is literature review. This chapter involves theories related to speaking, characteristic of the speaking, factors affecting speaking performance and speaking problems.

Chapter 3 is research method. This chapter shows type of study, objects of study, data and data source, method collecting data, and analysis data procedures.

Chapter 4 is research finding and discussion. It consists of description of data and discussion of the research result.

Chapter 5 is conclusion and suggestion. It contains conclusion and suggestion. It also provides pedagogical implication of study. This chapter also offers suggestions for future studies.

The next chapter explains literature review in this study.