

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is very important to be learned since it is an international language. It is the standard language used to communicate among individuals with different cultures and between countries to carry out an activity. To struggle for work nowadays, we are required to be able to speak foreign languages, especially English. Therefore, it is important for us to learn English so that it is easy to do something in the future. It also makes us communicate easily. According to Khamkhien (2010), “English has increasingly become the medium of communication around the world both in local and global”. As a result, it is critical to learn English since you will be able to communicate with foreigners if you know English has a different linguistic and cultural background. Brown (2004) stated that speaking is a productive skill that can be directly and empirically observed, those observations are invariably colored by the accuracy and effectiveness of a test taker's listening skill, which necessarily compromises the reliability and the validity of an oral production test.

In speaking skills, some aspects should be understood and mastered as well as possible. The first is pronunciation, it is the rule in pronouncing words in English or the way someone pronounces a word (Online Dictionary, 2016). When someone's pronunciation is good, they appear to be fluent and professional in every word they say. Another important skill to master is pronunciation, namely: (1) word stress, sound stress in words (2) stress sentence, the tone of voice in the sentence (3) linking, connecting words (4) intonation, the rise and fall of the tone Furthermore, having a large vocabulary is an important factor to consider when speaking English. Speaking is also very important for everyday life, considering all aspects, in any case, should use English. We cannot be separated from English since English is an international language that we have to understand more or less. A person who is studying a foreign language wishes to be able to communicate with those who speak that language. Learning a foreign language, on the other hand, should be tough since it is difficult to enunciate and speak smoothly and clearly. Some students feel that by practicing language and structures, they may fix oral communication issues.

Improving one's speaking efficiency is a difficult task. Students should not only employ correct words, however, also have good pronunciation and vocabulary. However, students should also be able to communicate effectively in the language. The challenge that students confront, according to Hinkel (2005), is when they come across words that they don't comprehend and a form of words that they don't know how to apply or don't understand the intended meaning. Other problems faced by students such as not being confident when speaking, since there are something students are afraid of making mistakes when speaking, wrong pronouns since students think when they produce mistakes in speaking it will change the mastering meaning of the intent and purpose that students want to say.

It can be inferred from the previous paragraph that speaking problem that is often faced by students. There are several factors that make it into the problem. The issue that frequently occurs is that many students have difficulties speaking English since they are typically not fluent in the language. This is due to a lack of practice in speaking English. Second, it's common in guessing the word in mind. The final set of terms they learned is vocabulary. Speaking is a key for language learners, Goh (2007). Not only does speaking help with communication, however, it also helps with language learning and growth.

According to real conditions in life, it shows that the phenomenon of speaking is a problem among students. Most of them cannot speak English well due to several factors. Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta is one of the universities located in Surakarta where is the choice of the researcher to find the problems faced by 7th semester students English Department in learni speaking Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta. Secondly is often thinking in mind to what word want to say. The third is vocabulary words they acquired. Goh (2007) stated that speaking is an important skill for language learners. Speaking also promotes language learning and development, not only by playing a role in communication.

Another problem is that students usually faced a lack of self-confidence and anxiety. They might be confronted with certain feelings that affect their English speaking such as unconfidence, ashamed, and anxiety. If the students do not believe that they can speak fluently, it has become a big problem for them. As Lawrie (2004) stated that speaking difficulties can be influenced by one's emotions. When a person is confident and relaxed, their speech is frequently clearer, and this is one of the most crucial elements to consider when we speak with a person who has speech challenges. As a result, finding a solution to speaking challenges is important. So that students can speak English more fluently.

This study attempts to determine the problem of speaking English in the 7th semester students of the English Department of UMS. The researcher is interested in discussing the speaking problems faced by the 7th semester students of the English Department of UMS. This research is entitled “PROBLEMS FACED BY THE 7TH SEMESTER ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS IN LEARNING SPEAKING UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA”.

B. Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, the problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. What are the problems faced by the 7th semester students in the learning speaking at English department student of Muhammadiyah University Surakarta?
2. What are the causes of the problems in speaking English?
3. What are the strategies applied by the students to deal with problems in speaking English?

C. Objectives of the study

Related to be research problem, this study conducted to:

1. Analyze the problem of speaking English for 7th semester students of Muhammadiyah University Surakarta.
2. Find the causes that make it difficult for students to speak English.
3. Find the strategies used by students in overcoming problems in speaking English.

D. Significance of the study

This research hopefully can give benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research will be useful as an additional reference for students' problems in speaking English. This hopefully supports other references about the problem faced by students in learning to speak English.

2. Practical Benefits

a. For the reader

It is hoped can give information about a problem faced in learning English as a medium to make it easier for readers to obtain information.

b. For the students

For students, it is hoped that students can more understand the problems they face when speaking English so that it can be applied in students' daily lives and can be learned about the pros and cons.

c. For Teacher

For the teachers, the result of this study can be used to explain the types of the problem faced by students in learning English norms to students