

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English is the most spoken language in the world today. English, being the first world language, is said to be the first global lingua franca and it is the most widely used language in the world (Rao, 2019). English is not only the most widely spoken language, but it has also become a mandatory language in many countries around the world, including Indonesia (Kirkpatricik, 2017). In the Indonesian curriculum, English is a major subject studied along with mathematics, Indonesian Language and science (Sepyanda, 2017).

When it comes to learning English, there are many aspects that learners must master. One of those aspects is speaking. When someone says, "Can you speak English?" it usually means that you are competent enough to have a conversation (Brown, 2001: 267).

In other words, the ability to master a particular language can be measured by how well you can speak and communicate in the target language. Based on the 7th-grade real-life situation in SMPN 4 Karanganyar, the researcher observed in preliminary observation, the researcher found that most of the students did not master English as well, particularly in speaking skills. It was evidenced by most of students spoke in Bahasa Indonesia rather than spoke in English when the teacher asked the question using English. In addition, the report from the teacher's note about the score of speaking skill was categorized as less active. The mean score of speaking skill of 7th grade students in SMPN 4 Karanganyar was 7.3 while the minimum completeness criteria was 8.0 for speaking skill.

Capability in completing a certain task. Preliminary observations show that students are afraid to communicate in English when learning and teaching English. According to some students interviewed by the researcher, they were confused about how to communicate their thoughts in English.

"When people speak English, I can (understand), but I cannot reply to speak in English" said one of the 7th grade students.

In other situation, the researcher also interviewed a female student who made a statement about "Children don't dare to speak a lot, they only want to speak English in need, most of them speak necessarily, they do not want to try being active while they are speaking because only some people want to talk".

Additionally, students use their native language (Javanese and Indonesian Language) more than English in class. In the process of teaching and learning English, when a teacher asked a student a question in English, they tended to use Bahasa to answer the teacher's

question. Which of these examples of personal pronouns are examples of personal pronouns?" Some students answered "Kayak pernah denger, Bu" or "Apa itu Bu?", while others answered "Apa itu Bu?" I answered. The students were silent, but when the teacher asked the students a tag-like question, the students answered confidently, "Yes, well...!" or "No, well...!".

Hendrawati & Hikmat (2022) found that most of students do not understand about what they speak in English. In addition, the teacher gave more emphasis on the students reading and writing competencies by giving them reading tasks, finding and listing new vocabulary along with its meaning or grammar exercise. To overcome those problems, the researcher proposes a study on THE STUDENTS PROBLEMS IN SPEAKING PERFORMANCE AT SMP 4 KARANGANYAR

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background of the study, the problem statements can be formulated as follows :

1. What are students' problems in speaking performance experienced by the first-semester student of 7th class on the first-semester student of SMP 4 Karanganyar?
2. What are causes of the problems in their speaking performance experienced by the first-semester student of 7th class on the first-semester student of SMP 4 Karanganyar?
3. What are the strategies to overcome students' speaking problems of 7th class on the first-semester student of SMP 4 Karanganyar?

C. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research are :

1. To identify the students' speaking problems in seventh grade in SMPN 4 Karanganyar,
2. To identify the causes of students' problem of speaking performance of the 7th class on the first-semester student of SMP 4 Karanganyar, and
3. To examine strategies that solve the students' speaking problems 7th class on the first-semester student of SMP 4 Karanganyar.

D. Benefits of the Study

The result of the research is expected to be useful for students, teachers, and other researchers.

1. For The Teachers

It is expected that the result of the research can be a solution to the teacher's problem in the English teaching and learning process.

2. For The Students

By writing this research, it is expected that the student's problem in speaking skill performance will be overcome and they find out the problem to solve the lack performance of speaking skills in the 7th grade of the first semester in SMPN 4 Karanganyar

3. For Other Researchers

This research is expected to inspire other researchers to analyze more and also do similar research to overcome the problem that comes up in the classroom. Another benefit is that this research can be used by other researchers as a resource to write other research.