Problem Encountered by the Students in Speaking English at English Students of Baturaja University

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Abstract

This research analyzes the problems faced by students of the English language education study program at Baturaja University, in speaking English. This type of research is descriptive qualitative using a survey approach. The sample in this study consisted of 48 students including the second semester with 26 respondents and the fourth semester with 22 students as respondents. Data was collected through a questionnaire using Google Form which was then distributed online via WhatsApp groups for each respondent class. It consist 20 statement with 2 indicator, namely: linguistic problems and psychology problems. The researcher used four point of likert scale for analyzing the data recapitulation, The researchers found two problems faced by students when speaking English, including linguistic problems and psychological problems. The results research show that 28,13% strongly agree, 46,2% agree, 20,01% disagree, 5,64% strongly disagree of students have linguistic problems in speaking English with the highest cause being lack of vocabulary. Meanwhile, regarding psychological problems, based on research resultsresearch show that 19,4% strongly agree, 46,2% agree, 20,01% disagree, 5,64% strongly of students have psychology problems in speaking English with the highest cause being lack of self-confidence. Thus, it can be seen that the most dominant causing problems in speaking English among students is linguistic problems.

Keywords – student, problem, speaking, English

Introduction

Language is the ability that humans have to communicate with other humans using signs, for example words and movements. According to Muhammmad (2014, P.40), "language is an institution that has patterns or rules that must be obeyed and used (sometimes without realizing it) by speakers in a community of mutual respect". Mulyati, et al. (2014, P.23) says that "language is a collection of meaningful sounds that are suggested with the aim of expressing thoughts. In the modern era, Indonesia not only studied Indonesian but also studied English. . According to Xolmurodova (2021), there were four skills that were mandatory to master in learning English, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. All English skills were important, but speaking skills were often considered the most important to master, as they were often used as a measure of overall language proficiency. (Parupalli, 2019) stated that speaking was the most important skill among all four language skills in order to communicate well in this global world. In addition, Anggeraini (2020) stated that students like to use technology in learning speaking such digital storytelling.

English was considered one of the most difficult aspects of the language to learn. Shen and Chiu (2019) found that the problem of speaking in English among major students consisted of two aspects: linguistic and psychological. Linguistic problems were divided into vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Psychological problems consisted of fear of making mistakes, shyness, anxiety, lack of confidence, and motivation. Baturaja University English language education study program students who wanted to become teachers were required to speak English correctly. Analyzing the problems faced by students could be useful for developing further improvement solutions because it could provide insights into what needed to be addressed and ultimately produce knowledge about the cause of the problems. After conducting pre-observations with the lecturers and several students, the researcher acknowledged that this would be a problem and an obstacle to student success, especially in learning English in speaking classes. In this regard, the researcher considered this problem necessary to research in order to find out more about the issues that caused students to struggle with speaking English and the underlying causes. In the future, it is expected that students would be able to understand and address their speaking problems. The researcher also aims to develop research regarding students' overall English speaking problems. Based on the statement above, the researcher was interested in investigating the problems students face in speaking English. Therefore, this research is entitled: "Problem Encountered by The Students in Speaking English at English Students of Baturaja University".

Methodology

In this research, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative method with a survey approach. According to Sugiyono (2018) survey method is a research method used to obtain data that occurred in the past or currently, about opinions, beliefs, characteristics of the sample taken from a certain population. The population consists of all students enrolled in the English education study program at Baturaja University. Specifically, the population of subjects comprises 48 students enrolled in the English education study program at Baturaja University for the academic year 2024/2025. In this research, the sampling technique used by the researcher is total sampling. Total sampling is a method where the number of samples equals the population size (Sugiyono, 2007). The sample of this research are 48 students, namely 1st semester consist 26 students and 3rd semester consist 22 students. The data collection was by using questionnaire. It consisted of 20 questions based on 2 indicators. Researcher used a closed questionnaire and took ready-mades adopted from Balqisa Asa Hatrima Rizki (2020). Then the researchers created a link from Google Forms and shared it with the research sample via WhatsApp. The researcher analyzed the data by calculating the percentage of student questionnaire responses.

Table 1. Specification of Indicators Speaking Problem

Variable	Indicators	Aspects	Item Number	Total
Problems in Speaking English	Linguistic	Lack of Vocabulary	1,2,3,4	4
		Lack of Grammatical	5,6,7	3
		Pronunciation Error	8,9,10	3
	Psychological	Anxiety or Shyness	11,12,13,14,15	5
		Lack of Self-Confidence	16,17	2
		Lack of Motivation	18	1
		Fear of Making Mistakes	19,20	2
Total				20

Source: (Balqisa Asa Hatrina Rizki., 2020)

Finding and Discussion
  1) **Linguistic Problems**

Table 2. The Result of Questionnaire in Linguistic Problems

Number of Questionnaire	SA	A	D	SD
Item 1	31,3 %	45,8%	12,5%	10,4%
Item 2	20,8%	56,3%	18,8%	4,2%
Item 3	25%	54,2%	16,7%	4,2%
Item 4	12,5%	52,1%	22,9%	12,5%
Item 5	22,9%	47,9%	20,8%	8,3%
Item 6	50%	16,7%	29,2%	4,2%
Item 7	27,1%	52,1%	16,7%	4,2%
Item 8	31,3%	45,8%	20,8%	2,1%
Item 9	37,5%	52,1%	10,4%	0%
Item 10	22,9%	39,6%	31,3%	6,3%
Mean	**28,1%**	**46,2%**	**20,0%**	**5,6%**

Based on findings in this research regarding problem encountered by the students in speaking English at English students of Baturaja University, researcher found that around 28,1% of students strongly agree, 46,2% of students agree, 20,0% of students disagree, and 5,6% strongly disagree with indicators of linguistic problems. The data shows that the highest percentage of student answers was in the agree score with a percentage of 46.2%.

  2) **Psychology Problem**

Table 3. The Result of Questionnaire in Psychology Problem

Number of Questionnaire	SA	A	D	SD
Item 11	31,3%	25%	29,2%	14,6%
Item 12	35,4%	43,8%	16,7%	4,2%
Item 13	16,7%	50%	29,2%	4,2%
Item 14	29,2%	47,9%	18,8%	4,2%
Item 15	29,2%	41,7%	22,9%	6,3%
Item 16	18,8%	43,8%	20,8%	16,7%
Item 17	10,4%	43,8%	35,4%	10,4%
Item 18	12,5%	37,5%	33,3%	16,7%
Item 19	4,2%	37,5%	41,7%	16,7%
Item 20	6,3%	47,9%	35,4%	10,4%
Mean	**19,4%**	**41,9%**	**28,3%**	**10,4%**

Based on findings in this research regarding problem encountered by the students in speaking English at English students of Baturaja university, researcher found that around 19,4 % of students strongly agree, 41,9% of students agree, 28,3% of students disagree, and 10,4% strongly disagree with indicators of pshycology problems.

When this research was conducted, it showed that the students have two problem namely linguistic and psychology problem. First, on the Linguistic problem indicator, there are three aspects that cause linguistic problems faced by students in speaking English, including lack of vocabulary, lack of grammar, and pronunciation errors. Lack of vocabulary, based on the result, students admit that they were afraid to speak English because their vocabulary was limited which made them afraid to speak verbally. Lack of grammar, in this research, students admit that they have difficulty putting words together to speak so they only want to speak English when they feel the grammar is correct.

The last one is a problem with pronunciation, they admitted that they were were afraid to speak English because they did not have good pronunciation. Students find it difficult to respond to the person they are talking to when the accent they use is different, so the pronunciation intonation makes it difficult for them to understand. The last, on psychology problem indicator, there are four aspects that cause psychological problems faced by students in speaking English, including Anxiety or shyness, Lack of self-confidence, lack of motivation, and fear of making mistakes. Anxiety or shyness, in this case, students agree that the cause of their reluctance to speak is because they feel anxious when they want to speak English which causes them not to speak anything, students also get blank and suddenly forget what they want to talk about because their level of anxiety and embarrassment about speaking English is not something to be underestimated. Lack of self-confidence, Students admit that they were afraid to speak English because they were afraid of being corrected by the person they were talking to. Apart from that, students also felt afraid that their speaking partner would not understand what they were saying. Lack of motivation, in this research, students admit that they only want to speak English if the lecturer tells them to, this means they will become less active students when there is no motivation or encouragement from the lecturer. Fear of making mistakes, students admit that they were afraid to speak English because they were afraid of being corrected by the person they were speaking to, apart from that students also felt afraid that their speaking partner would not understand what they were saying.

Conclusions
Based on data analysis, total students answer that 23,8 % students answer strongly agree, 44,1% students answer agree, 24,1 % students answer disagree, and 8,0 % students answer strongly disagree. It can be concluded that the researcher found problems faced in speaking English by students of the English language education study program at Baturaja University. There are two problems experienced by students, including linguistic problems and psychological problems. In linguistic problems there are three aspects that trigger this to happen, such lack of vocabulary, lack of grammatical, and pronunciation error. Meanwhile in psychological problems there are four aspects that influence this problem to occur, including anxiety or shyness, lack of self- confidence, lack of motivation, and fear of making mistakes.

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