

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter is an introduction to the research. It describes how and why the researcher chooses this topic. The basic details of the research are described as following topics: Background of the Study, Research Question, Research Purpose, Research Significances, and Scopes of the Research.

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Along the history of foreign language teaching and learning, speaking has always been considered as the most essential skill to be mastered for several reasons. First, approaches and methods for teaching speaking have long been major focuses of language teaching researches and conferences. Second, a huge number of conversation and other speaking course books, audios and videos are continuously published. This phenomenon is what happened to students at SMA Negeri 1 Mempawah Hulu. They define fluency as the ability to converse with others, much more than the ability to read, write, or comprehend oral language.

Its use as the working language in 85% of international organizations and its function as the main gate to get a better job, especially in multinational companies have motivated a great number of people around the world to learn English as a second language or and as a foreign language in order to be able to speak in it (Nazara, 2011). Riadil (2020) accentuates “the purposes of learning a language in teaching language removed contexts are varied, but the thrust is to learn language to communicate, to improve one’s economic prospects, to expand one’s horizon’s both literally and/or figuratively to be a global citizen”. In relation to this, Ratnasari (2020) assert: "A large percentage of the world's language learners study English in order to develop proficiency in speaking".

Realizing the high importance of speaking skill in EFL programs, it is very important to find and use the best instructional methods, materials, activities, media, and other requirements that will help the learners master speaking skill. However, although a great number of studies aimed to help learners master

speaking skill has been conducted, many EFL learners still find speaking it very difficult to master (Shen & Chiu, 2019). In addition to the view that speaking is “the most complex and difficult skill to master”, another cause is possibly that those studies still mainly dealt with the linguistic aspects of second language acquisition. Little research has been carried out regarding students’ perspectives on the learning of speaking in the EFL classroom, whereas students’ views which at least provide awareness to teachers in this context is an important aspect to be considered (Ningias & Indriani, 2021). In line with this, students' perceptions of speaking in English are very different.

Furthermore, students' perceptions of English are certainly different. Perception is a view of an event or phenomenon that occurs by the human senses. According to Sahrawi (2017:172) perception is a cognitive process of selecting, analyzing, organizing, interpreting, and integrating stimuli of any kind of information received by someone that is meaningful and different from one another. Kurniawati (2016:306) expressing that perception is the experience of objects, events, or relationships obtained by inferring information and interpreting messages. In line with that, Mulyani (2020) added that perception is a process that is preceded by the sensing process, which is the process of receiving stimulus by individuals through the sensory devices or also called sensory processes.

Moreover, the phenomenon that occurs at SMAN 1 Mempawah Hulu is a fairly common and often occurs in most schools in Indonesia, especially in Mempawah Regency, where most students have perception that speaking English is a very difficult thing to do. English tends to be difficult to master because it is not the language our ancestors used (Madya, 2019). Students at SMAN 1 Mempawah Hulu, especially the eleventh grade, still perceive English as a very frightening specter, therefore it will be very difficult to speak and even improve their speaking skills.

Finally, this paper discusses the study recently conducted to investigate how is Perception of EFL Students in Learning Speaking Skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAN 1 Mempawah Hulu

The previous research has similarities with the research that the researcher will do in this study, which is both discussing students' perceptions. However, the research that the researcher involved in the previous study did not discuss the students' speaking ability, and it can be said that the difference lies there.

### **B. Research Question**

Based on the background of study above, the problem can be formulating as follow: How is Perception of EFL Students in Learning Speaking Skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAN 1 Mempawah Hulu.

### **C. Research Purpose**

This research to find out how is Perception of EFL Students in Learning Speaking Skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAN 1 Mempawah Hulu.

### **D. Significances Research**

Significances research is literally an attempt to find, develop and test the truth of a science and a good study must provide important benefits and impacts for the subject under study, information, the environment and also further research. In this study, two meanings are obtained from the point of view of theory and practice. It can help researcher in order to determine whether the topic is worthy of research or not. Researcher can limit the scope required in an investigation.

Researcher believe that this area of research can provide more useful contributions students, teacher, other researcher, and researcher, to be more aware and improve their abilities. Practical Significances. With the preparation of this research, it is hoped that this research in particular can make a valuable contribution to students, teachers, other researcher, and researcher.

#### **1. To School**

As input to student, teacher, school principals, and other staff to improve the quality of education by learning in accordance with subject matter.

## 2. To Teacher

Providing various benefits of learning in enhancing the role of teacher to students in the teaching learning process.

## 3. To Students

To improve student learning competence by improving learning and improving the quality of the process

## 4. To Further Research

As the application of knowledge received in lectures in the form of theory which is mainly related to English. As a prospective teacher, learn to apply appropriate learning to deliver teaching materials in accordance with the conditions that student want in the learning process to be carried out.

## **E. Scopes of Research**

### **1. Research Variable**

Variable is a defined characteristic that varies. Sugiyono (2012) suggest that research variable is anything in the form that is determined by the researcher to be studied so that information is obtained about it, then conclusions are drawn. The variable of this study is Perception of EFL Students in Learning Speaking Skill.

### **2. Research Terminology**

#### a. Perception

Students' perceptions are known as the views or assumptions of a person based on phenomena that they see or feels through his sensory tools. In order to optimize the teacher when teaching in class. The teacher's understanding of the students or the character of the student will make it easier for the teacher when teaching, so that the teacher knows what the teacher should do in the classroom to what the student wants.

#### b. EFL Student

English as a Foreign Language is learning English in a non-English- speaking country. For example, students in Indonesia who are learning English are

considered EFL students because English is not the official language of the country.

c. **Speaking Skill**

The ability to speak is the ability where a person is able to speak well with the other person when communicating.