

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is developed into several parts. They are the Background of the Study, Reason for Choosing the Topic, Research Question, Objective of the Study, Significance of Study, Limitation of the Study, and Organization of Study.

1.1. Background of the Study

As human beings, we cannot live without others. We always need to communicate with our surrounding. Communication is the process to express a message and idea. To be able to conduct communication well, people need one important element which is called language. In this world, there are many tribes or group of people with different languages. To communicate with the others, we need a common language which is understood by all group of people. This common language is called international language and English is one of these international languages which is widely used around the world.

Considering the important role of international language, in Indonesia, English becomes a required subject of the study in every single level of school. Starting from the most basic level, kindergarten until the highest level of college.

The weight of the lessons would have to adjust to the level of the students. Hopefully, this gradual process can make educated people of Indonesia able to speak English well. However, in reality, it is still very difficult, because English still becomes the foreign language, after regional language which has a place as the mother tongue and national language as the second language. Although

English is very massively taught, but in general the students' mastery of the English language is still below average. Steve Kaufmann (2010) argued that language is behavioural habit. Learning another language is like learning some of the behavioural habits of another culture. If English is not used frequently, that ability will decline or disappear. Therefore to speak English well, someone must keep repeating and practicing language in daily life. Due to the reason, the process would require a learning method or strategy that allows the students to get used to using English.

In another hand, today, the development of information technology is increasingly advanced. People need to access more information and news quickly. They also need to communicate with many people around the world effectively. This reason forces people to create communication technology that is capable of meeting those needs. For that reason social media is created which is loved by everyone in the last 10 years. Without realizing it, everyone, especially students, must have a variety of communication platforms. Whether it is to communicate with friends, or to complete school assignments. According to research published by Digital GFK Asia in 2016 showed that the average person in Indonesia spends 5.5 hours per day to open social media and websites. Mobile phones and the internet are increasingly seen as essential requirements for the exchange of information. Data from World Development Indicators 2013 illustrates the dramatic change in access across the world in the last decade: mobile phone subscriptions have roughly doubled every two years since 2002, now exceeding the number of fixed line subscriptions in 2002. By the end of 2011 there were 5.9

billion mobile cellular subscriptions worldwide, almost one for every person if distributed equally. And almost a third of the world's population had online access to the internet. This phenomenon becomes a new habit for all humans around the world.

Based on the problem of making the study of language into habit, this research focuses the use of chatting platform to habituate English speaking skill. Hopefully, the students who become the object of the study can improve their speaking skill.

1.2. Reason for Choosing this Topic

This research focuses on the improvement of speaking skill by using Chatting Strategy based on the reasons as follows:

- a. Speaking skill is one of skills that determines the process of expressing and transferring message or idea running well or not.
- b. In Indonesian curriculum requirement, the students must be able to be active in the learning process. Speaking skill can be assessed by using cognitive assessments well as a psychomotor and affective assessment.
- c. In the information technology era, where information and knowledge can be found easily on social media, students must be able to take an advantage of information technology advances by making it as a useful learning tools.
- d. Chatting is the most common activity performed by students every day. So, combining it with the learning process is able to make students directly implement the knowledge that they get in daily activities.

- e. At the Senior High School level, students should be able to speak well in English about their daily activities.

1.3. Research Question

Based on reason above, there is one question formulated in this research :
What is students' perception about the effectiveness of chatting strategy to improve speaking skill of 2nd and 4th semester students of English Education and Literature at Sultan Agung Islamic University Semarang academic year 2019-2020?

1.4. Objective of the Study

In accordance to the research question, the objective of the study is to find out the 2nd and 4th semester students' perception about the effectiveness of Chatting Strategy on the improvement of their English language skill at English Education and Literature of Sultan Agung Islamic University Semarang academic year 2019-2020.

1.5. Significance of the Study

The result of this study are expected to provide pedagogical and practical significances for the following corelated participants:

1. Pedagogically

This research hopefully can produce new innovations for teachers that can be implemantated in teaching process, especially adjusting teaching methods and

strategy with the times. The results of this study are also expected to be able to direct students to be wiser in using social media, which was initially only used as a medium to obtain information into a new learning tool that can improve student skills effectively.

2. Practically

- For students : This study is expected to improve students independent learning motivation, especially English learning. Hopefully the students can use technology not only for having fun, but also for learning independently.
- For teacher : This research is expected to improve the teacher's teaching ability, it is also expected to give teacher a new innovations in the teaching strategy, so that each teacher's learning method is always relevant and not boring for students.
- Further the study : the result of his study could provide an important information for the next the study who are interested to research by using Chatting Strategy or the the study who want to conduct about the improvement of students English speaking skill.

1.6. Limitation of the Study

Generally, there are a lot of chatting application or chatting platform that had been created, but this study focuses on using the Wakie Platfrom to test whether or not this platform is effective in improving the speaking skills of 2nd

and 4th semester students of English Education and Literature of Sultan Agung Islamic University Semarang academic year 2019-2020.

1.7. Definiton of Key Term

In order to clarify the key terms used in this study, some definitions are put forward.

1. Speaking skill

- According to Brown, 1994; Burns and Joyce 1997, speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information.

2. Chatting

- According to Nurrahman (2011) Chatting is a form of communication that conducted through internet. Chatting generally aims to talking activities based text between two people or group.

3. Wakie

- Hrachik Adjarnian (2014) as a founder of Wakie described that Wakie is a global community of stranger who convert into friends through a coversation. They call their member Wakies, who represent contre-culture of social media. Generally, Wakie has much similarity with another chatting platfrom, but in this platform, the concern of the users is education. Users tend to look for information about culture from another countries and they also want to increase their English skill by making conversation with the native directly.

1.8. Organization of Study

This study organized into five chapters.

Chapter 1 covers the background of the study, reason for choosing this topic, research question, hypothesis of the study, objective the study, significance of study, limitation of the study and organization of study.

Chapter II contains the review of related literature. It discusses about the definition of speaking, definition of chatting strategy, the advatages and disadvantages implementating information technology in learning speaking.

Chapter III discusses the method of the research wich consist of research design, population and sampel, variable of the research, instrument of the study, the step of the research,the construction of the test, validity of the test, reliability of the test and scoring of the test.