# THE ANALYSIS OF STUDENTS' DIFFICULTIES IN SPEAKING ENGLISH AT SMK MUHAMMADIYAH KAJEN

# (CASE STUDY AT THE 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING)

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#### **Abstract**

This research is about the analysis of students' difficulties in speaking english at SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen (A case study at the tenth grades of automotive engineering in SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen). The aim of this research is to describe the students' difficulties in speaking English at the tenth grade of SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen in the academic years of 2018/2019 and also to describe the strategies of the teacher to solve the students' difficulties in speaking English at the tenth grade of SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen in the academic years of 2018/2019. In this research, the writer used descriptive qualitative research. The population of this research was the students of the SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen. The number of the subject was 15 students and an English teacher. There were 3 meetings in this research. Two meetings were for interviewing the students. One meeting was for interviewing the teacher. Interview was used to collect the data. It was conducted face to face. The initial findings show that students had difficulties in speaking English such as: they did not understand the meaning, they had difficulties in memorizing vocabulary, they had difficulties in conveying sentences, and they could not answer the questions.

## Keywords: students' difficulties, speaking, case study

#### Introduction

Speaking is one of the most important skills to be developed and enhanced as means of effective communication. Speaking is one of four skills in English that aims to enhance students' communication skill. By speaking, we can receive and process the information to communicate with others. According to Bailey (2003:48) "speaking is process of sharing idea and opinion in oral language communication in society". Speaking is the most important skill because it is one of the abilities that is needed to do a conversation, especially in speaking English.

Basically, speaking skill must be a habit in the school. Students will not be easy to speak English fluently if there is no speaking habit. There are many material for speaking practice, such as; introducing my self/other, describing something, expressing something, dialog, short conversation, etc.

In English speaking, the students should know many important components like pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Speaking skill is regarded as one of the most difficult aspects of language learning. Many students feel the difficulties to

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express themselves in spoken language.

Some students in Indonesian still have the difficulties in speaking, especially in SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen. There were some difficulties which they felt in speaking English, such as: they felt afraid to speak English, they felt unconfident, they had limited vocabulary, they did not understand the meaning, they could not remember anything to say, they took a long time to memorize, etc.

The purpose of the research are to describe the students' difficulties in speaking English at the tenth grade of SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen, and to describe the strategies of the solve the students' teacher to difficulties in speaking English the tenth grade of SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen.

#### Methodology

This research was conducted at SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen. The subject of the research were the tenth grades automotive engineering. In research, the writer used descriptive qualitative research. The writer described the students' difficulties in speaking English, and the strategies of the teacher to solve the students' difficulties in speaking English. In collecting the data, the writer did interview. The procedure of data are as follow: analysis after interviewing, the writer will collect the data and translate into English. The data are grouped into problems,

and strategies. Then, the data will be analyzed based on the students' difficulties in speaking, and teacher' strategies to solve the problems. Two procedures will be used to validate this research. The first is by using member checking and the second will use triangulation. In this case, the writer will compare the data taken from interview from two different respondents.

#### Discussion

- 1. From respondents that were interviewed, it was found that some students did not like English because they felt difficulties and did not understand the meaning, memorize hard to the vocabularies, unfluently, and felt difficult when speaking English. Therefore, there were some students who like English is an international language that must be understood. There were students like English from playing games, from that they can learn to translate the meaning of the terms in games.
- 2. From the result of the interview, there were the students' difficulties in speaking English the differences such as pronounciation in writing and spelling, they did not understand there the meaning, were unfamiliar words when speaking, difficult to deliver words, difficult to memorize vocabularies. It was because the students did not use

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- English in daily speaking, they nervous when speaking English, so that the students hard to master English.
- 3. From the result of the interview, the causes of the difficulties in speaking were because some students less of vocabularies, pronounciation and spelling, many tenses in english.
- 4. From the result of the interview, the students ever got the critics from the teacher when they did mistake in speaking english, such as in spelling the vocabularies influent in speaking, intonation, the students were not clear in speaking english.
- 5. From the result of the interview, the students felt ashamed and afraid to be laughed by their friends, because they were afraid making mistake when dilevering words spelling so it can make miss understanding. They felt nervous when speaking in mont of the class because they did not master the english. But there were some students who did not feel ashamed and afraid in speaking english. Because they thought that they used to be laughed by their friends, and they did not want to be better than their friends.
- 6. From the result of the interview, some student felt worries when the teachers asked students speak english. When teachers asked question, the students worried about making mistakes in

- aswering the question and afraid to be laughed by this friends.\
- 7. From the result of the interview, the causes of the studens felt inconfidend in speaking english were influent in pronounciation, didnot understand the meaning. Because they less of preparation, inconfident, neruous.
- 8. From the result of the interview. the causes of the students less motivation in speaking english the never learn to speak english, the students felt confused to answer the question, the students didnot understand the meaning, they didnot get english when they were primary school, less guidance from the teacher, less of evalution and solution to solve the lack of motivation.
- 9. From the result of the interview, things that can motivate students in order to be able in english speaking are from themselves, understand how to pronounciate and vocabularies, because there are some students who want to work abroad, and guidance and attention from the teacher, always learn to speak english.
- 10. From of the result the interview, the efforts that the students can do in solving the difficulties in speaking english such as: they mus study hard, listen the other people speak english, play games using english, often speak english, listen the

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english songs, dont feel nervous and be confident.

#### Conclusion

Based on the research discussion, it can be concluded that students of the tenth grades automotive engineering in SMK Muhammadiyah Kajen have difficulties some in speaking English. The problems that most students faced in speaking was having lack of vocabularies, not being confident to speak, not being used to talk in the class, difficulties in expressings words and sentences, mastery of grammar (tenses). pronunciation. and cause of problems most students faced was being afraid of making errors or mistakes so that they felt afraid to be laughted by their friends. So the problem that faced by the students were not only the linguistic problems but also non linguistic problems.

Based on the discussion, suggestions have been proposed. The most important one, speaking skills do not stand alone but they are supported by the mastery of vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Accordingly, the English teachers need to increase students' mastery and motivate the students in order to be like English more.

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