

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS' SPEAKING  
ABILITY IN DESCRIBING PLACE AT SMA 12 PADANG**

**THESIS**

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**TIKA OKTARINA NASUTION**

**1210013121063**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
THE FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
BUNG HATTA**

**UNIVERSITY**

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Bissmillahirrohmanirrohim

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Finally, the researcher hopes this thesis could contribute to better process of teaching and learning English in the future. She realizes that this thesis is not perfect yet. Therefore, she welcomes any criticisms and suggestions from the readers.

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The Researcher

## ABSTRACT

**Nasution, Tika Oktarina. 2017.** An Analysis of the First Grade Students' Speaking Ability in Describing Places at SMAN 12 Padang

Advisors : 1. Dra. Ernati, M.Pd  
2. Lailatul Husna, S.Pd., M.Pd.

The purpose of this research was to describe students' speaking ability in describing place. In describing place we can give detail information to someone or other people.

The population of this research was the first grade students at SMAN 12 Padang. The total sample members were 31 students, they were chosen by using convenience sampling technique. The data were collected through speaking test. To make the test reliable, the researcher used inter-rater technique. It means that there were two scorers to check students recording. It was found that the correlation coefficients was 0.55. It means that the test was reliable.

The result of this research showed that the students' speaking ability at SMAN 12 Padang in general was low. It was proved by the finding that 61,3% students had low ability. The ability of first grade students' speaking ability at SMAN 12 Padang in content was low. It was proved by finding that 54.9% students has low ability. The ability of the first grade students to express describing place in using grammar at SMAN 12 Padang was high. It was proved by finding that 51,7% students had high ability. The ability of the first grade students' speaking ability in choosing vocabulary in describing place at SMAN 12 Padang was low. It was proved by finding that 54.9% students had low ability. The ability of the first grade students' speaking ability in term of pronunciation was low. It was proved by finding that there 100% student had low ability. The ability of the first grade students' speaking in term of fluency was low. It was proved by finding that 67.8 % students had low ability.

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter the writer explains about background of the problem, formulation of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, research questions, purpose of the research, significance of the research and definition of key terms.

#### **1.1 The Background of the Problem**

There are four integrated language skills that students have to master well in learning English. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Learning English language skills is similar acquiring the language in life. The first thing they learn is listening, and then come to the next level-learn how to speak, next learn reading and then how to write.

In learning english, students should master these four integrated skills, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Besides, they also should master grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary.

Speaking is skill that someone should learn after they have learned how to listen. Broughton et al.,(1980:76) states that however, a student may be good at listening and understanding, it might not follow that he will speak



well, listening does not always produce a fluent tongue (speaking). In learning English, speaking is important to master well by the students because by mastering the speaking skill, someone can communicate with others. They can interacted with others and can deliver some information that they have.

Including senior high school students in SMA 12 Padang, students learn speaking according to the curriculum but they have difficulties in speaking. This can be proved by Yolanda (2009) who had research about the students' speaking ability in describing person. Yolanda (2009) found that the first year students of SMA 12 Padang have the difficulties in speaking.

Based on Yolanda's research, she assumed that students' get difficulties in describing place, they have difficulties to spell the word correctly and then make their difficulties in pronouncing the words that they want to say. It could affect the students competence to speak English. In addition, they have difficulties in describing something especially describing place.

Based on this description above, the researcher was interested to do a research entitle "An Analysis of the first grade student's speaking ability in describing place at SMA 12 Padang".

## **1.2 The Identification of the Problem**

Many students find difficulties when they're asked to speak English. They cannot deliver their ideas in English well whether in classroom activities or in their daily life. They also find difficulties in uttering a sentence or do oral conversation or also in describing place and the students

also have problem in using language components. They are grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, fluency, and pronunciation.

Based on syllabus of English subject for the first grade students in senior high school, the students have learned about description (describing person, place and things). In conclusion, students can show their speaking ability by practicing their feeling in using expressions with a good pronunciation, a correct grammar and vocabulary building and fluency.

### **1.3 The Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification above, the researcher conducted the research, and just focused to investigate the students' speaking ability in describing place at the first grade student in SMAN 12 Padang by considering the five components of speaking suggested by Brown (2010:212) : grammar, vocabulary, content, fluency and pronunciation.

### **1.4 The Formulation of the Problem**

To conducted this research, the writer formulated the problem with the following questions : "How is the first grade students' speaking ability in describing place at SMAN 12 Padang ?

### **1.5 Research Questions**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the writer proposes the research questions as follows ;

1. How is the first grade students' ability in expressing idea in describing places at SMA 12 Padang ?
2. How is the first grade students' ability in using grammar in describing place at SMA 12 Padang ?
3. How is the first grade students' ability in using appropriate vocabulary in describing place at SMA 12 Padang ?
4. How is the first grade students' fluency in describing place at SMA 12 Padang?
5. How is the first grade students' ability in pronouncing words in describing place at SMA 12 Padang?

## **1.6 The Purpose of the Research**

The main purpose of the research is to analyze the students speaking ability in describing place at the first grade SMAN 12 Padang. And the specific purposes are:

1. To describe the first grade students' ability in expressing idea of describing place at SMA 12 Padang.
2. To describe the first grade students' ability in using grammar in describing place at SMA 12 Padang.
3. To describe the first grade students' ability in using appropriate vocabulary in describing place at SMA 12 Padang.
4. To describe the first grade students' fluency in describing place at SMA 12 Padang.

5. To describe the first grade students' ability in pronouncing words in describing place at SMA 12 Padang.

### **1.7 The Significance of the Research**

This research is expected to give contributions and benefit for the teacher and the students in senior high school twelve Padang. For the teachers, they can get information about the first grade students' speaking ability, so the teacher can evaluate his/her teaching aspect. For the students it will help them to know their speaking ability and they can give the best answer when people ask them to describing a place.

### **1.8 The Definition of the Key Terms**

The terms related to this study are defined as follow :

1. Analysis is the study of something by examining its parts and breaking a complex topic or substance into smaller parts to gain a better understanding of it, it is to investigate the students' ability in describing place.
2. Ability is component of a competency to do a certain kind of work at a certain level, it is the students' ability in describing place by considering good grammar, appropriate vocabulary,

comprehend in describing place, fluency, and their good pronunciation.

3. Speaking is an active productive skill and makes use of oral production, it is the activity of describing place directly.
4. Describing place is giving details directions about location.
5. Grammar is the rules for forming words and making sentence: it is the ability of the students to use simple present tense in describing place.
6. Pronunciation is the way in which a language or a particular word or sound is spoken : it is the way of the students pronounce the correct word or sound in describing place.
7. Vocabulary is all the words that a person know or uses: it is the words related to describe place, such as adjective, pronoun, adverb, etc.
8. Fluency is a property of a person or of system that delivers information quickly and expertise.
9. Content is subject written or spoken about in a book, program, etc: it is subject or topic that is spoken by the students in describing place.