

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, the research questions, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study and the definition of key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Problem

English becomes the most essential language that is used by people to communicate each other. All of people communicate for some communicative purposes. Gallo (2014) states that if we want to be good at English, we should master four skills for example speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Speaking and listening are included in productive skills, while reading and writing included in receptive skills. In addition, according to Melendez, Zavala, and Mendez (2014: 549) speaking is the main challenge for learners and often makes them frustrated so that the speaking strategies for learners are needed very much. In Bung Hatta University English learning is not only applied in the English education department, but also in all faculties at Bung Hatta University, because Bung Hatta University wants to give the best for students if they are going to apply for a job. They will be able to speak and be confident in English.

We need to know, English speaking throughout the faculty of Bung Hatta University has two subjects. Conversation 1 focuses on daily conversation and conversation 2 focuses on public speaking. One of the study programs that have conducted English learning is the Biology Education of Bung Hatta University. Based on the researcher's interview to one of lecturers who teaches at Biology Department students it is found that the students still have problems in speaking, like

they are shy to speak English, less vocabulary, and also they do not know the correct grammar that make them confused.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested in conducting the research to find out the difficulties to speak English encountered by the third year Biology Department students of Bung Hatta University.

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

Based on an interview made by the researcher to lecturers there are several difficulties faced by Biology students in speaking English. The lecturer said that Biology students had difficulties in speaking related to the language components. They consisted of less vocabulary, incorrect grammar, fluency and also pronouncing words. Because the students had less knowledge in English, it made them difficulties to expressing ideas and opinions in English speaking.

1.3 The Limitation of the Problem

Based on phenomena above, this research focuses on the difficulties by third year Biology Department students of Bung Hatta University to speak English. The researcher limits the problem on the students speaking for description.

1.4 The Formulation of the Problem

From the limitation of the problem stated before, the formulation of the problems of this research present that “What are the third year students difficulties in speaking English at Biology Department of Bung Hatta University?”.

1.5 The Research Questions

Based on the formulation before, the research questions of this research are :

- 1) Do the third year Biology Department students have difficulties in pronouncing words in speaking?
- 2) Do the third year Biology Department students have difficulties in using correct grammar in speaking?
- 3) Do the third year Biology Department students have difficulties in using appropriate vocabulary in speaking?
- 4) Do the third year Biology Department students have difficulties in fluency in speaking?

1.6 The Purposes of the Research

Generally, the purpose of this research is to find out the difficulties of the third year Biology students FKIP of Bung Hatta University in speaking. Specifically, the purposes of this research are :

- 1) to find out whether the third year Biology Department students had difficulties in pronouncing words in speaking.
- 2) to find out whether the third year Biology Department students had difficulties in using correct grammar in speaking fluently.
- 3) to find out whether the third year Biology Department students had difficulties in using appropriate vocabulary in speaking.
- 4) to find out whether the third year Biology Department students had difficulties in fluency in speaking?

1.7 The Significance of the Study

This research can be useful for lecturer, for students, and for future researcher. The first, for lecturers, this research can be give some information to them about the students difficulties in speaking. This research can also be useful to improve lecturers quality in teaching learning speaking. For students, the result of study can make student aware about their difficulties in speaking. The last, for future researcher this research can be sources of future studies especially about students difficulties in speaking.

1.8 The Definition of Key Terms

There are some definition of key terms in order to avoid misunderstanding :

- 1) Speaking is oral activity in English conducted by Biology Department students.
- 2) Difficulties are problems of the students in speaking.
- 3) Pronunciation is how Biology department students pronounce English words in speaking activity.
- 4) Vocabulary is a set of English used by Biology department in speaking.
- 5) Fluency is property or system that provides information quickly and with expertise.
- 6) Grammar is the systematic of rules language used in speaking