AN ANALYSIS OF THE SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS' SPEAKING ABILITY THROUGH SHORT CONVERSATION AT MAN 2 TANAH DATAR

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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The purpose of this research was to describe the second-year students' speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar. There are 5 aspects that needed to be described, they are content, vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, and grammar. The design of this research was descriptive research. The population of this research is the second-year students' at MAN 2 Tanah Datar. Total sampling was used on this research and the number of samples was 34 students. The instrument for collecting the data in this research was speaking test. The researcher also used inter-rater technique to know the reliability of the test. The reliability coefficient of the test is 0.93 and it means it has very high correlation.

The result of this research showed that the second-year students' speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar was high. It was proved that 64,70 % of students had high ability in speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar. In detail, the students' ability in speaking ability seen from content was bad. It was proved that 82,35 % of students had low ability in delivering content. The students' ability in speaking seen from vocabulary was high. It was proved that 97,05 % of students had high ability in using vocabulary. The students' ability in speaking seen from grammar was high. It was proved that 85,29 % of students had high ability in using grammar. The students' ability in pronunciation was low. It was proved that 41,17% of students had low ability in pronunciation. The students' ability in fluency was high. It was proved that 52,94% of students had high ability in fluency.

Based on the result of this research, it can be concluded that the second-year students' speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar was very good. The researcher suggests that the teachers have to work harder in teaching students, especially in content and pronunciation. For the students, the researcher suggest them to learn more about content and do more practice to improve their ability. For the next researchers, the researcher suggests that they investigate students' problem in content and

pronunciation of short conversation.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the background of the problems, the identification of the problems, the formulation of the problems, the research questions, the purposes of the research, the significance of the research, and the definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of Problem

English is a global language widely spoken in many countries. Half of the countries in the world consider English as a compulsory subject in their curricula. In Indonesia, English is an essential subject, so students must focus on English. The goal of English learners is to expand their communication skills in the age of globalization. Students must understand the four essential English skills such as speaking, reading, listening and writing.

One of the most important elements of communication is speaking (Derakhshan et al., 2016). Speaking is an activity that we use every day and must be developed using subtle and detailed language (Derakhshan et al., 2016). Speaking is a communicative act that allows the exchange of information between the speaker and the listener. Speaking skill is important because without the ability to speak well, the listener will not be able to understand the information (Hamid, and R.Abin, 2022).

Speaking has a huge impact on everything. When we want to have fun and travel around the world, we need English to communicate, when we work, we need

English to complete tasks, even when we want to play games we also need English so that people from other countries different possible. play. These are the things that show that speaking is really important, especially for countries like Indonesia that use English as a foreign or second language.

Speaking skill in English is really a priority for many second-language or foreign-language learners. Hence, learners should learn and practice their speaking skill in English more. Teaching about speaking skill focuses on making students active in oral (Muhlasin et al., 2019)

The students as language learners can tell or give their information or problems from their main ideas through speaking. By speaking, they are also able to give opinions or or deny someone's opinion. Giving opinion is a topics that we learned in speaking. It is an act of conveying what other thinks, believes, or feels about something or somebody, students can give opinion both in oral or written way. Through speaking skills, students will be able to give opinions or to deny someone's statement or point of view in appropriate way in English.

Based on the writer's observations during Practice Teaching at MAN 2 Tanah Datar, firstly, the writer found that the students have difficulty in expressing their ideas freely in speaking activities. They do not know how to construct meaningful phrases and sentences in good grammar to deliver their ideas, which influences their speaking activity. Secondly, they have lack motivation, have low self-confidence, are afraid of making mistakes, and are nervous about expressing their English orally; therefore, they cannot speak fluently. In order to know their speaking ability scientifically, the researcher wants to do a research about the

students' speaking ability through short conversation. A short conversation is one of the activities to help beginning learners build basic English skills. This activity gives more opportunities for the student to speak. It is also called a free communicative interaction. It means that the students are free to use their own words to talk in their way. A short conversation makes students accustomed to speaking spontaneously because the conversation brings students to real action communication and brings real experiences.

1.2 Identification of Problems

The problem that can be identified in this research is to know the ability of the students in speaking English through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.

There are four skills in learning English; they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Speaking is one of four skills that students need to master. Students have many problems when speaking, especially MAN 2 Tanah Datar students have lack of grammar, vocabulary, fluency, pronunciation and organizational ideas. Grammar is one of the components of language that guides us accurately in our ability to speak and write. Fluency is the ability to speak fluently and easily. Pronunciation refers to making sounds to help speakers easily understand what they are saying. Brown (2010) states that there are five types of speaking. Namely imitative, intensive, responsive, interactive, and extensive.

1.3 Limitation of Problems

The study mainly focuses on analyzing second-year students' speaking ability to use short conversations. Among the four skills, the writer gives particular

attention to speaking skills, limiting the research to short conversations. This limitation occurs because the students have already studied short conversations, and the focus aligns with the syllabus and teaching material.

1.4 Formulation of Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, this research problem can be formulated as follows : How is the second year students' speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar

1.5 Research Questions

In line with the formulation of the problem, this research is conducted to answer the following specific questions:

1. How is the second year students' speaking ability through short conversations in terms of ideas (content) at MAN 2 Tanah Datar?
2. How is the second year students' speaking ability through conversation in terms of grammar at MAN 2 Tanah Datar?
3. How is the second year students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of vocabulary at MAN 2 Tanah Datar?
4. How is the second year students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of pronunciation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar?
5. How is the second year students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of fluency at MAN 2 Tanah Datar?

1.6 The Purpose of the Research

The main purpose of this research is to find out the students` speaking ability through short conversation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar, Specifically the purpose of this research are:

1. To find out students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of ideas (content) at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.
2. To find out students' speaking ability through short conversation in term's of grammar at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.
3. To find out students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of vocabulary at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.
4. To find out students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of pronunciation at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.
5. To find out students' speaking ability through short conversation in terms of fluency at MAN 2 Tanah Datar.

1.7 Significance of the Research

The results of this research are to provide scientific information and contributions to teachers, students of MAN 2 Tanah Datar, and other researchers. For teachers, it provides information about students' speaking ability through short conversations. For students, the results of this study can help them realize their abilities, thereby improving their speaking ability.

1.8 Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about this research, the writer gives the definition of the key of terms as follows:

1. Content is the subject or ideas contained in something written, said, created, or represented.
2. Grammar is the study or the rules about how words change their form and combine with other words to make sentence.
3. Vocabulary is the set of words within a language that are familiar to that person
4. Pronunciation is the act or result of producing the sounds of speech, including articulation, stress, an intonation.
5. Fluency is the ability to speak or write a language easily, well, and quickly.