

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the introduction. This part includes the background of the problem, the identification of the problem, the limitation of the problem, the formulation of the problem, research question, the purpose of the research, the significance of the research, and the definition of key terms.

1.1 The Background of the Problem

English is one of the most important elements in education to develop human sources. Learning English is important to communicate easily with other people in the world. Learning English language for education is very important to improve human life. By using language someone can express ideas, thoughts and share some information. In learning English, four skills should be mastered. The four skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. One of the language skills that should be mastered by the learners is speaking. It is an important language skill because speaking is an important tool for communication.

In education, speaking is important for the learners. Speaking is probably the language skill that most language learners want to perfect. According to Bailey (2016:2), speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information.

Based on curriculum used in the English Department of Bung Hatta University, speaking is one of the four basic skills that students must learn. There are several subjects to promote speaking skill, they are speaking description,

speaking for argument, public speaking, MC, and news report. In the class of speaking description, there are many activities. One of them is speaking to describe pictures.

Learning speaking can be done with many media to help students in speaking description such as: pictures, cards, and paper sheet. In this research the researcher chose describing pictures because through describing pictures students will be easier to express their ideas. Pictures will stimulate and motivate them to practice their English comprehension through speaking. According to Kidler (1992:1),”as a media picture can help the teacher to make the students' interest and enjoy to learn especially English.”

According to leong &Ahmadi in Fitrinda (2019), “English speaking is not an easy task because speakers should know many significant components like pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. In general, there are some factors of students’ difficulties to speaking. They have problems with vocabulary, pronunciation, comprehension, grammar, and fluency. Those problems make students not able to communicate fluently.

At the end of 2019 the world was shocked by the emergence of the Corona Virus (Covid 19). The COVID-19 pandemic has changed all of the aspects of worldly life. Not only the social world but also the world of education. The Indonesian government has changed the teaching and learning process from offline to online system, starting from elementary school to university level. Online learning is being applied at all levels of education in Indonesia. Because of that, to support the teaching learning process in Indonesia, the government suggests all learners to use online application to make it easier. The example of

online applications are Google meet, WhatsApp group, Google docs, Google classroom, and Zoom.

In Bung Hatta University, one of subjects that adopts online learning is speaking for description. In speaking for description class, the teacher uses zoom to give opportunity to practice speaking skill. According to Apriyani (2020) zoom is a learning media using video conference. Using zoom we can communicate with anyone via video. This application can be used with any devices such as computer and mobile phone. According to Archibald, et al (2019), A key advantage of zoom is its ability to securely record and store sessions without recourse to third-party software. Cloud-based videoconferencing service offering features including online meetings, group messaging services, and secure recording of sessions. Other important security features include user-specific authentication, real-time encryption of meetings, and the ability to backup recordings to online remote server networks (“the cloud”) or local drives, which can then be shared securely for the purpose of collaboration.

Based on the description above, the researcher wanted to know the students’ speaking difficulties in describing pictures through zoom, entitled “The Speaking Difficulties of The Second Year Students in Describing Pictures through Zoom at English Department of Bung Hatta University.”

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

Speaking is one of the most difficult language skills for learners. According to Kayi, (2006) speaking is the process of building and sharing meaning through the use of verbal and nonverbal symbols, in a variety of contexts.

In order to success master oral skills, students need to have more oral practice and oral expression skills, such as vocabulary, pronunciation, diction, content, grammar, and fluency. The students have a practice of speaking in class through various activities such as discussions, conversations, presentations, role play, and picture descriptions. Speaking description becomes the important activities in speaking class to build speaking ability. Making students able to communicate well through the practice of speaking description by using picture is the goal of teaching speaking for description in front of class.

There are three kinds of picture. According to Finocchiaro, et al in Ariningsih (2010: 41) “divides the pictures into pictures of individual persons or individual objects, pictures of situation, and pictures series. In this research the researcher chose picture of individual persons. In speaking class, many students still have difficulties in acquiring the skill of speaking in describing pictures. The first problem was the component of speaking such as vocabulary. The problems of vocabularies occur when someone cannot express the idea because of the lack vocabulary. They still found difficulties to choose appropriate words to make good sentences. The second problem was they were not really confident to speak. Many students still shy to speak English in front the class. The third problem was pronunciation , the students should be able to pronounce every words and sentence correctly and speak clearly. The fourth problem was content, many students cannot convey their content very well when speak, because they still found difficulties to choose appropriate words and expression to speak.

In online learning systems zoom become one of the application that is often used now. There are some benefits and problems when using that application.

Zoom make it easy for teaching learning process during this pandemic and zoom make it easy to interact between teacher and students. They can meet online because the zoom application allow them to see the face between teacher and students. In contrast, using zoom had several problems when learning speaking through zoom, which is a matter beyond our control. The main problem is a bad network. When it appears, it will made the students not focus in speaking, because they get the information too slow. And also bad network made them not focus to speak. So that, some of the students did not pay attention when their friend spoke. In addition, lack interaction made the students did not understand about the material.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem that has already been discussed, the researcher limited her study to The Speaking Difficulties of The Second Year Students in Describing Pictures through Zoom at English Department of Bung Hatta University. Related to speaking the researcher focused on speaking in describing pictures in form of photograph of a person through zoom. The speaking aspects investigated were pronunciation, vocabulary, fluency, and content.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the researcher formulated the problem of the research as follows “What were the Second Year Students Speaking difficulties in Describing Pictures through Zoom at English Department of Bung Hatta University.”

1.5 Research Questions

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the research questions of this study are as follows:

1. Do the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University have difficulties in developing content in describing picture through zoom?
2. Do the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University have difficulties in using vocabulary in describing picture through zoom?
3. Do the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University have difficulties in pronouncing words in describing picture through zoom?
4. Do the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University have difficulties in fluency in describing picture through zoom?

1.6 The Purposes of the Research

The main purpose of this research was to find out the Speaking Difficulties of The Second Year Students in Describing Pictures through Zoom at English Department of Bung Hatta University. Specially, the purposes of this research were:

- a. To find out whether the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University had difficulties in developing content in describing picture through zoom or not.

- b. To find out whether the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University had difficulties in using vocabulary in describing picture through zoom or not.
- c. To find out whether the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University had difficulties in pronouncing words in describing picture through zoom or not.
- d. To find out whether the second year students at English Department of Bung Hatta University had difficulties in fluency in describing picture through zoom or not.

1.7 The Significance of the Research

This research is expected to give a contribution to teachers, students, and researchers. For the students, they can get information about their difficulties in speaking in describing pictures and they would know their speaking ability for describing something.

For teachers, it is expected that the results of this study can provide information about students' difficulties in speaking in describing pictures through zoom.

As for researchers, this research can increase their knowledge of how to conduct research. It also can be the experience and useful to know whether the students have difficulties in speaking in describing pictures through zoom.

1.8 The Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding in this research, there are some of the key terms of this research, they are:

- a. Speaking Difficulties is the students' problem in describing pictures.

- b. Speaking description is the ability to explain or describe pictures orally.
- c. Picture is one of the media of communication that can people, place and thing.
- d. Zoom is the online learning application via video conference use to describe picture orally.