PERCEPTION OF THE SECOND YEAR STUDENTS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING ENGLISH AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PTIK

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Abstract

This research aimed to find out the second year students' perception on the importance of learning English at the department of PTIK FKIP UBH. The method of this research is descriptive research. The population of this research is the second year students of PTIK. The number of samples was 18 students taken by the total sampling technique. The data were taken by using a questionnaire.

Based on the results of the data analysis, it can be concluded that in general, the students of PTIK think that English is an important subject. It can be seen in the high index that is found on the result of data analysis. It can be concluded specifically, first, the students' perception about the importance of Learning English is positive and the index is 86.11%, it is categorized as a good/positive response. Second, the students' perception about the importance of learning English language skills is positive and the index is 86.11%, it is categorized as a good/positive response.

Based on the result of the research, it was found that the students of PTIK think that English is an important subject. The researcher would like to give some suggestions to the lecturers to guide the students in learning English and teach the students to have better English. The students are suggested to pay attention to the lecturers while teaching, so the students will have better English.

Keywords: *Students' perception, Learning English.*

INTRODUCTION

English as a universal language is the main language being used by the majority of people in the world (Clement, A & Murugavel, T, 2018). People will communicate using this language if they go abroad or meet foreigners. International articles are also written in English to make it easy. In Indonesia English as a Foreign Language is studied at all levels of education. As a foreign language, certainly, some people have difficulty understanding or using this language in communication. But not infrequently also who can communicate using this language well.

English is an important language to learn by people nowadays. Most technologies are designed using this language. Cell phones, air conditioners, television, projector, laptop, computer, etc are designed in the English language. In this 4.0 industrial revolution era, everyone is demanded to be able to master English, which in the field of education the teachers are required to make an interesting learning media by utilizing IT which is growing at this time. The use of technology and the internet is also a major supporter of the 4.0 industry revolution curriculum at this time.

At the University of Bung Hatta, the English language is one of the courses that must be studied by students in all departments. And have the same credits hour in learning English except students majoring in English. Technology and science are now developing and English is a language that works in computers. In this era of technological and scientific development, English is the language used. Now books or journals in English are read by students as references in writing theses. Students majoring in English both in English education and English literature must have mastered this language. Besides

English Department, the other departments also must study English. One of them is Information and Computer engineering education (PTIK). As a student of the PTIK Department, they should be very familiar with English. It is related to their department which is always struggling with computers and laptops which all computers are designed using English and they certainly must understand this language as a support for the occurrence of effective and efficient learning. English as a foreign language for students of this department makes it difficult for them to understand. However, English is a skill that students must master to support learning and to keep up with developments in technology and science. Therefore, the researcher is interested in examining Information and Computer engineering education (PTIK) students' perceptions about the importance of learning English according to their department.

The purpose of the research is generally to find out the students' perception about the importance of learning English: 1)To find out whether second-year students of the Information and Computer Engineering Education Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Bung Hatta University think that learning English is an important subject.; 2) To find out whether second-year students' of the Information and Computer Engineering Education Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Bung Hatta University think that learning English language skill is an important subject.

METHODS

This research is descriptive research. It is designed to know the students' perception of the importance of learning English. According to Refnita (2018: 17), descriptive research requires data collection to answer the question about the latest issues of the subject of the research. The researcher will analyze whether the second-year students of the Information and Computer Engineering Education Department think that Learning English is important or not.

Refnita (2018:74) defines population as "The group of interest to the researcher, the group to which he or she would the result of the study to be generalizable."While the sample is a portion or representative of the population studied (Arikunto 2014:174). The researcher chooses the students of the Information and Computer Engineering Education Department who registered in the academic year 2018. As the population of this research Total number of students are 18 students. The researcher uses the total sampling technique, the researcher takes all of the population to be the sample because the population was less than 100.

The instrument of this research is a questionnaire. As stated by Refnita (2018:91), a Questionnaire is "a set of Questions to be answered by the subject of the study." The researcher uses a questionnaire because she wants to know the students' perception about the importance of learning English at the Department of Information and computer engineering education. The following tables are the table of specification and questionnaire. The questionnaire is written in Indonesian because the subjects of the research are not majoring in English.

Table 1: Table of Questionnaire Specification

No	Classification	Indicators	Total Item		Total Number
			Odd	Even	
1	General	English in a global era	1	1	2
		The importance of English for bung hatta university students	1	1	2
		English used by computer	1	1	2
		The importance of English in the PTIK department	1	1	2
		The efficiency study by understanding English in the PTIK department	1	1	2
2	Specific	The importance of learning listening skill	1	1	2
		The importance of learning speaking skill	1	1	2
		The importance of learning a reading skill	1	1	2
		The importance of learning writing skill	1	1	2
		The importance of learning grammar skill	1	1	2

Good research should be valid and reliable. According to Gronlund in Brown & Abeywickrama (2010:29) defines validity as the extent to which inferences made from assessment results are appropriate, meaningful, and useful in terms of the purpose of the assessment.". In this Research the researcher uses content validity. As Refnita (2018:96) states Content validity is "the degree to which a test measure an intended content area. While reliability is "the degree to which a test consistently measures whether it measures" (Refnita, 2018:99). The reliability that researchers decided to use is the split-half method. In this case, the researcher will divide the number of the students into two, there are odd numbers and even numbers, so the researcher has two groups of scores. To find the correlation between the two groups of scores by using the Pearson r.

$$r_{xy} = \frac{n \sum xy - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{\{(n \sum x^2) - (\sum x)^{\;2}\}\{(n \sum_y 2) - (\sum y)^{\;2}\}}}$$

Where:

Rxy = The correlation coefficient of variable x and y

x = Total score of odd items

y = Total score of even items

n = Number of students

$\sum x$= The sum of scores of the odd items

$\sum y$= The sum of scores of the even items

$\sum xy$= Total score of cross the odd and even items

The researcher uses the spearman-brown formula to know the score of whole items

$$r_{ii} = \frac{2r_{xy}}{(1 + r_{xy})}$$

Where:

r_{ii} = The reliability coefficient of total test

r_{xy} = The coefficient correlation between odd and even item

Table 2: Percentage and Categories

The amount of r value	Interpretation
0,800-1.000 0,600-0,800 0,400-0,600 0,200-0,400 0.000-0,200	very high high moderate low very low

Before conducting the research, the researcher conducted a tryout questionnaire on 28 students of PTIK in the academic year 2019. From the try out it was found that there are 12 items valid and 8 other invalids (see appendix 4). The result of the test reliability showed that the coefficient correlation of the questionnaire was 0.578 (moderate correlation).

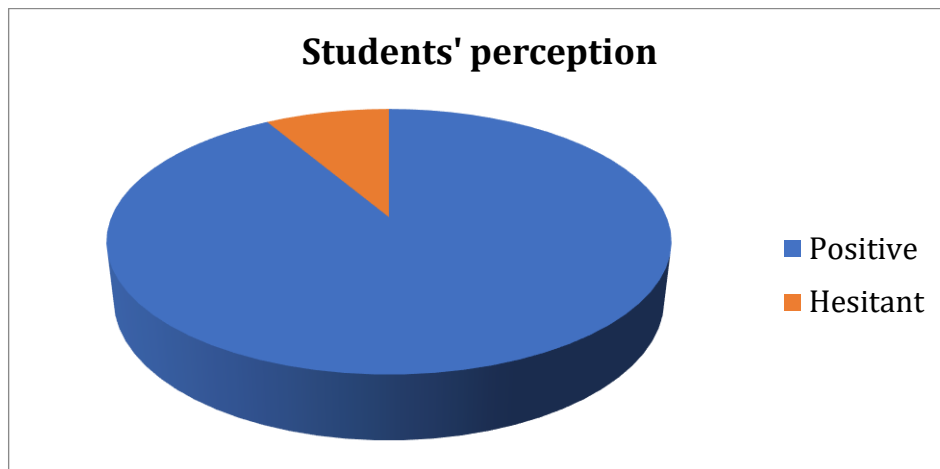**Table 3: Specification of the Real Questionnaire**

No	Classification	Indicator	Total Number
1	General	The importance of English in The PTIK department	1
		The efficiency study by understanding English in PTIK	2
		The importance of learning grammar	1
2	Specific	The importance of learning listening skill	2
		The importance of learning speaking skill	2
		The importance of learning a reading skill	2
		The importance of learning writing skill	2

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the data analysis, it was found that students of PTIK consider that English is an important subject. Whether before doing the research, researchers found that some students didn't like English. but based on their response on the questionnaire by the index 91.5% it is categorized into a good/positive response. Then, the researcher can describe the students' perception on the importance of learning English and the students' perception on the importance of Learning English language skills in
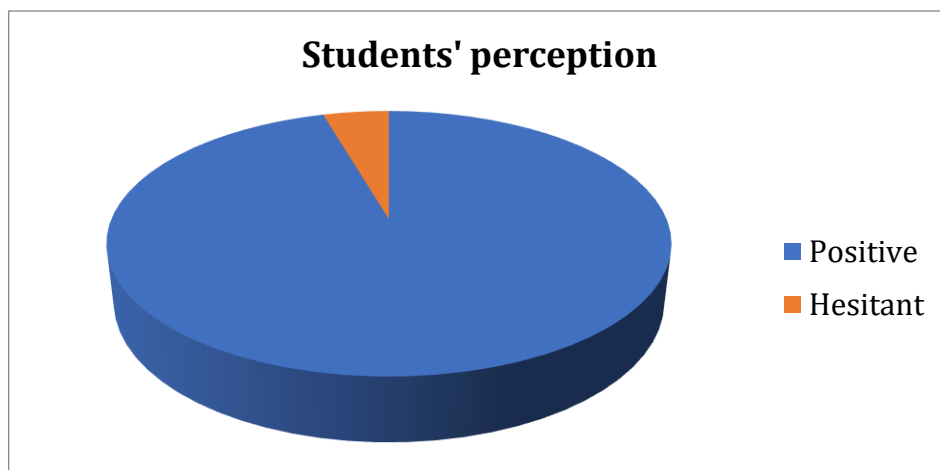
the following charts:.

Chart 1: Students' perception on the importance of learning English and the Students' perception on the importance of Learning English language skills.

Students' perception

Positive

Hesitant

1. **Students' Perception of the Importance of Learning English**

Based on the result of data analysis, the researcher found that the respondents said learning English is an important subject. Based on the data analysis the index is 95.5% and it is categorized into a good/positive response.
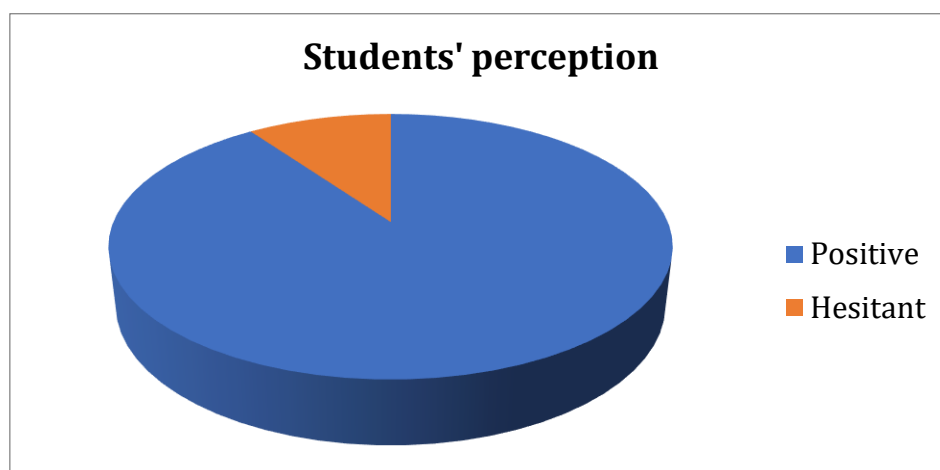
Chart 2: Students' Perception of the Importance of Learning English

Students' perception

Positive

Hesitant

2. **Students' Perception of the Importance of Learning English Language Skills.**

After analyzing the data. It was found that students of PTIK think that learning English language skills is important. Based on the result of data analysis, it was found that the students' perception about the importance of learning English language skills index for listening was 90.125% and it is categorized into a good /positive response.

Chart 3: Students' Perception of the Importance of Learning English Language Skills.

Students' perception

- Positive
- Hesitant

Based on the result of data analysis about the PTIK students' perception of learning English, there was a positive response from the students of PTIK about the importance of learning English. The result of the data analysis by the index of students' perception about the importance of learning English 95.5% which is categorized as a good/ positive response. This is the opposite from the researcher's assumption before doing the research. From 12 questionnaires there are 8 about the language skills 2 questions about listening, 2 questions about speaking, 2 questions about reading and 2 questions about writing. All the 8 questionnaires got high percentages from the respondents with index 90.125% and it is categorized as a good/ positive response.

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