

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

One of the four skills required to communicate effectively in any language, particularly when students do not utilize their home tongue, is the ability to speak English. This skill is the application of language in a concrete way that facilitates communication. Language learners use every language they know when they speak, according to Harmer (2008). Speaking is a crucial language teaching skill that enables interaction between language learners in terms of both their perspectives and their responses. According to Soleimani and Khosravi (2018), this skill is defined as a policy strategy that involves students in the use of language with the goal of achieving a particular speaking task. (Aristy,2019)

Students must be able to speak well since their oral communication skills can be used to gauge how well they have learned to speak. Students will communicate their thoughts, feelings, and personalities when speaking so that the audience will understand them (Muhammad Yuseano Kardiansyah & Qodriani, 2018; Yulianti & Sulistyawati, n.d.). Students who can communicate effectively have mastered the goal of learning speaking skills. Learning to talk also involves a lot of work and focus. Speaking, according to Mandasari & Aminatun(2020), is the capacity to utter articulation sounds or words to express or transmit ideas, feelings, and thoughts. According to Pratiwi & Ayu(2020); Suprayogi & Pranoto(2020), Speaking in general can be understood as the communication of one's objectives (ideas, thoughts, and hearts) to others through spoken language. (Wahyuni, 2023)

Since English is not widely used in Indonesia, it can be challenging for students to speak the language. Students do not regularly communicate in English, nor is it their first language. In order to increase students' motivation, curiosity, and proficiency in learning English, teachers should foster an active speaking environment in the classroom. They should also have the creativity to use an

appropriate technique that will make the students comfortable and enjoy participating in the learning process. (Namaziandost,2019)

In a preliminary study on March 15, 2023 at SMAS Al-Washliyah 1 Medan, the researcher discovered a variety of issues with teaching English. First, when students spoke English they were afraid of making mistakes. Second, they were confused what was going to talk. Third, the students still faced many difficulties to pronounce each word well, this problem happened because they rarely practiced English words. The last, the student's were hesitant and anxious to say English sentences; it was caused by the laziness and the decreased frequency of practicing English speaking in the classroom. The result of all of these issues was that the students were unable to speak English fluently.

Traditional methods such as apprenticeships and formal education have given way to modern approaches such as online learning and mobile learning over the years. These new learning methods have revolutionized the education system and made learning more accessible and convenient for people of all ages and backgrounds. Due to technological advancements and the internet, individuals can now study from anywhere, at any time, and at their own tempo.(Wengrowicz et al., 2018)

There are numerous methods of learning, such as visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning. Visual learners prefer visual aids such as diagrams, videos, and images for learning. Auditory learners prefer to acquire knowledge through listening and communicating, such as through lectures, podcasts, and discussions. Kinesthetic learners prefer learning through physical activities and hands-on experiences. (Indina, 2021)

Each individual has their own preferred method of learning, and various methods can be combined to enhance the learning process. Understanding one's learning style and employing the most effective learning strategies can significantly improve one's capacity to acquire and retain new information.(Costa et al., 2020)

Based on those reasons and the facts above, a game was one of the strategies that teachers could apply to teach speaking. A game is one of the possible activities that could be used as an alternative way to improve the classroom environment so that students are interested in and do not get bored in learning the materials. According to Chandra's assertion, which was cited in Zully Zulaikho Puspitasari, the games will also positively affect students' interest and motivation to learn English as well as their speaking ability.

The researcher would then employ a guessing game as a substitute teaching method for speaking, requiring students to actively participate in the conversation class. A game called a guessing game pits players against one another or with other players to figure out something that has been confusingly pointed out. In the guessing and speculating game, Wright claims that someone knows something, and another person must determine what it is. The aforementioned definition leads one to the conclusion that a guessing game is one in which one or more players compete individually or in groups to determine or discover the correct response.

Games are excellent for getting students to speak up and practice using functional language chunks. A game can encourage students to speak up in class as a result. Guessing games, according to Mora, R.A., and Lopera (2001), go beyond simple enjoyment. They emphasize that games and enjoyable activities have always been among everyone's favorite things to do in class, both for teachers and students, because they can help students develop a variety of skills and competences. In other words, playing a guessing game helps kids become more competent and develop several skills.

The guessing game is an activity that involves communication between individuals and groups with predetermined goals. Guessing games can be employed in the training of speaking, according to Thirumalai (2002). Students can work in teams with their friends and exchange ideas by playing guessing games. It can be inferred that guessing games have an impact on students'

emotional well-being in addition to their cognitive development because they help them become more sociable. (Nuraen, 2018)

From the explanations above, the researcher was interested in conducting a research entitled “The Effect of guessing game “Who Am I” to Develop Student’s Speaking Skills of SMAS Al-Washliyah 1 Medan” in Academic Year of 2022/2023”. The researcher hoped that Guessing Game could improve the student’s skill in their speaking.

1.2 Identification of the Study

According on the background above so the identification of the study in this research is

- A. The students lack motivation to speak in English;
- B. The lack of media and the monotonous activities during the teaching and learning process.

1.3 Scope of the Study

Based on the background and the identification of this study, so the scope of this research is about the effect of guessing game to student’s speaking skills.

1.4 Formulation of the Study

Based on background, identification, and scope of the study, the formulation of this study is about

- A. Is there any significant effect from guessing game to develop student’s speaking skills?

1.5 The Aim of the Study

Based on the formulation of problem above, the aim of this study is about

- A. To know the significant effect from guessing game to develop student’s speaking skills.

1.6 Significance of the Study

A thesis is a comprehensive research paper that is written by students pursuing advanced degrees in universities. The benefits of writing a thesis are numerous, both in academic and practical settings. Here are some of the key benefits of a thesis:

1.6.1 Academic Significance

- a. Research expertise: thesis writing requires students to conduct extensive research, analyze data, and evaluate sources critically. Students acquire the research skills necessary for academic success in this manner.
- b. Contribution to the field: a thesis affords students the chance to make a contribution to their field of study. By undertaking original research and presenting novel findings, students can contribute significantly to the body of knowledge in their field.
- c. Preparation for advanced degrees a dissertation is typically required for admission to a doctoral program. Students demonstrate their skills to conduct advanced research by completing a thesis.

1.6.2 Practical Significance

- a. A thesis can assist students in advancing their careers by demonstrating their expertise in a particular field. Employers frequently seek applicants who have conducted original research and possess strong analytic abilities.
- b. Improved problem-solving skills: in order to write a thesis, students must identify problems, develop hypotheses, and assess their ideas. These skills are applicable in numerous contexts and can help students become more adept problem-solvers.
- c. Personal development: completing a thesis is a significant accomplishment that can help students develop self-confidence, tenacity, and discipline. These characteristics are applicable in all aspects of existence.

In summary, a thesis has numerous benefits for students pursuing advanced degrees, as well as those looking to advance their careers. Through the process of conducting original research, students develop critical thinking, research, and analytical skills that are essential for success in any field.



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