

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the background of the study, research problems, research objective, significances of the study, and the research scope.

### A. The Background of the Study

Language is the most important part to communicate with others. People are using a language for communication. Hidayati (2016) stated that, language is an important part of human life, one of which is communication. A lot of people often use a language to share their thoughts or ideas, also use English for communication with others. Indonesian people commonly use English as one of the subjects in school or they are using English for their jobs. In Indonesian school, we learned a wide variety of English skills, from basic knowledge of words, phrases, sentences, to structural sentences, such as grammar, and an ability to read, write, listen, and speak. Learning English is an important part of the future, especially the ability to speak. Pratiwi (2013) stated that it is important to know how to improve a student's speaking skills by using communication activities. Speaking skill is essential in learning a language, as it is a form of communication between one person and another. Therefore, it is also important to learn English, to hone one's ability to speak more fluently. To become fluent, we must study more to enhance our abilities.

We must know, what things should be learned both in theory and in practice to improve our speaking ability. Students must be confident to speak English and practice continuously, so their speaking ability will increase. Fajriani (2020) found that in industry 4.0 every aspect of life is surrounded by digital technology. Nowadays, technologies are becoming more powerful, and we can use the technologies that we have to learn or improve our abilities. Look for things that are interesting to us when it comes to learning English so that we will have the desire to learn English. For example, watching western movies become our motivation in learning English to improve our skills in English. There are several skills that we can learn, such as writing, reading, listening, and speaking. From watching western movies, we can develop that skill, especially speaking. Armasita (2017) defined that as one of the basic English skills, speaking has an important role in the English learning process. Many students find it difficult to improve their speaking ability since they do not practice it in their daily lives. Speaking must be practiced, know the extent of our ability and enhance our speaking ability. If students want to improve their speaking ability, then they must continue to practice speaking, to improve their ability. If their abilities increased, they would feel confident when they had to speak in English. Improving their speaking ability can make it easier for them in their education, as well as their career ahead.

If they are lazy to improve their abilities, it will be difficult to improve their abilities. Kurniawan (2013) defined that motivation is a thing that comes from within us and social life to do something to achieve a purpose. There must be motivation within the students if they want to increase their speaking ability.

For example, they do things that they like, such as reading novels, listening to songs, singing, or watching movies. They can read English novels or sing English songs. If they do such things simultaneously, their speaking ability gets honed over time, as they delight to do so and can increase their speaking ability as they practice it directly. Doing what they like can increase their feeling to study more. Therefore, doing what they love becomes one way to improve their speaking ability. Kurniawati (2013) stated that students still felt afraid of making a mistake when they wanted to speak English orally that made them feel unsure of themselves to do so. Many students do not feel comfortable to speak, because they feel that they do not have good self-confidence. At first, they will make a little mistake, but over time, they will fix it easily, because they are used to practicing. When they start to learn, they are supposed to not fear if they make mistakes, because of those mistakes they will learn to correct them. By developing their speaking ability, they become more confident when they meet others and require them to speak English. They do not fear when they make mistakes in the use of words or language when they speak. Improving the speaking ability to hone their speaking skills, increase their confidence and become more fluent.

As cited by Azlan, Zakaria, & Yunus (2019) most of the students have passed the English exam. However, not all of them can communicate well in English. In this research, the researcher has found that most of the students have a motivation in learning English, especially in speaking. In other words, the circumstances the students facing in speaking English that they were very diligent in learning English to improve their speaking ability.

The relation between English and speaking is referred to as a significant psychological factor that greatly affects the learning process of students. Studies examining motivation in second and foreign language environments mentioned many studies that put motivation into it as different as instrumental or integrative types and so on. The study sees the instruction of speaking through the point of view to receive English Language Education Study Programme (ELESP) students' motivation as the main driver for the ability to speak and uses the motivation as a key psychological aspect to help to improve and develop English-speaking skills for the students. The purpose is to examine a student's speaking skills and give counsel according to the findings as cited by Dinçer & Yeşilyurt (2013). Hopefully, this study will increase motivation for students' willingness to learn more about English, especially to improve their speaking ability in English.

The greatest obstacle for students to face in class is their lack of confidence in speaking English, they are often afraid to make mistakes and fear to criticize, but the English Language Education Study Programme (ELESP) students have high confidence so that they were not afraid of making a mistake. They liked learning English, especially in speaking. They felt confident when they had to speak to their lecturers by using English and they were also used to speaking English with their friends. Making mistakes is the natural process of learning a language, it poses a potential threat to someone's ego, as cited by Leong & Ahmadi (2017). So, students do not need to fear to learn if they make a mistake, for that is a natural part of learning. They will pass through every process of learning.

That is where they began to experience an incrementally increase in learning. From studying, they acquired knowledge that they could develop. Therefore, they must understand what they are already learning and begin to practice their abilities, especially their speaking ability. They must also know the steps they must take in learning to practice their speaking ability. If they know what to do with the proper steps, it will be easier for them to understand and train themselves. They can achieve results that are suitable to what they desired if they are serious about improving their speaking ability. It is also supported by Koyak & Üstünel (2019) entitled “The Recorded Motivational Videos to Improve the Speaking Skills of Adult Learners”. It can be understood that a motivational video was recorded has a beneficial impact on adult learners to improve their speaking skills in the target language. Motivation is essential in doing a thing if someone feels lazy or does not want to do a thing that is their duty. Motivation is also needed in learning, especially for students who find it difficult to develop their speaking ability during the learning process, because they feel that the things they learn was not interesting. Many students lack of confidence because they feel inadequate. It can lose their motivation in learning. Thus, they need to learn more in order to improve their speaking ability. Things that can motivate them to develop their speaking ability is that they learn or engage in activities that they liked. For example, such as playing the game, listening to songs, singing in English. If they often do that, their speaking ability will be enhanced if they regularly do a thing that they liked.

As cited by Leong & Ahmadi (2017) entitled “An Analysis of Factors Influencing Learners’ English Speaking Skill”. Students must have sufficient

English proficiency in order to communicate easily and effectively when communicating with others. They were so excited when they could speak English with their lecturer, it makes them comfortable and confident.

Students need to engage in English language activities and need a certain stage of motivation. Motivation is generally divided into intrinsic and extrinsic factors that refer to energy in students to continue interested and committed to learning and engaging in English activities. Most students had passed the English exam. However, not all of them could communicate fluently in English. Therefore, students need to practice more in their daily communication by using English Azlan, Zakaria, & Yunus (2019). They were motivated to learn English to improve their speaking ability. They were very confident when they must talk with their lecturers and their friends, also when they were outside of speaking class. They also speak English during assignments and exams. When they were got a bad score, they were improving themselves to increase their ability to get a better score.

Speaking in a foreign language is a complex activity. If the students want to be able to speak fluent English, they need to know and gain many aspects of the language. Therefore, students must study more diligently so they can develop their skills in English, especially in speaking ability. The students do not need to be afraid when they make a mistake. They should be confident in what they say and continue to learn to sharpen their abilities, especially in speaking ability. In time, they would become accustomed to speaking English.

## **B. Research Problem**

The problem investigated in this research is as follows: "What are the English Language Education Study Program (ELESP) students' perceptions towards motivation to improve speaking ability in English?"

## **C. Research Objective**

The objective of this study is to investigate the English Language Education Study Program (ELESP) students' perception towards motivation to improve speaking ability in English.

## **D. Significances of the Study**

This research hopes that it can provide useful information to the followings:

1. To lecturers, hopefully, the results of this study will provide information towards English Language Education Study Program (ELESP) students' perception towards motivation to increase speaking ability in English.
2. To other researchers, hopefully, the results of this study can provide a basis for carrying out further studies in the same area or even in a wider area.
3. To readers, the results of this study are expected to provide new perspectives on their current use of English while learning in the class.

### **E. Research Scope**

This study was set up to find and investigate students' perceptions of the use of speaking English in their daily life. To obtain the validity of the data, the participants in this study were English Language Education Study Programme (ELESP) students. The data would be collected through a survey by using an online questionnaire. This study involved 68 participants to fill the questionnaire. The participants belonged to the first until the eighth semester. The quantitative data were collected by using the online questionnaire was analysed by using the descriptive technique.

