

## **Factors in Developing English Speaking Skills among Students of 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Science 2 in Sman 4 Serang**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Developing English-speaking skills among students is needed as it is one of the most important skills to be acquire for the means of an effective communication between people in society especially in education field. However, to form a perfect English sentences spontaneously when speaking is difficult for most foreign English learners. Current research shows that foreign English learner faces many difficulties in determining the correct grammatical structure, and vocabulary when speaking. This study uses qualitative approach and was aimed to find out about the students' factors that may develop their English speaking skills. The subject of this study consisted of 5 participants, including 4 students from the 11th grade of social science 2 at SMAN 4 Serang and 1 English teacher related to the class. Firstly, the researcher interviewed in total of 4 students relating to the problems they often experience in speaking English and the factors that develop their English speaking skills, the researcher then conducted an appointment with the related English teacher and ask about the students' English speaking abilities. The responses of both the teacher and the students revealed some key concerns about the factors that brings the students to experience such problems: lack of English vocabulary, lack of self-confidence. Furthermore, English speaking practice is considered to be very rare among the students. Thus, by examining the problems faced by most students, steps that were provided to develop their English-speaking skills include: by practicing an effective out-of-class activities such as listening to English songs, watching English movies, and getting English tutoring lesson, those factors help the students in developing their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge, as well as their English pronunciation.

**Keywords:** *Develop Factors; English speaking skill; English speaking problems; Student.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Speaking skills is an important ability to communicate between people. Developing speaking skills is needed for effective communication in society. Nowadays, language is necessary and plays an important role for people to communicate around the world. Perfect communication is impossible for people without using proper forms of language structure as English language is spoken all over the world and is known as the commonly used global language. Therefore, we need language to communicate with people living in different regions, states, countries, and continents around the world. Moreover, people cannot achieve their goals and objectives without using the right structure of language for communication. Based on Bueno, Madrid and McLaren (2006:321), speaking ability is a challenging skill faced by learners.

Among the four basic English skills i.e listening, writing, speaking, and reading, speaking skills is said to be the most challenging, this is because during speaking learners need a correct grammatical structure, vocabulary, and form their own sentences spontaneously. Thus, it is unavoidable for foreign English learners to face many problems during speaking English, since speaking skills plays a huge role in proper communication between people all around the world.

In this study, 4 students of the Social science 2 at SMAN 4 Serang were asked by the researcher about the factors that develop them in speaking English, most of the students' answers that by practicing English speaking through out-of-class activities may help them in developing their English speaking ability. Listening through songs is considered to be the most common factors for learners to increase their speaking ability since the main issues when speaking English seems to be insufficiency of vocabulary knowledge, lacking in pronunciation practice, and having low self-confidence. According to the interview held by the researcher with the teacher, listening to English songs is enjoyable since it is everyone's favorite and therefore, it is expected for the students to practice their pronunciation, grammar structure, and enriching the students' vocabulary knowledge in order to increase their confidence in English speaking.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

As what had been pointed out by Erdem (2016), the most important skills in language learning is spoken language. In correspond with Muklas (2017) & Namaziandost et al (2019), speaking considered to be a major skill of language and is the fundamental ability to acquire information, express emotion, thoughts and arguments. Thus, it is necessary to speak as an effective means of communication (Boonkit, 2010). As what has been stated by (Alsobhi & Preece, 2018; Kurniati et al., 2015; Kurniawan et al, 2017; Kusmaryati, 2009), most learners faced various difficulties in their English speaking abilities, such as lack of English communicating skills due to the limitation of vocabulary and grammar knowledge, and also having poor self-confidence and motivation which unable them to practice their English outside of the classroom. Speaking skills has many key components based on Safdari & Fathi (2020) that can be considered in speaking accuracy by the pronunciation fluency, grammar, and vocabulary. Therefore, it is important for every learners to have good speaking fluency, and accuracy.

However, having good oral communication skills and a proper usage of language is considered as challenging for foreign English learners (Marzban & Hashemi, 2013) this happens because, English is not their native language and does not use in daily conversation which results on the students to become anxious

(Amini et al, 2019). There are many types of strategies that can improve the students' English speaking performance, one of them is by using English songs. English songs are fun, this teaching method is considered as suitable for learning vocabulary and pronunciation. Schoepp (2001) added that songs can be used as a medium to practice language to create an enjoyable learning method. Furthermore, Griffe (2001; 10) stated that song is a part of music where a person can imitate through words which related to speaking abilities in communicating. Griffe (2001:39) also added that teaching

English using songs has many advantages in developing the students' English pronunciation, vocabulary, and fluency. Besides, by joining the extracurricular activities may also develop the students' speaking abilities as what had been stated by Nur & Eltayeb (2014) the advantages of joining extracurricular English class as a program outside of the class is to develop the students' competence in speaking which provide comfortable language practice or the participants. On the other hand, watching movies also influences the students' in practicing their English speaking skills. In corresponds with Kaiser (2011), movie is an authentic tool to improve the English language speaking skills because it provides opportunities for the students to study different dialects, accents, even urban language and slang used in spoken language.

## **METHODS**

### **Subjects of Research**

The subject of this study were in total of 5 participants including 4 students from the 11th grade of social science 2 (IPS 2) SMAN 4 Serang and 1 English Teacher related to the class.

### **Instruments and Interview Questions**

This research used qualitative method. By knowing the factors associate with the students' English speaking abilities, the researcher also needs to find out about the problem correlated with the students' English speaking abilities. Therefore, 6 questions corresponding with this study were conducted by the researcher in order to obtain the data. The following questions were: 1) What method do you use to develop your English speaking abilities?. 2) What method do you use (outside of the class) to develop the students' English speaking abilities?, 3) What are the common problems you experience in your English speaking abilities?, 4) What are the common problems experience by the students in their English speaking abilities?, 5) Does the school environment supports you in developing your English speaking abilities?, and 6) Does the classroom condition support the teaching-learning process during class?

### **Data Collection**

The interview between the participants and the researcher was conducted inside of the class. The interview session was also recorded because the obtained information considered to be useful in searching for an answer relating to the factors developing the students' English speaking skills, which became the findings for this research.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The findings of this research were obtained through qualitative method by interviewing 5 participants including 4 students from the 11th grader of Social Science 2 (IPS 2) SMAN 4 Serang. To support the students' perception, the researcher also conducted an interview with one of the English teacher related to the class. According to the students' obtained data, turns out that by only studying English during class does not really enhance the students' ability to speak English, that is why the main factor in developing the students' English-speaking skills are mostly from the out-of-class activities such as, listening to songs, watching movies, YouTube videos, and English tuition class (Table. 1). These methods, especially listening to music were recommended by the teacher and also considered to be an effective way in helping the students practicing their English skills (Table. 2). However, the students also found difficulties in speaking English, according to the obtained data shown in Table. 3, self-confidence are considered to be the most common problem experienced by the students, it often happens due to the grammatical error, lacking in English vocabulary, and poor pronunciation practice in spoken language which results on the students of having low selfconfidence. According to the teacher's statement, the main problems usually experienced by the students include, lack of self-confidence, pronunciation problems, and lack of vocabulary (Table. 4). On the other hand, the school environment does not support the students in speaking English, speaking daily English considered to be rare, in other words, the students were not most likely to practice their English-speaking abilities around the school areas (Table. 5). Moreover, according to the participants, their classroom atmosphere is considered to be one of the obstacles in studying, the participants tend to get distracted of the hotness atmosphere during class which results them to get uncomfortable and having trouble concentrating, this is because the lack of class equipment such as air-conditioner (Table. 6). In addition, suggestions for the students' improvement in their English-speaking abilities including, daily practice, disciplinary, and efficient learning method to develop their English speaking skills should be applied around the school.

*Question 1: What method do you use to develop your English speaking abilities?*

Table. 1 Factors in developing English speaking skills by the student participants

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 1</b>	By listening to songs helps me to gain my confidence and it also helps me in pronouncing each words correctly.
<b>No. 2</b>	Knowing on how to pronounce words through songs helps me to gain confidence in speaking English.
<b>No. 3</b>	Through songs and watching Hollywood movies, because it helps me in pronunciation.
<b>No. 4</b>	By getting English tutoring, also listening to songs, watching movies and YouTube videos helps me in improving my English-speaking skills.

*Question 2: What method do you use (outside of the class) to develop the students' English speaking abilities?*

Table 2 Out-of-class activities applied by the teacher to help the students develop their English speaking skills

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 5</b>	To help the students in English especially in their speaking ability, I recommend them to practice through songs as it is everyone's favorite-to enrich their vocabulary and pronunciation practice.

*Question 3: What are the common problems you experience in your English speaking abilities?*

Table. 3 Common problems/obstacles experienced by the students in their English-speaking abilities.

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 1</b>	I feel shy because I think my English pronunciation is not good enough and the class is also too noisy, so my focus tends to get distracted.
<b>No. 2</b>	I often have difficulties in pronunciation that makes me not confident.
<b>No. 3</b>	For me, I always feel that English pronunciation is hard.

<b>No. 4</b>	Studying English is easy to understand for me, I understand quite a few words but in conversation I feel not confident because I am afraid that my English grammar might be wrong.
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*Question 4: What are the common problems experienced by the students in their English speaking abilities?*

Table. 4 Common problems/obstacles experienced by the students in their English speaking abilities according to the teacher

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 5</b>	They usually feel shy to speak English, also lack of vocabulary, and lack of pronunciation practice.

*Question 5: Does the school environment supports you in developing your English speaking abilities?*

Table. 5 School environment as the medium in developing the students' English speaking skills

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 1</b>	It does not really support me in developing my English speaking skills
<b>No. 2</b>	The school environment does help me in developing my English speaking skills
<b>No. 3</b>	Personally, it does not really help me in developing my English speaking skills
<b>No. 4</b>	For me personally, the school environment does not really support me in developing my English speaking skills.

*Question 6: Does the classroom condition support the teaching-learning process during class?*

Table. 6 Classroom as the medium for teaching-learning activities according to the teacher

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Students' answers</b>
<b>No. 5</b>	They are actually an active students but because of the lacking in confidence they tend to be shy, and also because of the class condition is very hot which distracted their focus.

## CONCLUSION

Speaking is an important ability in the communicating with other people. Developing speaking skills is needed for an effective communication in society because perfect communication is impossible for people without using a proper form of language as English is a global language that is used all around the world. However, speaking English is very challenging and hard for non-native or foreign English learners.

The method used in this research is qualitative by conducting an interview to investigate the factors that develop the 11th grade Social science 2 students of SMAN 4 Serang in their English speaking skills. This study result has answered the research questions related to the factors of developing students in English speaking, whereas out-of-class activities is the main factor of the students in developing their English speaking skills, following: listening to music, watching movies, and getting English tutoring. Based on the data obtained through interviews, these out-of-class activities help the students in producing vocabulary knowledge, correct use of grammar, and gaining self-confidence. Thus, by only learning English during class is not enough for the students to develop their English speaking knowledge. In addition, it is expected for the students to improve their English speaking performance by practicing their pronunciation, grammar structure, and enriching vocabulary knowledge for a better English speaking competence as well as growing self-confidence.

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