

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, the significance of the research, the scope of the research and operational definition.

1.1 Background of the Research

To realize the vision of being able to compete with the global community, Universitas Muria Kudus (UMK) has signed several Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Universitas Muria Kudus has a vision and mission of global insight. So do various international activities, one of which is student exchange. In the form of collaboration in the field of education, including research, publications, and community service with some universities and associations abroad like SEAMEO, Hatyai University and the latest one is a Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSUA), Pili, Camarines Sure, Philippines.

Between UMK and some universities abroad agreed on cooperation in the field of lecturer exchange, student exchange, joint research, joint seminars, joint journals, and so forth.

As the implementation, Universitas Muria Kudus has programmed inbound student mobility, such as SEA TEACHER, SEA TVET, and LISIA. Sea Teacher is a program from SEAMEO (Southeast Asian Minister of Education Organization) in the education field. The participant of the program is only Students College from education faculty. The main aim of this program is giving opportunity to them for gaining experience as the teacher in overseas. SEA TVET Is one program which is organized by SEAMEO (The southeast Asean Minister Of Education). Sea Tvet concern to Students College who are from technical and vocational department. LISIA is Living in Asia. That is one of the programs which has aimed to acquaint our culture, especially the eastern coast of Central Java. There are many activities, as follows; learning Indonesian through BIPA

(Indonesia for Foreigner), visiting Gusjigang, cultural Heritage (Menara and local preneurship) and Muria Batik.

UMK has an inbound program in January 2019 students' exchange the name is LISIA (Living in Asia) and also in August 2018 students exchange is Sea Teacher. In this research, the writer wants to know about perception toward speaking skill in communication between foreign students and students of UMK. There are many students from abroad, but the research will take only about 12 students are Philippine, Thailand, Vietnam.

To succeed program requires hospitality for students of UMK, Hospitality is the relationship between host and guest, wherein the host receives the guest with goodwill, including the reception and entertainment of guests or visitors. UMK students as a guide to assist incoming guests or students during their stay or visit in Universitas Muria Kudus. During the event UMK students accompany foreign students; UMK students always communicate using English with foreign students. From all assumptions UMK students could be mastering product of knowledge to explain about kudos cultural. Start from tourism places until delivering material of places. Whether they understand about the whole that is communicated or not.

Perception comes from five senses experiences in the world. Perception is a process of highly cognitive selecting, organizing, storing, and interpreting information from the five senses (Solso, 2008, p. 75). Besides, according to Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary-Third Edition (2008) perception is a belief or opinion often held by many people and based on how things seem. In this research, perceptions refer to the students' opinion about their experiences in speaking skill of UMK students during student exchange.

How the dealing with foreign students perceptions of UMK students though speaking, speaking is one of the four skills learners need in order to communication in an effective way. Tadjouri (2017:6) stated that speaking is “ a complex process that requires students' ability to express them orally, coherently, fluently, and appropriately in a given meaningful context”. Joyce (1197 as cited in Tadjouri, 2017) explained that speaking is a process that involves producing,

receiving and processing information. Hammer (2007) add that speakers of English should be able to speak in different situation and use conversational strategies, so students are expected to develop their conversational skills as their English improves.

According to the explanation above, the writer intends to conduct a research entitled “The Foreign Students’ Perception toward the Speaking Skill of Universitas Muria Kudus Students”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background above, the writer stated the problem of the research as follow: How is the foreign students’ perception toward the speaking skill of Universitas Muria Kudus students?

1.3 Objective of the Research

According to the statement of the problem above, the objective of the research is to find out the foreign students’ perception toward the speaking skill of Universitas Muria Kudus students.

1.4 Significance of the Research

Hopefully, the findings of this research would be useful for students, teacher, and readers of Universitas Muria Kudus. The result would help students of UMK as reference by the other writer to do the same kind of this research.

This research would be add knowledge and give new information to the reader, especially about the foreign students' perception toward speaking skill.

1.5 Scope of the Research

In this research is the writer focused on the foreign students’ perceptions of the speaking skill of Universitas Muria Kudus students. Students’ perception means students' opinion based on the perspective of Students, College of students from Thailand, Philippine, and Vietnam who joined students exchange in Universitas Muria Kudus. Then, the UMK students involved I-Buddy

organization and some students who joined PKM UMK who consists 30 students representative of UMK students.

1.6 Operational Definitions

Based on the title of this research, the writer clarified the operational definition of each terminology as follows;

1. Foreign Students were the students abroad who joined students exchange in Universitas Muria Kudus.
2. Perception is the organization, identification, interpretation of sensory information in order to represent and understand the environment.
3. Speaking skill is person's skills to produce sounds that exists in the meaning and be understood by other people, so that able to create of good communication.
4. Universitas Muria Kudus students in are the students of Universitas Muria Kudus as a guide to help foreign students.

