# CHAPTER I
# INTRODUCTION

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

## 1.1  Background of the Research

Speaking English for students outside the English department is often considered challenging. Few of them think that learning to speak English is not necessary for their major, even though speaking English today is very important for all majors, both outside and for college purposes. Arfaei Zarandi & Rahbar (2016) stated that for individual language learners, speaking in a second language has tremendous value because speaking ability is a language skill frequently used to gauge language learning competence.

A recorded voice (or video) clip created and then shared with others by being posted to an online website is known as a podcast. According to Buana (2021), a podcast is an audio or video file uploaded to the internet and is the basis for various educational materials. According to Rahmasari et al. (2021), the teacher can use this cutting-edge medium to support students speaking inside and outside the classroom. The podcast is one of the media that many people like to watch. But in fact, most of the podcasters still use Bahasa Indonesia. English-language podcasts with interesting discussion topics are widely available on various media platforms. Several podcasters in the organization refer to podcasts that use Indonesian.

Broadcasting's podcast is one of the media audio from the UMK Broadcasting organization. It has a podcast channel on Spotify named *Ruang Suara*. Broadcasting's podcast uses *Bahasa Indonesia* in their podcast.

The researcher chose this research because the researcher is a podcaster in the UMK Broadcasting organization and pays attention to the lack of English-speaking of the podcasters in UMK Broadcasting. In addition, the researcher wants the podcast program owned by UMK Broadcasting to develop using foreign languages

such as English. The podcast program can develop if the podcasters also have adequate English-speaking skills.

Some previous studies have shown that primarily using podcasts to learn language positively impacts students. This medium could handle issues with pupils' mistakes in speech, like poor pronunciation and lacking fluidity Bustari et al. (2017). According to Rachmaniputri et al. (2021), the usage of podcasts in the classroom was generally well-received by students. Rachmaniputri et al. (2021) also stated that podcasts were thought to offer real-world listening practice resources and foster a positive classroom atmosphere.

Based on some previous studies above, there is a difference between this study and the previous research. Some previous research was conducted to analyze the use of podcasts in all English skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Most previous studies have examined the use of podcasts in listening skills. This study carried out to analyze specific English skills, which is speaking skills. Also, the primary subjects in previous research are students in the class; it different with this research cause this research took student podcasters in their organization.

Therefore, this research intends to train the speaking of UMK student broadcasters. It interested because the UMK student broadcaster practiced taking podcasts for the first-time using English. They also can achieve new experiences in this research.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background described above, the issue statement is "Can English podcasts be used to train the speaking of UMK student broadcasters?".

## 1.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of the research that the researcher wants to find out whether or not English podcasts can be used to train the speaking of UMK student broadcasters.

## 1.4 Significance of the Research

The researcher hopes that this research will give some significance as follows:

a.  Theoretically

This research gives knowledge and information about English podcasts as a media that may train the student UMK broadcasters' ability to speak English well.

b.  Practically

It is hoped that this research will be beneficial for UMK student broadcasters and the reader. For the UMK student broadcasters, the researcher expects that there will be an enhancement in English-speaking ability with appropriate pronunciation, fluency, grammar, and vocabulary. For the reader, English podcasts can be used as a medium to train speaking ability.

## 1.5  Scope of the Research

I focused on the UMK student broadcasters using English podcasts to train their speaking ability. I wanted to know whether or not UMK student broadcasters can train their ability to speak English by practising English podcasts. The members of UMK Broadcasting organization are students of UMK from different majors exactly from law faculty, management, English education department, primary teacher of education, and engineering. Some of them got the English course when they were sat in the first semester. It can be concluded that some of them are students who speak English passively. They must join *KWI* or compulsory English skills in UMK but it generally talks about TOEFL, not the specific speaking skills. I analyzed it with the UMK students who are Broadcasting organization members and used the English podcasts with four themes, which were food, horror, social media, and fashion. This research focused on podcasters who speak monologues.

## 1.6  Operational Definition

Based on the title of the research, the operational definition includes three words that can be defined as follows:

a.  Speaking ability in this research refers to monologue speaking when a single individual speaks for an extended amount of time without interruption. It

includes the ability to articulate words and phrases clearly, use appropriate grammar and syntax, and convey meaning in an understandable way to others.

b. English Podcasts are podcasts delivered by podcasters using English. It can discuss topics like politics, daily life, education, etc.

UMK student broadcasters are the UMK students joining one of the organizations in UMK, UMK Broadcasting. Some of them are a podcaster in UMK Broadcasting.