

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background of the Research

In the era of globalization, English plays a role as a world language, in other words, English is an intermediary language in various worlds. In other countries, English is the second language of communication, just like in Indonesia, English is not the official language that is used in daily life because people generally use the Indonesian national language as well as regional languages. Regardless of whether English is a foreign language or a second language, in everyday life, English is of course often used and also studied, especially for students. In learning English, of course, you have to master the four main aspects, namely speaking, reading, writing, and also listening. These four aspects of expertise must be well studied and understood. There are four aspects, the speaking aspect is one of the most important aspects when learning English. Haerazi & Irawan (2019) stated that in honing English speaking skill, one must also focus on grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and also reading skills. Besides that, before speaking, we also have to know what we are going to convey, besides that we also have to pay attention to the correct pronunciation of each word (Buhari, 2019).

Speaking is the most basic activity in life. Speaking is defined as an activity carried out by someone to communicate, exchange ideas, express views, and convey other life information. Abd & Fattah (2022) defined speaking as a two-way process, namely the communication of opinions, information, and actual emotions. Speaking is also included in matters that are significant in various aspects of life in the sense that speaking is an important thing that must be done and must be mastered. Speaking skills occupy a very important position because speaking skills demonstrate students' communicative abilities. Chien et al., (2020) also stated that

speaking is not only crucial for learning, but it is also important for other types of learning. In other words, it can be interpreted that the ability to speak is one thing that can be used to demonstrate other abilities. Speaking ability needs to be mastered as a tool to interact verbally with language. Speaking skills are not obtained easily and instantly, practicing speaking English every day is necessary to hone skills. A speaker must have good speaking skills to communicate with others effectively. In mastering speaking skills, speakers must know many important components such as pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

Basalama et al., (2020) investigated the kinds of student learning strategies and also identified the factors that caused students to choose the learning strategy in English Speaking Class. Wael et al., (2018) also did research to identify the type of learning strategies used by the students of the English Department in learning to speak English and based on their research they found that some students frequently used memory strategies in learning to speak English. Prabawa (2016) also found that there are some strategies used by Indonesian tertiary students when they speak English and improve their speaking abilities. There is also research come from Leong & Ahmadi (2017) that analyzed speaking, the importance of speaking, characteristics of speaking performance, speaking problems, and factors affecting speaking performance. Furthermore, there is research by Lingga et al., (2020) that identified the difficulties of speaking English faced by students, on their research they also found out the strategies used by the students to overcome the difficulties.

According to the background to the research above, the researcher is interested to identify the learning strategies in speaking of the sixth semester students of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in academic year 2022/2023. Learning strategies are the main factors to help students learn a foreign language, it conduct some steps that can enhance their own learning (R. L. Oxford, 2003). The researcher wanted to know the learning strategies used by the students and hope that it can provide information or an overview of the strategies used by students in speaking English. So that, the researcher will do research entitled **"THE LEARNING STRATEGIES IN SPEAKING OF THE SIXTH**

SEMESTER STUDENTS' OF ENGLISH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT MURIA KUDUS UNIVERSITY IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023"

1.2 Statements of the Problem

Based on the background of the research above, the researcher formulated the problem statement as follows:

1. What are the types of the learning strategies in speaking of the sixth semester students' of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in academic year 2022/2023?
2. How do students' use the learning strategies in speaking of the sixth semester of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in academic year 2022/2023?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem, the objective of this research as follows:

1. To find out the types of the learning strategies in speaking of the sixth semester students' of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in academic year 2022/2023.
2. To describe the way the students' use the learning strategies in speaking of sixth semester at English Education Department in the academic year 2022/2023.

1.4 Significance of the Research

By conducting this research, the researcher hoped that this research will be beneficial theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, this research is expected to have a role in helping readers who can be used as a source of information about learning strategies in speaking.

Practically, this research can be useful for English students and teachers. For students, they can apply some of speakings' learning strategies to improve their speaking skills. While for English teachers, this research can help them in designing materials and activities that suit the needs of their students in order to improve students speaking skills.

1.5 Scope of the Research

In this research, the researcher focused on the learning strategies in speaking of the sixth semester students' of English Education Department at Muria Kudus University in academic year 2022/2023 and how do the students apply it. The researcher did this research based on the theory of Oxford (1990) as cited in R. L. Oxford (2003) about language learning strategies for speaking that classified into direct strategies (Memory strategies, Cognitive strategies, Compensation strategies) and indirect strategies (Metacognitive strategies, Affective strategies, Social strategies). This research has a limitation that conducted to the sixth semester of English Education Department in the academic year 2022/2023.

1.6 Operational Definition

Based on the title of the research, there are three terms that can be defined in the operational definitions as follows:

1. Learning strategy are methods, views, or planned actions that students use to preserve linguistic and knowledge related to the topic.
2. Speaking is an act to utterance ideas, feelings, and thoughts orally.
3. Sixth semester students of English Education Department are students of sixth semester who study at the English Education Department in the academic year 2022/2023.