

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Research

The key components to improve communication are appropriate mindset, self-confidence, and integrity. Have a genuine of confidence means people must stand up for their beliefs, know their rights, and defend them. Self-confidence is an attitude of knowing the individual is capable of doing things, which allows self-awareness, accountability, kindness, civility, and the drive to succeed while at the same time being aware of the advantages and disadvantages (Nety et al., 2023). Additionally, the more confident people are, the more effect and power their speech has. People are likelier to listen to someone who talks with confidence in themselves.

Students who are more confidence than their classmates can communicate fluently and clearly in English. This is supported by the idea that situational communication confidence significantly influences learners' propensity to speak. People who are confident in themselves are proud of who they are as individuals and appreciate themselves.

Good communication requires a great deal of self-confidence, especially for students speaking in public (Nety et al., 2023). Self-confident has the benefit of making communication easier. Students are required to express their thoughts and feelings since this makes it simpler for them to finish their tasks and assignments by discussing with others. Some students sometimes find it challenging to build up confidence. There are certain ways that students may learning improve their self-confidence to participate in the learning process at school. For example, they can interact with teachers and other students in the classroom and show their skills in both academic and additional courses.

Students who have a strong sense of confidence are not afraid of achieving their potential. There may be an advantage between oral performance and

confidence because self-confidence influences students' communication ability. Based on (Suratno & Hutabarat, 2018) self-confidence is the satisfaction that someone feels in their appearance and ability to be more productive and capable in every aspect of life. Similarly, self-confidence is necessary before beginning any action, especially speaking.

Speaking with confidence is important because it creates clear and efficient communication (Ningrum et al., 2022). Students should have worked hard to perfect their speaking abilities as a practical outcome. Fluency in the English language requires a high level of self-confidence. Learners who are advanced to a high level are typically quick to talk since they are confident in what they say. However, (Horwitz et al., 1986) claims that students who struggle to communicate their thoughts verbally are more likely to suffer from severe anxiety, which affects their ability to learn.

Participation in the classroom is important to ensure the achievement in language learning. In other words, students who participate in various speaking activities can improve their speaking ability. When someone speaks with people, they not only pass on information but also show how strongly they believe the material to be accurate (Nety et al., 2023). Thus, speaking is important to be learned. Speaking ability is essential for students to communicate effectively through spoken language. Even in regular conversations, the students' deficiency in foreign language skills will hinder their ability to articulate their ideas effectively. It is also happened in Muhammadiyah Kudus High School where the students' level of speaking ability is average.

Students in Muhammadiyah Kudus High School also have learned English as a foreign language. It is essential for students to build self-confidence by enhancing their speaking skills. Getting a high feeling of self-confidence is closely connected to being able to speak the language while learning English. Speaking in English generally comes more naturally to those who expresses confidence. Many people feel anxious when expressing their thoughts in group conversations. They

are concerned that others might perceive their contributions as dumb or be seen adversely. Speaking is something that everyone should become better at (Rao, 2019). They will, therefore, have confidence and find it easier to express their ideas and opinions while speaking to others.

Based on that, the researcher chose Muhammadiyah Kudus High School. It is also because this school has a good academic reputation and the researcher find it appealing. The researcher believes that the environment of this school will be conducive for the research. Based on the explanation above, the researcher will conduct a study entitled **“The Correlation Between Self-Confidence And Speaking Ability Of The Eleventh-Grade Of Muhammadiyah Kudus High School Students In The Academic Year 2023/2024”**.

B. Statements of the Problem

Based on the backgrounds, the researcher formulates the research question as follow:

Is there a correlation between self-confidence and speaking ability of the eleventh-grade of Muhammadiyah Kudus High School students in the academic year 2023/2024?

C. Objectives of the Research

Referring to the statements of the problem above, the objective of this study formulated as follow:

To find out the correlation between self-confidence and speaking ability of the eleventh-grade of Muhammadiyah Kudus High School students in the academic year 2023/2024.

D. Significance of the Research

The result of this research are expected to be valuable in various field, both in practical application and theoretical understanding.

1. The Teachers

The positive results of this research can support the teachers to pay more attention to children's confidence and speaking abilities both in class and in public.

2. The Students

The positive results of this research can support the students to improve their English speaking ability and boost students' confidence while speaking in front of their peers or others.

3. The Researcher

The positive results of this research can support the researcher to enrich the insight of the correlation between students' self-confidence and their speaking ability.

E. Scope of The Research

The limitation of this research will focus on the correlation between students' self-confidence and their speaking ability for the eleventh-grade of Muhammadiyah Kudus high school students in the academic year 2023/2024. The researcher will take the subject from XI F 02 at Muhammadiyah Kudus High School in the academic year 2023/2024.

F. Operational Definition

1. Self-Confidence

Self-confidence is defined as the confidence of the eleventh-grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kudus academic year 2023/2024, focus on their confidence, dare to speak up in front of a group of people or a class, dare to voice thoughts, and dare to act appropriately in any situation.

2. Speaking Ability

Speaking ability is defined as the ability of the eleventh-grade students of SMA Muhammadiyah Kudus academic year 2023/2024, focus on identifying dialogue to determine the difference between general and specific information and textual meaning.

3. Eleventh-grade students of Muhammadiyah Kudus High School in the academic year 2023/2024

Eleventh-grade students of Muhammadiyah Kudus High School in the academic year 2023/2024 is known for focusing on moral education. It is also known for having graduates who succeed in a wide range of district, regional, national, and even international academic and extracurricular activities. The total number of eleventh-grade students at Muhammadiyah Kudus High School in the academic year 2023/2024 is 128 students which divided into four classes. There are generally 32–33 students in each of the classes.