CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

The background of the research, statement of the research, objectives of the research, significance of the research, and operational definitions are followed in this chapter. This chapter provides a clear understanding of the facts underlying the researcher in this study.

1.1. Background of the Research

Speaking has changed over time. Speaking involves communicating ideas, thoughts, feelings, and information using words or symbols. Language and understanding of the process have changed over time. Speaking was formerly a social requirement. Verbal communication dominates community communication. Speaking from the past is also linked to being convincing in speeches and arguments. The Industrial Revolution and technology changed speech. Telegraphs and telephones have made long-distance communication faster and more efficient. Digitalization and globalization have expanded speaking beyond direct involvement and traditional media. Video calls, texts, and social media enable virtual communication. Teachers used to educate students on speech skills. Learning and speech communication happen in class and daily life. Textbooks and lectures were the main strategies to enhance speaking before technology.

Technology is developing rapidly in the modern era (Rao, P, 2019). Communication technologies like the telephone, television, and the Internet have opened access to various speaking styles and contexts. Online resources, video learning, and social media can help students develop their speaking skills in addition to textbooks. Some senior high school students also experience difficulties in speaking English, this is due to their environment that is not accustomed to implementing speaking English. This is a concern for researchers because high school students will continue their education at a higher level and English is a benchmark for students' abilities in the world of work. So, researchers want to help

high school students maximize the existence of technology in helping to improve their English-speaking skills. Many learning mediums can help us learn and drill, especially English. Many Indonesian social media and mobile phone apps employ English. One of those ways is to use the Cake application on mobile phones.

Cake application is a Mobile-Assisted Language Learning (MALL), Cake application can be used in learning media to drill English skills. Researchers have used the Cake application when researchers had problems with speaking English. This application has many features that can provide an interesting experience for users, so the Cake application is suitable for use in Mobile-Assisted Language Learning (MALL). Students can utilize it anytime, anywhere. Mobile phone apps require simply an internet connection for kids to use. In addition to other capabilities, students can record their voices during practice discussions. Votes are recorded while practicing talking.

Previous studies found that the Cake application can improve student's English language skills. Octavianita et al., (2022), entitled "The Effectiveness of Using Cake Application in Improving Students Speaking Skills." The research included literature reviews and document analysis. Results indicated Cake taught kids English. Cake is easy and promotes communication, so kids appreciate it. Cake helps learn English. The data demonstrate that students prefer Cake's simplicity and communication. Cake was invented to promote communication. Cake apps for solo speech were suggested. Previous research studied university students using the programme; this study evaluated secondary school students. Most researchers used qualitative approaches, while this study used pre-experimental quantitative.

This study aims to investigate the effectiveness of using a cake application for teaching speaking skills to eleventh-grade students in SMA 2 Bae Kudus in Academic Year 2024/2025

1.2. Statement of the Research

The research question of this study is Cake application practical to teach speaking skills for the eleventh-grade students of SMA 2 Bae Kudus in Academic Year 2024/2025?

1.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of the research is to know the effectiveness of Cake application to teach speaking skills for the eleventh-grade students of SMA 2 Bae Kudus in Academic Year 2024/2025.

1.4 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Benefit
   a. To gain more knowledge about the educational medium and improve it,
   b. Other researchers in education can apply the analysis approach.
   c. This research can inform readers of teaching and learning methods about speaking.

2. Practical Benefit
   a. For teachers

   Teachers will be more accessible to assist, especially in English classes. Teaching using the Cake Application of practical and communicative applications will become easier for teachers.

   b. For students

   Students can use this app to practice speaking in class or whenever they have free time. It is a fun way to spend time while improving their speaking skills.

1.5 Operational Definition

1. Speaking skill

   Speaking skills are the ability of eleventh-grade students to speak English correctly, properly, and fluently by considering aspects of pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

2. Teaching Speaking

   Teaching speaking in this research includes instructional strategies, classroom activities, the learning environment, and criteria for assessment, making it clear and practical for educators involved in language education.

3. Cake application

   This research uses the Cake application to drill the speaking skills of senior high school students.

4. The Eleventh Grade Student of SMA 2 Bae Kudus

   A student of SMA 2 Bae who belongs to eleventh grade students in the academic year of 2024/2025.