

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about six sub-chapters includes the background of the research, statements of the problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope of the research, and operational definition of the research.

1.1 Background of The Research

In the present day, the availability of English learning resources through media has significantly due to the rapid advancement of technology. In the past, English education was limited to schools, but now it can be accessible through a variety of platforms and applications on smartphones or computers. During the past several years, the use of technology in numerous fields of education has become more widespread, presenting new possibilities and difficulties for teachers and students worldwide. According to Haleem, Javaid, Qadri, & Suman (2022) educational software and websites are used in digital classrooms to enhance students' learning experience. Learning English may be conducted in any location as long as there is an internet connection available. The use of appropriate learning techniques and interesting media can influence the success of the learning process effectively (Astuti et al., 2024). Students use video call tools or social media platforms to enhance their English speaking skills. A wide range of digital tools have been created to assist individuals in improving their English-speaking skills, such as Google's Read Along, Pronunciation Pro, Duolingo, and OmeTV. One of the most popular applications or platforms, especially by young people in Indonesia is the OmeTV application.

OmeTV is a video chat platform that was first created for random social conversation. OmeTV is an internet-based video chat platform initially developed for social interactions but is now being considered as a potential tool for learning a foreign language, specifically for improving English skills (Swondo & Haya, 2022). OmeTV facilitates global user interaction through real-time video talks, enabling a dynamic and interactive communication environment. The platform offers unique features such as the capacity to participate in live discussions with unfamiliar individuals, promoting

unplanned and unpremeditated linguistic exchanges. Students in Indonesia can use this to practice their speaking skill by engaging in conversation with the target of native speaker of the platform.

According to Christanti & Mardani (2023), OmeTV has been downloaded by fifty million users through Google Play and the App Store. Based on this research, the use of OmeTV in Indonesia is not just unrealistic as a media that can help in building friendships or learning foreign languages with foreigners. It means that OmeTV users use their video chats with random people from different countries to create content for YouTube. These video aim to improve English speaking among individuals or groups of users. Speaking is one of the skills that students have to master when learning a language (Swondo & Haya, 2022). In the other statement, Speaking is one of the crucial aspects of communication in the world (Crisianita & Mandasari, 2022). It means that mastery of speaking skill in language learning has an important role because it can provide learners with the ability to communicate effectively in various contexts. This ability is critical for daily contact in the workplace and society, as well as for formal settings like giving presentations in front of the class. Language learners have to gain the ability to explain ideas, express perspective, and participate in proficient conversations with others. Beside that, the development of speaking skill, while crucial, frequently encounters various challenges.

Based on the research of Damayanti & Listyani (2020), some learners feel less confident, especially when faced with situations of communication in a foreign language. Moreover, a lack of directed speech practice and a more passive learning tendency can be an obstacle to the development of these skills. At the moment, the use of OmeTV has become popular in Indonesia because of the active user of Indonesian Youtuber and influencer, Fiki Naki, who mastered English, and used the application as a means for communicating with foreigners. The content is very much liked by Indonesia when she communicates with a blunt appeal to users from other countries. The Youtuber uploaded the content on the YouTube page. During that period, OmeTV users in Indonesia were highly esteemed. In recent years, many other YouTube content creators began to use OmeTV as a media for communication with people across the

world. Kenniro is one of the YouTube channels that produces content regarding OmeTV to communicate with foreigners in English.

According to previous research by Rao (2019), proficiency in speaking is crucial while mastering a foreign or second language. One of the four basic language skills, speaking is regarded as the most crucial skill while learning a foreign or second language. English speaking skill is essential in everyday life, from education to business and technology. However, it can also be frightening for students to speak in front of others. Effective learning methods can produce useful soft skills like writing, speaking, listening, and reading. Some research confirms that OmeTV was good to implement in speaking class.

Based on the preliminary research that was conducted by interviews between the researcher and an English teacher at SMK Duta Karya Kudus, the teacher sometimes feels that students experience difficulties in learning English, especially in speaking skill. Some of the students were passive in the teaching and learning process. It happened because students do not master the language. In addition, some of the students feel less confident when they talk to each other to practice speaking. There are a lot of students in SMK Duta Karya Kudus who have been familiar with OmeTV. They use OmeTV if they have difficulties practicing English with their friends. The students also use it to exchange culture with foreigners.

In supporting this research, the researcher gathered some studies that were done by other researchers that were relevant to this research. As stated by Suryanto & Fitrawan (2023) that the OmeTV application serves as an essential tool to improve English speaking skill. It offers an effective platform for practicing speaking skill, creating a supportive and enjoyable language learning. So that the students can enhance their speaking skill and improve their pronunciation, similar to the native speaker. According to Safira (2023), the OmeTV application has a significant influence on people who use it. It is used to increase the speaking abilities of students or anyone who uses it.

Furthermore, the study about exploring students' perception on the use of OmeTV as a media to learn English speaking skill is still limited. So, the researcher is interested in conducting research entitled "Students' Perception on the Use OmeTV Application as A Supporting Media to Learn English Speaking Skill in SMK Duta Karya Kudus in the Academic Year 2023/2024".

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of this research, the research statement will be formulated as follows:

1. What are the students' perceptions in using Ometv as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill?
2. What are the challenges in using OmeTv as a supporting media to learn speaking skill?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem above, there are purposes of the research:

1. To describe the students' perceptions in using OmeTV as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill.
2. To know the challenges found during the use of OmeTV as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill.

1.4 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretically

This research aims to provide readers with information regarding descriptive research on students' perceptions and experiences of practicing English through the OmeTV application, as well as encourage teachers to consider this practice. Furthermore, the researcher expects that this research will serve as a reference for other researchers to conduct similar research in the future.

2. Practically

a. Students

This research can provide encouragement and interesting experiences to use technology, specifically the OmeTV application to learn English speaking skill.

b. Teachers

The researcher hopes that this research can be beneficial to teachers. Specifically, utilizing the OmeTV application as a supporting media in the speaking teaching and learning process as well as becoming one of the alternative approaches for pleasantly improving students' speaking skill and can also give information to the teachers about the challenges found during the use of OmeTV as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill.

1.5 Scope of the Research

In this research, the researcher explores the students' perception on the use of OmeTV as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill in SMK Duta Karya Kudus in the academic year 2023/2024. The researcher also study the challenges found during the use of the OmeTV application.

1.6 Operational Definition

Based on the research title, the researcher clarifies the operational definition of each term as follows:

1. Students' Perception

"Students' Perception" is the process of students in SMK Duta Karya Kudus to express his or her own opinions regarding the use of OmeTV as a supporting media to learn English speaking skill.

2. OmeTV

OmeTV is a practical and useful application that can help students increase their English speaking skill.

3. Speaking Skill

Speaking Skill means the ability of X-B of pharmacy students in SMK Duta Karya Kudus to effectively express thoughts, ideas, and emotions through verbal communication.

