A CORRELATION BETWEEN SELF-CONFIDENCE AND THE
STUDENTS’ SPEAKING SKILL

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ABSTRACT

This research entitled “A Correlation between Self-Confidence and the Students’ Speaking Skill”. The objective of the research was to investigate whether there is a significance correlation or not between self-confidence and the students’ speaking skill of the third grade of Swadaya Gunung Jati University in academic year 2014/2015, the writer obtained the data by the quantitative research. The writer used correlational design. The population was the third grade students of Swadaya Gunung Jati University Cirebon. There were 40 students as sample. The data were collected through interview and questionnaire. The results of this research shows that there is a significance correlation between score of questionnaire and interview.

Keywords: Correlation, Self-confidence, Speaking skill.

Introduction

Speaking is the skill which must produce sentence or utterance in the oral mode. Different from the other skills, it is more difficult than the other, because it is more than just pronouncing words (Bashir, 2011:38). According to Utama et al, (2013) There are two aspects to be success in the speaking skill; linguistics aspect and non-linguistics aspect. Grammar, word order, pronunciation, comprehension of utterance, vocabulary, and fluency are the linguistic aspect. And non-linguistics aspect involves personality.
dimension, such as self-esteem, extroversion, motivation, intergroup climate, and self-confidence.

Self-confidence is one of the factors which play the important role in determining the learners’ willingness to communicate of the speaking skill (Utama et al, 2013 and Dornyei et al as cited in Park & Lee, n.d.). Self-Confidence is the crucial part in the speaking skill, because that can give enthusiasm, brave and stimulation to the learners. Because that if the learners have high self-confidence, they will be achieve the best performance in speaking skill fluently.

In communication play, self-confidence has an important role, exactly in the learners’ willingness to communicate. Because that, self-confident give an effect to their abilities. High self-confidence can be positively correlated with oral performance (Heyde as cited in Park, 2004:198). Therefore, student who has higher self-confidence than the other students can communicate well. So, they have the speaking ability in English are better than the other students. That can be supported by the statement that situational self-confidence in communication plays an important role in determining the learners’ willingness to communicate. (Lee and park, 2004:206).

Speaking skill is more difficult than the other skills, because in the speaking skill, is not only needs pronounce words, but also arrangement of the word in the oral performance (Bashir, 2011:38). Beside of that, according to Chafe (n.d.:41) state that speaking is the activity of someone who use their part of their body, such us lungs, throats, and mouths to produce voice which pass through the air and strike to ears of the listener or the other people. The difficulty in the speaking happened because speaking skill was influenced by many aspects.

There are four aspects which is caused the complex process in the speaking skill. Such as the grammatical, the sociolinguistic, the discourse, and the strategic (Swan as cited in Utama et al, 2013:4). Except that, Utama (2013:3) state that there are two aspects in the speaking skill; Linguistics aspect and Non-Linguistics aspect. Grammar, word order, pronunciation, comprehension of utterance, vocabulary, and fluency are the linguistic
aspect. And Non-Linguistics aspect involves personality dimension, such as self-esteem, extroversion, motivation, intergroup climate, and self-confidence. In conclusion, the study about language is not easy, exactly about speaking, that is caused because the complex process in the speaking skill. People who do not know about the process will find the difficulty in the speaking skill. Thus, this research is done to know whether there is significance correlation between students’ speaking skill and their self-confidence and what happened in the students’ speaking skill at the third grade of Swadaya Gunung Jati University.

**Research Methodologies**

In this research, the researcher used a design which is called correlation research. A major purpose of correlational research is to clarify our understanding of important phenomena by identifying relationships among variables (Fraenkel et.al, 2011:331). And the method that was used is quantitative method. Quantitative method is the phenomena explaining by collecting data numerically that were analysed by using calculation of mathematic (Aliaga and Gunderson, 2002). The prospect analyzing numerical data send shivers down the spines many novices the researcher who not only baulk at the thought of statistic but also hold fundamental objection to what they see as the mathematisation of nature.

There are two variables in this study, independent variable and dependent variable. The independent variable is self-confidence and the dependent variable is speaking skill at the third grade of the English Departement of Swadaya Gunung Jati University. The researcher decided that all the the third grade of the English Departement of Swadaya Gunung Jati University as population of this study. Every class consists of 20 students. So that the population of the tenth grade are 240 students. In selecting sample, the researcher use random sampling. Thus, in this research the researcher selected 40 students randomly.

The method of collecting data for this research used two techniques. They were questionnaire and interview. To find the correlation between speaking ability and self-confidence, the researcher used a Pearson product moment correlations. The researcher uses the formula by McMillan and Schumacher (2001:612).
\[ r_{XY} = \frac{N \sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{[N \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2][N \sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}} \]

**Note:**

- \( r_{XY} \) = Coefficient Correlation
- \( \sum X \) = The sum of X (result of questionnaire)
- \( \sum Y \) = The sum of Y (Result of interview)
- \( \sum XY \) = The total sum of X and Y
- \( \sum X^2 \) = The sum of \( X^2 \)
- \( \sum Y^2 \) = The sum of \( Y^2 \)
- \( N \) = The number of respondents

And to find out what happens in students’ speaking skill of the third grade of the English Department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University, the researcher described the data result of the interview and questionnaire.

**Results and Discussion**

This research is about correlation between self-confidence and the students’ speaking skill, and describe the condition of the students speaking skill at the third grade of English department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University. To find out both answers, the steps are as follow:

Firstly, the writer gave the questionnaire set to know the confidence of students and the writer interviewed the students to get the score of their speaking skill. Based on the result, in general the speaking skill of the students at the third grade of the English Department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University is well. It can be seen when they had been given the questions, they answered it correctly. In the other word, their answer is match with the questions that was given. Beside of that, they also pronounced the word clearly, whereas they still need many times to find the vocabulary and arrange it into the utterance. It was supported by the mean of their speaking skill score which is 82.5, which according to table of students’ mastery measurement by Jihad et al (2008: 131) is very good. Thus, the condition of the students’ speaking skill at the third grade of the English department of Swadaya Gunung Jati is well.
The second steps is, the writer calculated and analyzed the data of interview and questionnaire to find out whether there is significant correlation or not between self-confidence and the students’ speaking skill. In the calculation data result, the students that have high score in questionnaire of self-confident, they have high score in the interview. Based on the analyzed data result, the students that have high self-confidence, they answered the question of interview well. Exactly, in the fluency aspect, they can speak fluently and clearly. Thus, whereas they have problem in the pronunciation aspect, but in general the student who has high confidence, they have speaking skill well. In short, it showed that there is significance correlation between self-confidence and the students’ speaking skill at the third grade of the English Department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University.

Based on the data analysis, the conclusion can be drawn in this study are as follow:
First, the students understood what the speaker said but they cannot response fluently. It can be seen from the data result of interview that showed the total score of comprehension aspect is higher than their fluently score, 1.332 > 907.2. Second, in general the condition of students’ speaking skill is very good. It can be seen from the mean of the speaking skill score which is 82.5, which according to table of students’ mastery measurement by Jihad and Aris (2008: 131) is showed very good.

Third, the condition of self-confidence of the students, in general is they are confident. It can be seen from that mean of the questionnaire result that matched in level Confident position; mean is 75.4 that in the position between 60 and 80 in the overall rating of Burton (2006:16). Forth, the comparison between self-confidence of students and their speaking skill, are obtained that the value DF (degree of freedom) is 38. In the table of the degree significant of 5%, is 0.320. It means that the hypothesis is accepted and it can be conclude that a correlation between self-confidence (X) and the students’ speaking skill (Y) at the third grade of the English Department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University Cirebon in academic year 2014/2015 is significant.

From the result of the data analysis and conclusion, the researcher proposes some suggestions as follows: first, English teacher is motivator, thus the teacher should support the students to increase their speaking skill. One of the supports is the teacher
not just give the material to students, but the teacher should also give the opportunity to the students to try speaking in English. For example, the teacher decided one day to use English or the teacher make the English Area as their place to talk in English.

Second, there are two aspects in the speaking skill; linguistic aspect and non-linguistic aspect, thus English teacher should concern not only in the linguistics aspect of speaking, but also the teacher should concern in the non-linguistics aspect, such as self-confidence. For example, teacher gives the tips to the students how to increase their confident or how to solve their problem when they talk, etc.

Third, the teacher should also give the motivation to the students to speak more and more in their daily activity to increase their speaking skill. It can be done by create the situation that support the students to speaking in English. For example, the teacher gives an award to the students that always speak in English, and give the punishment to the students that does not speaking in English. Therefore, the students feel that they are forced to speaking in English. Because that, the students will be enjoy to speaking in English.

**Conclusion**

It is, finally concluded that that the hypothesis is accepted. There is a significant correlation self-confidence (X) and the students’ speaking skill (Y) at the third grade of the English Department of Swadaya Gunung Jati University Cirebon in academic year 2014/2015.

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**Short biography**

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