

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the researcher's presentation of several research-related topics, such as the study's background, research problem formulation, purpose, hypothesis formation, importance, scope and limitations, and definitions of important words.

A. Background of Study

English has taken the lead as the international language of choice in the quickly expanding globalization period. English is an international language, thus being able to speak it is crucial and in high demand in a variety of industries, including technology, business, education, and communication (Marlina et.al, 2018). And mastering English is very important because it can open up opportunities and improve a person's abilities in various aspect of life (Mampuono, 2022). For students in particular, English proficiency is no longer an option, but an essential requirement for achieving success in the future.

In the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0 and globalization, higher education has an important role in empowering access to information through mastery of English, along with advances in technology, (Tulung G. J, 2020). And at the higher education level, learning English for students has a very important role in preparing them to face global competition. Universities and higher education institutions in various countries have integrated English into their curricula because of the importance of learning English for students. Including the State Islamic University of Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung, which presents English lessons or courses in semesters 1 or 2 even though they are not from the English Language Education department. And *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung (Under the auspices of State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah ulungagung) who also implements

English learning through *Shobahul Lughoh* and intensive language as a compulsory subject while living in ma'had.

Ma'had al-Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung who is a Ma'had who has become a pilot Ma'had of PTKIN throughout Indonesia. This is because the learning system in Mahad especially in the *Madrasah Diniyah* program is the first program in PTKIN throughout Indonesia and the learning system is very good. So that many students from various mahad at other universities flock to do comparative studies. *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullllah Tulungagung itself has 2 *Mabnas* (Buildings) which function as residences and places of study for students. Namely Mabna Khodijah al-Kubro and Mabna Fatimah az-Zahra. Each building has 3 floors and each floor has 10 rooms (Mabna Fatimah) and 20 rooms (Mabna Khodijah). Each floor has 4-6 English and Arabic language instructors. Every morning all students take part in *Shobahul Lughoh* lessons in front of the room block (balcony courtyard) of each floor according to a predetermined class division. This activity is mandatory as a manifestation of one of the visions and missions of *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullllah Tulungagung. Namely Arabic and English skills as the first mission and the second main vision after mastering the Quran.

Students must then comprehend the four primary components of learning English in order to master the language. Specifically, speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities. There is continuity in these four features. Therefore, it would be ideal if student was consistent, practiced frequently, and thoroughly studied every topic. Speaking is one of these abilities that is most crucial and is taught as the main subject to pupils after they acquire English. Speaking visually seems to be the most important of the four skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), as stated by Ur in Swari (2014) in his book "A Course in Language Teaching: Practice in

Theory." Many, if not most, foreign language learners are primarily interested in learning to speak, and those who are familiar with a language are referred to as "speakers" of the language.

For students pursuing higher education, speaking in a foreign language—especially English—is a crucial competency. Mastery of good speaking skills enables students to communicate effectively and confidently in a variety of academic, professional and social situations.

In the context of globalization and the development of information technology, speaking skills are becoming increasingly relevant. Students was faced with the demands of interacting with native English speakers and international colleagues, both in academic and professional settings. Speaking abilities are also crucial for learning because they are used in presentations, class discussions, and a variety of other interactive activities.

One of the hardest skills for students to learn is how to speak (speaking skill). Furthermore, speaking abilities are the language skills that are hardest to accurately access, according to Louma in Fadila (2022). This is due to the fact that, despite majoring in English education, students often feel too insecure and lazy to speak a foreign language when they believe they do not possess the necessary language skills. Most students consider English to be difficult because between writing and how to read English words or sentences in the habits and understanding of Indonesian people is very different. Differences in grammar and vocabulary, one of which is that English has very different grammar and vocabulary from the students' home language, such as Indonesian. This can make it difficult for students to understand and master English well (Nunan, 2015). In addition, the lack of vocabulary mastery and lack of practice are also problems that make it difficult for most students to speak. Students are therefore not motivated or hindered in speaking English fluently as a result of these issues. It's true that many students have excellent writing skills in English, but when they speak the language, their tongues go numb and frozen. It involves sounding

natural, projecting our intended message, finding the right words, speaking with assurance, fluency, and accuracy, and maintaining the listener's interest.

In addition, the diverse language backgrounds possessed by students are also a challenge in mastering English. Students from different countries and cultures may have different levels of English proficiency. Some may already have a solid foundation in English, while others may still have to start from scratch. This demands an inclusive and adaptive learning approach to ensure that all students can keep abreast of developments in learning English.

In addition, students are also often faced with academic demands and limited time. The burden of coursework, research, and extracurricular activities can limit the time to learn English. Therefore, effective and efficient learning strategies need to be implemented so that students can develop their English skills without compromising their main academic demands.

With these various problems, *Shobahul Lughoh* (language learning in the morning) is a very innovative breakthrough to improve students' speaking skills. *Shobahul Lughoh* learning is learning English and Arabic which is usually carried out by all ma'had (dormitories for students) Islamic-based campuses throughout PTKIN. This learning is designed to equip students with foreign language knowledge to meet the needs of foreign languages in academics and everyday life. Furthermore, it is anticipated that this education will enable students to fulfill demands in the future.

According to Farah and Mufidah in a journal entitled *Management Halaqoh Language To Improve Speaking Skills In Daarul Lughoh Wadda'wah Boarding School Bangil, Pasuruan (2022)* Halaqoh is one of the language learning programs used by the Daarul Lughoh Wadda'wah Islamic Boarding School to make learning efficient and effective. The

Halaqoh program is a design principle and effort to gather listeners or students who sit around a teacher in one place. And if one of the parties (student or teacher) is not present, then halaqah activities cannot be carried out. The halaqah method is a collection of *bandongan* method classes. Next according to language is a circle of students or a group of students who study under the guidance of a teacher or study together in one place. Halaqah is also a deliberation to understand the contents of the book, not to question the possibility of great dangers that the book teaches but to understand what the book guides. This *Halaqoh* program has similarities to *Shobahul Lughoh* in the learning system and learning management.

To address students' needs in speaking English, *Shobahul Lughoh* lessons are structured so that students can communicate effectively in English on a daily basis or in other contexts. According to Yuniasari, the leader of language division in *Ma'had al-Jami'ah UIN SATU*, the *Shobahul Lughoh* is a habit program learning done by this schedule and rules: On Monday, students learn nouns, verbs on Tuesdays, grammar on Wednesdays, and Thursdays for conversation material. Beside that, there are also intensive English and Arabic learning activities every two weeks. Do not forget that *mahasantri* are also accustomed to using English in everyday conversations. Here, the educational process needs to be given extra consideration because it has a big impact on how well education accomplishes its objectives. It is imperative that educators focus on the dissemination of knowledge that can stimulate motivation, activity, creativity, and moral values. English educators must also be able to present and present how these aspects of English can be reached and understood by students.

According to Firmanasari (2023) "*Muhadatsah Mahasantri Learning in Shobahul Lughoh Activities at Ma'had al-Jami'ah*" gave an explanation of the results that muhadatsah learning in *Shobahul Lughoh* makes it easier

for students in foreign languages to communicate every day. Regardless of the various existing problems and efforts to overcome them.

In Sakbana's research (2022) entitled, "Effectiveness of Using "Study Club" on Students' Speaking Ability at Darul Falah Islamic High School Sumbergempol Tulungagung" explained the results of the research which showed that students' speaking skills in the experimental class after being treated with the club technique, learning increases more effectively. Then the dependent variable in the research is the same as the one the researchers will use (students' speaking ability), but there are differences in the independent variables, the researchers did not use study groups but *Shobahul Lughoh* learning. Even so, there were some students who found it difficult to practice speaking even though they had participated in *Shobahul Lughoh* activities. Based on data from observations made by researchers before conducting this research, it shows that in the field from year to year students are still lacking in English. This can also be seen when they have difficulty trying to carry out permits in the musyrifah room using English sentences. They choose to whisper, or refrain from speaking (silence) because they are afraid of making mistakes in English. According to Siti Alfi (2016), one of the Muroobiyah Ma'had Sunan Ampel Al-Aly (MSAA) at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in the UAPM Innovation article stated that *Shobahul Lughoh* actually cannot be a benchmark for students' ability to speak. Because not all of them are fluent in Arabic or English. So that raises a new problem, how effective is shobahul lughah to improve students' speaking skills?

The researcher wishes to carry out the following research, titled: The Effectiveness of *Shobahul Lughoh* Learning for Improving Students' Speaking Skills at Ma'had Al Jamiah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

B. Research Question

Is there any significant difference in students' speaking abilities which was taught using the *Shobahul Lughoh* learning at Ma'had al Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung compared to those who are not?

C. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the research is to determine whether the use of the *Shobahul Lughoh* learning at Ma'had al-Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung has a significant impact on improving students' speaking abilities compared to those which do not use this method.

D. Research Hypothesis

A hypothesis is, in essence, an assertion about a relationship between two or more variables or a prediction about a problem. There are two different types of hypotheses: hypothesis (Ho) and the alternative hypothesis (Ha).

The research's hypotheses are:

1. Null Hypothesis

There was no significant different scores in students' speaking skill between the class which is taught using *Shobahul Lughoh* learning and the class which is do not use that method at Ma'had al-Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

2. Alternative Hypothesis

There was significant different scores in students' speaking skill between the class which is taught using *Shobahul Lughoh* learning and the class which is do not use that method at Ma'had al-Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

E. Importance of the Study

The study anticipates that its findings was important to educators, learners, and future researchers.

1. Teachers

The researcher anticipated that teachers facing similar issues would be able to use the study's findings. Additionally, the research may offer a different approach to improving students' speaking abilities.

2. Learners

It is anticipated that this research will encourage students to find solutions to their speaking difficulties and assist them in developing their speaking abilities.

3. Another investigator

The findings of this study can serve as a guide for future researchers wishing to investigate *Shobahul Lughoh's* learning in teaching and practice speaking.

F. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study is focus on the *Shobahul Lughoh* learning on students' speaking ability at *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung. This study will limit only on students speaking ability. And the media only using *Shobahul Lughoh* learning. This research only conducted to the 1st or 2nd semester students of Ma'had al Jami'ah State Islamic University Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung.

G. The Definition of Key Terms

It is essential that the research clarify the terms used in this paper, such as these:

1. Effectiveness

The word "effective" is derived from the word "effective," which denotes success in reaching the objectives that have been set. The relationship between the anticipated and actual results is always a factor in effectiveness. Susanto (1975) defined effectiveness as a message's

capacity for influence or degree of ability to do so. Therefore, it can be concluded that effectiveness as a measurement will lead to the accomplishment of the well-thought-out pre-planned objectives.

2. *Shobahul Lughoh* Learning

Shobahul Lughoh comes from Arabic which means morning language. Usually *shobahullughoh* called *shollu*. *Shobahul Lughoh* learning is one of the Arabic and English lessons that is carried out at *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* every morning to improve foreign language skills in female students.

3. Speaking Ability

Speaking is the skill of communicating verbally. Speaking is as simple as saying the words; one does not need to write down what they want to say with a pen and paper. The human speech apparatus goes through a systematic process when producing speech. Speaking is productive, according to Bailey (2005:2) in Putra and Don (2014), as it is an oral skill that entails making methodical utterances to convey meaning.

4. *Ma'had al-Jami'ah*

Ma'had al-Jami'ah is a pesantren education unit implemented in Islamic-based universities throughout Indonesia under the auspices of the university or higher education itself through a policy from the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia. Directorate of Islamic Higher Education Directorate General of Islamic Education Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia 2021), *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* at Islamic Religious Colleges (PTKI) has a very strategic position and role in building campus academics so that they become a religious and nationalist generation. Apart from being a distinguishing feature from other public tertiary institutions, the existence of *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* is also very important in the process of fostering students and improving academic culture in the campus environment. *Ma'had al-Jami'ah* is expected to be able to strengthen understanding of the basics of religion and foreign language skills as well as being a place for education,

teaching Islamic religion such as tahfidz al-Qur'an, tahsin al-Qur'an, interpretation, and the development of various skills other special religions.