

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discuss about the background of the study, formulation of the research problem, object of the research, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of The Study

In today's global society, communicative competence in English is increasingly important (Tokunaga, 2021). One of the international languages is English, this is because the use of English is most widely used when in a learning environment or while living in a foreign country. Language is one of the important components in communication. Without language, humans cannot express and talk about how they feel. Human learn language to communicate about what they think, they feel, and anything happens in their life. The use of language is used to build relationships between family and friends. Therefore, the role of language in learning cannot be separated. Language is used as the main source of learning used by teachers. When learning a language, teachers and students are automatically working with language simultaneously as an object and as a medium for learning. Language is used to communicate between two or more people. Humans will have no trouble communicating when they use a language they can know and understand. In this case, international language is much needed. This relates to the fact that as a universal language, English has an essential position in Indonesia.

Students start learning English from the moment they enter the kindergarten until they enter college. Students need English language learning for them to get to know international languages as a tool for them to learn how to find

information, get information, or expand their language skills to prepare for their future. In learning English, there are four skills that must be mastered. These skills are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Of these four basic skills in English, speaking is something that seems difficult to learn and practice. Speaking is an essential skill to learn and to be mastered (Rifa'at, 2018). This is because sometimes some people avoid speaking in English for the reason that this language is categorized as a foreign language. In language learning, speaking skills always participate in the learning process. Speaking is a skill that requires the ability to accurately pronounce words as well as in choosing the right words. Things that need to be considered in speaking skills are accuracy and fluency. Speaking ability in English language learning is very important because this ability must be expressed orally, paying attention to word order, fluency, and also paying attention to the right word stress to speak.

When learning English, speaking is never out of every aspect of learning. Speaking in oral English refers to a variety of skills, including pronunciation, vocabulary mastering, idea expression, handling communications, effective speaking, and idea development in speaking situations. Even though communication can be divided into two categories which are written and orally, written English communication which means exchanging information, ideas or messages through written language in the form of letters or emails also has numerous aspects, it unquestionably shares the same goals as oral English communication. As a result, regardless of if it is expressed orally or in writing, the speaking in English becomes the study's primary objective.

Students who are learning English as a foreign language find it difficult to express themselves in English.

There are a few challenging variables for that ailment. Both internal and external variables exist. Students themselves are the source of internal variables. These have to do with personality traits. The external factors which often come out from students are the students have concerns about their environment, their parents, and the educational methods used in their school. The success of learning in all facets of education depends on effective teaching and learning techniques.

Talking about learning, whether it's linguistic learning to science, one of the varied traits of students to which little attention has been paid thus far is their learning style. Instead of taking consideration of the students' learning styles, the majority of teachers instruct their students using their own methods. Teaching materials can be considered a factor in this case that affects how well students succeed. In reality, if teachers create an environment that is conducive to learning, children will learn more effectively and attain higher levels of achievement overall. According to (Barokah et al., 2019), Understanding the ways students learn will make the teaching and learning process easier for both teachers and students, hence understanding one's own unique learning style can be quite advantageous for students and help them become more focused and attentive learners.

As a teacher, it maybe not something important but one must know is students' learning styles. Each students has different learning styles and may be the same from one another. Students of course have a way or style of learning that is different from one another (Widharyanto & Binawan, 2020). Not a few students who do not realize how they learn. Therefore, realizing how they learn will really help them to absorb learning material easily. As stated before, it can be

concluded that each student's learning style is very diverse and learning styles is one of important factors to know about. Learning styles differentiated into four kinds (Widharyanto & Binawan, 2020). There are those who learn to use visual, auditory, reading and writing, as well as kinesthetically. Visual learner learns through images, graphics, or even colors to communicate their idea and thoughts. Auditory learners learn by hearing and listening. Reading and writing learner are a sub-type of visual learner, they learn through writing, reading articles, and even taking notes. Kinesthetic learner learns through a physical activity. Each student may have one or two learning styles. Because of these differences in learning styles, the teacher should adjust the learning activities in the classroom so that all students can follow the class easily. Speaking and learning styles are two interesting things to know about, because they have a lot of possibilities such as the learning styles that students have also affect the results of their speaking abilities which can be seen from the scores they get during learning.

Based on the description above, the researcher decided to conduct a study located in MAN 4 Jombang to find out the contribution of learning styles on students' speaking ability. At MAN 4 Jombang, there is a special class that requires them to speak Arabic and English. The use of this language is rotated every week by the boarding school administrator. Therefore, the researcher conducted a study entitled "The Contribution of Students' Learning Styles towards Their Speaking Ability in XI PK 2 MAN 4 Jombang"

B. Formulation of The Research Problem

Is there any contribution on students' learning styles towards their speaking ability in XI PK 2 MAN 4 Jombang?

C. Object of The Research

This study aimed to find the contribution on students' learning styles towards their speaking ability in XI PK 2 MAN 4 Jombang.

D. Significance of The Study

The researchers hopes that the results of this study are useful for:

1. For students, as a source for them to know the importance of their learning style and be able to improve their abilities, especially speaking skills.
2. For teachers, as a source to find out the importance of each student's learning style and apply the right method to be applied in the classroom.
3. For researchers, this study contains information about the correlation between learning styles and speaking ability, then this study can be used as a source by researchers who are interested in using a similar case study.

E. Scope and Limitation

1. Scope

This research will focus on students of class XI PK 2 at MAN 4 Jombang. This research is seen based on variables. Learning style is a variable that will determine the success of another variable, namely their speaking ability.

2. Limitation

This research focuses on the contribution on students' learning styles towards their speaking ability. The various learning styles are visual, auditory, reading and writing, and kinesthetic. However, the researcher limited this research only focused on students' learning styles and

speaking abilities. It would be better if the researcher added other skills such as listening, reading, and writing to the research.

F. The Definition of Key Term

1. Learning Styles

Learning styles are the way students learn. A style of learning refers to how a person absorbs, processes, receives, and imparts information. Each student has different learning styles, it depends on how they process the learning material.

2. Speaking Ability

Speaking ability is one of the basic skills in language learning. This ability is an important thing in language learning that must be considered fluency, pronunciation, how to use word stress correctly, and the grammatically.