

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of background of study, research questions, objective of study, significance of study, and definition of key terms.

A. Background

Communication strategy is one of the most essential aspects of foreign language learning because it supports students to surmount communication difficulties. Communication is defined as the imparting or exchanging of information by speaking, writing, or using some other medium or the successful conveying or sharing of ideas and feelings (Oxford English Dictionary). Al-Qur'an mentions communication as one of human nature. In QS. Ar-Rahman (55) / 1 - 4:

الرَّحْمَنُ - ١ عَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ - ٢ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ - ٣ عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ - ٤

From the meaning Qs. Ar-Rahman above explains that blessings of Allah which are initiated after reciting His name, the most merciful, with mentioning Allah's greatest blessing is the teaching of the Qur'an. He created and taught humans the ability to explain or to communicate what is in him, to distinguish himself from other creatures. In communicating we need to make sure the other person understands what we are talking about. The act of communicating information from one position to another is

known as communication. Rolitasari (2015) said "The transmission and flow of knowledge and ideas from one person to another is known as communication" (p.3). It entails a sender sending an idea, information, or message to another person (U.S. Army, 1983). The primary aim of learning a language for most people is to be able to communicate efficiently. The purpose of learning a foreign language is to be able to communicate. "People send and receive messages effectively and negotiate meaning through communication," writes Rubin and Thompson (1994, p.30) cited by Aisyah Rolitasari (2015, p.3). Fauziati said in a published article by Rolitasari (Id., p.3) that good communication entails the following: understanding of our communications as well as the messages of others as a consequence, we must comprehend what people attempt to tell.

According to Komariah, Erdiana, and Mutia (2020, p.28), many communication strategies can be used to ensure that communication runs smoothly. Students studying English as a foreign language (EFL) often have trouble expressing their ideas in the target language, this is because English is not widely used in everyday communication. Foreign language learners, unlike second language learners who use the target language to survive in the target culture, lack sufficient access to practice the target language they learn in the classroom (Campbell, 2004), even though teachers have provided classroom speaking activities such as discussion, presentation, role play, debate, simulation, or other activities that enable students to reveal their language i.e. (Harmer, 2007) cited in (Id., p.28). Learners must use

communication techniques in this case. Communication techniques have emerged as effective platforms for students to improve their communicative abilities.

Komariah, Erdiana, and Mutia (2020, p.28) said Communication strategies are tactics employed by learners when there is a gap between their mastery of language and their communicative aim. In the same way, Dornyei and Scott (1997) state the definition of communication strategies as methods of problem management in second language communication that help foreign/second language learners deal with the difficulties in conveying the message. The ability to use communication strategies is called strategic competence. Scarcella and Oxford (1992) state that strategic competence refers to language learner's ability to use communication strategies either to solve communication problems and to enhance the effectiveness of communication, which allows speakers to appear more adept than they are.

In communicating there is such a thing as speaking. Adopt from Rolitasari (2015, p.2) state According to Ladouse in Nunan (1991, p.23) speaking is described as the activity as the ability to express oneself in the situation, or the activity to report acts, or situation in precise words or the ability to converse or to express a sequence of ideas fluently. According to Komariah, Erdiana, and Mutia (2020, p.27), Speaking is the most fundamental skill in language learning. Anuradha, Raman, and Hemamalini (2014) cited in (Id., p.27) believe that language is learned by speaking it first after a lot of listening to sounds, words, phrases, and sentences from the

surroundings. According to Howarth (2001) and Torky (2006), speaking is a two-way process including a true communication of opinions, information, or emotions. Harmer (2007) states that to be able to speak English fluently learners must be able to pronounce phonemes correctly, use appropriate stress and intonation patterns and speak in connected speech. However, speaking skill is considered one of the most difficult aspects of language learning, especially for foreign language learners (EFL learners). Many foreign language learners find it difficult to express themselves in spoken language. They are generally facing problems when using a foreign language to express their thoughts effectively. They stop talking because they face psychological obstacles or cannot find suitable words and expressions (Leong & Ahmadi, 2017).

Nowadays, many Islamic boarding schools implement language programs or require students to communicate using foreign languages to improve the quality of school programs or their own students. One of the Islamic Boarding schools that has a language program is An-Najah Islamic Boarding school. They have a language program that requires students to communicate using foreign languages, namely Arabic and English. Every day students are required to use a foreign language to communicate with their friends or teachers. They implement or do the compulsory foreign language program inside and outside the classroom or inside their dormitories. To carry out the language program, they communicate using Arabic for one week and using English for one week too.

However, few have investigated the use of communications strategies in the boarding school context for example study Afitrii Rahma Wati with the title *Communication Strategies of Indonesian Bilingual School Students: An Analysis in One Way Communication Context* and study from Eka Susylowaty et al. with entitle *Code-Switching by Female Students of Islamic School in Daily Communication: Modern Islamic Boarding School*. And nothing study investigates communication strategies in speaking English. Because of that, the researcher is curious about the communication strategies used in Islamic boarding schools or schools with language programs, based on the meanings and details given above. Every day for Islamic An-Najah Boarding school students, an English program is required in the class and outclass, also in the dormitory of An-Najah Islamic Boarding school. Therefore, it is quite imperative for the present study to fill in the gap and answer my curiosity through research entitled “Communication Strategies in speaking English used by EFL Students An-Najah Islamic Boarding School”.

B. Research Questions

1. What communication strategies are used by An-Najah Islamic Boarding School students in their daily speaking routine?
2. How do students at An-Najah Islamic Boarding School use communication strategies in their daily speaking routine?

C. Objective of Study

1. To find out communication strategies are used by An-Najah Islamic Boarding School students in their daily speaking routine.
2. To describe how An-Najah Islamic Boarding School students use communication strategies in their daily speaking routine.

D. Significance of Study

This final project is expected to provide benefits both theoretically and practically for both readers and writers. Theoretically, this is the result of this research hopefully it can be additional knowledge for students and English learners to learn more about communication strategies.

From a practical point of view, this study will help students and students of English to apply the best type of communication strategy in learning English as a foreign language to use English as maximally and communicatively as possible.

E. Definition of Key Terms

1. Communication strategies are strategies used by EFL Students to do speaking in the daily activities.
2. Speaking is defined as the skill which allows us to communicate effectively with other or the delivery of language through the mouth. To speak, we create sounds using many parts of our body, including the lungs, vocal tract, vocal cords, tongue, teeth, and lips.

3. Students an-Najah Islamic Boarding School is students who practice speaking in class.