

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first of this chapter is introduction that informs the readers about the study, the objective, and why it is vital to study. This chapter consists of background of study, then it continues to the research question, objective of study, significance of study. Further, the definition of key terms is also presented by the researcher to give specific information related to this study.

A. Background of Study

Online learning is no longer an unusual learning system of education in Indonesia, but it has become a learning system that must be done in the pandemic covid-19. Based on Kemendikbud (2020) specifies that the learning process in Indonesia is carried out online. According to Saifuddin (2018, p.102-109), online learning is a learning mechanism in which students and teachers do not interact face-to-face but instead use interactive media through internet networks in various locations at the same time. The English Education Department of Antasari State Islamic University in Banjarmasin most likely has been doing online learning for approximately the last two years. With online learning, it may be expected that student participation in the learning process may be increase because the learning not be limited by space and time. In addition, it may be hoped that students could have a spirited attitude in learning and utilizing three important things that have An-Nahl verse 78:

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ
السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

Based on the verse above, the students are asked to make good use of their hearing, vision, and heart as a form of effort to find out useful knowledge, so that the knowledge obtained could provide benefits both for students and the surrounding environment.

There are four language skills that have to master by students for improving their English namely speaking, writing, reading, and listening skills. Speaking is an important language skill to help students to communicate with others by providing information, opinions, ideas, criticisms, and suggestions. In the terms of speaking practices may have a difference between offline and online classes. In offline class, the students are asked to speaking practice in front of classmates, but the students are likely to be out of focus due to some things, there will likely be students who feel a lack of confidence, and have a sense of doubt or even anxiety. In the online class, the students are asked to speaking practice by watching, recording videos, or voice recording by themselves based on the topic that has been learned. Although speaking practice is online, most of the students still feel a lack of confidence, nervousness, and difficulty pronouncing English.

Perception is the important process to know the phenomenon which exists in the environment that is started from the physical world received by the organ through the nervous system then processed by the brain based on students' knowledge and experience to give meaning. Students' perception is the way

students interpreted the understanding of information that students get from an object. The students' perception cycle goes through phases beginning from gathering, recognizing, and interpreting sensory information obtained. Based on Walgito (2010) perception is a process that is preceded by the sensing process which is the process of receiving stimulus by individuals through sensory devices or also called the sensory process. There is students' perception during speaking online learning that will make the students' perceptions based on their knowledge and experiences different. The student's perception will give an effect for students to understand English online learning. The present study is focusing on students' perceptions of self-confidence toward speaking in an English online class.

Self-confidence is an important thing to support students' speaking skills. The students need to have a sense of self-confidence not only in offline classes but also in online classes to make students easier in English speaking practice. The students have to be able to build, develop and show their self-confidence to be good English speakers. The students who have self-confidence will easier to interact and practice English as daily communication. In addition, the students will be mastering English speaking skills well, so that self-confidence is useful for students to support them in English speaking, but there could be students problems that are related to student psychological in speaking namely *lack of self-confidence* in the online learning process.

Based on the background of the study above, it is necessary to investigate the topic of the research to find out what are the students' perceptions and problems in online speaking classes. It may expect that lecturers could determine appropriate

teaching and learning strategies, provide motivation to increase students' self-confidence, and improve the quality of students in online speaking classes.

B. Research Question

The research question is some of the questions that want to be answered by the researcher. A good research question should express the characteristics and kinds of relationships between variables and the subject being investigated clearly. Based on the background of the study above, there are two research questions in this study that would be discussed are as follows:

1. How do the students' perception of self-confidence toward speaking in online speaking classes?
2. What are the students' speaking problems in online speaking classes?

C. Objective of Study

The objective of the study is the purpose of the research that describes the target being reached in this study. Based on the research question above, there are two objectives of the study:

1. To describe how the students' perception of self-confidence toward speaking in online speaking class.
2. To find out what are the students' speaking problems in online speaking classes.

D. Significance of Study

Significance of the study is expected that this study can give contributions. In addition, this point mentions the theoretical and practical implications or the contribution of the study. In this study, there are two significances of study, as follows:

1. Theoretical

The researcher expects the study could be another source for the next researcher. In addition, the study also as additional information to support the theories by exploring students' perception of self-confidence toward speaking ability and speaking problems in English online class.

2. Practical

- a. The researcher hopes the study gives information about students' perceptions. In addition, the study will help the students of English when faced with students' perception on self-confidence toward speaking ability in an English online class.
- b. The researcher hopes the study could be additional references for the lecturer to know students' perception and problems of self-confidence toward speaking ability in an English online class. In addition, this study aims to motivate and effort for increasing students' self-confidence in English online class.

E. Definition of Key Terms

Definition of key terms is necessary to explain that is about some term. In this study, the researcher gives four definitions of key terms to avoid misunderstanding based on the entitled, as follows:

1. Students' Perception

The perception could be divided into self-perception and external perception. Self-perception is the perception by an individual, while external perception occurs from the outside. In this study, perception is referred to the identification or explanation about the students' perception of self-confidence toward speaking ability in an English online class.

2. Self-Confidence

Self-confidence is a talent and ability that could be one of the factors that affect students' English speaking performance. In this study, self-confidence is referred to students' self-confidence through speaking practice in an English online class.

3. Speaking

Speaking is a communication process that involves two or more people as speakers and listeners. In this study, speaking is referred to as Speaking II courses taken by students of the third semester in Academic Class Year 2020 at the English Education Department of Antasari State Islamic University in Banjarmasin.

4. English Online Class

English online class is referred an English online learning mechanism that students and lecturers do not interact face to face but use interactive media through the internet network. In this study, the English online class is referred Speaking II

course at the English Education Department of Antasari State Islamic University in Banjarmasin that is conducted online through Google Classroom and WhatsApp Group. The lecture usually asked the students to re-explain and give some examples about the topic that they have learned through voice recording.