

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

Speaking is a skill that allows people to communicate their thoughts, ideas, and intentions to one another orally. Unfortunately, the majority of English language instruction in classrooms focuses on teaching students how to read and write essays, with little emphasis placed on conversational skills (Hamzaoglu & Koçoğlu, 2016). Consequently, students experience high levels of nervousness and aversion when speaking English in front of other people and they often feel afraid and nervous to participate in English language class. Using podcasts as a model is one way to help students improve their oral communication skills.

In the rapidly developing digital era, technology has become an integral part of various aspect life, including in the field of education. The integration of technology in learning has changed the methods of educators and students, creating a more dynamic and interactive learning environment (Sundari, 2024). One technological innovation that is becoming increasingly popular in educational context is a podcasts, which offer a new and interesting method for convey and accessing learning material.

Podcast, as a digital audio media that can be downloaded or streamed via the internet, have become a potential learning tool at various levels of education , including universities. According to Hasan and Hoon (2013), podcasts have great potential to increase students' learning experiences, especially in developing

language skills. Podcasts provide flexibility in learning, allowing student to access material anytime, anywhere and everywhere, thus supporting independent and sustainable learning design.

It is also implied in the Al-Qur'an surah At-Thaha verse 25-28:

قَالَ رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي ۚ ٢٥ وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي ۚ ٢٦ وَاخْلُفْ عَنِّي مِن لِّسَانِي ۚ ٢٧ يَفْقَهُوا قَوْلِي ۚ ٢٨

The verse implies the desire that our tongue is not stiff and nervous when speaking in public, which implies meaning ‘Give your servant the ability to speak’ so that they understand what i’m saying. Prophet Musa (AS) taught that before facing challenges, it is important to ask for a light heart, ease in dealings, fluency in speaking, and prayer so that the message conveyed can be understood well by others. This is in continuity with podcasts as a medium to train students’ public speaking skills and fluency together with their friends in class to gain experience to be more confident, not rambling and understood by the audience when speaking in front of a larger public.

This verse emphasize the importance of the ability to communicate clearly and effectively, especially when speak up in front of public . This is in line with the aim of developing public speaking skills in higher ducation. Podcasts, as a modern learning tool, can be a means to help students overcome "stiffness tongue" and improve their ability in convey messages clearly and confidently. In the context of language learning, especially in developing speaking skills, podcasts offer a unique opportunity, especially in the context of public speaking, are crucial competencies that students must master as preparation for facing the professional world. However, there are still many students experience difficulties and anxiety

in developing this skills (Alawiyah et. al., 2022). Podcasts could be an innovative solution for overcome this challenge.

Using podcasts in learning speaking has a number of superiority. First, podcasts provide exposure to using authentic language, allowing students to listen to and learn various accent, intonation, and speaking styles (Abdulrahman et al., 2018). Second, the process of making podcasts by students themselves can be an effective exercise to increase their speaking skills. Students can record, listen back and improve their speaking methods, which is very useful for development public speaking skills (Anggraeni et al., 2021).

However, the implementation of podcasts in speaking learning in Indonesian university is still high limited. Based on observations and literature studies, the use of podcasts in many institution of education is still limited to applications for listening content, not as tool for students to produce their own content (Alam, 2024). This shows that there is a gap between the potential of podcasts as an active learning tool and implementation in the field.

This phenomenon raises important question about how students actually seek to use podcasts as an activity to develop their public speaking skills. Students' perception and attitudes towards the use of technology in learning are very important to pay attention to, because this can influence effectiveness and success of implementation technology (Raimanu, 2022).

In an era where communication skills are becoming increasingly important and technology continues to develop rapidly, it is important to continue to explore and evaluate innovative methods in learning. Podcasts, with their enormous but

not yet fully exploited potential in the context of learning public speaking in Indonesian universities, offers an interesting and potential field of research .

Through this learning, it is expected that a better understanding can be gained about how podcast technology can be integrated effectively in the higher education curriculum to improve students' public speaking abilities. It is also expected that the result can become the basis for practical development guidelines for educators in implementing podcast as an effective and interesting public speaking learning tool for student.

## **B. Definition of Key Terms**

### **1. Public Speaking Skill**

Public speaking skill means the skill to convey something orally in front of people. In general, public speaking is an communicating that is done orally convey messages and opinions which aim to inform, entertain, influence and is done in front of an audience with certain methods and structures.

### **2. Podcast**

Are audio or video recordings that are broadcast on internet platforms and can be listened to anywhere and anytime. Each episode usually covers specific topic, is presented by a host, and may involve interviews or discussion with guest. In this research, researcher interviewed participants to find out their views on round table podcast activities in classroom. Round table podcast is a manual podcasts carried out in class by students in groups consisting of 5 people (Host, co-host and 3 guest stars).

### **C. Research Questions**

The main questions to be addressed in this research are:

1. How are students' view toward podcast as the activity to develop public speaking ability?
2. What are the difficulties that students' encounter when doing podcast as the activity to develop public speaking ability?

### **D. Objectives of Study**

According to the research questions, the research aims to investigate:

1. To find out students' view toward podcast as the activity for develop public speaking ability.
2. To discover the difficulties that students' encounter when doing podcast as the activity for develop public speaking ability.

### **E. Significance of Study**

The benefits of this research is provides educators with valuable insights into how podcasts can be integrated into the curriculum as an innovative tool for enhancing public speaking ability. Understanding students' perspectives can help teachers design more effective, enganging, and relevant that align with learners' preference and needs. By exploring students' view on using podcasts, this research can uncover the motivational aspects of this medium.