

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter emphasizes the explanation of the researcher conducting this research. This chapter describes several sub-chapters which include background, research question, the objective of the research, focus of research, the significance of the research, and definition of the key terms

1.1. Background of the Research

English is an international language. it is quite taken into account because almost all countries use English to communicate. This very high need for English is what ultimately makes English language that is highly calculated with both in education and everyday life. English is a foreign language that is widely studied in Indonesia. The many demands to master a foreign language seem to have received serious attention from the world of education. English is now a subject that must be mastered by all elements of education. This understanding of English is also supported by other researchers including Rao (2019) who said that English is the most spoken language between international agencies and companies. English, as the first world language, is said to be the first global lingua franca and is the most widely used language in the world in international trade, diplomacy, mass entertainment, international telecommunications, and scientific publications as well as the publishing of newspapers and other books. It means that English is not only the language used by languages influenced by the colonial period, but English has more meaning than it, English is the most frequently used international language because it is easy to learn and understand, so the use of English becomes the language of instruction in every condition in the international world.

English is considered a necessary language in the work there are even several companies that include requirements to master English fluently for prospective employees who register. Apart from that, the demands of the world of work which now use English as the language of instruction for their work make it inevitable for employees to master it. In Indonesian education, English is learned from elementary school to university. In the curriculum implemented in Indonesia, basic English will be learned when students are at the elementary level,

then the next level will also increase the English learned. At the high school level, English is divided into two, namely compulsory English and advanced English, the difference between the two is the material being studied. Learning English at the tertiary level must even be studied by all study programs, not only study programs related to English itself. Judging from the importance of using English, students are required to master the ability to speak English.

The importance of English is in line with what Ilyosovna (2020) conveyed Today, English is the main language not only of the countries actively touched by British imperialism but also in many areas of business and culture that are dominated by these countries. Therefore, this language is useful and even necessary to know. Learning English is important and people around the world are deciding to learn it as a second language. Also said that First and foremost, learning English can help you pursue and gain more career opportunities. Today, the job market is global. many companies need employees who can communicate with partners and clients around the world. Very often, that means finding employees who can speak English. By learning English, people can become a translator, language teacher, or an English marketing professional for a global company. Learning English is an important step forward for all the goals. (Ilyosovna, 2020) claims with what the researcher said that mastering English can provide many opportunities for career development in the future. So that, many students are required to master English as a preparation for facing career challenges in the future.

Speaking is one of the four skills that must be mastered in learning English besides reading, listening, and writing. Speaking is a skill that is quite difficult to learn because speaking requires several things to support fluency in mastering it. Mastery of speaking skills greatly influences the way to understand people who invite others to communicate and also capture the information conveyed so that there are no misunderstandings for both the information provider and the recipient of the information. The ability to speak English is needed for students to understand the lessons explained and be able to answer the questions given. According to Brown (2015), Speaking is a productive skill that can be observed directly and empirically, these observations are always colored by the accuracy and effectiveness of the test taker's listening skills, which of course sacrifices the reliability and validity of the oral production test. Based on the expert's explanation that speaking is a skill that must be mastered accurately, another reason is that the assessment of speaking ability must be carried out validly and effectively. The reason is that if in mastering speaking skills there is a lack of other abilities, it can impact providing other information.

In line with what was conveyed by Rao (2019) said that speaking skills are the most important skills for acquiring a foreign language or second language learning. Among the four main language skills, speaking is considered the most important skill in learning a foreign or second language. This means that no matter how proficient in mastering English, it is not significant enough if not able to speak fluently. Because the essence is in mastering a foreign language or a second language is can practice it and the intentions and goals in speaking can be understood.

In addition to the above opinion, Rao also said among the four basic skills of English, speaking seems difficult because the speaker has to make sentences on the spur of the moment. It is quite difficult for foreign language or second language learners to produce sentences without studying grammatical structures and having sufficient vocabulary knowledge.” It should be realized that in practice, speaking English is very difficult due to a lack of vocabulary mastery, even if students unable to process words instantly, speaking will become increasingly difficult. It has become a frightening specter for students if the students have to try to speak even if it's in front of the class or in front of other students. There is also an opinion that the use of English is needed because of the importance of using English in everyday life, starting from education, and business, up to technology. If learning uses an effective method, then the output of using English will also produce useful soft skills starting from the ability to write, speak, listen, and read soft skills like these are needed in the world of work. (Putra, 2020) claims in the sense that language skills are very important to be mastered for needs in education or the world of work later.

Practice speaking becomes a thing that must be done by students in high school or college. Moreover, English has become a foreign language that is often heard in everyday life. Many films, songs, literary works to comics use English. The way they learn them also varies according to their ability to understand English.

Speaking skills must be mastered by students because there are so many functions. Because the use of English is not only for writing but practice in speaking is also very important. So that this ability must be mastered in school, the many ways to practice speaking make it easier for students to improve this ability. As stated by Bailey (2007) that practical English teaching: speaking is a comprehensive volume that addresses the most salient issues for teaching learners to produce spoken language. So the ability to speak English is a challenge in itself for students or teachers, therefore, speaking skills need to be considered carefully so that the objectives of this lesson can be carried out properly. As to know, the ability to speak does not only pay attention to the language, but intonation, pronunciation,

emotions, and even facial expressions are very important in practicing this skill. The challenge faced by students to practice speaking is the lack of vocabulary mastery possessed by students which makes the students afraid to practice speaking. Besides that, the different pronunciations will make it wrong. This must be paid attention to so that there is no misunderstanding with the interlocutor and the interlocutor also understands what we are conveying.

Nowadays, media for practicing English is quite easy to find and do because of the rapid pace of technology, previously English was only obtained at school, now English can be accessed on various platforms and applications found on smartphones or laptops. As long as there is an internet network, the process of learning English can be done anywhere. The rise of video call applications or social media is used by students to practice speaking skills. Students are no longer hesitant to try to practice the English speaking skills with other people, even with native speakers. One of the previous researchers, namely Mahu (2012) said that speaking English is a tremendous asset to your professional career. This means that speaking English is one of the keys to career success in the future. Because there are many needs for English in the world of work, as students become a reference for continuing to learn and practice these skills. This demand is what motivates students to continue to develop these abilities. The large number of needs for English today is also balanced by the rise of digital platforms that help students and the general public for learning media, especially media for practicing English. Many applications are used to learn English both to improve one's abilities that must be mastered or to add to the vocabulary they have. applications or platforms that are quite widely used in Indonesia include Duolingo, Cake, Grammarly, Beelinguapp, BBC Learning English, Tandem, and so on. Among the many applications that are quite widely used as mentioned earlier, the application or platform that is now loved by Indonesian people, especially young people, is the OME TV application.

OME TV is a video call-based application that allows its users to connect with other users randomly and is determined by the application (<https://ome.tv/why-ometv/>). This application connects users from various countries including Indonesia. This application includes a live streaming application, which means an application that displays videos directly by utilizing the internet network. Users of this application make it easy to connect with users in all parts of the world so they can make friends online. This can be used by users to try to practice speaking skills by communicating with other users. It is not uncommon for many students in Indonesia to take advantage of this opportunity to practice their speaking skills in English with the target of native speakers there. Apart from honing their speaking

skills, they are also able to hone their listening skills to digest what other users are saying. so that the principle of communication can be carried out in two directions and capture each other's intentions and goals.

In line with this statement, Ometv is a platform for online socializing with other people, even with people from different countries though. Ometv provides services such as video calls and chats for its users so that users can talk directly by looking at the face of the other person (Landa, 2022). This means that Ome TV is similar to previous similar applications because it has the same developer, so the appearance and method of use are the same. So it's easier for users.

Currently, the use of the Ome Tv application has been rife in Indonesia since one Indonesian YouTuber and influencer, Fiki Naki, uses the application for his media to communicate with other users. Fiki Naki, who has mastered English, has gone viral because he uses Ome TV to communicate. He speaks English fluently and has no problem at all. His content which is very much loved by the Indonesian people is when he talks with a user from Turkey, Dayana. The content he uploaded on his YouTube page made him increasingly known among the public and became an influence to download the Ome TV application. It was this moment that caused the number of Ome TV users to explode and become a trend among the public. Currently, based on Google play store data statistic there have been more than 100 million downloads made on the Play Store application and received reviews from 532 thousand users.

After Fiki Naki's video viral on Youtube using Ome TV using a foreign language, several other YouTube creators also starts to follow in Fiki's footsteps, these content creators started using Ome TV as media to communicate with users from various countries. They follow the way of Fiki Naki who is on the rise for a place to earn income or purely for media-speaking English. several Youtubers who have followed in Fiki Naki's footsteps in the world of Ome TV, namely Tenggo Wicaksono, Jeremy Novela Official, Edwin Hurry Jr., Indah Asmigianti, Indyrach, Kenniro, and many more. One of the YouTube accounts that creates content about Ome TV is Tenggo Wicaksono. This YouTuber uses his ability in English to communicate with random other users. the content he does also takes advantage of his other abilities, namely using dolls that can be controlled and filled in with his voice to attract the interest of users who match him. the concept offered is quite different from Fiki Naki so the researcher is quite impressed with the concept carried out by Tenggo.

Currently, the use of Ome TV among students is very much because these students have several purposes for using it. The reasons include several students using social media and supporting applications to repeat material learned in class. In addition, students think that by utilizing technology and using the things they like, they can master the material even more. Another reason, some students use social media or other applications such as Ome TV because they feel less confident, so by using Ome TV these students feel much more confident. The purpose of using Ome TV as a medium for practicing speaking is because on Ome TV users can connect with other users from foreign countries, even those whose mother tongue is English. So that these students can practice speaking as well as improve their pronunciation as with the original speaker. as stated by Landa (2022) that the Ometv application is very helpful for improving students' pronunciation abilities. Students' pronunciation skills increased after getting treatment through the Ometv application. so it can be said that Ome TV will have a positive impact if used properly and adapted to the needs of each individual.

This previous studies that have similarities in researching the use of Ome TV with one of the main skills are speaking skills as the researchers did. However, this research produced several conclusions, in previous studies using quantitative methods to determine the results obtained before and after students used Ome TV as a medium for learning to speak and increase vocabulary. Besides that, in previous studies, the focus was on the introduction of the Ome TV application as an alternative application or medium for learning English. the results obtained are also processed using a quantitative descriptive method. different from the research that the researchers did, because it uses a qualitative descriptive method so it uses an explanation without calculating the results in the form of numbers. besides that, the researchers focused on students who used the Ome TV application as media for practicing English. researchers can find out how the views and experiences felt by students and whether there are challenges faced by users in carrying out these activities.

Based on the phenomenon and several considerations. Thus the researchers decided to formulate a thesis entitled "Students' Perceptions and Experiences in practicing English using Ome TV" to find out their experiences and views on using this application for students' English practice.

1.2. Research Question

Based on the research background above, the researcher formulated the problem formulation in this case study, as follows:

- a. What are the students' perceptions on the use of Ome TV as media for practicing speaking English
- b. How are students' experiences in applying Ome TV as media to practice English? What are the advantages and disadvantages on this practicing?
- c. What are the challenges experienced by students in using Ome TV both from the application and when interacting with other users?

1.3. The objective of the Research

Based on the background and the formulation of the problem described above, the purpose of this research is:

- a. To find out students' views on the use of Ome TV as a medium for practicing speaking English
- b. To obtain information regarding students' experience of using Ome TV and also its influence on English-speaking practice
- c. To find out the challenges are felt by students who use Ome TV both from the application or difficulties in practicing speaking English

1.4. Focus of the Research

This study discusses the Ome TV application, speaking skills, and speaking practice using Ome TV. This research was conducted in all regions of Indonesia via the internet network and involved students the focus of this research was on students' perceptions and experiences of using Ome TV as a medium for practicing speaking English and knowing the challenges experienced by users in using this application. In the current study, researchers will not discuss improving speaking skills, learning motivation, and other abilities besides speaking

1.5. Significance of the Research

Based on the explanation of the problem formulation and research objectives, the benefits of this research are:

- a. Theoretical

Theoretically, this research is expected to be able to become a reference for readers to conduct similar research in the future, to be able to add knowledge to readers about descriptive research on students' perceptions and experiences in practicing English

using applications and to be a reference for teachers or lecturers to pay attention to that practice English can be done in various ways including using applications.

b. Practical

a. Student

For students, it is hoped that the results of this research can channel their perceptions and experiences in practicing their abilities in English by utilizing technology in the form of the Ome TV application and being able to describe the challenges faced when using the application as well as in practice.

b. Teacher or Lecturer

For teachers, by obtaining the results of this qualitative research, they can be considered as an alternative or modification that is updated according to the times for learning methods that can be applied in the learning process in the classroom. In practice, the use of the application can lighten the teacher's burden because students prefer a fun learning system.

c. Researcher

As a researcher, conducting this research can become material for preparation and knowing that the Ome TV application can be used as a media reference used to practice speaking English with native speakers. Researchers were also able to find out the views, experiences, and challenges faced by students as a source of data in this study.

d. Reader

For readers, this research can add information to them regarding qualitative descriptive research on students' perceptions and experiences in practicing English using the Ome TV application. In addition, readers can know the processes faced by researchers in obtaining data and can add insight into this field.

e. Further Researchers

It is hoped that by conducting this research, it will be able to become a reference and one of the references for researchers who will conduct research in the same field, and be able to know what needs to be prepared to conduct this research.

1.6. Definition of Key Terms

a. Speaking Skill

Speaking is a skill of a person to convey the thoughts to another verbally. Speaking is the most effective and efficient way to convey a message and communicate.

b. Students' Perception

Students' perception is a process carried out by students to respond to an incident with stages starting with the senses in themselves to introduce something and then arrange it, and recognize it until it is interpreted. Responses can be given by looking at various aspects and points of view to find out what our opinion is about an accident that occurred.

c. Students' Experience

The student experience is everything that is experienced, felt, or lived by students which is a guide for understanding the things that are experienced, so it can be a reference to get information related to things that also happened before.

d. Ome TV

Ome TV is one of the social media that is currently being loved by young people in Indonesia and even Internationally, which is quite easy to use as long as having an internet network and a smartphone or laptop. Ome TV also is a video call and live chat-based application that connects one user to another randomly and cannot be determined.