

## Abstract

Communicating with native English speakers is important for students in EFL context. Unfortunately, many of them faced factors which inhibit them in communicating with native English speakers. Thus, appropriate strategies are needed to employ to overcome their problems in communicating with native English speakers. The purposes of this research are to explore the factors which inhibit the students at higher education to communicate with native English speakers and to find out the strategies to deal with the inhibiting factors to communicate with native English speakers. This research was conducted at one private university in Yogyakarta. Four third-year English Department students are participated in this study. Furthermore, descriptive qualitative research design was applied in this research and the data were collected by one-on-one interviews. The study has found inhibiting factors the students participants faced to communicate with native English speakers, namely lack of psychological state, lack of linguistic competence, lack of English speaking skills, and lack of culture knowledge. The second, it was related to the strategies the students applied to overcome those problems. The strategies found in this study were using communication strategies, asking for repetition, practicing the target language, improving English speaking skills, joining organization activities, doing communicative activities, and using technology.

*Keywords:* communicating NES, inhibiting factors, strategies, English foreign language

