

Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter presents the introduction of the study. There are several important points mentioned in this chapter. This chapter provides the background of the study, the statement of the problem and the delimitation of the study, the research question, the objective of the study, and the significance of the study. Finally, the organization of this research is explained at the end of this chapter.

Background of the study

Having a second language means having access to another world of people, ideas and ways of thinking. It is because second language is viewed as a medium for transferring and sharing knowledge among people all over the world (Ahen, 2009). From the various languages, English was claimed as Lingua franca. Based on Vesajoki (2002), English was declared as an international language for various purposes which connected people all over the world. Hence, the proficiency of English is important, especially among second language learners in order to survive in the environment where the language is used.

In this globalization era, English has become one of the most crucial languages to interconnect people in different countries which also opens them up to more job opportunities. Haidara (2016) stated that in this globalization era, English comes up as knowledge to interconnect people to the world, and it can also provide them with wider job opportunities in the global economy. Through English, people can communicate, trade and share their ideas to the

people in different countries. Warchauer (2000) in his study observes that many non-native speakers of English need to use English daily in the workplace for presentation, collaboration and international collaboration.

In addition, the researcher conducted a research on the internet about online job vacancies, and it turned out that several multilingual companies put qualification of English for their job application. Besides, some of them put English communication skill qualification as one of the requirements. According to Zehr (1998), many jobs now place an emphasis on integrity, communication, and flexibility to transfer the information to other people. However, in doing their jobs, people can share their ideas through spoken and written forms. As Robles (2012) mentioned, the category of communication is divided by oral, speaking capabilities, written, presentation, and listening.

Speaking skill is one of the communication skills that will be needed in job. Arslan and Akbarov (2015) argued that speaking skill is the most important communication skill to master. Having good English, especially for speaking skill is a key opportunity to get a job. People who can communicate in English very effectively can properly deliver their ideas and get credits of work in their jobs. Companies want their employees to be able to communicate well, especially using English, as they are required to be fluent in their English speaking skill. Dincer (2017) added that speaking English fluently can bring forward people in their career because it can make them speak clearly while delivering information and materials. Therefore, people will not have any misunderstanding in communication while working on their jobs.

English speaking is one of the most important English skills that people usually apply in daily life in order to make conversations with other people. Based on Hinkel (2005) argued that the English speaking skill is the most frequent skill people used in daily communication.

Nevertheless, there are some challenge and obstacle people face when they want to interact through speaking, especially for EFL people. According to Heriansyah (2012), some learner faced difficulties such as lack of vocabulary, poor pronunciation, and poor grammar. Hence, those difficulties can make people not want to speak in English.

English Language Education Department (ELED) is an English major department at one private university in Yogyakarta. In this department, offer some courses which is focused on speaking skill. The courses subjects include listening and speaking for daily conversation, listening and speaking for formal setting, listening and speaking for academic purposes, listening and speaking for career development and English for tourism. Nevertheless, some students on that department still have difficulties in speaking skill. Based on the researcher observation, students at ELED still have difficulties in speaking skill while doing presentation. They often speak in long pauses and give unclear information. Hence, English speaking skill is important in the job where English speaking needed. According Hudson (2007), good speaking skill and listening skill are key aspects for employability, such as getting a job, maintaining employment, and progressing at work. For this reason, the researcher is interested to investigate the students' perception on the contribution of English speaking skill mastery with their future career.

The Statement of the Problem

English Language Education Department (ELED) is a department at one private university in Yogyakarta. This department offers some courses which focused on speaking skill. It clearly, this department give the English speaking material to make the students of ELED master English speaking skill. Also, mastering English speaking skill will nowadays give students the opportunity to get better job. Based on the researcher's observation on online job vacancies, some multilingual companies now put English speaking skill as a requirement for a job

applicant. The speaking skill will be used by the students in some parts of their future career, such as giving presentation to the audience or communicate with other employees while working. According to Tartan (2013), English speaking skills will be used in some aspect in the workplace such as giving presentations in English, communicating with clients, leading the meeting and negotiation, and making a communication with other employees. Nevertheless, from the researcher's observation, student in the department still have difficulties in speaking skill. The difficulties include a lack of vocabulary mastery, difficulties of proper grammar use and lack of confidence. Hence, those difficulties hinder the students of ELED to speak properly and thus give unclear information. Heriansyah (2012) mentioned that some learners faced difficulties such as lack of vocabulary, poor pronunciation, and poor grammar. Therefore, based on this statement, the researcher wanted to find out about the students' perception on the contribution of speaking skill mastery to their career.

The Delimitation of the Problem

Discussing the use of English mastery for future career, there are several skills that students needs to master such as having good English skills in speaking, writing, reading, and listening. The researcher cannot conduct the research on all of the subjects because of the limited time to do the research. However, from the four English skills mentioned, the researcher only focus on speaking skill. Then the researcher only focuses on the aspects contrubution English speaking and the students' future career.

Research Questions

Based on the explanation above, the problems of the study can be formulated as follows:
How does ELED students' perceptions on the contribution of English speaking mastery and their future career?

The Objectives of the study

Based on the research questions, the objectives of the study are:
To investigate students' perceptions about contribution English speaking skill mastery toward their future career.

The Significances of the Study

This research gives some benefits which will be useful for the researcher, teachers, students, and other researchers.

For the researcher. The findings of this study will be useful for the researcher in order to find out and investigate about the students' perception of speaking skill. This research can make the researcher attain more knowledge about the research related to students' perception on their speaking career in their future career. Hopefully, this research also can help the researcher to apply this information in the future.

For the teachers. The findings of this study can be useful for ELED teachers in order to get information about the importance of English speaking mastery skill for their future career. Also, this study is very useful for the teachers because they can get information about the career perception on English speaking mastery of ELED students. Hence, the teachers can tell the students about English jobs especially in the speaking skill area to other students from different batches.

For the students. The findings of this study will give an input to the students about the perspectives of ELED students on English speaking skill mastery and their future career.

Moreover, the students can gain information from this research related to English speaking skill mastery and its impact to their career in the future. Furthermore, the students can develop this research that can make this research more valuable in the further.

For other researchers. This study can give valuable and additional information for those who are interested and want to investigate the research of the students' perception about speaking English mastery and their future career. Also, other researchers can get basic information from this study to conduct further researches on the same research topic. Besides, other researchers can also take the advantages of this research to become their additional information for their personal or group research. Other researchers can utilize the findings of this research as the theoretical overview of further research on the same topic and might become a recommendation of further research. Therefore, by conducting this research, it can also encourage the researchers to conduct the researches related to the same area of this research.

The Organization of study

The organization of the study facilitates the readers in discussing the problem presented and helps the readers easily understand what they read. This study is divided into three chapters. Chapter one is introduction. It consists of six parts namely the background of study, the statement of problem, the scope and limitation of study, the objective of study, the significance of the study, and the organisation of the study. Chapter two is the Literature review. This chapter provides four parts of theoretical overviews to support this research, and those are English Mastery, English speaking ability, and the role of speaking skill communication and future

career. Chapter three is research methodology. This chapter presents research methodology which discusses about the setting of the study, subject and time of the study, instrument of the study, the design of the study, the procedure of the study, technique of collecting data, and the gathering procedure. Chapter four discusses about the findings and discussion. The last chapter presents the conclusion and the recommendation of the research.