

Student's Perception on the Contribution of English Speaking Skill Mastery and Their Future Career

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Abstract

English speaking skill is part of the communication language skill. In nowadays several multilingual companies put qualification English speaking skill in their job application. Hence, mastering English speaking seems important to get better career. This research aimed to find out the students' perception on the contribution of English speaking skill mastery for their future career. This research used qualitative method and the research used descriptive qualitative for design of the study. The data collection method in this research was interview. The instrument of this research was interview guideline. The number of the participant in this research is six English education students in Yogyakarta. The finding showed that all from the six participants had positive perception on English speaking skill toward their future and career. Mastering English speaking skill could enhance students' communication and interaction, English speaking skill makes the students to be able to teach, English speaking skill allowed the students to be able to do public speaking, English speaking skill made the students be able to express their idea and opinion, and English speaking skill allowed the students to be able to prepare interview and mastering English speaking skill could make them work in the several field.

Keyword: speaking skill, perception, Students, Career

Introduction

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.

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.

Literature Review

Communication Skill

Communication skill is an art of communication to share the idea in order to make people able to receive clear message from the information. McPheat (2010) argued that communication skill is the art of the process of sharing ideas as the tools used to remove the barriers. The barrier may include different cultures, expectations, and experiences. Besides, communication skill has also become a qualification for job seeking. According to Bharathi (2010), some India companies look for graduate students who have good communication skill, cognitive skill, and personal friendliness.

As Robles (2012) mentioned, the category of communication is divided into oral, speaking capability, written, presentation, and listening. Actually, in communication, people tend to use verbal or non-verbal languages. Hirotani and Fuji (2015) stated that both verbal and non-verbal communication skill can encourage self-awareness and a worldview framework to communicate with other people. In verbal, we use any language which is represented by words and sentences for the purpose of communication. Misrha, Tripahy, and Patra (2013) argue that verbal communication can be either spoken where sounds represent particular symbol or written where use script represent symbol, in which it can be used for career development.

English is one of the important communication languages to master. Ahmad (2016) asserted that English began to emerge as a global language. Besides, English has a great acceptance in the social, economic, and political level so that it can make English a language

which allows people to speak internationally to form relationships with others. Therefore, people can express their ideas and information through the use of language. According to Reddy (2016), in many countries and markets, English becomes a tool to make a negotiation, and it is the communication medium in fields such as science and aviation.

Also, people commonly use speaking skill as a productive skill in their academic life and careers. Berman and Cheng (2001) argued that speaking and writing skills have direct aspect on academic performance in which every skill can be applied into study programs and careers. In addition, language do not only affect their academic life and career, but also their social life. Pierce (1995) stated that in language communication, it is important to know the rules of the target language in its social identity. The thick rules of the language will help the people to serve and push them to have better communication while having conversations. Thus, they can deliver their ideas in a good way to make other people understand.

English Speaking Skill Mastery

English speaking skill is one of the productive language skills used to produce sound to the air that can create a language. English speaking skill becomes important to be mastered because it is a skill that is continuously used in daily life to conduct communication and have conversations. According to Nazara (2011), there are several important points of the English speaking skill, and one of them is the number of conversation of other people and other speaking skill books, audios, and videos which are continuously published. Speaking skill is a skill in which people articulate words on the spot to communicate with other people. Based on Goh (2007), speaking is very important for language learners because it is a vital language communication skill. Goh also added that speaking is an asset used to conduct communication. People need speaking to conduct conversations, to express their feelings, to share their ideas, to

give their opinions, to exchange information, to ask for something, and to respond to someone else.

Moreover, to speak a language, people need to learn language features which means that the speakers need to combine and manage their accuracy, fluency, and complexity to create a language, so they can create heavy process demanding to the spontaneous talk. Goh and Burns (2012) argued that speaking skill is a combination of language skills. To improve their English speaking skills, people need to acquire language system and the genres of discourse. In terms of the use of combining language, it is used to deliver the information and meaning to other people. However, the speakers can enable to manage and negotiate rapid communication.

Having good speaking is considered as a must in English mastery in order to be good in conducting speaking skills. The idea mentioned means that the good speakers must be able to speak English correctly and effectively to make other people know the information which speakers delivered. According to Karunaratne (2014), good speakers must be able to anticipate any exchange of patterns of specific discourse situations. However, people must combine the speaking skill taxonomy in order to be a good speaker. Brown (1994) explains that lists of good speakers who have good speaking skills can be drawn up by the purpose. However it can serve as taxonomy of skills from which we will select one or several that will become objectives of an assessment task. The micro and macro- skills which roughly total up to sixteen objectives to perform speaking are described. The micro-skills include the smaller chunks of language features such as phonemes, morphemes, words, collocations, and fluency. The macro-skills imply the speaker's focus on the larger elements: accuracy, discourse, style, cohesion, nonverbal communication, and strategic option as follows:

The Role of Speaking Skill for Communication

People speak English for different purposes and reasons. According to Arslan and Akbarov (2015), people speak more or less quickly for many different reasons and purposes. A lot of researcher argued that the main function of the speaking skill is for communication and the speaking skill function is to communicate information and share ideas to the other people. Richard (2008) mentioned that there are three functions of speaking skill, including talk as interaction, talk as transaction, and talk as performance

Talk as interaction. Talk as interaction commonly refers to the communication for doing the conversation used by people in social interaction. The interaction reflects to the people when they meet other people, and they exchange and engage in greeting and sharing of knowledge as a form of interaction in small talk. Also they, tell their experiences of life. The main idea of the future talk is as an interaction which focuses primarily on social function and reflects on the relationship, and the speakers' identity. Besides, it may be formal casual in the conversation, reflects degree politeness, employs many generic words, uses conversational register and jointly contrasted. Thus, the purpose of talk as interaction is to talk other people for interaction in social context.

Talk as transaction. Talk transaction refers to the situation where focuses are on what is being said by the speakers. The message is the main focus and makes oneself understand clearly and accurately. That way, the main focus of this language is the message of the language not the participants. According to Burn (1998) as cited in Richards (2008), there are two situations to distinguish different types as transaction. The first type of transaction is on giving and receiving information and where the participants focus on primary is said or achieved. The second type focuses on obtaining good service. However, the language they speak up can be delivered

correctly so that they enjoy the communication strategies to make themselves feel understood in the conversation section.

Talk performance. Talk performance reflects formal talk. The main feature of talk performance focuses on the message of audiences to be predictable, organized, and in sequence. Focusing in both accuracies, the language is more like written language, often in the form of monologue or dialogue. Some examples of talks as performance are morning talk, public announcement, and speeches.

Public speaking is one the communication skills that need to mastered by the people. People usually use speaking skill to talk to the audience. Public is speaking is talking in front to people to give speech, information and motivation to the audience. According on Nikatani (2010), public speaking is talking in front people to deliver some speech to the audience. She is also mentioned that there are advantages of mastering public speaking, as follows:

1. Open up new opportunity for career advantage
2. Position you as an authority
3. Improve internal communication
4. Increase employee productivity
5. Attract the right customers into your business

Speaking Skill for Career

English mastery is a skill to evaluate other people's English by their activities of language. People who master the English language can communicate understandable language to make other people able to comprehend the meaning of the words produced. Based on Maddahiana and Sandamela (2000), the purpose of English mastery is to make people avoid misunderstanding. Moreover, English mastery is very effective to improve learners' academic

use of English for non-English speakers. Nowadays, people who have English mastery skill can get opportunity to get better career and academic purpose. Crystal (1997) said that the aim to get a better job, especially in multilingual companies, encourages great motivation for a number of people around the world to learn English as foreign language.

In this globalization era, people are able to communicate with other people in other countries easier. According to Vesajoki (2002), the rapid change in the field of globalization is communication; information upon scientific, technological, and economic development has opened the boundaries of the globalization between the nations which is affected by the global economy that has reached the state that it is today. As stated by Goldberg and Pavcnik (2007), “Globalization is a broad concept used to describe a variety of phenomenon that reflects increased economic interdependence in community casually” (pp.41-42). Besides, it will establish a connection between countries to open up with trade barriers. However, the need of the importance of English speaking mastery is increasingly manifold, thus it makes English a global language for having communication to find job. According to Briguglio (2003), English as a global language is included in two multilingual companies in Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur. Both spoken and written of English are required as important aspects in the job requirement especially for mentors and supervisors to perform their work effectively.

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. According Hudson (2007), good speaking skill and listening skill are key aspects for employable such as getting a job, maintaining employment, and progressing at work. Those who can communicate English very effectively and properly can deliver the ideas and get credits in working. Pandey and Pandey (2014) stated that speaking skill is important for a

professional career. This is because it allows people to speak fluently in expressing ideas which may be important to the career growth. According to Tartan (2013), there are English speaking skills need in the workplace, namely:

1. To give presentations in English
2. To communicate with the client
3. To lead meetings and negotiations
4. To communicate with other employees

Based on the curriculum on the internet, ELED projected their students to become teachers. However, students in there must master English speaking skill in order to teach their students properly. According to Maulidar, Gani, Samad (2019), mastering English speaking skill is important for students who study English education in order to make them teach properly in the Education field. To be the teachers, the students must be able to give and deliver the materials in a good way to convey clear materials using English. These imply that teachers have the responsibility to ensure that their students can speak English.

ELED Curriculum

At one Islamic private university, there is an English language education department (ELED). The curriculum of the English language education department (ELED) is always updated in which the newest curriculum is suggested by the Indonesian ministry of Education. Based on the curriculum data has been published by the English department, the competencies expect graduates to primarily become English teachers, practitioners, entrepreneurs, and researchers.

Table 1. English Education Curriculum

No	Year	Semester	Structure	Information
1	I	1	Skill Based	Language skill development
2		2		
3	II	3	Theoretical Based	Learning teaching theorist
4		4		
5	III	5	Practical Based	Learning Teaching Practice
6		6		
7	IV	7	Research based	Knowledge and science development
8		8		

In the first year of semester, students learn skill-based studies in which they learn skill development. In the second year semester, they learn the linguistic theoretical basis. In the third semester, the students learn teaching practice theories. In the fourth year semester, students conduct research based studies. The ELED of only Islamic University only offers teachers' education as their main skill, but there are some education skills which are offered to students for career development. Likewise, the speaking skill course is intended for all students who have interests on speaking skill developments.

Table 2. English Education Speaking Skill Courses

No 1	Course
1	Speaking daily conversation
2	Listening and speaking for formal setting
3	Listening and speaking for academic purposes

4	Speaking for career development
5	English for tourism

This department offers some courses which is focused on speaking skill. The courses subjects are listening and speaking for daily conversation, listening and speaking for formal setting, listening and speaking for academic purposes and listening, speaking for career development and English for tourism. In the first and two semesters ELED students are required to enter some courses provided in this department. After ELED students arrived in semester six, they would have selective courses in which they are free to choose the courses which interest them. In the first semester, ELED students were given speaking daily conversation and speaking formal setting material. In those courses students learn how to uses English speaking skill in daily conversation and in formal settings. In semester two, ELED students were given listening and speaking tasks for academic purposes. In that courses the students learn speaking skills in the work bases. Lastly, ELED students were given tour guides for their selective courses. In that course, students learn how to use speaking skills to help, guide and interpret the information to tourists.

Findings

The researcher reports the research findings based on collected data from the interview towards students' perception on the contribution of English speaking skill towards their career at ELED.

The Contribution English Speaking Skill Mastery and Student's Future Career

The findings of the research explained about the contribution between English speaking skill mastery and their future career. In this discussion from the six participants, all of them perceived that there is a contribution between English speaking skill mastery and their future career. They also argued that they had to master English speaking skill because they want to pursue their dreams.

First, mastering English speaking skill can enhance students' communication and interaction. From the six participants, some of the participants stated that English speaking skill could be used as communication to make the interaction at work place. Besides, English speaking skill would be determined by environment where English was used. For the environment, it could be in the foreign country or working place which needs to use English speaking skill. However, from work field and environment, the English-speaking skill would be useful as communication and interaction. According to Tartan (2013), English speaking skill is needed if the people want to register in workplace such as giving the presentation in English, having the communication with the clients, leading the meeting and negotiation, and making a communication with other employees.

Second, mastering English speaking skill is necessary for teaching. Some of the participants argued that the use English speaking skill was used for academic teaching. Based on the students' educational background, the students had taught and did internship program at some schools to develop their teaching skill. In teaching activity, usually the students, participants needed to speak English in order to explain the materials which they have to their students at the schools. Therefore, they needed to master English-speaking skill in order to teach the students in right way. Hence, the students needed to use their English-speaking skill as the teachers in delivering the material well. According to Maulidar, Gani, Samad (2019) mastering English speaking skill is important for students who study in English education in order to make them teach properly in Education field.

Third, mastering English speaking skill allow the students to be able to do public speaking. Some of the participants said that the use of English-speaking skill was used to do the public speaking as their talk performance. The participants argue that public speaking skill is one skill that needs to master for their future career. Based from Nikitani (2010) public speaking is key aspect to improve internal communication in the job. In public speaking people usually use speaking skill to talk in front of people to give informing and expressing some idea. However the students need good speaking skill in order to do public speaking. The students need to speak English to deliver their material or knowledge to the audiences to be well understood. However, one of the participants maintained that the speaking ability is helpful to do the English public speaking project.

Fourth, mastering English speaking skill makes the students able to express their ideas. Some of the participants mentioned that the use of English-speaking skill was used to express the ideas. When working in creative company, the students must be able to share their ideas. Also,

they can share their knowledge and express their idea while working. However, the students need to have good English speaking skill in order to be able to express and share their ideas to the other employees. Goh (2007) stated that speaking is the crucial aspect for language learners because it is a vital in language communication skill. Goh also added that speaking is an asset to enable the people in making communication.

Fifth, mastering English speaking skill allows the students to be able to prepare interview. Another finding was to help students in preparing job interview. It was found the use of English speaking skill to prepare interview toward students' future career. The researcher found that English speaking skill could be beneficial as an interview preparation for students' future career. Besides, the interview is one of requirements in applying for the job. Usually, in the process of interview, the people will be asked by some questions related to their profession which they will apply for. According to Saruding (2013) several job looking for their good applicant by testing their language through interview section.

Last, mastering English speaking skill can make the students work in several fields. In this section, the topic was about the discussion about the students' perception in the choosing their career path with English speaking skill in their future. The researcher found that there were several chosen careers based on the students' perception. Regarding the research finding, the researcher found that there were seven possible career paths that the students can choose. The mentioned careers were about hotelier, front officer, waitress/waiter, teacher, diplomat, secretary, and tour guide. According to Abu-Humos (2016), there are many job opportunities classified in English skill such as non-government organization, interpretation and translation, teacher, public relation and international affair, media journalism and reporter, and call center and bank.

Therefore, English students do not have to worry about their future careers because they are needed in several work fields as long as they have good English skill especially in speaking.

Recommendation

This section provides several suggestions regarding the student's perception on the relationship of English speaking skill and their future career at English education department.

The suggestion is expected to be beneficial in the future.

For the teacher. The result of this study gives information to the teacher about the student perspective on contribution English speaking skill and their future career. A lot of company finds people who fluent in English speaking skill, the teacher are recommended to give motivation to the students to make the students study harder. Also, teacher can give appropriate lesson and activity that will be uses in the workplace. The teacher must focuses on teaching English speaking the skill that will be needed in the workplace. Moreover, the student dont have difficulties after graduating the school and finding a work.

For the students. The research of this study gives to the student knowledge about the perception on the contribution English speaking mastery toward future and career. It is recommend that ELED student need to study more to maser English speaking skill in order to get better career in future. Also by knowing the result of this research, the student can develop their English speaking skill that need in their future career. However, students can more prepare while finding a work.

For the other researcher. The researcher realizes there were several limitations on this research. The researcher only focuses on the contribution English speaking on future career in ELED University in Yogyakarta. So that, there were so many valuable information not be

examined. However, the researcher welcomed other researcher to use this study to gather information to do more research about the same topic of this research. In addition, the researcher also recommend to the other researcher use quantitative method to make this research wider in order to give impact to greater number of this study. Moreover, the data will informative and the people also can get beneficial from it.

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