

# STUDENTS' DIFFULTIES IN DELIVERING A SPEECH IN PUBLIC SPEAKING CLASS AT FOURTH SEMESTER OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF STKIP YDB LUBUK ALUNG IN THE 2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR

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## ABSTRACT

*Speaking is one of the English skill should be mastered by the students in higher education, especially for English department students. However the fourth semester students of STKIP YDB Lubuk Alung found some problems in delivering a speech in public speaking class. This research is a descriptive research. The purpose is to describe students' difficulties in delivering a speech in public speaking class. Qualitative study was used in this research. Observation, interview, and questionnaire were used as the instruments of the research. Based on the research, it was found that the students have the different problem in delivering a speech. The observation showed only few of students perform maximally in delivering a speech. The interview showed that the students had the internal and external problem in doing a speech in front of class. A few of students were difficult in preparing the speech, getting the idea and formulate the general statement; it means the problem is in introduction. Some of students were difficult to prepare the content of the speech. It can be seen from the questionnaire that was filled by the students.*

**Key words:** *Students' difficulties, public speaking.*

## INTRODUCTION

Speaking is the most important skill in communication. Speaking is used to deliver the message between speaker and listener. Speaking is a productive skill. It involves putting a massege together, communicating the massege, and interacting with other people (Lindsay and Knight, 2006).

Speaking is needed in various condition and situation(Nunan and Carter, 2001). Moreover, speaking is one of conditional subjects in learningat STKIP YDB Lubuk Alung. The students should pass speaking I, II, and then they can continue to public speaking class. Public speaking class demands the students to have an ability to speak in public situation. Public speaking class gives the opportunities to the students to practice their English all of the time. In this class the students are asked to use English more than. Some purposes of speaking are learnt in this class. In this class the students prepare the performance to debate, discussion, seminars, and speech.

Speech is one of the topics that need students' attention and focus of the theme. In delivering a speech, the students need to invite the audience, give the purpose, and deliver it fluently. The three categories should be included in speech are introduction, body, and conclusion (Koch, 1992). Introduction of speech includes the topic and purpose of speech. It can be delivered by giving the statement of the speech. Furthermore, body includes 80% of

the content of the speech. In this part, the speaker try to deliver everything related to the topic of the speech. Last is conclusion includes the conclusion, suggestion, and argument of the topic.

In delivering the speech, the students are influenced by some factors. Internal and external are the main factors that influence the students in learning (Sugihartono, 2007). Internal factor comes from students' inside, for example inelegancy, psychology, and healthy. Furthermore, motivation, skill, physic can be categorized into internal factor (Djamarah, 2008). External factor comes from students' environment in learning. Social and non-social conditions also influence students' in learning (Syah, 2013).

## RESEARCH METHOD

This research was classified into descriptive qualitative research. The purpose of the research was to describe students' difficulties in delivering a speech in public speaking class. The participants of the research were the English lecturers and fourth semester students of English department of STKIP YDB Lubuk Alung. The instruments in this research were observation, interview, and questionnaire.

Observation was used to observe students difficulties in delivering a speech in public speaking class. The researchers joined in the class to observe the students. Interview was used to investigate students' difficulties in delivering a speech. The researchers asked some questions in semi-interview to the lecturers and students in public speaking class. Next, questionnaire was used to know students' difficulties during delivering a speech in public speaking class. There are some questions were including in the questionnaire. It was developed by the indicator and sub-indicator of the speech.

Table 1:

Indicator of the questionnaire of speech

Indicator	Sub-indicator	Items
Introduction	○ Introduce the topic	6
	○ Introduce the purpose	
Body	○ Explanation of the topic	15
	○ Explanation of the purpose	
	○ Example	
	○ Emphasis	
	○ Inviting the audience	

The qualification of the questions in the questionnaire was measure by using content, construct, and external validity.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research finding it was found some problems that was faced by the students in delivering a speech in public speaking class. The observation showed that only few students perform maximally in delivering a speech. It means the students have difficulties in delivering a speech. A few students showed by completing a good speech in public speaking class. It was supported by the interview with the participant 2 (HN, 21 years old)

*“Ya, memang beberapa diantara kawan-kawan penampilannya sangat bagus ketika tampil didepan kelas, tidak hanya dalam mata kuliah ini, namun dalam mata kuliah lain yang berkaitan dengan penampilan dan berbicara kawan-kawan tersebut memang lebih baik dari pada yang lainnya”.*

(That’s right, some of the students are very good in performing in front of the class, not only in this subject, but also the other subjects related to perform and speak, and they are better those others)

Participant 5 (FZ, 21 years old) clarified that:

*“Berpidato merupakan mata kuliah yang sulit untuk ditampilkan secara maksimal. Beberapa faktor yang mempengaruhi seperti adanya gangguan dari teman lain yang berperan sebagai audience, lupa tentang penjelasan topic yang akan disampaikan, dan kadang-kadang sampai didepan kelas tidak percaya diri dan grogi”.*

(Speech is one of the subjects that were very difficult to perform maximally. There are some factors that influence the performance such as the interference from the friend who participate as audience, forgot the explanation of the topic, sometimes not confidence and nervous in front of class)

Participant 12 (MH, 22 years old) said that:

*“Rasanya kita sudah hafal betul apa yang akan disampaikan dalam pidato, tapi sampai di depan kelas tiba-tiba semua lupa. Susah sekali untuk*

*mengingat kembali apa yang sudah dihafal. Kadang-kadang tidak terfikir untuk mengimprovisasi penampilan”.*

(We thought that we remember of the speech that will be delivered, but we forgot it in front of class. It was very difficult to memorize it. Sometime we could not think to improve our speech)

It was supported by the statement of English lecturer (IN, 31 year old)

“In speaking English, generally the students are afraid in making a mistake. They try to perform perfectly, but they forgot to speak naturally”.

Based on the observation and interview with some participants above, it can be seen that the problems that was faced by the students in delivering a speech was internal and external problem. The internal problems were such as the confident, nervous, and students' inelegance in memorizing the speech. Then, the external problem was the interference from the students' environment.

In order to know students' difficulties in delivering the content of the speech, it was needed the questionnaire with some questions related to speech. Based on the questionnaire, it can be concluded that few of students were difficult in formulating the introduction of speech. The students were introducing the topic of speech, but they forgot to introduce the purpose of the speech. Determining the purpose of speech is very important. It is needed to clarify the meaning and point of speech (Barras, 2006).

The next difficulties are the determining the content of speech. Body of speech is the main point of the purpose of the speech. In this part, the speaker gives the clarification, example, argument, and emphasis of the topic. Inviting the audience is the key to make the speech better. Based on the students' answer in the questionnaire, it can be seen that formulating the good body of speech are very difficult. Most of students forgot to give the emphasis of the topic. Some of the students were very hard to complete the content of speech.

## **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

Based on the finding of the research, it was found that, there were the various problems faced by the students in delivering a speech. The observation showed that the students cannot practice better in delivering a speech. Some components of speaking were losing from their performance. The condition was influenced by some factors. It can be internal and external factors. During delivering a speech the students lose their motivation,

self-confidence, and feel nervous to speak English. Besides that, the students could not memorize their concept before coming in the classroom. The intelligence and cognitive are very influence the students in delivering a speech. In addition, the interference from class environment also made the students afraid in speaking. Sometime they felt afraid to make a mistake. The interview with the students and the lecturer showed how the students want to look perfect in front of the class, however perform naturally is still hard by the students.

The questionnaire that was distributed to the students supports that the students have had problem in delivering a speech. Based on the students' answer the part of speech likes introduction, body and conclusion were difficult to combine. In the introduction, the students often told of the topic without a purpose. Purpose of speech is the direction of speaker and listener into body of speech. Next, the students' problems were delivering the body of speech. The students rarely give the complete point of topic of speech.

It is very important to consider students understanding and knowledge of the topic before asking them to deliver a speech. The researchers suggest that, applying the appropriate topic with the issue of the time can be done as solution to help the students practice their English maximally. Therefore, the interesting topic can be selected by the lecturers in public speaking class. Inviting the students to practice English all of the time will help them to speak better in public situation.

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