

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

English is a universal language in the world that is learned in some countries, such as Indonesia. The basic skills of English are speaking, reading, listening, and writing.

According to Derakhshan et al., (2016:252) “the complex skill that must be taught everywhere is speaking, in addition learning this skill more effectively in groups”.

Attitude is something that shows a person's condition, especially in terms of making decisions. According to Damiaati (2017:144) “Attitude is a person's self-expression that shows interest or liking and disinterest or dislike about an object. Therefore, as much as possible start to cultivate a good attitude and can be an example for every individual, so that it can make an impression and be embedded in the individual. With a good attitude that is always implanted and implemented, it will become a habit that occurs in life, so that it will form a good individual character and support their success in the learning process.

Speaking anxiety is the one problem in learning English. Speaking anxiety is an affective variable the most negative influence, which prevent students from succeeding in learn a foreign language. “Anxiety defined as the internal sensations of tension, apprehension anxiousness, and worry brought on by an autonomic nervous system arousal” (Alrabai, 2015:253). Usually, when students feel anxious while speaking English like in front of the class, they will feel uncomfortable, uneasy, stressed, sweaty, apprehensive forget what to say even though they have memorized it, and they will be afraid of mistakes that they made, such as grammar or pronunciation. During several observations with some students at eleventh grade of SMP Negeri 1 Kempas , they said that speaking in front the class fills them with anxiety about committing errors in

pronunciation or vocabulary, and they feel anxious for receiving negative feedback from peers or instructors.

Syafrizal et.al (2018:64) stated "A lot of factors that can build the success of students ability in learning foreign language especially in English one of them is students' language learning attitude, it is one of the factors that can make the students eager in learning English or not". Learners who possess optimistic beliefs about studying English usually display positive perceptions of the language. Similarly, Azizifar (2014:1755) emphasizes that a favorable attitude toward the target language contributes to successful learning, as it motivates students to engage more actively in the process.

From that observations and several theories that have been explained, the reason why students anxious of speaking is not just about vocabulary, pronunciation, or grammar, it's also driven by the negative responses or behaviours they encounter when speaking in class.

Considering the phenomenon and theoretical perspectives discussed, the researcher presumes that some students still encounter obstacles in learning English, particularly in developing their speaking skills. Such challenges are influenced by various factors, including students' attitudes. Therefore, the researcher is motivated to conduct a study on this matter "*Correlation between Students' Attitude and Students' Speaking Anxiety at the Eigtht Grade of SMP Negeri 1 Kempas*".

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background above, there are some problems that are identified by researcher. These problems are:

1. Some students fell anxious to speak because afraid of mistake they made.
2. Students afraid of getting a negative response form their peers and teacher.
3. Students lack of confident to speak.

C. Limitation of the Problem

Based on the problem identification above, the researcher focusses on the correlation between students' attitude and students' speaking anxiety at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 1 Kempas .

D. Research Question

Based on the limitation of the Problem above, the researcher can formulate the question of research as follow: Is there any correlation between students' attitude and students' speaking anxiety at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 1 Kempas?

E. Objective of the Research

The purpose of this research is to know whether there is a correlation between students' attitude and students' speaking anxiety in the learning process at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 1 Kempas.

F. Significances of the Research

Based on the purpose of the research, the significances of the research can be stated as follow:

1. For Students

Student as the central point of the research, namely looking for factors that causes their anxiety to speak English.

2. For Teachers

Teachers can be identify students speaking anxiety in speak English

G. Definition of the Key Terms

1. Attitude

Attitude is a person's tendencies and beliefs in positive and negative terms seen from negative and cognitive aspects and leads to certain forms of behavior. (Sugiono, 2016: 144)

2. Speaking

Speaking is essentially a process of communication that requires the skill to manage and cooperate in the exchange of speaking turns (Arung & Jumardin, 2016:892).

3. Speaking Anxiety

Anxiety in speaking tends to reduce students' self-confidence, making them reluctant to speak in any situation despite having sufficient ability and meaningful knowledge to convey. This condition shows that when students experience failure due to speaking anxiety, they are more likely to remain silent to avoid the possibility of repeating the same failure (Basic, 2011:10).



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