# THE CORRELATION BETWEEN EFL STUDENTS' SELF-ESTEEM AND THEIR SPEAKING ENGLISH ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FIFTH SEMESTER STUDENTS OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM AT SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

A Thesis

by

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English Education Study Program



# FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

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# DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

- ➢ Allah S.W.T
- My beloved parents, A. Latief and Rosmala Dewi, my brothers, M. Iskandar and M. Zulkarnain, and my beloved policeman, Frans Kandera
- > All friemds, Padila, Ira, Emmel, Michel, Rani, Prima

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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

DE	DICATIONv		
AC	KNOWLEDGEMENTSvi		
TA	BLE OF CONTENTSvii		
LIS	LIST OF TABLESix		
LIS	ST OF DIAGRAMSx		
LIS	LIST OF APPENDICESxi		
AB	STRACTxii		
I.IN	TRODUCTION1		
1.1	Background of the Study1		
1.2	The Problems of the Study4		
1.Th	ne Objectives of the Study4		
1.4	The Significance of the Study5		
II.L	II.LITERATURE REVIEW		
2.1	Self-Esteem6		
2.2	Types of Self-Esteem7		
2.3	Levels of Slf-Esteem		
2.4	Speaking9		
25	25 Speaking Aspects10		
2.5	Previous Related Studies12		
III.	METHOD AND PROCEDURES 13		
3.1	Research Design		
3.2	Variables of the Study14		
3.3	Operational Definition14		
3.4	Population and Sample15		
3.4.	1 Population of the Study15		
3.4.2 Sample of the Study16			
3.5	Data Collection		
3.6	Technique of Analyzing the Data17		

API	APPENDICES		
REI	FERENCES	32	
5.2	Suggestion	31	
5.1	Conclusions	30	
V.C	ONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	32	
4.2	Interpretation of the Study	28	
4.1.	2 The Results of Speaking Achievement	23	
4.1.	1 The Results of Questionnaire	22	
4.1	The Findings of the Study	21	
IV.I	FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATION	21	
3.6.	3 Reliability of the Questionnaire	20	
3.6.2	2 Validity of the Questionnaire	19	
3.6.	1 Instrument	19	

# LIST OF TABLES

- TABLE 1. Population of The Study
- TABLE 2. Sample of The Study
- TABLE 3. Score Interval of Self-Esteem
- TABLE 4. Score Interval of Speaking Achievement
- TABLE 5. Degree Correlation
- TABLE 6. Descriptive Statistic of Students' Self-Esteem
- TABLE 7. Students' Self-Esteem Category
- TABLE 8. Descriptive Statistic of Students' Speaking Achievement
- TABLE 9. Students' Speaking Achievement Category
- TABLE 10. Normality Test
- TABLE 11. Correlation
- TABLE 12. ANOVA
- TABLE 13. Regression
- TABLE 14. Model Summary

# LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Research Design

Figure 2. Distribution of Self-Esteem

Figure 3.Distribution of Speaking Achievement

#### LIST OF APPENDICES

- APPENDIX A. SELF-ESTEEM QUESTIONNAIRE
- APPENDIX B. FACTOR LOADING SELF-ESTEEM QUESTIONNAIRE
- APPENDIX C. SPEAKING TEST
- APPENDIX D. SPEAKING RUBRIC
- APPENDIX E. VALIDATION OF SPEAKING TEST
- APPENDIX F. STATEMENT RATER OF BEING THE RATER
- APPENDIX G. RELIABILITY INTER-RATER OF SPEAKING TEST
- APPENDIX H. SELF-ESTEEM QUESTIONNAIRE SCORE
- APPENDIX I. DESCRIPTIV STATISTIC OF SELF-ESTEEM
- APPENDIX J. SPEAKING ACHIEVEMENT SCORE
- APPENDIX K. DESCRIPTIV STATISTIC OF SPEAKING ACHIEVEMENT
- APPENDIX L. NORMALITY TEST
- APPENDIX M. Q-Q PLOT
- APPENDIX N. CORRELATION
- APPENDIX O. REGRESSION
- APPENDIX P. USUL JUDUL SKRIPSI
- APPENDIX Q. SURAT PERSETUJUAN SEMINAR PROPOSAL
- APPENDIX R. SURAT PERSETUJUAN SEMINAR HASIL
- APPENDIX S. SURAT PERSETUJUAN UJIAN SKRIPSI
- APPENDIX T. SURAT KEPUTUSAN PEMBIMBING SKRIPSI
- APPENDIX U. SURAT IZIN PENELITIAN

APPENDIX V. SURAT IZIN TRY OUT

APPENDIX W. THESIS CONSULTATION CARD (ADVISOR 1)

### APPENDIX X. THESIS CONSULTATION CARD (ADVISOR 2)

#### THE CORRELATION BETWEEN EFL STUDENTS' SELF-ESTEEM AND THEIR SPEAKING ENGLISH ACHIEVEMENT OF ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM OF SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

#### ABSTRACT

The present study is aimed to investigate (1) the significant correlation between EFL students' self-esteem and their speaking achievement (2) the significant influence of students' self-esteem toward their speaking achievement . Eighty five EFL students (males & females) of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University were selected using purposive sampling. Tanoyo (2008) self-esteem scale was used to measure students' self-esteem and speaking test was administered to measure their speaking achievement. Descriptive statistics of students' self-esteem was in high category. Descriptive statistics of students' speaking achievement was in good category. There was a positive and significant correlation between students' self-esteem and their speaking achievement with r .585. The last finding from this study was students' self-esteem gave 33.4% contribution to their speaking achievement. This study may have some implications for teachers, students, readers, and researchers.

Keywords: EFL students, self-esteem, and speaking achievement

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# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents: (1) the background of the study, (2) the problems of the study, (3) the objectives of the study, and (4) the significance of the study.

## **1.1 Background of the Study**

Speaking is a common activity in teaching learning process that requires knowledge to deliver the language through the mouth. Some experts define speaking as a collaborative process that contains producing, receiving and processing information by constructing the meaning (Brown, 1994; Burns and Joyce, 1997). Speaking skill might be divided into several sub-skills, They are pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and fluency. These four sub skills among others are most widely used among linguists. As Fulcher (2003) states that Speaking as the verbal use of language in communicating with others which has the focus to increase the students' ability to communicate in the target language. Therefore, it is important to master speaking skill.

Using English language as a tool of communication contains the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) that should be mastered by people in their ways of expressing the thoughts and ideas. In communication process, speaking skill is the main skill among them. Brown, Gillian, Yule and George (1983) state that learning to talk in the foreign language is often considered as one of the most difficult aspects of language learning for the teacher to support the students. It is very important for students who are studying a foreign language in non-foreign language speaking setting to develop their oral fluency and accuracy because today's success is shown through the speaking ability. Unfortunately, students do not perfectly master this skill. They still find problems in mastering it.

Speaking is taught in English Education Study Program of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education (FKIP) at Sriwijaya University from first semester with the name of the subject as Speaking Informal Interaction (SII) with three credit hours, second semester with the name of the subject as speaking 1 with three credit hours, third semester with the name of the subject as speaking 2 with 2 credit hours, and the fifth semester with the name of the subject as speaking 3 with two credit hours (curriculum 2011 of Faculty of Teacher Training and Education at Sriwijaya University). Even though some students have already got subject of speaking from the first semester until the fifth semester, they still find some problems in speaking. The result of interview with some students in the fifth semester showed that they still found some problems in speaking such as, lack of vocabularies, lack of sense of respect, lack of confidence, lack of grammar, and they often feel shy to speak in English. To get the evidence of the students' statement, the writer conducted observation by listening to their speaking performance with the topic unforgettable moment of the students' tour to Malaysia and Singapore. Based on the observation, the writer found some mistakes of some aspects of speaking. For example, they told their story in present tense and they used wrong pronunciation.

The most natural way to improve speaking skill is by encouraging the students to practice oral communication with each other. English teachers have an important role in providing chances for students to participate in active communication. However, too many teachers use traditional approach in teaching English such as teacher-centered, which according to Coelha (1992) the time for students' talk only 20% and consider teacher as the only proper person to open the interaction.

Speaking English is one of the most important skills for students that most language students wish to be perfect as soon as possible and will help them in finding a job in the future. If they cannot speak the language, then they will only keep the language in their brain or mind and all materials of English that they have learned will not have function. The students have always been commanded to practice their speaking skill in various ways, such as making a conversation with friends or telling story to improve speaking skills in English, positively in enhancement of students' achievement.

Personality trait might be the barrier for speaking proficiency. Many students are shy to communicate, scared that they might not finish their words, or embarrassed to make mistakes. Brown (2007) says that important personal factors in building learning theory and Personal traits such as self-esteem, inhibition, risk-taking, anxiety, empathy, extroversion, and introversion each has major contribution to students' achievement. From Brown's theory, it can be concluded that people cannot get successful cognitive or affective activity without some degree of selfesteem, self-confidence, knowledge of yourself, and belief in your own capabilities for that activity. Sherman (2015) defines Self-Esteem as the term used to describe a person's own measurement of his/her self-worth. It is the way you think of yourself, describe yourself and the groups of beliefs you have concerning to your abilities and worthiness. A study by Halimah (2015) from Bikra University proved that there was a positive relationship between self-esteem and oral proficiency, it means the students with a high level of self-esteem will have a good oral proficiency, because the high level of self-esteem that they have will give a good influence for their oral proficiency.

Self-esteem is a personal trait and one of affective domain factors that influences learning. Wenas (2002) states self-esteem as a judgment toward self-worthiness shown in behavior. It shows students' controls toward increasing responsibility. Gustaman (2015) states on her study that people with high self-esteem are usually those who open to criticism and deal with mistakes comfortably. They will learn their failures as the experience which leads to a better life. On the contrary, people with low self-esteem give lower value on what they achieve and do not feel satisfaction with their life and underestimate with their abilities.

The problems in this study are the students cannot speak English properly due to several factors, such as the lack of confidence in themselves and also a sense of respect for themselves. More attention should be given to development of personality traits to make it balance with over exposure on cognitive development.

Based on the problem above, the writer was interested to find out in depth about students' self-esteem towards students' achievement in speaking English of English Education Study Program at Sriwijaya University.

## 1.2 The Problems of Study

Based on the background above, the research questions are formulated :

1. Is there any significant correlation between EFL students' self-esteem and their achievement in speaking English of the fifth semester students of English Education Study Program FKIP at Sriwijaya University?

2. Does EFL students' self-esteem significantly influence their achievement in speaking English of the fifth semester students of English Education Study Program FKIP at Sriwijaya University?

3. Is any contribution of EFL students' self-esteem on their achievement in speaking English of the fifth semester students of English Education Study Program FKIP at Sriwijaya University?

## **1.3** Objectives of The Study

The objectives of this study are:

1. To find out the significant correlation between students' self-esteem towards students' achievement in speaking English of students English Education Study Program of FKIP at Sriwijaya University.

2. To know if students' self-esteem significantly influences speaking achievement of students English Education Study Program of FKIP at Sriwijaya University.

3. To know the contribution of students' self-esteem on students speaking achievement of students English Education Study Program of FKIP at Sriwijaya University.

## 1.4 The Significance of Study

By conducting this research the finding gives contribution for:

## 1.4.1 The Teacher

This study is expected to provide information about the role of students' self-esteem towards their speaking achievement. By knowing the role of students' self-esteem towards their speaking achievement, the teacher can do some supports or motivation to lead the students to improve their self-esteem.

## 1.4.2 The Students

This study can give information about the role of self-esteem for students. It can give them attention for their personal feeling. The students will know that they should have a better level of self-esteem so they will be more comfortable in learning English speaking and can get a better achievement.

#### 1.4.3 The Reader

By knowing the result of the study, the readers will get valuable information about correlation of self-esteem and speaking achievement in teaching English. They will know that in speaking achievement of students can be influenced by their self-esteem.

## 1.4.4 The Researcher

The result of this study is also expected to give information for the other researchers to conduct the similar study in the different place, different skill and

with other respondent. Furthermore, by doing this research, the researchers who enter the educational world as teachers in the future will know English in speaking class because it would be very useful for the researchers.

# CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter describes: (1) self-esteem, (2) types of self-esteem, (3) levels of self-esteem, (4) speaking, (5) speaking aspects, (6) and previous related studies.

## 2.1 Self-Esteem

Sherman (2015) defines Self-Esteem as the term used to describe a person's own measurement of his/her self-worth. It is the way you think of yourself, describe yourself and the groups of beliefs you have concerning to your abilities and worthiness. Self- Esteem can be defined as one of important factors of human affective domain, which has been found in playing an extremely important role in Second Language Acquisition (SLA) (Kalanzadeh,Mahnegar, Hassannejad and Bachtiarvand, 2013). Related to self-esteem has important role, Brown (2007) states that without some degree of self – esteem, self – confidence and self – efficacy – belief in your own capabilities to successfully perform, the success cognitive or affective activity cannot be carried out.

The following definition can be the most well accepted definition given by Coppersmith (1967, p. 4-5):

"By self – esteem, we refer to the evaluation which individuals make and customarily maintain with regard to themselves; it expresses an attitude of approval or disapproval, and shows the extent to which individuals think themselves to be qualified, significant, successful and worthy. In short self – esteem is a personal judgment of worthiness that is conveyed in attitudes that individuals hold toward themselves. It is an individual experience which the individual delivers to others by oral reports and other overt expressive behavior."

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