

English Students Barriers on Learning Speaking Skill in Covid-19 Pandemic Era in Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu

Muhammad Hasbi

Affiliation

Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu

Correspondences

Armanmegal@gmail.com

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Abstract

Online speaking learning is learning that is done indirectly and uses media as a mediator. This study was conducted to determine barriers to learning speaking online and determine the most dominant barriers. This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The researcher used a questionnaire as an instrument which was distributed to 24 English students as research subjects. After analyzing the data obtained, the researcher found 21 problems that became obstacles in learning speaking online. While the most dominant barriers found were learners psychological features with a percentage of 39.21%.

Keywords: *Speaking skill, Online Learning, Barriers, Covid-19*

A. Introduction

Online learning is a case which rapidly growing in early 2020. Which, the student must learning in a distance be a new challenge for both of student or teacher. With the outbreak of Covid-19, there are changes in all societies worldwide, and a forcible shift in the medium of teaching and learning is unavoidable (Fеды B. Junsay Jr.1, 2021). Meanwhile, (Emma Garcia, 2020) said that distance education during the pandemic has hampered learning and teaching process. Whereas, (John, Vega, & Amuthu, 2020) consider that In most of the cases, people express themselves by oral language and therefore, speaking is considered as the principal and productive language skill

Unfortunately, in this era the challenge that the most difficult face by student is communication. E-learning in the speaking aspect actually makes students less efficient in mastering the learning because students become lazy to practice because there is no interaction that makes students do speaking skills that can be practiced directly in order to produce good speaking skills (Rahmawati, Sihombing, C. Ginting, E. K. B., Arimonnaria, 2021) Furthermore, speaking is one of the main skills of English that must be learned by English students, this condition makes an excuse for society to assume that English

students are good in English. Speaking is as one of four basic skills, which is need to be understand because the main purposes of learning a language is to be able to communicate orally (Ananda, 2021). Learning in the distance could make any problem for students, even a miscommunication could be happen because the absence of the speakers's mimicking or intonation, it means the point of the communication doesn't convey well.

A research about students assumption or prediction of online learning conducted (Robert Talbert, 2020) shows that 60% from 1056 respondents who had never take online class they predicted their online learning would not running well. There is almost no learning process without participation or engagement and learners' activeness in the process itself (Lase, 2020). The meaning of Lase's statement is, if student not really serious following online learning process like turn off the camera, make noise, or lost networking, then then the learning process itself is nonsense.

Unfortunately, in early 2020 the world shocked by a phenomenon where a kind of virus or usually called Covid-19 attacks the world. Private universities and colleges are now closing their campuses and adapting online and flexible learning it's made human race doing activities in the distance UNESCO IESALC (2019). Meanwhile, in Indonesia, 646,200 schools were shut out from early childhood education to higher education. As a result, 68.8 million students and 4.2 million teachers and lecturers do teaching and learning from home (Faqir, 2020)

The minister of education and culture Indonesia, Nadiem Makarim (2020) stated that students can continue learning process at home based on parents and teachers' guidance from a distance. From Nadiem statement above, where we used to learning speaking directly face to face also get impact from this situation. Another option method of learning in the digital age, online learning offers students the opportunity to learn new skills or upgrade existing ones (Rugova, 2021) That condition emphasized student learning by using app and we already discuss distance learning process have some disadvantages.

The impact of Covid-19 was also felt in Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu. As the other Universities, teaching and learning process in UMB also done in distance where it was the first time for this university to implement the online learning. Therefore, the researcher interested to do the research about the barrier of online learning speaking in Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu. It is important to investigate because this case had not happened previously in this University. Moreover, most of learning speaking activities done in classroom where the students doing direct communication and conveying the point of communication clearly with supported by knowing the mimicking and intonation of the speakers.

B. Methods

1. Research Design

In this ressearch the author use descriptive research method. This method give a real case to describe all thing that have any relation with the topic. Qualitative research design strength is acquire primarily from its inductive approach, its centered on specific people or situation, and it pressure on words rather than source. The researcher will ask the students to fill a table checklist some statement that they are agree with it.

2. Data Collection

- a. researcher will share a data questionnaire to Whats App group class
- b. researcher will ask the student to fill the questionnaire according the instruction which has been described on questioner.
- c. The researcher will collect the data that the researcher distributed

Tabel 1. The Observation Checklist

Learners' demographic variables

No	Hambatan	Kolom checklist	Alasan

1	Age		
2	Gender		
3	Ethnicity		
4	Financial Burdens		
5	Family' support		

Learners' Psychological Features

6	Motivation on learning speaking while online learning		
7	Reference on learning speaking		
8	Affect of Education experience		
9	Affect of students experienced prejudicial treatment in the traditional classroom		
10	Self control ability or adaptation ability		
11	expectation on sucess		
12	learning enjoyment in the online speaking environment		
13	effectiveness learning on speaking online class		

Learners' Learning skill

14	Ability to use computer or handphone to learning speaking		
15	skill to balance learning requirements with other responsibilities such as household work		
16	accomplishment of succesful learning based on the use of resource		
17	ability to understand feedback and dealing with assesment		

External Factors

18	including teachers' support and instruction to learning speaking while online learning		
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19	availability of a learning support system to learning speaking		
20	whether or not the courses are well designed		
21	appropriately and suitable for students' needs and levels		
22	computer		
23	Internet		
24	World wide web		

Adapted by (Qifu, 2013)

3. Data Analysis

To analyzed the data, the researcher will take the sample that the most student choose and make the data in percentage by using formula below:

$$P = \frac{f}{n} \times 100\%$$

C. Result

Based on the table above the researcher got the data after analyzed it. the most dominant learning speaking barrier while online, by count it based on group each item, as we discussed above the researcher divide the barrier into 4 variables that are Learners' demographic variables, learners' psychological features, Learners' learning skill, External Factors. Before we find the dominant barrier, the researcher already get english students barriers while online learning, there are: Age, gender, ethnicity, financial burdens, family' support, motivation learning speaking while online learning, learning reference, affect of education experience, control ability or adaptation ability, expectation on sucess, learning enjoyment in the online speaking environment, effectiveness learning on speaking online class, ability to use computer or handphone to learning speaking ,skill to balance learning requirements with other responsibilities such as household work, accomplishment of succesful learning based on the use of resource, ability to understand feedback and dealing with assesment, teacher' motivation and instructions, learning support sytem, appropriately and suitable for students' needs and levels, computer, internet. The results of the research after analyze the data were In Learners' demographic variables there are 42 the result in percentage is $(37/204 \times 100\% = 18,13\%)$, Learners' psychological features $80 = 39,21\%$, Learners' learning skill $35 = 17,15\%$, external Factors $57 = 27,94\%$.

From the data above we know that Learners' psychological features is the dominant variable that become a barrier for student

D. Discussion

The researcher collected the result of interview based on the reason that answered

by the participants but, here the researcher will conduct just some student reason that the most dominate in his answer. The question of the researcher is

“Berilah tanda centang (√) dan alasan pada masalah yang dianggap menjadi hambatan dalam belajar speaking secara online pada tempat yang telah di sediakan”.

There many reasons for each students especially in each items, but here the researcher found one thing that almost same in item Internet, here almost all of students that choose internet said learning online really rely on internet and they are sometime get trouble about ineternet connection. In this research the researcher also found a participant that didn't read instruction carefully, the indicator researcher said that is, where the participant marked all of the item and put his bio in item, for example is the researcher make item “Age” but the participant fill it by his age not by the reason.

In new system teaching learning many students lack motivation and they can not enjoy join to the online speaking class because they prefer offline class for many reasons. In this case the researcher reveal that to applied this method the teacher firstly should prepare the student mentality and give them more motivation to follow online speaking class, the teacher also should make the online speaking class more fun, easier to understand and ensure that the learning process runs well.

In Qifu research he found the barrier on online learning barrier is interaction and communication aspects, almost same in qifu research, here the researcher also found aspect of communication also be a big deal as we discussed above that “internet” is the biggest item that choosen by respondents eventhough that item unincluding in learners' psychological features item. Internet condition is something that unpredictable, the researcher still have no idea how to solve this problem.

In this research, the writer also noticed financial burdens because learning in the distance really need economic support. Majority the people in this country complained about their economy, unexcept the student also need economic support from their parents who have problem in economic, this item affected student psychology, where they have to think how to afford cost education and also cost living. This may be underrate problem for some people, but for this University who dominated by students from rural area which their economic not to well, they probably feel the pain caused by financial burdens.

E. Conclusion

From the research that had been conducted, the researcher found 21 barriers in learning speaking during the online learning, there are; *Age; gender; ethnicity; financial burdens; family' support; motivation learning speaking while online learning, learning reference; affect of education experience; control ability or adaptation ability; expectation on sucess; learning enjoyment in the online speaking environment; effectiveness learning on speaking online class; ability to use computer or handphone to learning speaking; skill to balance learning requirements with other responsibilities such as household work, accomplishment of succesful learning based on the use of resource; ability to understand feedback and dealing with assesment; teacher' motivation and instructions, learning support sytem; appropriatly and suitable for students' needs and levels; computer;internet.* Meanwhile the item that not be barriers for students are; *whether or not the courses are well designed; Affect of students experienced prejudical treatment in the traditional classroom; World wide web.*

In the other side, the most dominant aspects of Qifu's variables is learners psychological features. In this case, the researcher found that the learners psychological features is about 39,21% from total items that marked.

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