ABSTRACT

THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS’ MOTIVATION IN LEARNING ENGLISH AND THEIR SPEAKING ABILITY AT THE THIRD GRADE STUDENTS OF SMPN N 3 NATAR

By

IRINE SONIA PRATIWI

This research was aimed at investigating the correlation between students’ motivation in learning English and their speaking ability. The researcher used purposive sampling and there were 31 students selected as the respondent. Students’ motivation scores were estimated by using Likert scale in the range of 1 to 3, and their English speaking ability was tested by transactional speaking test based on criteria proposed by Heaton (1991).

From the questionnaire of motivation, it was obtained that the highest score was 82, the lowest score was 54, and the average was 70. For the detail, there was one student who got 82, meaning that he/she had high motivation. While there was one student who got 54, this score means low motivation, and three students who had average motivation. It means that most of the students had good motivation. For English speaking score, it showed that the average of students’ speaking ability was 84. The highest score was 90 and the lowest score was 75. It could be claimed that the students at third year of SMP N 3 Natar had good ability in speaking.

The result showed that the coefficient correlation was 0.622. This value means that the correlation is significant. It also found that motivation influenced English speaking ability of the students was 38.7%. The students who had motivation had more effort and willpower to reach their goals. It inferred that motivated students had more effort to overcome the learning difficulty. While for students who were not motivated, they would not give their best effort in learning and in achieving their goals so that their result in speaking was not maximal.