

ABSTRACT

THE STUDY BETWEEN STUDENTS' ANXIETY AND SPEAKING ABILITY AT THE FIRST GRADE STUDENTS OF SMAN1 KABUPATEN TANGERANG

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Speaking is considered as one of difficult language skills to be mastered. This stands to reason for it consists of fluency, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and comprehension. Thus, consequently, anxiety arises when the students find difficulty in expressing the ideas. It is the reason why the researcher is interested to know how far anxiety has a correlation toward students' speaking ability.

The aims of this research were (1) to find out the correlation between students' anxiety and speaking ability, (2) to investigate the aspect of anxiety affects students' anxiety toward speaking ability, and (3) to see the aspect of speaking correlates the most to the students' anxiety. Quantitative research was the method of this research which utilized *ex post facto design*. The sample was X MIA 1 at SMAN 1 Kabupaten Tangerang consisting of 26 students taken by simple random sampling technique. The instruments in collecting the data were questionnaire and speaking test. In analyzing the data, the researcher correlated the result of questionnaire and the result of speaking test by using Pearson Product Moment Correlation.

The result of this research showed that (1) there was a statistically significant negative correlation between students' anxiety and speaking ability ($r_{xy} = -0.730 > r_t = 0,396$), (2) fear of negative evaluation was the aspect of anxiety correlating the most to the speaking ability (-0.662) and (3) the aspect of speaking influencing the most was comprehension (-0.638). In short, H_1 was accepted and H_0 was rejected. Therefore, the hypothesis proposed in this research was accepted. Overall, it can be concluded that there was a correlation between students' anxiety and their speaking ability. Furthermore, anxiety makes the students difficult to acquire English as their second language acquisition.

Keywords: correlation, anxiety, speaking.