Chapter Four

Findings and Discussion

The findings and discussion are presented in three sections. First, the researcher reports the introductory information on students' understanding about Student English Activity (SEA) of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY). Second, the researcher also reveals the main findings in response the research questions. Finally, the researcher discusses the effective programs of the Student English Activity (SEA) of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (UMY) that can improve student's English skills based on students' perception. In reporting the findings in this chapter, the researcher used pseudonyms: Boy, Rose, Luisa, and Annie.

Students' Understanding of the SEA of UMY

As an introductory part, the researcher asked the participants regarding their understanding of SEA of UMY. The researcher confirmed that the participants have a sound understanding of the programs, activities, and other general information about SEA. It is considered necessary because the participants of this research are purposive to ensure that the researcher chooses the right participants.

There are three main points that the researcher asked the participants. First, it deals on how the participants know about SEA; second, it deals on the departments in SEA; and finally, it deals about the programs offered by SEA.

From the introductory questions, it is revealed that student fair, social media, poster and open recruitment are the media used to share the information about SEA of UMY. These media are important tools for SEA of UMY to recruit members of this English organization. The participants also recognized about the function of SEA as a student activity unit. In the interview, the participants shared that SEA of UMY is a good organization to help students in improving their English capability.

Finally, the participants understand quite detail about the internal structure, the name of sector or the departments and the programs on SEA of UMY. All of the programs stated by the participants are similar to the programs mentioned on articles of association *(AD/ART)* of SEA of UMY, namely Discussion, Got Talent, Movie Screening, Seminar, The Power of Speaking, Teaching English, Debate, Speech, Conference, English Camp, Dance, Olympiad, The Power of Relation, Seakaten, Creasy Dance, Promoting SEA and English Career. Therefore, the researcher concluded that the participants understand about the SEA of UMY. The programs can be implemented to help students improve their English skills.

The Benefits of Joining the SEA of UMY

Joining the SEA of UMY bring good benefits to students. From the research data, the researcher found some benefits of joining the SEA of UMY. The results are obtained from the experience of four participants. The results are explained in two sections, namely English skills and non-English skills.

English skills. The researcher found that the SEA of UMY give some benefits for students to improve their English skills, specifically in speaking skills and writing skills.

Practicing English. In joining the SEA of UMY, the students can practice English well as told by the participant answer below:

"The benefits are many such as being able to practice English", (Boy, P1.16).

"For example, in a speaking activity in my ministry, every meeting we discuss in English", (Boy, P1.21).

Another participant also stated that when, the members of SEA have a meeting, and they always use English all that time. She stated:

"Next, if we have a meeting at the office of the SEA of UMY, we also use full English", (Annie, P4.22).

Based on the data above, the researcher found that joining SEA give benefits for students to practice English because the students always use English in every discussion or meeting. Hence, joining the SEA of UMY, students have an opportunity to practice their English skills.

Improving English skills. All of the participants mention that joining the SEA of UMY helps student enhance their English.

"After that, my English skills have improved because in the SEA of UMY we are required to speak English", (Rose, P2.14).

"The most is to increase English skill where in every meeting we speak English", (Annie, P4.16).

Therefore, the researcher concluded that joining the SEA of UMY is beneficial for the students to improve their English skills.

More specifically, the researcher also founded that on joining SEA of UMY can improve speaking and writing skills. The participant mentioned:

"First, I could improve my speaking skills, because in some activities we must speak in English", (Luisa, P3.9).

"Then, the second improvement is in writing skills, because we are also given training about journalism", (Luisa, P3.10).

SEA not only give benefits for students to practice English but by practice English the students also can improve their English skills especially in speaking and writing skill. To conclude, the benefits of joining the SEA of UMY is to enhance students' English skills, particularly speaking skill and writing skill.

Non-English skills. Besides improving English skills, the researcher also discovered the benefits of joining SEA in improving non-English skills such as being more confident, being good organizers, understanding campus bureaucracy, getting many friends, and having many links, and being adaptive.

Being more confident. The participant said that joining SEA makes her more confident as told in the statement below:

"Actually, I get more confident, for example, now many assignment about presentation in front of the classroom. I feel more confident when speaking in public", (Rose, P2.15).

Based on the interview data, participant three mentioned that one of the advantages of joining the SEA of UMY is decreasing nervousness level as the participant told:

"In some activities, I try to always speak English so that, when speaking, my nervousness level decreases," (Luisa, P3.12).

In addition, joining the SEA of UMY makes the students more confident in their major and in speaking in public. The reason is in some activities the students try to speak English automatically the students can decrease their nervousness level. As stated by Park (2015), an English organization creates opportunities for students to develop their self-confidence. Eccles (2004) added that English organization activities will provide students practice environments, and these practice opportunities will enable students to gain their confidence. Shostak (2007) also stated that joining English organization activities can build confidence when practicing English skills.

Being good organizers. The researcher found that joining SEA can make students be a good organizer. The participants said:

"Besides, we also can be a good organizer", (Boy, P1.17).

"The benefits I get is that I can organize something well", (Rose, P2.11).

By joining SEA, the students not only being more confident but also being good organizers. The students learn how to be committee an event. From the students who do not know how to organize an event, now the students can manage an event. Thus, joining the SEA of UMY makes students not only more confident but also be a good organizer.

Understanding campus bureaucracy. The researcher also found that by joining the SEA of UMY, the students can know about campus bureaucracy. The participant informed that she know about campus bureaucracy after joining the SEA of UMY. The following is her statement:

"So, I know more about campus bureaucracy", (Rose, P2.12).

Joining SEA of UMY also make the students know about campus bureaucracy. The students know about the organization on their campus. From the statement above, it can be concluded that joining SEA of UMY make the students understand about campus bureaucracy.

Getting many friends. Based on the research findings, the researcher knows that joining the SEA of UMY makes the students have many friends as stated in the participants' statements below:

"So, the thrill is that there are many activities, and we can have many

friends too," (Boy, P1.14).

"When joining the SEA of UMY, I found new friends", (Rose, P2.13).

"After I joined the SEA of UMY, I have many friends", (Annie, P4.20).

The obvious benefit of joining SEA is that students get new friends. The

students meet their friends from other majors and faculties. Based on the

statement from the participants above, joining SEA of UMY makes the students

get many friends

Having many networks. The participant also added that in joining the

SEA of UMY the members also get many networks to be sponsors when the

organization conducts an event. She stated:

"When I want to organize an event, I have many links. Hence, it is easy to

conduct an event", (Annie, P4.21).

By joining SEA of UMY, the students not only getting many friends but

also have many networks from their friends. The researcher summarizes that by

getting many friends will easiest the members of the SEA of UMY to conduct an

event organization because they also have many networks.

Being adaptive. The participant explains that joining the SEA of UMY

gives her a lesson that, when joining organization, we should be able to adapt with

the other members. She added:

"But, the positive side is being easily adaptive", (Annie, P4.19).

Being adaptive is one of the benefits of joining the SEA of UMY. It is because there are a lot of activities of the SEA of UMY so that the members should be able to solve every problem that students face during their joining in the SEA of UMY. Therefore, joining SEA of UMY also make the students to being adaptive so enable to solve the problems during joining SEA of UMY.

From the research data, the researcher found that joining the SEA of UMY gives benefits not only in improving English skills but also in students' social life (non-English skills). The findings are in line with the study of Yildiz (2016), Eccles (2004) and Taylor's and Chiogioji's (1988). An English organization can engage students in the university and social life. It provides possibilities and opportunities for students to show themselves to act based on the situations. They will socialize, self-identify and self-assess during any social, cultural or academic activities by getting in touch with organizers, teachers, and people out of the school (Eccles, 2004). English organization can enhance students' English skills while singing, playing, acting, recitation, speaking and narrating any school subjects at school and social life (Taylor & Chiogioji, 1988; Yildiz, 2016). Finally, English organization activities can connect the students to their environment, their community, their society, and themselves.

The Effective SEA Programs to Improve Students' English Skills

The findings showed that there are three effective programs to improve students' English skills, namely discussion, English camp and debate.

Discussion. The participant stated that the effective programs of the SEA of UMY is a discussion. The system of the discussion was almost similar to a seminar or presentation. Each member has his or her own role, such as a moderator, a speaker, a check person who will check and correct the grammatical errors, mispronunciation, and misspelling. He stated:

"The most effective program is organized by the speaking department programs, namely a discussion. The name of the discussion is a *lesehan* discussion", (Boy, P1.22).

"The discussion always uses English, but it is as an informal discussion. We have the discussion by *lesehan* [sitting on floor usually covered by a mat]. In my opinion, the discussion can improve English skills", (Boy, P1.23).

Discussion is one of the effective programs of SEA because in discussion the students always use English. The statement above told that a discussion is one of the effective programs of the SEA of UMY which can improve students' English skills.

English Camp. English camp can help students improve English skills as told by the participant statement below:

"The program which improves English skill is English Camp organized by the speaking ministry," (Rose, P2.16).

"It is because during the camp we are required to speak English so that it improves our English skills", (Rose, P2.17).

English camp is the other effective programs of SEA UMY. In English camp, the students be supposed to speak English. Hence, the researcher found the new result that English camp is also one of the effective programs of the SEA of UMY to improve students' English skills. English camp is an activity such as an outbound activity. It is the most waited program by all of the members because in English camp the students can met new friends and share their experiences about English.

Debate. The other participants stated that debate also one of the effective programs on SEA in improving students' English skills. When asked the participants about the effective program on SEA, they said:

"I think the effective program is debate", (Luisa, P3.11).

"This is because in that program we can improve and develop our speaking skills", (Luisa, P3.14).

"It is regular programs of the English Career department, focusing on

speaking and debate. However, the programs are conducted by several

people and seem like a war", (Annie, P4.23).

"Well, why is it effective? The reason is because it becomes a habit",

(Annie, P4.24).

Lastly, debate is one of effective programs in improving students' English skills because debate is a program that focus on speaking skill. In SEA, speaking English becomes a habit for its members. The opinions from the participants strengthen two experts' opinion on the effective programs in improving English skills. The first is from Armat and Googol (2012). They stated that debate is commonly good issues of helping the students to improve their speaking ability. It is the most favorite program to the members. An activity in speaking skills is debate which there are arguments and rebuttals. The members are divided into two big groups. One group is to support the motion called as the affirmative. The other is to oppose the motion named a negative group. The second is from Reva (2012). She added that the most popular activity of a student English organization is debate.

Based on the data, the researcher summarizes that the students perceived that programs of the SEA of UMY such as discussion, English camp, and debate are the effective programs to improve English skills because they are the most popular programs at the SEA of UMY. The programs make speaking English as a habit of the organization members.

In conclusion, this research revealed eight benefits of joining SEA. First, the students can practice English skills when joining the SEA of UMY. Second, after practicing English, the students can improve their English skills especially in speaking skills and writing skills. Third, the students become more confident. Fourth, joining the SEA of UMY also makes the students be a good organizer. Fifth, the students know more about campus bureaucracy. Sixth, the students have many friends. Seventh, the students also get many links. Last, the students can easily adapt in social life. These findings have similarities to the previous studies by Park (2015), Eccles (2004), and Shostak (2007). They stated that one of the benefits of joining an English organization is to create opportunities for students to develop their self-confidence.

Then, the researcher also found three effective programs of the SEA of UMY in improving student's English skills, namely discussion, debate and English camp. Those programs based on the students perceived during their joining in the SEA of UMY. The findings are in line with the previous studies by Yanda (2014), Armat and Googol (2012) and Reva (2012). Yanda (2014) said the activity that can improve students' English skills especially in listening skills is a discussion. Next, based on Armat and Googol (2012), debate is commonly good issues of helping students improve their English skills especially in speaking skills. Reva (2012) also stated that the most popular activity of an English organization is a debate. Finally, this research also found different findings from the previous study that English Camp is also considered as an effective program in improving student's English skills.