

Abstract

Difficulties in speaking English specifically for the first year students have become a problem that is sustainable. Seeing that phenomenon, this study aimed to see the difficulties in speaking English among the first year students of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. In this research there are two research questions namely 'what are the difficulties faced by the first year students of English Department in speaking English?' and 'what factors cause the difficulties in speaking English among the first year students of English Department?' This research adopted a qualitative approach that selected a place at EED UMY and selected three students batch 2016 as the participants of this study. The participants were chosen through recommendation from every lecturer that taught the course. Regarding the difficulties in speaking English, this study revealed four difficulties, difficulty in pronouncing English words, lack of vocabulary, lack of self confident, and confusion of using grammar. Second, the factors that affected the difficulties in speaking English were lack of knowledge, lack of practicing, the attention of the audience, environment, accent or mother tongue, different writing or spelling, and the last lack of motivation.

Keywords: Speaking English, difficulties, factors, qualitative descriptive