

Chapter Four

Finding and Discussion

This chapter reveals and discusses the findings of this research. The researcher conducted this research to investigate the students' experience in English public speaking. At this point, the researcher reports and discusses the students experience toward English public speaking. Besides that, the information is supported by quotations from the transcription, and then discussed according to the relevant theory.

Students' experiences in English public speaking.

Here, the researcher gained some information related to the research question, namely " what were the experience of students who have done public speaking in English" There were three students of the 2016 batch involved as the participants in this research. The participants share their lived experience related to English public speaking. The researcher analyzed the data from three students' reflections of their lived experiences. The participants' names were pseudonym into Alfa, Bertha, and Cheryl.

Alfa's experiences in English public speaking. Alfa's said that public speaking is the ability to speak in front of many people smoothly and well, and he also said that public speaking is not necessarily formal that is important if you talk in the hearing of the crowd's named is public speaking. "Public speaking is our skill to speak in front of people smoothly and well, master the word that we want to talk about (P1.1). Not necessarily just formal event that we called public

speaking if you talk in the hearing of the crowd's named is public speaking
(P1.3)"

The first time Alfa did speech or public speaking was when he was in senior high school. At that time he was not very interested in public speaking. He thought that public speaking was the usual and easy way to do, "... **(P1.5)** it's easy, I just need to talk in front of people ". But after being faced with public speaking, he realized that he cannot take public speaking. At the time he did public speaking he did not talk much, his friends as the audience did not pay attention to him, and his teachers were bored. Because of the moment he felt wasted by his audience and he felt no effect whatsoever for his audience while doing public speaking.

Alfa did not stop in there, and then he did public speaking again. In the early days he did public speaking in a dull, hesitant and he kept thinking about preparations and other things before going forward. When he was on stage, he felt nervous and blank and it made him forget all the materials he had learned and prepared. It took a while for him to be able to adapt to the situation around so he can do public speaking. There was also another preparation that he did before doing public speaking such as he did a visualization about 10 to 15 minutes before he got on a stage, he spoke to himself, speaking in front of the mirror to see and practice the gesture he would use, and he asked his friend to see and advise on what he would do.

After he entered a university, he began to follow a more challenging aspect and he participated in the debate and he also became the MC (master of ceremony) for some events that used English. The first time he joined debate, he felt afraid and nervous because he was not used to talking in front of people and there was a jury who judged it. At that time, he was still stuttering and often wrong in talking. It was all about time because gradually he began to learn and overcome his nervousness. He did a lot of preparation before he did debating, and the preparation was not just one or two days before the debate but even a month or even months before the debate had begun. Unlike being the MC, he even just found out about the rundown of the event the day before the show. However, we still should know the event and the speakers so that we can behave in that event.

Talking about preparation, debate was learning all material from politics, economy, and others. He recently participated a debate competition at one of the private universities in DIY. The motion that he got was the motion he once discussed. He told me that what is difficult when the motion is beyond their knowledge and they have never discussed the problem. The ways that they improvised what they know and make the logic of how to make the case building. In that moment the competition took times from 9 AM to 9 PM. He shared to the researcher that there were four sessions in this competition. The first debate session was running smoothly. The second debate session was little bit struggling. The third session was lucky they got the motion that they have discuss before. The last session was unlucky because they got the motion that they did not know and

discuss before, so in this session made their speaking stammer and dotted. On the other hand it is not winning.

Another story, he joined the Association of University of Asia and Pacific (AUAP) speech competition from the International office at one of a private universities in DIY. In this competition, he was given a topic that was really sustainable development goals. He told the researcher that he, as an English student did not even know anything about it. Therefore, he did the preparation fifteen days more before the competition. He read the material and tried to understand the words that he did not know before even though it was familiar but the context was different. He said that "we are not enough just be brave and fluent to speak in public". Therefore, he did the preparation carefully until the big day was coming, in that day there was something that happens according to plan and some are not according to plan. Besides, the judges wanted the speaker to talk about just the point and immediately he should throw unimportant words. He could still finish the performance smoothly. Finally, Alfa realized that there have been some significant changes in his life after doing English public speaking. He used to be aware of many opportunities that he can do for his study. Not only that, he having self-correction helped his in checking his performance quality though feedback in details from audience.

Bertha's experiences in English public speaking. Bertha have her own understanding, she said public speaking like people talk about experience or in a certain contexts someone have a specific theme to be told in public in front of the people. She viewed public speaking as means of communication. "Public

speaking is like talking in front of many people with certain contexts and specific theme to share” (P2.1).

In senior high school she joined English club she learned English language, debate, speech, and did another exercises. She also joined debate in school competition. First time she join in debate he do not know everything about debate. Hence, as long as she in English club she learned vocabulary and practice speaking in English. So, in English club before the debate competition we were accustomed to speak in English language, watching movie with English subtitle and reading English book and look for words that she do not know. There also have material preparation. It was coincidental that time her team was champion and her as second speaker. Therefore, the second speaker's task is to give evidence of the data to reinforce debater statement. While the debate it felt really dazed, how the way that her data can win and can convince the judges and how to make her opponent so shrink because she have accurate data. She also have personal preparation like study, practice talking in front of mirror and speaking in front of her friend. It can be the ways to make her English language good.

Cheryl’s experiences in English public speaking. She said that Public speaking was one of the communication aims to give information or it can be to entertain people. The information can be knowledge and experience. So, what the speaker delivered and accepted by the audiences while the public speaking was information. To entertain was like the celebrities did in television. They also do the public speaking for example the comedian. They do public speaking to entertain people. “According to me Public speaking is one of the communications

that while I speak in front of people it can give information and also can entertain people. It can be knowledge and experience” (P3.1).

Based on Charyl’s experience in doing English public speaking. She did the public speaking as the assessment of her English course. She did the English public speaking in the second semester on listening and speaking for academic purpose course. The first thing she should do was looking for the same material as the theme given by the lecturer because the theme was determined by the lecturer. First of all she made a brain-storming and then she explained the idea of the brain storming. After her finished writing the material for the speech she did another preparation. She is kind of students that studied and memorized and also she read the material over and over to get it. She practice standing in front of mirror talking to herself. In performance day with all of the preparation that she have done before she still afraid and nervous to stand up and speak in front of her classmate. She afraid of there was not enough time to speak because in a speech assessment there was given limit time to speech. And then she also afraid of get wrong pronunciation and grammar structure because from the beginning she was thinking too much about afraid, become nervous finally she forgot about the speech. It take times to finished her speech, she should face her nervous to speak again. Finally she finished it.

Students' feelings in English public speaking

Feeling is something related to the emotion. Patton (2002) also defined that feeling refers to the expression of a particular object. The participants felt the same while they first time doing the English public speaking.

Fear of Mistake. Alfa mentioned that the cause of their fear making mistake was they were afraid of being laughed and seen a lot of people. "First time doing public speaking, I feel afraid of making mistake because I was being watched or seen by many people. I cannot go wrong in front of crowd" (P1.14). They felt afraid of making mistake. He & Chen (2010) explain that students feel afraid of the idea of making mistakes as they are worried that their friends will laugh at them and receive negative evaluations from their peers if they make mistake in speaking English. Some of them mentioned that the cause of their fear making mistake was they were afraid of being laughed and seen a lot of people. The participants frequently expressed that they feel afraid, and even panic because of the fear of committing mistakes or errors in front of classmates. Students expressed their anxiety of making mistakes because they think their mistakes make them feel incompetent.

Nervousness. Standing in front of an audience and completely forgetting what to say, is a situation that may make you nervous. This is what causes many people to completely their performance and spend hours trying to memorize it. The hours spent usually lead to stressed out and tired speakers as you were so nervous that you just want to grind through the performance and get it over with.

By far, one of the most important aspects of delivering a speech confidently is preparation and practice. That was why they were nervous when they wanted to speak English. Cheryl said “It feels debate is nervous. If I had been nervous anyway, if first high school may be because my English is really messy still do not know too much so nervous then not too know what to say” (P3.12).

Anxiety. Individuals with public speaking anxiety most often experience a variety of symptoms in a public speaking situation, including palpitations, sweating, gastrointestinal discomfort, diarrhea, muscle tension, and confusion. Burnley, Cross, & Spanos (1993) states that, “Approximately 85 percent of the general population report experiencing some level of anxiety about speaking in public.” Rossi and Seiler (1989) indicate that, “Public speaking or stage fright has been investigated and studied since the mid-1930’s. Cheryl said that they felt anxious to speak because she got nervous and fear that what they said was wrong (p3.12). In this case, she was aware their performance is being evaluated by her peers and teachers. With respect to this, Further Horwitz (2001) explains that anxiety is a feeling of tension, apprehension and nervousness associated with the situation of learning a foreign language. Foreign language anxiety has been said by many researchers to influence language learning. Whereas facilitating anxiety produces positive effects on learners' performance, too much anxiety may cause a poor performance (Scovel, 1991).

Horwitz, Horwitz and Cope (1991) have found that anxiety typically centers on listening and speaking. Speaking in class is most frequently difficult for anxious students even though they are pretty good at responding to a drill or

giving prepared speeches. Anxious students may also have difficulties in discriminating sounds and structures or in catching their meaning. Price (1991) investigated by asking questions about what made students most anxious in foreign language class. All of the subjects answered that having to speak a foreign language in front of other students resulted in the most anxiety. According Beatty, 1988; Beatty, Balfantz & Kuwabara, 1989; Beatty & Frieland, 1990 public speaking anxiety may stem from numerous sources, such as public speaking skills, fluency in a foreign language, emotional predispositions towards public speaking, and characteristics of the public speaking situation itself.

Confidence. Grubber (2010) state that self-confidence is an attitude that you hold about yourself that allows you to move forward and achieve your goals. Alfa said that after he doing several times doing public speaking and getting used to talking in front of the people he become more confident if talking ahead of the crowd. He became more confident because when he was used to talking in front of people, he feel have power because people listen to him. Well when he felt in the attention of people he has the power, he will feel confident. He was listened by people (p1.18). Bertha also said after her first time doing public speaking she could build her confident (p2.8). According to Al-hebaish (2012), self-confidence is an influential variable which affect learning. It can determine the influence on a person's life, in this case was students' learning process, for good or bad. After she did some public speaking they become more confident.

Students' benefits of English public speaking

Public speaking has a lot of advantages for those who learn and develop their public speaking skill. Gambel & Gambel (2016), suggest that there are at least three benefits of public speaking which are personal benefit, professional benefit and public benefit.

Personal Benefit. Students can discover several personal benefits of public speaking includes: increased self-confidence, improved communication skills, increased organizational skills, greater social influence, enhanced ability to listen, greater possibility of meeting new people, lesser anxiety and fear when speaking in front of others, improved memory, enhanced persuasion ability, greater control over emotions and body language (Nikitina, 2011).

Based on three participant's opinion, theory mentioned above is interconnected with their respond. As well as Alfa's respond, he believed public speaking improves his English language. When he starts doing a lot of public speaking his English spoken can be more fluently in front of many people. Then, he also said when I speech language acquisition is not only learning can be increase but acquisition too. Public speaking can also increase his communication skill significantly and it can be help when he wants to interview people or when he was doing public speaking because in this modern area almost all the foreigners who majority used English to communicate and he also said that public speaking will help him to build good communication skill.

The second participant stated that English public speaking was challenging to Bertha. She told that public speaking used Indonesian language is common and easy because it is her mother tongue. Different from English language, she viewed that as a challenge to improve her English speaking skill to be better. She thought that it can make her more confident. “First thing it can make me more confident if I suppose to do public speaking” (P2.5). “After doing the public speaking quite often my speaking skill would be improved” (P2.6).

The last participant said that Cheryl believes that public speaking can improve her English speaking skill. She also become more confident after she do a lot of English public speaking practice. She looking for material and studied for many times. So, she can increase her knowledge and vocabulary too. “I believe I can improve my skill in speaking English and then I can be accustomed in front of people” (P3. 8). “I became more confident” (P3.9). “I can increase my knowledge and vocabulary in English” (P3.10, 11).

Professional Benefit. By learning and practicing effective public speaking, someone will develop their quality, increase the chances to get a job and improve the success in his career. Public speaking gives you these fundamental communication skills for delivering as a speaker but it goes well beyond those powerful benefits. Whether before a small group of board-members or a group of 1000’s mastering these skills will outfit you for communication success. Examples of individuals that succeed in speaking, communication and leadership abound. The one commonality of them all is they are effective communicators and

excellent public speakers. Public speaking can be a critical catalyst to your professional career trajectory.

Alfa said that he can increase his quality of English speaking after doing several times public speaking. Bertha's mentioned Public speaking helps you develop the ability to persuade. When you speak confidently and convincingly to a large group of people, persuading an individual to carry out a task becomes much easier. In line with Cheryl's, she said that Public speaking is a good way to market yourself as a professional and also to market your business.

Public Benefit. Mastering public speaking is a singular sound investment in yourself. It will spur your personal and professional growth to whatever end you can image. Public speaking also provides public benefit by creating an active, well-informed and quality society. Improving your ability to speak in front of others and learning to talk about who you are and what you do with natural grace and authenticity can go a long way in expending your social circle, building strong relationship with successful, like-minded people and making new friends. Alfa's said When he start doing a lot of public speaking he speak English can be more fluent in front of many people. If in English it learn language acquisition, if when we speech language acquisition we like really increase so we not only learning but our acquisition too. My communication skill will increase significantly and will help me to interview people or when I was public speaking that foreigners who majority use English then it will help us to build good

communication skill (P1.13, 23, 24, 25). Bertha's mentioned that she became accustomed to talk in front of people.

In conclusion, public speaking is the process of designing and delivering a message to an audience. It also can be said as the art of speaking in front of public. Why is it said to be an art form? Because in speaking in front of the crowd, the speaker has a certain special purpose, which also has a function to influence. With the power of this influence, that goal can be realized. For that not everyone can do public speaking. Only people who are ready and have confidence alone, which can do this. From the stories of the three participants, they shared different experience. However, even they had their own stories some common themes could be generated. Based on three participants' experience as the students who did English public speaking those reflect on their feeling and the benefit of English public speaking. After the researcher analyzed the data are challenge and cooperation.

A good communicator is when he/she communicates according to his/her inner motivation. Namely motivation was to provide new knowledge for the listener. Its means, motivation will become more important than age, position, financial status, race, religion, education, gender, and other shared elements while communicating. However, the problem is that not everyone is able to speak well and right in front of many people. It is in accordance with my experience and some of my friends, that to speak in front of many people there are some obstacles that sometimes cannot be identified the reason. Therefore, I am interested to discuss this issue as a material for writing this report.

Everyone must feel nervous to speak in public. As a result, there emerged a perception that to become a public speaking must have a fundamental ability called softskill. However, there are still many prominent publications who say that he is always nervous just before speaking in front of potential listeners. Its means, the limitations of softskill is not a reason for someone to not be able to skillfully speak in front of the crowd. Unbelief is influenced by the extent to which a person prepares himself to appear in public, both in terms of the topic of conversation, physical, and mental.

Another problem faced by students is the lack of mastery of material to be delivered. A speaker always hopes to get a lot of support for the opinions and materials that the speakers will convey. However, most people tend to feel inferior about this problem. Especially, when the speakers compare themselves with the status, value, appearance, income, or intelligence of the potential listener to be faced, this will directly cause depression. Therefore, it takes strength from within the individual to always think positive. The potentials that exist in themselves only need to be displayed.