

Abstract

Muttaqin, Muhammad Giyats (2025), *ANALYZING EFL STUDENTS' SPEAKING DIFFICULTIES IN CONVERSATION CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES AT AN INDONESIAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL*.

This study explores the speaking problems of students in grade XI of the English as a Foreign Language (EFL) program at a senior high school in Indonesia. Students have been studying English for several years, but many still struggle to speak fluently and confidently. The purpose of this study is to answer two research questions: (1) What challenges do 11th grade students face that lead to difficulty speaking English during classroom conversation activities? (2) How do the 11th grade students overcome their difficulties in developing their speaking English?

This research collected data through classroom observations and semi structured interviews with six selected students. They did this using qualitative descriptive methods. The results showed that students faced many problems, such as limited vocabulary, poor grammar, and difficulty constructing sentences. Psychological barriers such as anxiety, fear of making mistakes, and lack of self confidence often accompany these linguistic challenges. Furthermore, because the classroom environment tends to be teacher centered, students have few opportunities to speak. Consequently, students often become passive, hesitant, and rely on Indonesian when they cannot find the right words in English.

In conclusion, EFL students face difficulties in speaking due to linguistic limitations, emotional challenges, and a lack of opportunities to communicate effectively in class. Teachers and the classroom environment must emphasize this, even when students show effort and motivation in overcoming their difficulties.

Keywords: *Efl students, speaking difficulties, conversation activities, classroom interaction, student confidence.*