ABSTRACT

Pranoto, Yudhistiro Aji (2025): The Correlation Between Students' Speaking Fluency and Accuracy in Formal Speech

Speaking fluency and accuracy are essential for oral proficiency in EFL, especially in formal tasks like speeches and presentations. However, many Indonesian students struggle with both aspects due to limited practice, anxiety, and weak mastery of language features. This study examined whether there is a correlation between speaking fluency and accuracy among eleventh-grade students at an Islamic senior high school in Semarang.

A quantitative method with a correlational design was employed. The participants were 25 purposively selected students from grade XI. Data were collected through a formal speech test in which students delivered a prepared speech individually. Their performances were assessed using an analytic rubric adapted from Brown (2001), focusing on fluency (smoothness, flow, and speed) and accuracy (grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation). The collected scores were analyzed using Pearson Product–Moment correlation to determine the relationship between the two variables.

The results showed a strong positive relationship between students' speaking fluency and accuracy. The average fluency score was 63.2, while the average accuracy score reached 69.6, indicating that students performed slightly better in accuracy than in fluency. The correlation analysis further revealed a significant association between the two variables, with a Pearson correlation value of 0.714 and $p < 0.001$, based on 25 students' scores.

In conclusion, the study demonstrated that speaking fluency and accuracy are strongly correlated in formal speech contexts. Teachers are encouraged to design learning activities that promote both smooth delivery and correct language use, such as guided speech practice, structured rehearsal, and feedback-based performance tasks. Furthermore, this recommends to teachers to explore additional strategies to support students' formal speaking performance, including adapting instructional methods for different grade levels and incorporating various speaking genres to enhance learners' communicative competence.

Keywords: Speaking Fluency; Speaking Accuracy; Formal Speech; EFL Students; Correlational Study; Oral Proficiency; Speech Assessment; Brown's Rubric.