

## **Student Difficulties In Learning English In The State Polytechnic Of Bengkalis**

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### **Abstract**

*English is an international language and we are required to be able to use English actively and correctly. But in learning English, students still find it difficult to speak English actively and correctly, because they are not used to using and understanding English. English is a necessity for students, because English is used as the language of instruction to communicate with each other. However, the biggest problem is that only a few students are proficient and master English from the total number of Indonesian students. Students interest in English subjects is also lacking. They attend and complete assignments only as an obligation, not to master English as a very important language until now. Student difficulties also occur due to factors of different levels of student English mastery.*

*Keywords : Difficulties, English, Students*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

English is an important international language that can connect people with the world in various aspect, including aspects of education. That ability to understand and communicate in English both orally and in writing provides added value to a person thus, many people are competing to learn English.

Having the ability to master the English language can be added value for someone to compete and will make it easier to get opportunities, jobs, scholarships, as well as in international relations. At this time the use of English has entered various sectors in social life, be it in the education sector, work, business, politics, tourism. Therefore, it is necessary to get used to using English in everydaylife to hone language skills.

There are several things that make students feel difficult in English skills. for example, difficulties in speaking skills are usually due to lack of vocabulary mastery so that students will find it difficult to start conversations in English. In addition, their lack of knowledge about how to pronounce words in English also often makes them hesitant to speak in English. The thing that most makes students find it difficult to speak in English is their limited knowledge of grammar. especially because in the State Polytechnic of Bengkalis Campus, which in fact is that most people are Malay and always use Malay around the campus, even students are not accustomed to speaking English

Meanwhile, in listening skills, students find it difficult to understand what they hear from native speakers. This is also caused by native speaker conversations which they consider too fast. While understanding the content of the conversation or discussion, they find it difficult because of the limited vocabulary, so that it is difficult for them to interpret every word that comes out of the native speaker himself, plus they do not have time to open a dictionary .

In writing skills, they do not find it too difficult when compared to speaking and listening. This is because when they are asked to write a piece of writing in English, usually they will get an example or an illustration so that they can follow the structure of the writing

that has been exemplified. In addition, they can also open a dictionary or other tools to translate from English to Indonesian or vice versa. However, students also admitted that they had difficulty writing in English.

In reading skills, they admitted to having fewer difficulties when compared to the previous three skills. This is because in reading skills, they are only required to understand the content of the reading. Unlike other skills, in reading skills, students do not have to know how to pronounce a word in English. they are only required to know the meaning of the reading so that the meaning of the reading can be known.

For students themselves, mastery of English is not only needed when they are going to continue their education abroad. more than that, mastery of English for students is also needed for them to find work. mastering English or other foreign languages can be an added value for someone looking for a job.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

The method use in this research is qualitative. This study aims to identify the difficulties (problem) faced by students in learning English on campus. The research was carried out in the odd semester of 2022 in October. Activity observations take place during one semester of learning to observe students who are active, less active, and passive.

Students can be categorized as active in the learning process showing their participation to answer questions, ask questions, and often express opinions during group activities. For the less active can be seen from the intensity of the interaction. passive category, which is where students almost never contribute orally and have low quiz scores or mid-semester exams (UTS).

Conclusions in qualitative research may be in the form of findings that have been formulated from the start. Researchers may also find new findings that enrich the results of their research.

## **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS**

In every learning process, students must have experienced difficulties in understanding the material presented by the teacher, lecturer, or instructor. Difficulties this is also often found in students, in this case students, when English learning. It is undeniable that English as a foreign language one of the subjects that is often considered difficult by students, especially for students who come from outside the language department study program.

Every student has an opinion various kinds of difficulties faced when learning English. speaking skill (speaking) takes first place in the most difficult language skills. This matter caused by the lack of mastery of English vocabulary, there is a difference between English pronunciation and writing so that they feel confused to speak in English, as well as a very minimal understanding of grammar. Another reason that causes speaking skills to become skills the most difficult language is the lack of confidence in students because English is rarely even never practiced in everyday life.

The second position lies in Listening skills. When you hear English video or question, students feel unable to follow the normal speed of a native English speaker's voice. Then the lack of mastery of vocabulary and understanding of English accents make them don't understand the content spoken in the conversation despite the speed already adapted to Indonesian or non-native speakers. As it is known that the questions in listening skills are not only demanding students to understand the contents of the conversation, but also sometimes related to TOEFL questions. With the difficulties they face when listening to native speakers which they heard was too fast, coupled with the difficult TOEFL questions, This causes listening to be one of the most difficult skills.

Writing became the most difficult English skill which took third place. Most students think that writing skills are not too difficult when compared by speaking and listening. Even

so, most students do not deny that writing skills have their own difficulties, such as a process that must be they pass when they start writing in English, it takes creativity in pouring out writing ideas, as well as the existence of standard rules in writing, especially for scientific writing.

The lowest difficulty in learning English lies in Reading. Most students think that reading skills is the easiest thing to do. Factors that are used as the basis answers by students is because of their interest in activities read. So even though the language of instruction given is English England they still enjoy the activity. The second reason is when reading students have texts that can be directly used as material references to answer questions related to understanding the text.

It can be concluded that the difficulties faced by students in learning English broadly influenced by the level of mastery of students in skills languages such as speaking, listening, writing, reading and language components such as vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. This can be seen from the opinion of students which states that speaking is the most difficult language skill. As for the factors which affects these difficulties is due to lack of vocabulary their mastery of English, the lack of understanding of the structure of the language Good and correct English, and the lack of practice in using English in everyday life.

Seeing this reality, the right solutions are needed in overcoming the difficulties faced by students in learning English. Most students think that learning English should be given in an effective and fun way so that the purpose of learning achievable.

The selection of materials according to the needs of students is also highly recommended. This is because the material in accordance with the field they are engaged in will increase their interest in learning English.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

The process of learning English cannot be separated from the emergence of various difficulties that occur. it can be seen from each language skill or overall. In class conditions that have high language competence, different, the difficulties faced also vary. Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing, shows students' difficulties in English. Factors that cause learning difficulties English is very important by the level of mastery of each language student.

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