

## THE CORRELATION BETWEEN STUDENTS' PERSONALITY AND STUDENTS' SPEAKING SKILL

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### *Abstract*

*The objective of the study is to find out whether any correlation between students' personality and students' speaking skill. The research design was correlational research. This research has two variables, the students' personality was treated as an independent variable (X), and students' speaking skill was treated as dependent variable (Y). The sampling technique was probability sampling technique with cluster sampling. The sample in this research was forty students of VIII A Class. The instruments to check the students' personality was Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) Personality Test while the instrument to measure the students' speaking skill was a speaking test in oral presentation of a short and simple recount text related to students' personal experiences. After testing the validity and reliability, the researcher distributed the test. The researcher analyzed the correlation by using Point-Biserial Correlation. The result showed that the  $r_{count}$  was 51200. The  $t_{table}$  with sample 38 (N-2) at the 5% significance level were 2.024. It means that  $r_{count}$  is higher than  $t_{table}$  and  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_a$  is accepted. The research found that there was significant correlation between Students' Personality and Students' Speaking Skills at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam.*  
**Keywords :** Correlation, Students' Personality, Students' Speaking Skill.

### INTRODUCTION

Language is the most important aspect in the life of all being. Some people use language to express inner thoughts and emotions, make sense of complex and abstract thought, and learn to communicate with others, fulfill their wants and needs. There are many languages which are used in this world. English as International language is used almost all the countries in the world as a tool of communication to each other. As an international language, it has commonly used in various aspects of life such as culture, business, politics, education and others.

In Indonesia, English as a foreign language is a part of the educational curriculum. English is considered as one of the subjects in almost level of schools in Indonesia, start in elementary school until senior high school. In the lower level, like kindergarten and elementary school, English is not a compulsory subject. Meanwhile,

in the higher level, such as junior high school and senior high school, English is a compulsory subject.

In learning English, there are four skills that have to be studied by all the learners, they are reading, writing, listening, and speaking. All this skills are related to each other. Speaking is one of the most important skills in learning foreign language, including in learning English. The aims of speaking are to make the people can communicate to others. It means that the learners are expected to be able to produce language they learned. In the other hand, the learners need to be able in expressing their idea, opinion and feeling orally.

Teaching speaking skills to Indonesian students has always been a challenging task to EFL (English as Foreign Language) teachers. It is because speaker should know many significant components like pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and fluency. Learners should have enough English skill in order to speak easily and effectively with other people.

Many language learners find it difficult to express themselves in spoken language. They are generally facing problems to use the foreign language to express their thoughts effectively. The students are not confidence to speak in English language. The students are usually shy when speak in English. In addition, the student was afraid of making mistake when they speak in English. The students are very cautious about making errors in whatever they say. It makes the students losing face when they make errors in public. This is the reason why the student has low speaking competence.

There are external and internal factors that affect the student in learning English language. External factors are related to the things outside the students, like the teacher and educational environment. Whereas the internal factor means the factors inside the students themselves, it plays an important role in learning English language. According to Brown (2000: 142), the success of second language learning is due not only to cognitive factors but also to affective, motivation and students' personality.

Personality factor can contribute in some ways to the success of language learning. Each student has distinctive personality which makes them prepared for having different worldviews, and behaving differently in various social and educational settings. Jung in Alwisol (2009: 39) distinguishes two major attitudes or orientations of personality, the attitude of extraversion and the attitude of introversion. The extraverted attitude orients the person toward the external, objective world; the introverted attitude orients the person toward the inner, subjective world. Those theories explain that Carl Jung in Alwisol (2009: 39) divides personalities in two types namely extroverts and introverts. There are four fundamental psychological functions: thinking, feeling, sensing, and intuiting.

The personalities of students are not same. Someone who is extrovert, have strong self-confidence to be in a crowd. Extroverts like to interact with other people on context communicate with each other, or to speak up in front of many people. Meanwhile the introvert is the opposite of extrovert, they do not like crowds, shy to speak in the front of many people and quiet atmosphere is more comfortable for them. Extroverts are being social, energetic, assertive, and reach out to other individuals. Opposed is introvert, meaning that one is more reserved. Students who are introvert are lack of their confidence and it causes them to pull back and become uncomfortable to speak up in the front of many people. Students' personality may affect the students' speaking skill.

Therefore, the researcher tried to find out whether there is a significant correlation between students' personality and students' speaking skill at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam in Academic Year 2019/2020.

### **Speaking Skill**

Brown (2004: 140) defines speaking as the use of language quickly and confidently with few unnatural pauses which is called as fluency. Speaking is a productive skill that can be directly and empirically observed. Brown (2001: 267) cites that when someone can speak a language, it means that they can carry on a conversation reasonably competently. In addition, he states that the benchmark of

successful acquisition of language is almost always the demonstration of an ability to accomplish pragmatic goals through an interactive discourse with other language speakers.

Richards and Renandya (2002: 204) state that effective oral communication requires the ability to use the language appropriately in social interactions that involves not only verbal communication but also paralinguistic elements of speech such as pitch, stress, and intonation. Moreover, nonlinguistic elements such as gestures, body language, and expressions are needed in conveying messages directly without any accompanying speech. Speaking is the ability to produce the language and share their ideas, and feelings. And speaking is an activity of verbal communication which is done by a person by producing systematic verbal utterances to communicate with others people. Speaking skill is always related to communication. Speaking skill itself can be stated as the skill to use language to express meaning in order to transfer knowledge and information from people in the whole life situation.

According to Brown (2004: 4), Assessment is the process to measure the test by the teacher whenever the students practice in language skills. Based on Brown (2004: 172-173) to assess speaking skills is probably one of the biggest challenges compared to other three language skills because we have to pay attention to aspects such as:

- 1). Grammar
- 2). Vocabulary
- 3). Fluency
- 4). Pronunciation

### **Personality**

Personality is a unique characteristic distinguishing individual from one another by cognitions, motivations, and behavior in variety of situations (Feist and Feist, 2006: 4). According to Atkinson in Irham and Wiyani (2017: 92), personality is a typical pattern of behavior and way of thinking that determines the individual's

adaptation to the environment, personality includes a general personality where there are characteristics that distinguish between one individual and another individual. Jung in Alwisol (2009: 39) defines that personality embraces all thought, feeling and behavior, conscious and unconscious.

Jung in Alwisol (2009: 39) distinguishes two major attitudes or orientations of personality, the attitude of extraversion and the attitude of introversion. The extraverted attitude orients the person toward the external, objective world; the introverted attitude orients the person toward the inner, subjective world. There are four fundamental psychological functions: thinking, feeling, sensing, and intuiting. Those theories explain that personalities divided in two types namely extroverts and introverts.

#### 1) Extrovert

Extrovert is preference to focus on the world outside the self. Extrovert refers to a type of human behavior in which a person loves to be surrounded by and interact with people. They are socially confident and outspoken. The very identity of an extrovert is extrovert people enjoy human interaction. (Sugihartono in Irham and Wiyani, 2017: 95-96).

#### 2) Introvert

Introvert is preference to focus on the world inside the self. Introverts tend to be quiet, peaceful, and deliberate and not attracted to social interactions. They prefer activities they can do alone or with a close friend, rather than do with many people, activities such as reading, writing, and inventing. (Sugihartono in Irham and Wiyani, 2017: 96).

### **METHODOLOGY**

In this research, the researcher applies correlation research as one of the quantitative research method. Correlation research is used to analyze whether there is any significant correlation between two or more variables (Sugiyono, 2011: 224). In this research, the researcher used two variables. The students' personality was treated

as an independent variable (X), and students' speaking skill was treated as dependent variable (Y). The population in this research was the students at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam in academic year 2019/2020 that consisted of 310 students. The researcher chose one class to be a sample, class VIII A of SMP Negeri 50 Batam which consists of 40 students.

According to Sugiyono (2017: 199) the questionnaire is a data collection technique is done by giving a set of questions or written statement to the respondent to answer. The questionnaire is an efficient data collection technique when researchers know for certain variables to be measured and know what to expect from the respondents. Therefore, the researcher used questionnaire to get the data of students' personality. The questionnaire is adopted from Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). The MBTI is based on Carl Jung's theory of personality type and was developed by the mother daughter team of Katharine C. Briggs and Isabel Briggs Myers, which consists of 70 items, where 10 items for extrovert or introvert, 20 items for sensing or intuition, 20 items for thinking or feeling, and 20 items for judging or perceptive. In this questionnaire, the researcher used 20 items question for extrovert or introvert, where 10 items question from Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and 13 items question were developed by the researcher based on the theory of Myers Briggs.

According to Arikunto (2013: 67) test is a tool or procedure that used to know or measure something with the rules that have been determined. Speaking test is used to assess students' speaking skill. To collect the data of the students' speaking skill, the researcher used oral test to know the students' speaking skill in English. In this test, the student was asked to make an oral presentation of a short and simple recount text related to students' personal experiences (personal recount).

The students' performed it in front of the class. The researcher gives 10 minutes to prepare the test. Meanwhile, the test was held about 3 until 5 minutes. The result of this test was considered as the data of the students' speaking skill. To measure the students' speaking skill, the researcher used oral proficiency scoring categories by Brown (2004: 172-173).

### Validity Test

Sugiyono (2017: 173) stated that a valid instrument is an instrument that measures what should to measure. The validity test is calculated by using the point-biserial formula. The formula is follow:

Formula 1. Point-Biserial

$$r_{pbi} = \frac{\bar{X}_p - \bar{X}_q}{s} \sqrt{pq}$$

To obtain the validity of the instrument, the score of  $r_{pbi}$  is compared with  $r_{table}$  at a significance level of 5%. If  $r_{pbi}$  is equal to or bigger than  $r_{table}$ , then the items of the instrument is valid. Conversely, if  $r_{pbi}$  is smaller than  $r_{table}$ , then the instrument items is invalid.

### Reliability Test

Sugiyono (2017: 173) explain that reliability of the instrument is an aim to know how far the measurement result remains consistent. Reliability of the instrument shows whether the instrument is reliable and can be used as device to collect the data. Reliability means the stability of the test scores when the instrument is used. The instrument should reliable to extent that it measures consistently, from one time to another. Alpha Cronbach formula was used to obtain the reliability of the instrument. The formula is:

Formula 2. Alpha-Cronbach

$$r_i = \left\{ \frac{k}{k-1} \right\} \left\{ 1 - \frac{\sum s_i^2}{s_t^2} \right\}$$

Table 1. Interpretation of The Reliability

Coefficient Interval	Relationship Level
0,00 – 0,199	Very Low
0,20 – 0,399	Low
0,40 – 0,599	Medium
0,60 – 0,799	Strong
0,80 – 1.000	Very Strong

## RESULT/FINDINGS

The researcher spread 23 items of students' personality questionnaire (Myers Briggs Type Indicator / MBTI) to VIII C Class. After that, the researcher tested the validity and reliability of the questionnaire. There were 15 items valid and 8 items invalid. The reliability test is 0,528, it means the questionnaire is medium reliable. The researcher only took 15 items for personality questionnaire from valid items that would be used to sample.

*Table 2. The Result of Validity Test*

Valid Items (Item Number)	Invalid Items (Item Number)
1,2,4,6,7,8,10,12,13,15,16,17,18,19,20	3,5,9,11,14,21,22,23

*Table 3. The Result of Reliability Test*

	Cronbach's Alpha	Parameter Reliable	Status
Personality Questionnaire (MBTI)		0,00 – 0,199	Very Low
		0,20 – 0,399	Low
	<b>0.528</b>	<b>0,40 – 0,599</b>	<b>Medium</b>
		0,60 – 0,799	Strong
		0,80 – 1.000	Very Strong

The result of the calculation of  $t = 51200$  is called the  $r_{count}$ . These results are then consulted with  $t_{table}$ , with sample 38 (N-2) at the 5% significance level were 2.024. Thus  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_a$  is accepted. This means there is a correlation between students' personality and students speaking skills at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam.

## DISCUSSION

The researcher found that in the classroom, the students' who are introvert will get a low score. It means that there was existence of introvert personality in doing speaking test. On the contrary, the students who are extrovert were socially confident



and outspoken. It means that they were enjoyed in learning speaking and could speak more comfortable because have strong confidence and fluent in speaking English.

The students who are introvert were difficult to express themselves in spoken language. Because they were not confidence and usually shy when speak in English language. Introverted students were less active, emotional, not so talkative and less social. They would rather do some tasks individually without expecting help from others rather than working in groups. Because the introverted students tend to be quiet, peaceful, and deliberate and not attracted to social interactions. They were preferring activities they can do alone or with a close friend, rather than do with many people.

The researcher found that, the students who are extrovert love to socialize and were often involved in various social activities. When students who are extrovert speak in English, they were having strong confidence to speak up. Extroverted students are socially confident and outspoken. Their communication skills are excellent.

The result of testing hypothesis between students' personality and students' speaking skill was found that  $51200 > 2.024$  means  $H_0$  was rejected and  $H_a$  was accepted. It means there was significant correlation between students' personality and students' speaking skill at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam.

## **CONCLUSION**

The researcher made the conclusion of this research in. the researcher concluded the following things:

1. The researcher spread 23 items of students' personality questionnaire (Myers Briggs Type Indicator / MBTI) to VIII C Class. After that, the researcher tested the validity and reliability of the questionnaire. There were 15 items valid and 8 items invalid. The reliability test is 0,528, it means the questionnaire is medium reliable.

2. The researcher spread the 15 items to the sample. After that, the students' personality scores ranged between 5 (the scores indicating the lowest personality in this group) and 15 (the scores indicating the highest personality in this group).
3. The skills that tested are speaking test. The sample was VIII A Class which consists of 40 students. Students' speaking test score showed that the highest score of personality test as Y variable is 100 with the frequency of score is 8 students and the lowest score of speaking test as Y variable is 40 with the frequency of score is 2 students.
4. The result of testing hypothesis between students' personality and students' speaking skill was found that  $51200 > 2.024$  means  $H_0$  was rejected and  $H_a$  was accepted.

It means there was significant correlation between students' personality and students' speaking skill at second grade students of SMP Negeri 50 Batam. The researcher found that in the classroom, the students' who are introvert will get a low score. It means there was existence of introvert personality in doing speaking test. On the contrary, the students who are extrovert were socially confident and outspoken. It means they were enjoyed in learning speaking and could speak more comfortable because have strong confidence and fluent in speaking English.

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