



## **THE STUDENTS' SPEAKING ABILITY IN DESCRIBING PRODUCTS VIEWED FROM GRAMMAR AND COMPREHENSION AT SMK N 3 PADANG**

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### **Abstract**

Berbicara merupakan salah satu keahlian yang harus dimiliki oleh siswa dalam tujuan untuk tercapainya keefektifan dalam berkomunikasi. Kemampuan berbicara ini akan sangat berguna bagi siswa sekolah menengah kejuruan yang nantinya akan memasuki dunia bisnis ekonomi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis kemampuan berbicara siswa dalam mendeskripsikan produk ditinjau dari segi tata bahasa dan pemahaman. Desain penelitian ini adalah penelitian deskriptif (*descriptive research*). Populasi dalam penelitian ini adalah 62 siswa kelas X jurusan Pemasaran di SMK Negeri 3 Padang. Sampel penelitian didapatkan dengan menggunakan metode *cluster sampling* dimana peneliti hanya mengambil satu kelas sebagai sampel penelitian, yaitu 31 siswa kelas X Pemasaran 2. Data dalam penelitian merupakan hasil tes unjuk kerja kemampuan berbicara siswa dalam mendeskripsikan satu dari dua tema produk berbeda yaitu elektronik dan kosmetik. Dari hasil penelitian diketahui kemampuan berbicara siswa kelas X Pemasaran 2 SMK Negeri 3 Padang ditinjau dari segi tata bahasa mendapat nilai rata-rata 82.67 dan dari segi pemahaman mendapat nilai rata-rata 69.27. Dari hasil penelitian disimpulkan bahwa kemampuan berbicara siswa dilihat dari segi tata bahasa berada pada kategori sangat baik (*very good*) dan pemahaman dalam mendeskripsikan produk berada pada kategori baik (*good*).

**Key words:** Speaking Ability, Describing Products, Grammar, Comprehension

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

One of important ways for people to do communication is speaking. This is the one's ability to show or express the ideas, thoughts, and opinions in the form of utterances or spoken form. Efrizal (2012: 127) defined speaking as the way to enable students to communicate which ideas shared in an orally message. In speaking, the speakers should express the language as clearly, well grammar structures and good intonation used. As Susanti and Amri (2013: 456) mentioned that speaking is a complex skill which involves an interaction between the speaker and the listener in an active process. It is not argued that people often judge

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speakers by the way they speak the language. Besides, people might call someone as well-educated or uneducated from the way the language spoken. Someone who has good communication, good words intonation, clearly and properly words chosen are often listened well by the hearers.

The ability of speaking will be an advantage for the students of vocational high school, specifically for students of marketing. They should be able in doing communication to share the information of the products that will be promoted. In this chance, the speaking ability is needed to be mastered by the students. Vandenberg in Anggi (2015: 23) explained that speaking is an active process of sharing the ideas, opinion, meaning and feeling which involves the speakers; the information or message as the content of communication and the meaning; the channel as the sound, mean, and sight in speaking; the receivers as the listeners in decoding meaning; and feedback or response. Speaking ability will also ease the students to get the proper jobs as they will enter the real world of business economics later. They need speaking ability to communicate and convey their meaning to both domestic and non-domestic costumers, later. In this case, the use of English as a foreign language is absolutely necessary to be able with as it purposed to have business interaction and communication effectiveness. Beside, the students of marketing are taught to be qualified and expected to be a great partner of business. That is why, the students of marketing need to prepare to be communicative, talkative, and interactive.

Grammar is needed in the process of mastering all four skills of English; it is as one of very important aspects to make correct and meaningful sentences and utterances. Grammar is also called as a base to form and use a language. According to Klammer in Afandi (2013: 3) grammar is a system of a language or a set of rules which ideally related to correct sentences while using the language. Meanwhile, Richard in Nunan (2004) explained grammar as the structures description of a language and the ways of which units such as words and phrases are combined to produce a good sentence of a language.

In this research, the researcher explained the students' comprehension in speaking based on the students' spoken description related to the used of generic structure in a speaking of descriptive texts. Wignell in Susanti and Amri (2013) mentioned that there are main generic structures of speaking about descriptive text: 1) It is called as identification—introducing something about person, place or thing and it contains of the name, size, form, colors, quality of thing or product being described; 2) the description—talk about the parts, qualities, characteristics and more description about the product, the additional information about the thing or product being described; and 3) conclusion—contains of a brief description and suggestion about the product being described.

For this reason, it is known that the research related about analysis of speaking ability is needed to compose. Speaking is also become an important skill that people have to acquire and master before the other English language skills. More importantly, the ability of speaking will give a good influence for students in English learning process and in the field of business. Therefore, the researcher is intended to conduct a research about the analysis of vocational high school

students' speaking ability in describing products viewed from grammar and comprehension at first grade of SMK N 3 Padang.

**B. RESEARCH METHOD**

In this research, the researcher analyzed students' speaking ability in describing products viewed from grammar and comprehension in students' speaking performance test. The data were collected from the speaking test of vocational high school students of X Marketing 2. The speaking test was done by the students by giving them two kinds of product pictures about electronic and cosmetic products.

The data of this research were the students' speaking scores about describing products. After the data of students' speaking about describing products were recorded, the researcher transcribed the collected data to be analyzed from both students' grammar and comprehension in describing products.

**C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In this research, there were two focuses of analysis being conducted. First, the analysis of students' speaking ability viewed from grammar, and the second was the analysis of students' speaking ability viewed from comprehension. After analyzing all the students' speaking ability of X Marketing 2 at SMK N 3 Padang, the finding of the research for students' speaking ability is presented in this following table:

**Table 1**  
**Final Result of Students' Speaking Ability**

	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Comprehension</b>
Total of students' speaking scores	2562.7	2147.5
Number of Students	31	31
Mean Score	82.67	69.27
<b>Category</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>

The findings of this research were proved by the previous researches related to the analysis of students' speaking ability. The first research was done by Gopur in 2008 entitled *Error analysis on students' speaking performance: a case study at the second year students of SMK Permata 2 Bogor*. Based on this research, it showed that in decreasing the students' speaking errors, specifically on students' oral performance, the correct transcriptions can be the best way to observe how able the students in speaking performances.

Second research was done by Sumiyati entitled *An analysis of students' oral performance of speaking ability in MAN Sidoarjo* in 2012, which the finding of the research showed that the assessment for analyzing students' oral performance is needed to be implemented by the teachers due to improve the ability of students in speaking.

The last research was done by Anggi in 2015 entitled *An analysis of senior high school students speaking ability in retelling narrative texts at eleven grade in SMAN 10 Padang*. This research proved that the using of genre texts on students'

speaking ability is effective to be applied in the English speaking classroom. Besides, students can develop their speaking ability and they will be able to use communicative language and they would not only pay attention on the language features and generic structure but also by using simple forms, good grammar, and comprehension.

### 1. Students' Speaking Ability Viewed from Grammar

Based on the finding of students' speaking ability, it can be clearly seen that the students' speaking ability viewed from grammar was categorized as *very good* which mean score 82.67. Generally, it can be concluded that the students' speaking ability viewed from grammar was in *very good category* and the data were showed as the table below.

**Table 2**  
**Students' Scores on Speaking Ability Viewed from Grammar**

Students' Code	Simple Present Tense		Modal Auxiliary		Mean Score
	Scorer 1	Scorer 2	Scorer 1	Scorer 2	
Student 01	30	40	40	50	40
Student 02	80	90	100	100	92.5
Student 03	80	80	90	95	86.3
Student 04	95	90	40	40	66.3
Student 05	90	100	95	95	95
Student 06	100	100	90	95	96.3
Student 07	90	90	40	40	65
Student 08	70	75	90	5	82.5
Student 09	90	90	90	95	91.3
Student 10	80	90	95	95	90
Student 11	90	90	90	100	92.5
Student 12	95	100	90	90	93.7
Student 13	95	100	85	90	92.5
Student 14	80	85	80	80	81.3
Student 15	100	100	100	100	100
Student 16	100	100	90	95	96.3
Student 17	95	90	90	100	93.7
Student 18	100	100	80	85	91.3
Student 19	100	100	85	90	93.7
Student 20	90	90	40	40	65
Student 21	100	100	95	95	97.5
Student 22	95	90	40	40	66.3
Student 23	50	50	90	100	72.5
Student 24	80	90	90	100	90
Student 25	85	90	100	100	93.7
Student 26	100	100	40	40	70
Student 27	70	80	40	40	57.5

Student 28	100	95	40	40	68.8
Student 29	95	100	90	95	95
Student 30	85	90	80	85	85
Student 31	80	85	40	40	61.3

**2. Students’ Speaking Ability Viewed from Comprehension**

As seen from the table above, the students’ speaking ability viewed from comprehension is presented as very good. Based on the research finding, the researcher found that around 38.71 % students are categorized as *good category* and followed by 32.26 % students who leveled as *weak category* and then 6.45 % or two students who categorized as *poor category* on their speaking ability viewed from comprehension. However, there were only 7 students or 22.58 % who categorized as *very good*.

Last, it can be concluded that the mean score of students’ speaking ability viewed from comprehension is 69.35 and calculated as *good category* and the data were showed as the table below.

**Table 3**  
**Students’ Scores on Speaking Ability Viewed from Comprehension**

No.	Students’ Code	Scorer 1	Scorer 2	Mean Score	Category
1.	Student 01	85	85	85	Very good
2.	Student 02	100	100	100	Very good
3.	Student 03	100	100	100	Very good
4.	Student 04	50	50	50	Weak
5.	Student 05	75	75	75	Good
6.	Student 06	100	75	87.5	Very good
7.	Student 07	75	75	75	Good
8.	Student 08	50	50	50	Weak
9.	Student 09	75	75	75	Good
10.	Student 10	50	50	50	Weak
11.	Student 11	100	100	100	Very good
12.	Student 12	75	75	75	Good
13.	Student 13	50	50	50	Weak
14.	Student 14	50	50	50	Weak
15.	Student 15	50	75	62.5	Good
16.	Student 16	50	50	50	Weak
17.	Student 17	100	100	100	Very good
18.	Student 18	25	50	37.5	Poor
19.	Student 19	75	75	75	Good
20.	Student 20	75	75	75	Good
21.	Student 21	50	50	50	Weak
22.	Student 22	50	75	62.5	Good
23.	Student 23	50	75	62.5	Good
24.	Student 24	50	50	50	Weak
25.	Student 25	50	75	62.5	Good

26.	Student 26	50	75	62.5	Good
27.	Student 27	25	50	37.5	Poor
28.	Student 28	75	75	75	Good
29.	Student 29	100	100	100	Very good
30.	Student 30	50	50	50	Weak
31.	Student 31	50	50	50	Weak

#### D. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the mean score of students' speaking ability viewed from grammar was 82.67 and categorized as *very good*. Then, the mean score of students' speaking ability viewed from comprehension is 69.27 and categorized as *good*. At last, the research finding showed that the SMK N 3 Padang students mostly have the good ability in speaking. Even though, there were still some problems in students' grammar such as the using correct simple present tense and the using of modal auxiliary in the sentences.

The researcher proposed some suggestions for the next researchers and also the teachers for a better learning and teaching speaking for the future as: first, it is suggested for English teachers to provide the particular time to teach speaking such as grammar of the tenses and the using modal auxiliary before giving speaking tests in order to improve the students' spoken grammar. Second, it is important for English teachers to give the explanation of how important comprehension is in speaking to support the better result of students' speaking activity. Third, it is important for teachers to apply different and various methods in teaching speaking through speaking performance. One of the methods is speaking activity by describing products for students of marketing, because it is an interactive and talkative activity to be applied in teaching speaking. Then, for further researchers who want to conduct the research related to analysis of speaking ability can find a newest strategy or ways to teach speaking.

#### Note:

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