

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In today's globalization era, speaking in English is becoming more and more important in order to have meaningful communication with people. For learners of English, being able to speak well is very useful for various aspects of their life in the future, such as business. For instance, when people do business negotiations with foreign people, they have to speak well in English. Good oral communication in English will influence the learners to have good relationships with people from the foreign community.

Having self-confidence and a positive thinking will help the learners to speak English fluently. As Johnson says, "self-confidence is the first requisite to great undertakings" (par. 1).

My topic in this term paper is about improving the self-confidence of the learners in the Basic I level at Ace Kids (henceforth, AK). The research is based on my teaching experience during one month in January 2008 at Ace Kids in Astina Street, Bandung. For example, the pupils felt nervous

when speaking in English in class. Thus, I desire that the Indonesian learners of English between 12 and 14 years old be able to communicate well in English, and I want to give motivation to them to develop to become fluent and confident speakers of English.

B. Identification of the Problem

There are particular causes that some pupils do not have self-confidence when speaking in English. Based on my experience in teaching elementary pupils at AK, the problem is the need for pupils in the Basic I level at AK to have self-confidence when speaking in English. This term paper discusses the low level of self-confidence of these pupils and the factors behind their lack of self-confidence. There are some aspects that I will include in this term paper, namely:

1. What causes some pupils in Basic I level at AK to lack self-confidence when they speak in English?
2. What are the effects of the lack of self-confidence of the pupils in Basic I level at AK when they speak in English?
3. How is it possible to make the pupils in the Basic I level at AK more confident when they speak in English?

C. Objectives and the Benefits of the Study

The objectives of this term paper, then, are as follows:

1. To know what causes lack of self-confidence for some of the pupils in the Basic I level at AK when they speak in English.

2. To know what the effects are of the lack of self-confidence of the pupils in the Basic I level at AK when they speak in English.
3. To find some possible solutions to make the pupils in the Basic I level at AK be more confident when they speak in English.

This term paper has benefits for AK and for the writer and readers of this term paper, including readers who are teachers of English as well.

a. For Ace Kids

The teachers at AK will have benefits from reading this paper. The teachers will be familiar with the reasons why the pupils in Basic I level at AK do not want to speak in English. The teachers will also find possible solutions to make the learners more confident and motivated to speak in English; thus the teachers can apply one or more of these solutions to improve pupils' speaking in English.

b. For the writer

The advantages for me as the writer of this term paper are that I understand better the difficulties of the pupils when they speak in English and I gain more knowledge about how to help pupils become confident speakers of English.

c. For the readers

The readers will also have benefits from reading this paper. The readers who are teachers of English will know how to make the pupils more confident to speak in English and can increase their knowledge about teaching in an English course. The other readers can also use this

information to help them choose a good English course for their family and their friends, especially an English course that motivates the learners to develop self-confidence when speaking in English.

D. Description of the Institution

Ace Kids is the name of an English course that began in Jakarta in 1998. AK commenced on April 1st 2002 in Bandung. It opened in two places in Bandung. The first was in 87 Padjajaran Street, which moved in January 2007 to 68 D Astina Street. The second, in Kopo Permai III 47A/ number 11, was opened on May 1st 2006.

Dra. Leony Siswati Tanama is the owner of Ace Kids in Jakarta and Bandung. The vision of AK is for pupils to feel comfortable in speaking English. For instance, it is hoped that the pupils can speak in English with confidence and feel relaxed when they speak in English. The mission is to develop pupils' skills in English language. For example, pupils have practice in speaking English, as one of the language skills.

E. Method of the Study

I have some data to evaluate from three sources, namely, book, my apprenticeship journal, and the Internet. I needed about two months to find the information, as I found it difficult to find appropriate book. In my journal, I wrote information about some pupils who had problems in speaking in English at AK. I wrote in my journal regularly when I did my apprenticeship. On the Internet, I found solutions to motivate the learners

to speak in English in class.

F. Limitation of the Study

I will focus on finding out the ways to make the pupils of Basic I level at AK in Astina Street in Bandung more confident in expressing their own ideas verbally in English. The study is based on my apprenticeship there are between 8 January and 1 February 2008. The age of the four learners in the Basic I level are between 12 and 14 years of age.

G. Organization of the Term Paper

The first part of this term paper is the Introduction, which explains the lack of self-confidence of the pupils in Basic I level at AK. In the next chapter, I will talk about the causes and effects of the learners' lack of self-confidence to speak in English. The third chapter gives some potential solutions for the learners to make them more confident to speak in English. The last chapter is the conclusion. In this chapter I will state the best solution to solve the problem. The last part of the paper is Bibliography, which presents all the sources used in this paper.