

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes that research background, research problem, research focus, research purpose, benefit of research, research assumptions, research scope, and definition of operational research. These eight points are described as follows.

1.1 Background of Research

Education is a conscious effort to realize a cultural inheritance from one generation to another. Education makes this generation a role model for the teaching of the previous generation. More clearly, education can be interpreted as a process of changing the attitudes and behavior of individuals or groups through teaching and training activities, including processes, methods, and actions in educating.

In the context of education, language skills are very important in supporting students' achievements and careers today, especially since English is an international language that is often used in everyday life. Researchers see the existing problem, many high school students (SMA) do not have full attention to the urgency of English, from here the English learning process must be able to play an active role in changing the views of students who consider speaking English very difficult.

English as a popular language, even the most widely used language in an increasingly interconnected world, English is an international language in various aspects used, starting from trade communication tools, technological advances, entertainment, and most importantly education. Education is a conscious and planned effort to create an effective learning atmosphere, the aim of which is for students to

be able to actively develop their potential to achieve the goals of national education in accordance with Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System.

The abilities of the younger generation are a benchmark for the development of national education. Today's young generation must be able to understand global developments, and be ready to compete within their own country and with other nations. Therefore, improving English language skills must start early, especially from elementary school, therefore every study program in higher education is expected to have English courses as basic learning that must be applied at every level.

English subjects is not only complementary material for a school program, but also must be able to be realized well for students, one of which is by implementing a continuous process of English for life (EFL) program. Al-Furqan High School makes the English language improvement program a focus on ensuring the quality of its graduates, more precisely, Al-Furqan High School has 5 quality assurances, namely: academic certification, Al-Quran teacher certification, TOEFL certification, IT certification, and character education strengthening certification (PPK).

The ideal English learning is learning that uses effective, innovative, pleasure, and efficient technology (I.P.I Kusuma, 2022). In accordance with what has been done by the English for Life (EFL) program, which includes various learning methods provided by the school, such as educational games, videos, and the web, as new effective innovations in helping educational experiences and knowledge for students.

In this case, English for life (EFL) is one of the quality assurance support programs to prepare students' understanding and implementation of English in the field of speaking skills. In general, in the implementation of the program, there is certainly an evaluation in the implementation process, therefore this research attempts to identify the implementation of the EFL program that has been running at Al-Furqan High School with the aim that program managers can continue to run it with evaluation and innovation in order to produce a young generation who have the speaking skills needed in the current era.

1.2 Problem of Research

This research seek to investigates the implementation of the English for Life (EFL) program in improving English speaking skills at Al-Furqan Senior High School Jember, is based on the problems found by researcher, before the discussion process at the core of the research. Specifically, it addresses the question : How is the implementation of the English for Life (EFL) program in improving English speaking skills at Al-Furqan Senior High School Jember ?

1.3 Focus of Research

In this research, the researcher focus on how is the implementation of English for Life (EFL) program is in improving students' English speaking skills at Al-Furqan Senior High School Jember. Students are expected to be able to know or master English speaking skills in order to achieve the English for Life (EFL) program at Al-Furqan Jember High School and the benefits of life for students.

1.4 Purpose of Research

The purpose of this research is to identify that are expected to be achieved upon the completion of the study. It serves as a guiding formulation for what the research aims to accomplish. Specifically, this research aims to examine the teachers' implement of English for Life (EFL) program in developing students' English speaking skills at Al-Furqan Senior High School, Jember.

1.5 Benefit of Research

The benefits of research are the impact of achieving goals. Benefits are used as a means to achieve targets precisely. The following are the benefits of this research:

- a. For teachers, it is more about exploring the potential in providing learning potential related to the English for Life (EFL) program.
- b. For further researchers, it is hoped that it can be a source of reference for researching the effectiveness of English for Life (EFL).

- c. For readers, hopefully this will provide insight and knowledge about the importance of being fluent in English in everyday life.

1.6 Assumption of Research

Research assumptions or what are commonly called basic assumptions in research, is presumptions, estimates, and opinions as the basis for thinking and acting in conducting research. According to Arikunto (2013:65), research assumptions are a benchmark for thinking whose truth is accepted by researchers. In this case, it can be said that an assumption is a basic presumption about the truth of a fact that is in accordance with the data that has been obtained. Therefore, the assumption in this study is based on the results of the interviews that have been conducted, in which the researcher assumes that the implementation of English for Life (EFL) program at Al-Furqan Senior High School Jember is effective in improving student's English speaking skills.

1.7 Scope of Research

In research, of course, there are limitations or scope of material that will be discussed and material that will not be discussed, which aims to provide clarity of material, more focused research, and discuss specifically and relevantly. The following is the scope of this research.

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with interview instruments, observations, documentation studies, and questionnaires as a complement of data collection, which focuses on how effective the English for Life (EFL) program is in improving English speaking skills, and this study will

not discuss other factors, such as development or improve students' English speaking skills.

The subjects in this research were instructors, mentors, and students in the English for Life program. Data collected in this study is from May 2, 2025 - an unspecified date. The location of this research is at Al-Furqan Senior High School Jember, which is located on Jalan. Letjend Suprpto No. 85, Sumberdandang area, Kebonsari, Sumbersari District, Jember Regency.

1.8 Operational Definition of Research

The success of the implementation of the English for Life (EFL) program is largely determined by the readiness of the program instructors to provide various methods and strategies to students in the learning process. The following is an explanation of the terms in this research.

a. English for Life (EFL) Program

English for life or commonly referred to in Al-Furqan school as EFL, is an important and mandatory program for students. The EFL program is a program that prioritizes students to speak English, starting from getting used English in conversation during study hours and outside of class hours. In this case EFL program certainly has an efficient goal to train and guide students, especially in improving students' English speaking skills. In this case, the English for Life (EFL) program provides for the needs of its students, especially SMA Al-Furqan provides adequate facilities and professional teachers who aim to ensure success and effectiveness in accordance with the plan that has been made by SMA Al-Furqan Jember.

b. Speaking skills

Speaking skill is the ability to say words in order to convey or express intentions, ideas, thoughts, and feelings that are arranged and developed according to the needs of the listener, Saddhono and Slamet (2014 p.55). Speaking skills are very important for students, with the aim of being able to convey ideas or thoughts well and correctly.

Speaking skills are a measure of success, ability and language quality of students.

In terms of speaking skills, it involves various important components, such as: mastery of vocabulary and phrases, pronunciation, grammar, the ability to speak fluently, understand what others are saying and respond appropriately, and optimal self-confidence. Therefore, by mastering and understanding these components, students can improve their speaking and communication skills more effectively, and achieve success in various fields.

