

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE RESEARCH

The main function of language is to communicate with other people.¹ By using language, human could make statements, convey knowledge, explain or report something, and keep social relations. It means that people can express their mind through language. As its important function for communication, this is human's duty to learn and understand language.

Communication is very important, even ordered by Allah as said in surah al – Hujurat verse 13,

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقَاكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

“ O mankind, we have created you from a male and female; and we have made you into tribes and sub-tribes that you may recognize one another. Verily, the most honourable among you,

¹ Geoffrey Leech, Margaret Deuchar, and Robert Hoogenraad, *English Grammar for Today*, (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), p. 12.

in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you, Surely, Allah is all-knowing, all-aware“²

The word “ ta’arafuu “ means knowing each other. The order to know each other will open bigger opportunity to give benefit among human. Therefore, the verse emphasizes the importance of knowing each other. It is needed to take lesson and experience to increase our piety to Allah, which the impact is peace, prosperity and happiness of hereafter. Furthermore, the negative impact of not knowing each other will make ruin.³

This explanation demands us to learn language as the medium of communication. Better language will establish good communication and the impact is good social relation. Then, we will take good lesson from other which gives impact to our piety to Allah.

English is a language which is very popular and has been spoken and learnt by almost all people in the world. It is used by many people in many countries as the medium of communication. It can be seen that every international meeting, news, or writing are usually using English as the language and other important things are usually translated into English.

² Maulawi Sher Ali, *The Holy Quran : Arabic Text and English Translation*, (Tilford UK : Islam International Publication Ltd, 2004), p. 613

³ M. Quraish Shihab, *Tafsir al Misbah*, (Jakarta : Lentera Hati, 2002), vol. 12, p. 617-618

In Indonesia, English has been included in school curriculum as important foreign language. It can be seen that English is being the subject requirement in passing national examination. It indicates that English plays an important role in any aspect of the international world including Indonesia. Not only as a subject but also as a medium of communication process in any important aspect.

Language has some aspects should we learn to master the language. Speaking is one of some important aspects of language that should be mastered well by language learner. In the perspective of religion, speaking is present from God that we should be grateful to Allah by studying it well. Allah said in surah Ar-Rahman verse 3-4:

عَلَّمَهُ الْبَيَانَ . خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ

“ He has created man. He has taught him plain Speech ”⁴

These verses teach that Allah created human who really needs His guidance and potentially use the guidance. Allah also teaches expression, that is ability to explain what is in his mind by using some methods, principally by speaking well. Thabathaba'i explained the word “ al bayan “ in the verse is “potency to express”, that is *kalam*/utterance which by using it,

⁴ Maulawi Sher Ali, *The Holy Quran : Arabic Text and English Translation*,... p.637

can be expressed what is in mind.⁵ Language, especially speaking, is big present from Allah. Studying all matters of language can be form of grateful action.

The ability to speak well is impact of understanding and mastering the aspects of speaking. The complexity of speaking may influence many students in pessimist perception which brings students to get anxious to speak. Horwitz discussed foreign language anxiety as “a distinct complex of self-perception, beliefs, feelings, and behaviors related to classroom language learning arising from the uniqueness of the language learning process.”⁶ This student anxiety to speak will of course be a problem to study language. It can establish negative perception which may influence the important aspect of speaking, that is, in this case, fluency.

Anxiety may have been being part of human daily life. Many experts had studied about anxiety and created theories. Some methodologies had been learnt, studied, and discussed by many experts. Some therapies had also been developed intensively to face anxiety problem. Anxiety which may give negative impact to learning process should be treated seriously.

⁵ M. Quraish Shihab, *Tafsir al Misbah*, (Jakarta : Lentera Hati, 2002), vol. 13, p. 278

⁶ Diaozhiping, *Anxiety Of Speaking English In Class Among International Students In A Malaysian University*. Dept Of English, Faculty Of Modern Languages And Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia.

By doing research, we do hope the problem can be immediately solved.

Fluency is one of some aspects should be treated seriously. Fillmore stated that fluency is the ability to fill time with talk, a person that is fluent does not have to stop many times to think of what to say next or how to phrase it.⁷ Fluency contributes to make speaking can be easily understood by listener. This may influences the speaking point can be well transfered from speaker to listener. Fluency contributes important role in succeeding communication process. We can imagine how difficult receiving and understanding information from not fluent speaker. The information we receive will may be difficult to understand even not on target or miss communication.

The matters of learning which may influence teaching learning process should be treated well to make succesful teaching and learning process, that is, as the result, student can use the language well for communication or acquaring knowledge. Everything can support the learning process should be developed and vice versa all negative things which may disturb should be immediately pressed.

The correlation of foreign language anxiety which may influence speaking fluency makes the researcher thinks that it is

⁷ Paul Nation, "*Imoroving Speaking Fluency*", *Journal System*,(Vol 17, No 3, /1989), p.377-384

important to conduct study about it. Therefore, for that reason, the writer got interested to have study the influence of student's anxiety to speaking fluency in Walisongo State Islamic University (UIN) Semarang.

B. QUESTIONS OF THE RESEARCH

1. How high is the student foreign language anxiety of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017 ?
2. How high is the student speaking fluency of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017 ?
3. Is there any significant influence of student foreign language anxiety to speaking fluency of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017 ?

C. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH

This research proposal is intended to meet the following objectives:

1. To know the student foreign language anxiety of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017

2. To know the student foreign language anxiety of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017
3. To know the influence of student foreign language anxiety to speaking fluency of class A 5th semester of ELT Department Walisongo State Islamic University Semarang in academic year 2016/2017

D. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH

By using this research, there are some significances to the students, teachers, other researchers, and the researcher himself. Here, the researcher divides the significances into two kinds below

1. Academically
 - a. The result of this research can be used as an additional reference for student's anxiety in speaking especially in speaking fluency
 - b. The result of this research is expected to be beneficial for improving an understanding of language problem that is anxiety of student in speaking.
2. Practically
 - a. The research can be used as student additional information of speaking anxiety

- b. The result of this research can be used to improve English teaching and learning process in Walisongo State Islamic University (UIN) Semarang.