

The Influence Of Peer Interaction On English Speaking Ability

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Abstract-This study aims to determine the effect of peer interaction in improving English speaking skills. This research uses a qualitative approach with observation and interviews as data collection techniques. The results showed that positive interaction with peers can increase students' confidence, vocabulary mastery, and fluency in speaking English.

Kata Kunci: Peer Interaction, Speaking Skills, English Language, Learning.

1. INTRODUCTION

Peer interaction plays an important role in the learning process, especially in mastering English. In the context of education, English is not only considered as a subject that must be mastered, but also as an essential communication skill in the era of globalization. The ability to speak English is one indicator of students' success in communicating effectively. This study aims to explore the effect of peer interaction on English speaking skills among students.

Speaking ability in English is a very important skill in the era of globalization and international integration. However, many students experience obstacles in developing their speaking skills, mainly due to the lack of a supportive environment and opportunities to practice actively. Interaction with peers can be an effective approach to improving speaking skills. Peers create a more relaxed and supportive environment, so that students are more confident to speak without fear of making mistakes. This study aims to determine the extent to which peer interaction influences the improvement of English speaking skills, with a focus on increasing vocabulary, self-confidence, and fluency. Speaking ability in English is one of the most important skills in the era of globalization and international integration. However, the challenges faced by students in developing speaking skills are often related to the lack of a supportive environment for practicing and a lack of confidence in speaking a foreign language.

Peer interaction can be an effective strategy in overcoming these obstacles. Through interaction with peers, students get a more relaxed environment to practice, increase courage, and reduce fear of making mistakes. Peers also provide opportunities for collaborative learning, where students can share experiences, enrich vocabulary, and improve pronunciation.

This study aims to explore the extent to which peer interaction influences the improvement of English speaking skills. The focus of this study includes increasing vocabulary, confidence, and fluency, which are key components in speaking skills.

2. METHODS

This study used a qualitative and quantitative descriptive approach. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and questionnaires to evaluate peer interaction and its impact on students' speaking skills. Analysis was conducted using a simple linear regression technique to measure the effect of peer interaction on learning achievement [3].

3. RESULTS

Showed that peer interaction has a significant positive impact on students' English speaking ability. This study was conducted using quantitative and qualitative methods to evaluate the influence of social interaction in the context of language learning. One relevant study involved the use of a cooperative learning model, such as the Inside Outside Circle type, which showed differences in speaking skills between groups of students who used this method and groups who studied with conventional methods. The results of the analysis showed that the average score of students'

speaking skills in the experimental group (using the Inside Outside Circle model) was 15.12, while the control group using conventional methods only reached 9.67. The t-test showed a significant difference ($p < 0.05$), indicating that the application of the cooperative learning model had a positive effect on students' speaking skills. In addition, other studies have shown that students who engage in dialogue with their peers tend to be more motivated and have greater opportunities to practice speaking. Peer learning activities, including peer tutoring and peer feedback, have also been shown to be effective in improving students' speaking skills. Students reported that they felt more comfortable and confident when practicing speaking in small groups than when they had to speak in front of the class. • Positive Interaction Students who often interact with peers tend to be more confident in speaking. They can help each other understand new vocabulary and correct pronunciation

1. Negative Impact On the other hand, students who feel anxious or lack confidence tend to choose not to interact, which has an impact on their low speaking ability
2. Environmental Influence, The social environment at school greatly influences peer interactions. Students with friends who are highly motivated to learn tend to show improved speaking ability.
3. Positive Interaction, The results of the study showed that students who often interact with peers have higher confidence in speaking. They support each other in enriching vocabulary, improving pronunciation, and increasing fluency. This interaction provides an opportunity for students to practice in a supportive atmosphere, so they are more courageous in trying to speak English.
4. Negative Impact, However, some students who experience social anxiety or lack confidence tend to avoid interaction. This has a negative impact on their speaking ability, where they get less opportunities to practice and correct mistakes.
5. Influence of Social Environment, A supportive social environment, such as peers who have high learning motivation, has been shown to have a positive impact on students' speaking ability. Conversely, an unsupportive environment can reduce students' opportunities to engage in constructive interactions, thus affecting their level of learning achievement.

Overall, this study confirms that peer interaction plays an important role in improving students' English speaking ability. By facilitating positive interactions among students, educators can help improve their communication skills significantly and create a more effective learning experience.

4. CONCLUSION

Peer interaction is a key factor in improving students' English speaking ability. Therefore, it is important for educators to create a learning environment that encourages positive interactions between students. The use of collaborative learning methods and group activities can help reduce anxiety and significantly improve students' speaking skills[4][6].

Suggestions for schools are to create more group-based activities, such as discussions, roleplays, and language games, to encourage peer interaction in the English learning environment.

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