


STUDENTS' GRAMMATICAL COMPETENCE IN SPEAKING SKILL AT SMA MUHAMMADIYAH 3 MAKASSAR

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p>Article history: Received: Juli 4,2021 Revised: Juli 8,2021 Accepted: Juli 16,2021 Published: December 25,2021</p> <p>Keywords: Grammatical Competence Speaking Skill Simple Present Tense</p>	<p>This study aims at finding out the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the use of simple present tense at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar. The method of this research was Descriptive Quantitative Method. Data of the research were collected through speaking test. The sample of this research was class XI IPA 3 from SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar. The sample was taken by using Purposive Sampling Technique. Based on the results of the research, it was found that the students' grammar competence in speaking skill in of XI IPA of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar is categorized into poor level. It was found that the students are difficult to form the sentence well and to arrange correct sentence when speaking. It was based on the result of test given dealing with the classification of students' score.</p> <p><i>This is an open access article under the CC BY-SA license.</i></p> 
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INTRODUCTION

This chapter is an introduction that gives the general concept of the research. Those are the background of the study, the reason for choosing a topic, the statement of the problem, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, and the scope of the study.

In Indonesia, English as the first foreign language studying as a compulsory subject from junior high school to College. In Indonesia, the English language is not used as a second language or main language. But in other countries, English is used as a second language as Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. In English there are main skills namely writing, reading, listening, and speaking.

Speaking is an important aspect for the people in our lives. Because in talking people can communicate their feelings, share ideas, and opinions. As a language skill, speaking is sometimes underestimated or in some circles taken for granted. In other words, speaking English is a kind of skill that is used to show that people have an advantage in mastering English. According to expert Cameron (2001) states that speaking is the active use of language to express meaning so that people can make sense of them and Thonburry (2005), considers speaking or oral communication as an activity that includes two or more people in which hearers and speakers have to react what they hear and make their contributions at speed high level. Based on the definition of speaking above the researcher can conclude that speaking is one way to communicate with other people verbally. Based on competency-based curriculum speaking is one of the four basic competencies that the students should gain well. It has an important role in communication. Speaking can find in the spoken cycle especially in the joint construction of the next stage.

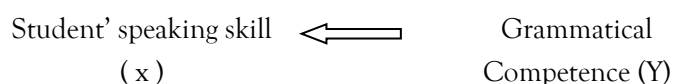
Language is used for communication between individuals and it also brings them into relationships with their environment grammar is a grammar that makes sentences have various meanings. According to Swan (2005), grammar shows how words are combined, arranged, or changed to show certain types that mean. Grammar is needed in making the right sentence. One of the problems commonly found in students in speaking is that the placement of students' grammar is not appropriate so that making a sentence is out of sync. Based on the language testing book, the criteria for evaluating speaking testing have five criteria, including pronunciation, vocabulary, structure, comprehension, and fluency.

As we know speaking is related to grammar. Some people think that without good grammar, we can do speaking, but grammar, regardless of the country or the language, is the foundation for communication - the better the grammar, the clearer the message, the more likelihood of understanding the message's intent and meaning. Based on the fact most senior high school students do not care about grammatical in speaking. If in communicating the speaker does not understand grammar and uses broken language the listener will misunderstand what the speaker is saying In grammar, there are several parts, one of which is a thesis specifically on tenses that are commonly used in everyday life, namely simple present tense.

The simple present tense is tenses that are used when an event is happening right now or that is happening repeatedly or habitually. Therefore, the researcher will conduct a speaking test to determine their ability to speak in grammar. Based on the explanation above the researcher will analyze students' grammatical competence in speaking skills to review or find out how someone applies grammar to speaking, especially in the use of simple present tense in speaking. This research will be carried out in SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar especially in the eleventh grade. As we know to learn grammar is very important in speaking because without grammar we can make miscommunication between speakers. From the description above, the researcher is interested in researching the title, *Students' Grammatical Competences in Speaking Skill at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar*.

RESEARCH METHOD

The method of this research was Descriptive Quantitative. This method aims to describe systematically, factually, and accurately to a population regarding certain characteristics and factors. Descriptive research answers the questions, what, who, when, where, and how much. The aim of this study to Identify the competent grammatical speaking skills of the eleventh-grade students at SMAN 1 Nunukan Selatan. Hence in this research independent variable, students' speaking skill (x), and the dependent variable is grammatical competence(Y). The design variables of the research are given in the following figure.



In this study, the researcher analyzed the students' grammatical competence speaking skills at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar. The researcher focused on the use of simple present tense in telling the students' family members. To determine the students' grammar skills in speaking, the researcher used scoring rubrics based on Layman Theory (1972). The researcher used the speaking test as an instrument and used it via WhatsApp and telephone as a tool to collect data and researcher gave 3 minutes for students talk about comparison daily activities about their family member.

The Speaking Test

1. Charging instructions:

- a. The results of this test will not affect the sibling's score in English, because the results of this test are solely for research purposes.
- b. For participation and cooperation, thank you very much.
- c. Term your identity according to the instructions provided!
- d. Do your best to do this test!
- e. The time to take the test lasts for a minimum of 3 minutes, a maximum of 5 minutes
- f. Have a great time doing it.

2. Choose one of the title below that you want to describe:

- a. Topic :Family
 - 1) Mother
 - 2) Father
 - 3) Sister
 - 4) Brother

3. Type of test : Speaking Test

4. Time: At least 3 minutes, maximum 5 minutes

To collect data, the researcher conducted a speaking test. Through the data using the Speaking test instrument, there is no engineering element that reduces the meaning of research. The researcher provided a topic that contains the activities of family members, will gave a maximum of 3 minutes to talk, and the researcher accessed via Whatshap or telephone as a tool to collect data. After that the researcher will recorded during the speech response and transcribe the respondent's speech.

In the data analysis, the researcher looked at the results of the speaking text using a recording device to find out the grammar competence in speaking using the simple present tense. In giving score, the researcher used the following rubric in speaking score of grammar

Table 1. Speaking Score of Grammar

Score	Criteria
96-100	They speak effectively and excellent of grammar
86-95	They speak effectively and very good of grammar
76-75	They speak effectively and good of grammar
66-75	They speak sometimes hasty but fairly good grammar
56-65	They speak sometimes hasty, fair of grammar
36-55	They speak hasty, and more sentences are not appropriate in grammar
0-35	They speak very hasty, and more sentences are not appropriate in grammar and little or no communication

Layman (1972)

To analyze the data into percentage, the researcher used the formula as follow:

$$P = \frac{F}{N} 100\%$$

Where:

P : Percentage

F : Frequency

N : Number total respondents

Classifying out the level of the students' scores, by using the following classification:

Table 2. Students' Score Classification

No	Classification	Score
1	Excellent	96-100
2	Very good	86-95
3	Good	76-75
4	Fair good	66-75
5	Fair	56-65
6	Poor	36-55
7	Very poor	0-35

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

This research conducted the research at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar in the first semester in the academic years 2021/2022. It was conducted to describe the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the use of simple present tense and the subject of this research was the students in Eleventh grade in XI IPA at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar. The findings of the research based on the results of the speaking test.

Table 3. Students' Grammatical Competences in Speaking Skill

No	Classification	Score	Frequency and Percentage	
			F	P (%)
1	Excellent	96 - 100	0	0
2	Very Good	86 - 95	1	5
3	Good	76 - 85	2	11
4	Fairly good	66 - 75	1	5
5	Fair	56 - 65	5	28
6	Poor	36 - 55	9	51
7	Very Poor	0 - 35	0	0
Total			18	100

The data presented in the table above, it is about classification of the students' grammatical competences in speaking skill. The highest classification is "poor". There are 9 out of 18 students (51%) categorized into poor classification. This means that the students have problem related to grammar ability in speaking skill where they are difficult to speak English with using proper grammar. Meanwhile, the lowest classification is "very good and fairly good", and the researcher did not find the students who get the score categorized as "excellent and very poor".

To see clearly the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the use of simple present tense, the following chart is presented by the researcher:

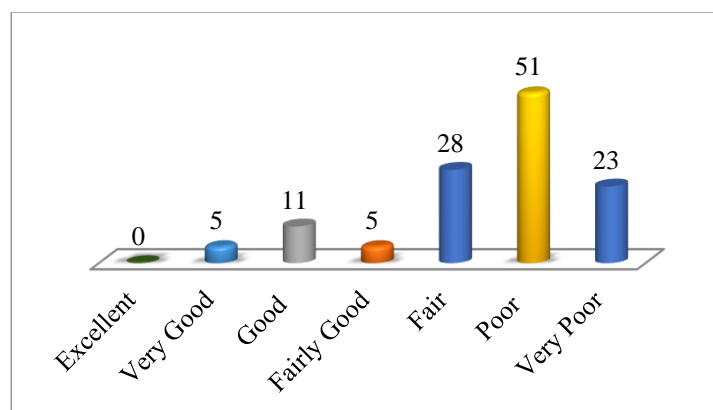


Chart 1. The Classification and the Percentage of Students' Score

According to chart above it can be concluded that the highest classification of the students' grammar competence is speaking is poor means that the students are difficult to form the sentences with the proper grammar. This indicates that most of students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar in the first semester in the academic years 2021/2020 speak sometimes hasty and fair of grammar. The lack knowledge of using grammar especially simple present tense makes the students are difficult to describe about the topic to be spoken.

The data indicates that the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the used of simple present tense at the eleventh grade of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar classify into fair. This means that the students are still lack to speak in English grammatically. Most of the students make mistake or errors when delivering their idea and this happened because the students do not still understand well about simple present tense. Therefore the students speak sometimes hasty, fair of grammar. It can be seen some of the example of the students' errors or mistake of using simple present tense in the following table:

Table 4. The Example of the Students' Grammatical Errors in Speaking

No	The Students' Errors	The Right Term
1	My mother cute	My mother <i>is</i> cute
2	She beautiful and diligent	She <i>is</i> beautiful and diligent
3	He like to play game	He <i>likes</i> to play game
4	My father go to work every day	My father <i>goes</i> to work every day
5	My sister do not like to go to eat spicy food	My sister <i>does not</i> like to go to eat spicy food
6	She pretty good	She <i>is</i> pretty good
7	My father's job a farmer	My father's job <i>is</i> a farmer
8	My young sister take English course	My young sister <i>takes</i> English course
9	My mom cook every day	My mom <i>cooks</i> every day
10	He not like to play the game	He <i>does not</i> like to play the game

According to the result above, it can be concluded that the students made errors in using simple present in speaking. It describes that the students are still lack of using grammar in speaking. From the cases above it can be concluded that the students made errors in grammatical meaning because the students have less knowledge in English grammar, especially simple present tense. The data shows that the students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar make many kinds of mistaken in spoken language, particularly using simple present tense.

DISCUSSION

This part presents an analysis and the discussion of the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the use of simple present tense. As known that in collecting data, the researcher used speaking test as an instrument and the researcher gain the data about the students grammatical competence in speaking skills where the students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar have poor grammatical competence in speaking skill, especially using simple present tense in spoken language.

In analyzing the data of this study, the researcher used the following steps. Firstly, the researcher made a list of the students' errors in using the simple present tense based on the students' answer, and then checked the sentences that the students made whether they used the simple present tense appropriately, correctly or not. Finally, the researcher classified the students' score of grammar competence in speaking English.

The result of data was analyzed presented in order to get the level of the students' grammatical competence in speaking, especially simple present tense in descriptive text. The data showed that the students have fair competence applying in simple present tense in descriptive text. When speaking, most of students had difficulties in producing the sentences of simple present tense mostly in item the subject pronoun (he, she, it) that as third person singular. They found difficult how to use suitable verbs of simple present tense because did not understand yet how to put s/es in verbs of simple present tense. It is indicated that grammar competence is one of the components that should know by the students to improve their speaking skill.

The students' competence of using grammar in speaking were classified as **poor** level because the students have difficulties to speak English. They always stuck when they were speaking because they do not know how to use grammar while they are speaking. According to Harmer (2013), correct grammar is your key to speaking English fluently and confidently. Knowing your grammar will help you avoid errors that make your English sound strange to native speakers. In short, they have problem in their speaking because they scare to make mistakes and lack knowledge of using grammar in spoken language.

The researcher also found out that there were students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar who was good in speaking the target language but did not master the grammar well, and there were also students who had adequate grammatical awareness but were unable to express themselves verbally. The data showed how a number of students who have poor grammatical awareness performed well in speaking. The emphasis should be put on how to upgrade students' motivation and reduce their anxiety in practicing speaking English. Grammatical awareness, on the other hand, could not be neglected, but it has to be a controlling media for students to be able to speak acceptably in terms of form, and reasonably in terms of meaning. Hence, the students will be able to use the target language appropriately and meaningful to reach their communicative needs.

According to the result of the finding it can be concluded that the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills especially in the used of simple present tense at the Eleventh Grade Students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar classify into **poor**. There some kind of mistake in using grammar, especially simple present tense when the students speak English, such as mistake in placing to be (am, is, are), verb (e/es) etc. This result is supported by Simbolon (2015) who found out the students' grammatical competence in speaking skills where intra-lingual interference was the major source of errors (82.55%) where overgeneralization took place as the major cause of the errors with a total percentage of 44.71% and Soraya (2019) also found out there was significance contribution of grammar mastery to speaking ability. Therefore, through proper grammar that we are able to communicate in a clear manner that people can understand.

Generally, the students of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar was poor o the used using simple present tense in speaking sentences because of the complexity of its grammar and lack of vocabulary and it made by the students were confuse to speak in English grammatically. There were some reasons that make the students were poor in using simple present tense in

spoken language. The first is cognitive reason. The speakers, especially the students found out difficulties when they should make a sentence about unusual topic. The learners should stop or take for second to think the words that they will say and they keep silent. In the moment of their thought, sometime the students produce sound like “ee”, “em”, or the other. The second is psychological reason. The speakers, especially the students have planned the sentence and idea. The students already plan the sentence, but when they produce the sound, the sound was different. The students possible get slip, when they speak to fast, or they nervous speak up in front of the people

Based on the explanation above the researcher can concluded that the students' grammar competence in speaking skill at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar in the first semester in the academic years 2021/2022 was categorized into **poor** level means that the students were difficult to arrange or form the sentence when delivering their idea orally. This was due to their low ability to use proper grammar in speaking English and this was found based on the result of test given dealing with the classification of students' score. This showed that the students still have low grammar competence in speaking skill.

CONCLUSION

Based on the description on the previous chapter, the researcher can conclude that the students' grammar competence in speaking skill at Eleventh Grade XI IPA of SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Makassar in the first semester in the academic years 2020/2021 there were 51% students categorized into poor level. Based on the analyzing the students are difficult to form the sentence well and they to arrange correct sentence when speaking. It is based on the result of test given dealing with the classification of students' score. Therefore, it could be concluded that students are lack knowledge grammar, especially simple present tense.

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