A STUDY ON LINGUISTIC LEARNING PROBLEMS FACED BYSTUDENTS IN JOINING ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS (ANEXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAM) AT SMAN 2 BATU

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ABSTRACT

Learning a foreign or second language is much more difficult than learning a mother tongue or first language. In learning the new language, there are four skills which must be learned; speaking, listening, reading and writing. Speaking is the most important skill in language learning because the objective of learning a foreign language is to use the target language in real communication (Ur, 1991:120). So, the students have to master in speaking skill in order they are able to communicate with others. However, in a process of language learning, the students have different characteristics so there are some students who faced learning problems in the process of learning.

This study was intended to know the linguistic problems faced by students in joining English conversation class (an extracurricular program) at SMAN 2 Batu. Besides, the writer wants to know the strategies used by the students to overcome the linguistic problems.

The writer used descriptive qualitative research design in this study, the population was the students who join English conversation class at SMAN 2 Batu. There were two classes of English conversation class at SMAN 2 Batu. The first class consisted of 21 students and the second consisted of 33 students. So, the total population was 54 students. The writer took all the population as the sample. Moreover, the writer used questionnaires and observation as the instruments in collecting the data.

The result of this study showed that in joining English conversation class (an extracurricular program) the students had problems in linguistic problems were pronunciation (74, 1%), grammar (71, 3%) and vocabulary (67, 6%). Then, the strategies used by the students to overcome the linguistic problems were achievement strategies (76, 8%). The strategies used by the students were appropriate with the linguistic problems they faced