The Effect Of Mingle Night Habituation On Improving Students' Speaking Skills At Bestone Education English Course

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Abstract. The objective of this study is to find out how the effect of habituation of Mingle Night program in improving students' English speaking ability at BestOne Education English Course. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative research design. The data collection methods used were observation, interview, and documentation. The participants in this study amounted to 15 students at the BesOne Education course. The results of this study show that the impact of the Mingle Night program can increase students' vocabulary and improve students' English speaking skills. In addition, the Mingle Night program can also increase self-confidence and build mental in speaking in front of many people. This Mingle Night program is also different from other programs that students have encountered because in Mingle Night students can be free in speaking and having opinions without fear of the wrong word structure. In conclusion, the Mingle Night program at BestOne Education is considered effective in improving students' speaking skills. In addition, tutor assistance and support also greatly affect the effectiveness of this Mingle Night program.

Keywords: Speaking Skills, Students, Mingle Night

Abstrak. Tujuan dari penelitian ini yaitu untuk mengetahui bagaimana pengaruh pembiasaan program Mingle Night dalam meningkatkan kemapuan berbicara bahasa Inggris siswa di BestOne Education. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini yaitu desain penelelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Metode pengumpulan data yang digunakan yaitu pengamatan, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Partisipan dalam penelitian ini berjumlah 15 orang di kursusan BesOne Education. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dampak dari program Mingle Night dapat menambah kosakata siswa dan meningkatkan kemapuan berbicara bahasa Inggris siswa. Selain itu, program Mingle Night juga dapat meningkatkan rasa percaya diri serta membangun mental dalam berbicara di depan banyak orang. Program Mingle Night ini juga berbeda dengan program lainnya yang telah ditemui oleh siswa karena dalam Mingle Night siswa dapat bebas dalam berbicara dan berpendapat tanpa takut akan struktur kata yang salah. Kesimpulannya program Mingle Night di BestOne Education dinilai efektif dalam meningkatkan skill speaking siswa. Selain itu, pendampingan dan dukungan tutor juga sangat mempengaruhi keefektifan program Mingle Night ini.

Kata kunci: Kemampuan Berbicara, Siswa, Mingle Night

INTRODUCTION

Learning English has a crucial role to play in this era of globalization. Mastering English allows one to communicate with people from different countries and cultures, open up wider employment opportunities, and expand knowledge through access to global information resources. In addition, learning English also increases self-confidence and opens the door to opportunities to work or study abroad. According to Kardimin (2011), learning English is like opening a world window to enter a new, wider "global village." By mastering English, an individual is able to establish relationships between nations more easily and expand a wider social network. Therefore, investing time and effort in learning English,

especially speaking skills, is an important step for every individual to achieve success in an increasingly globally connected future.

Speaking ability in a foreign language is one of the important skills for anyone including students in understanding and interacting in the current era. Brumfit (2001:35) "English is an international language that it is the most widespread medium of international communication". In this modern era, English is one of the dominant international languages used in various fields, such as academics, business, and tourism. Therefore, mastering English speaking skills is crucial for students to face future challenges and compete globally.

Essentially, English speaking involves the ability to communicate fluently, confidently and adapt to a variety of situations and conversational contexts. However, many students in English courses often experience difficulties in developing their oral skills effectively. This problem can be caused by several factors, such as lack of practice opportunities, anxiety about speaking in front of a crowd, and limited interaction with native English speakers. In this case, each individual has the right to choose a comfortable place to learn to speak English in order to develop their skills and train their confidence in speaking English.

BestOne Education is a non-formal education institution committed to providing quality education to students in learning English. Through various learning methods and strategies, BestOne Education strives to create a conducive and innovative learning environment to improve students' ability to speak English. Learning methods are operational steps of the learning strategy chosen to achieve learning objectives (Sani, 2019, p. 158). In this context, educational institutions need learning methods that are appropriate and in accordance with the needs of students in order to achieve optimal results.

One of the innovative initiatives adopted by BestOne Education is the customization of Mingle Night Class. Mingle Night Class is a special program designed to provide opportunities for students to practice speaking in English outside of regular class hours. In this method, students gather in a comfortable and relaxed place, such as a lounge or hall, which is specially designed to provide a more informal atmosphere and break the ice. During the Mingle Night Class session, students are invited to interact, discuss, and communicate actively using English. According to Robertson and Acklam (2000, 18) mingles allow constant repitation of a particular question or collection of the opinions of many students. This method will give students the opportunity to be free and not be afraid to speak English. In addition, this method will also certainly train students' fluency in speaking English.

Each Mingle Night session at BestOne features a variety of interesting conversation topics, such as travel, popular culture, movies, music, food, and current global issues. Participants are invited to mingle and talk with various classmates or strangers in English. Through this experience, students can practice the vocabulary and grammar they have learned in class, as well as develop quick thinking skills in responding to everyday conversations.

In addition to improving students' English speaking ability, Mingle Night also affects other things such as: 1)Increased self-confidence. By speaking in a relaxed and positive atmosphere, students feel more confident to communicate in English without fear of making mistakes. 2)Contextual Knowledge. Students develop speaking skills in real-life contexts, which helps them adapt better to everyday situations outside the classroom. 3)Social Skills. The program enhances students' social skills, allowing them to interact well in groups and improve teamwork abilities. 4)Vocabulary Enhancement. Through diverse interactions, students are exposed to a variety of new vocabulary, thus expanding their vocabulary and enriching their way of speaking. 5)Motivation to Learn. Students are more motivated to learn English as they experience the direct benefits of improved speaking skills. Students increase their confidence during learning in improving their speaking skills, students also improve their collaborative learning (Sinaga and Pustika 2021).

The aim of the Mingle Night Class program is to create a fun, pressure-free and supportive atmosphere, so that students feel more confident in using English in real-life situations. By introducing students to relevant real-life situations, such as talking to peers or others, it is hoped that students will experience a significant improvement in their speaking skills.

However, although the Mingle Night Class program offers the potential to improve students' speaking skills, there has been no thorough scientific research to prove the extent of the program's influence on improving students' speaking skills at BestOne Education. Therefore, this study aims to examine and analyze the impact of Mingle Night Class on improving students' speaking skills at BestOne Education.

This study is expected to provide solid empirical evidence on the effectiveness of Mingle Night Class program as one of the effective methods to improve students' English speaking skills at BestOne Education. The results of this study are expected to provide valuable contributions in the development of more effective and innovative English learning strategies in various other educational institutions.

METHOD

Participants in this study were taken from batch 20 students at BestOne Education curricula. Students who became participants in this study amounted to 15 students. The technique used in sampling is purposive sampling. Purposive sampling is a sampling technique with certain considerations Sugiyono (2016: 85).

Researchers try to find out the effect of the Mingle Night program at BestOne Education by using descriptive qualitative research methods to ensure the quality of the research process and produce in-depth understanding with a clear description of the findings in the field. According to Sugiyono (2018), "Descriptive qualitative research method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism which is usually used to research natural object conditions, where the researcher acts as a key instrument and describes a situation objectively or based on the facts that appear".

The data collection technique uses 3 steps, namely: 1) Observation. Before conducting further research, researchers first conducted field observations when students were doing the program, to find out the speaking skills of students while in the Mingle Night program. 2)Interview. To strengthen the results of field observations, researchers also interviewed students who were selected as samples face-to-face, by giving 8 questions related to Mingle Night. 3)Documentation. Documentation is done by recording the results of interviews to support research to be more accurate and add to the validity of the research. In addition, research documentation will produce honest work without any manipulation of results.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

To get quality results, the researcher first observed the students' habits in English speaking practice through direct observation. In this case, the researcher monitors how the mingle night activities at BestOne Education can run and get active participation from students who are in the course. The initial process carried out by tutors from BestOne Education is by determining the topic to be discussed then students are divided into several groups accompanied by one tutor in each group. Then each group is given time to discuss the given topic for 25 minutes. In addition, the tutor also gives students the opportunity to come forward to present the results of the topic given for 15 minutes, other groups can also ask questions from the results presented. From the results of the researcher's observations, in each group there are students who look active in giving their opinions and passive students who are influenced by the lack of vocabulary and lack of courage in giving opinions. To

strengthen the results of the observations made by the researcher, the researcher also gave 9 questions related to mingle night as interview material to students.

From the results of observations and interviews, it was found that the mingle night program really had an impact on students because this program trained students in speaking English, the topics given by mingle night were also interesting and easily understood by students. The tutor who leads the discussion also encourages students not to be afraid to speak. This makes students confident in speaking in front of many people and expressing opinions freely. Students also gained new insights from the discussion. Then there are students who say that this mingle night makes it easier for them to absorb lessons in class when the lecturer is explaining using English. Several studies have also looked at the impact of frequency and level of participation in Mingle Night on improving students' speaking skills. According to Davis (2019) the more frequently students engage in Mingle Night activities, the more likely they are to achieve higher improvements in their English speaking ability. The results of this study show that the intensity of Mingle Night can affect the extent to which students can improve their speaking skills.

The experience of students after participating in the Mingle Night program at BestOne Education is very helpful for them to improve their speaking skills when speaking everyday and during presentations. There are even students who really feel that they have improved their speaking skills, namely those who initially brought books during presentations over time they got used to giving opinions without reading books from the results of discussions held during Mingle Night and presentations at school. Mingle Night is also the most popular program for students because it really improves their English speaking skills. In the discussion process, the thing that makes Mingle Night exciting and very effective is that students can ask their friends or tutors for vocabulary that they don't know so that this makes students able to speak English. Students' experience in participating in the Mingle Night program is not only to train their speaking skills, but also to train their mentality. According to research by Smith et al. (2017), Mingle Night has been shown to increase students' confidence in speaking English and reduce awkwardness when interacting with others. The results of this study show that Mingle Night can be an effective approach in creating a learning environment that supports the development of students' speaking skills. However, in addition to the many students who think that Mingle Night is very helpful in improving their speaking skills, there are also students who feel that Mingle Night has not had a significant impact on them.

The activities carried out in the Mingle Night program to improve students' English speaking skills at BestOne Education are tutors giving them time to think about what they will say later related to the topic that has been given. When the discussion time is over, representatives from each group will present the results of the discussion in each group. Then other groups are free to ask questions about the topic. In addition, tutors also help students who have difficulty speaking English by translating unknown vocabulary using English.The activities carried out in the Mingle Night program to improve students' English speaking skills at BestOne Education are tutors giving them time to think about what they will say later related to the topic that has been given. When the discussion time is over, representatives from each group will present the results of the discussion in each group. Then other groups are free to ask questions about the topic. In addition, tutors also help students who have difficulty speaking English by translating unknown vocabulary using English.

In addition, students can also see the progress experienced by other students after participating in the Mingle Night program. They explained that there were students who initially could not speak English at all and did not have the mentality to speak. But after participating in this program, the student became more confident and had speaking skills. In addition, there are also students who see the progress of their schoolmates who initially did not dare to speak to see friends who were more capable, but over time the students saw that their schoolmates had the courage to speak to express their opinions in front of many people both at school and at the course. According to a study by Johnson (2018) said that students who were actively involved in Mingle Night events at their school experienced significant improvements in their English speaking ability. The results of this study imply that the social interactions that occur during Mingle Night can help students overcome shyness or fear of public speaking, thus improving their overall speaking fluency and skills.

Furthermore, what distinguishes mingle night from other programs at BestOne Educattion and those in other institutions is that Mingle night provides a different way to train students' speaking skills. Not only through videos using the story telling method like in formal schools. However, this Mingle Night provides a different method to make students not bored and free to speak related to the given topic. According to a meta-analysis by Lee (2020), Mingle Night has outperformed several other approaches, such as role-playing and group discussion, in terms of improving students' speaking ability. However, this study also states that combining Mingle Night with other approaches can create a more holistic and diverse learning experience.

In addition, there are also obstacles experienced by students during Mingle Night including, related to the time that is too short and the location of BestOne which is close to local residents making them not free to express their opinions with a loud voice, lack of vocabulary and awkwardness for students who are new to Mingle Night classes.

CONCLUSION

As a whole, Mingle Night has received widespread attention as one of the effective language learning strategies in improving students' speaking skills. Mingle Night has positive impacts including, reducing awkwardness, strengthening students' speaking skills through social interaction with peers, increasing vocabulary acquisition, increasing confidence, and instrumental support from tutors also make this program successful. The study also highlighted the importance of frequency and participation in Mingle Night, as well as comparison with other learning approaches to create an optimal learning environment at Best One Education.

However, even though Mingle Night Class has proven to be effective, there is still a need for regular monitoring and evaluation to ensure the program remains relevant and has a positive impact in the long run. In addition, the success of this program is also highly dependent on the active participation and engagement of students. Therefore, encouraging students' motivation to actively participate in the program is key to its success. Further research may be needed to better understand the factors that influence the effectiveness and applicability of Mingle class in a broader educational context.

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