Chapter one

Introduction

This chapter presents an introduction to the research. There are several important points in this chapter. First, the research background explains the reasons why researchers are interested in discussing EFL Student's strategies in conducting public speaking at a conference. In addition, this chapter also presents research questions that serve as research guides. Furthermore, the research objectives describe the specific purpose or intent of the research. Also, the significance of the study presents the benefits of this study to certain people. Finally, the organization of the research chapters shows an explanation of each chapter.

Research Background

Public speaking is a skill that must be possessed by students. According to Tarsinih (2021), "Public speaking is an important science for students to encourage student success" (p. 77). This is because students must be able to present and share the results of their opinions to be known by many people. Public speaking is also a skill that shows courage. This is because students who are good at doing public speaking are students who can overcome their difficulties or fight their fear of speaking in front of many people. Skills in public speaking must of course be supported by self-confidence as one of the personality elements that plays an important role in a person's success in a particular job or profession. Self-confidence is a belief in a person that causes him to be confident in his

abilities and skills. Many students have good public speaking skills at school, but many of them have problems when dealing with public speaking. This is driven by various things from the student. According to Thao and Nguyet (2020), "There are two factors that make it difficult for someone to do public speaking. Those two things are internal and external factors" (p. 53). Internal factors come from the person, while external factors come from things around him. There are many things that can be done to help a student to do public speaking. Some tips can be practiced.

Public speaking has many benefits besides being used at school. Another benefit is that it is useful in a career. Developing public speaking skills is the same as communicating. Public speaking has many benefits in various aspects of life, considering that communication is fundamental to exchanging information and socializing with other people. Public speaking also improves a person's quality. Because someone is considered to have good ability to speak in public or in front of many people, he has more opportunities to find a better job for a better future.

Practicing public speaking takes a lot of practice. According to Thao and Nguyet (2019), "it is very important it is very important for English students to practice public speaking in order to be more perfect." (p. 10). A school is a suitable place for students to practice public speaking skills because there are many friends and teachers who can help a student see and assess the skills possessed by a student. According to Nuraheni (2020), "teachers are people who have the authority to assist and guide students as well as assess students" (p. 12).Schools are also places that provide learning tools for students from books

where students can find out how to fight shortcomings in public speaking from books that students read at school. Extracurricular activities can be a place where students can practice their public speaking skills with friends around the park to practice their public speaking skills. The classroom is one place where students can directly practice their public speaking skills in front of the teacher and their classmates and other people. Therefore, to train public speaking skills, it is necessary to have a forum such as certain course institutions or certain educational institutions which in their teaching programs include relevant courses so that they can produce skilled educational products.

One of the venues where public speaking is carried out is academic conferences. Conference is an activity of meeting or meeting to negotiate or exchange opinions on a problem faced together (deliberation). According to Hafera and Samatan (2022), "Conference is a face-to-face communication medium which is the same as direct learning in class as it can be face to face" (p, 47). The same thing according to Febriadi and Putra (2019) In a conference is a meeting activity between a group of people. people, statesmen, businessmen, and so on, to discuss a discussion"(p.133). The things discussed in the conference are matters that lead to the academic field. In conference activities conducted with, Conference participants who are asked to present their research at the conference. A short question and answer session is held at the end of each oral presentation, which helps new researchers engage with an audience of young and experienced researchers.

Academic conferences can also be held by professional bodies, which only invite eminent professors to present their work at the conference. This is done to share opinions and experiences on the subject being researched. In conferences, students can act as co-authors of conference papers as usually many post-doctoral researchers work with professors on various research studies. This makes students increase their insight and experience in matters related to research. Conferences become an interesting spotlight for students today. This is due to the many programs or events that are held both locally and internationally, one example is an international business conference in Bali.Not only that, but there are also many online platforms that have emerged to facilitate conference activities to be carried out. The emergence of online platforms makes it easier for people who want to make conferences to do it. This is due to several advantages with using online platforms as said by Hafera and Samatan (2022), "online conferences support the delivery of information quickly and cost-effectively" (p 53). With the many emerging conferences that can be held both locally, internationally, or offline or online, it attracts many people to want to join the conference.

By attending a conference, a student can get several benefits. In conducting a conference, a student is the same as doing public speaking where public speaking skills are practiced continuously. Another benefit, according to Thao and Nguyet (2019), " By practicing public speaking, one will feel more confident in their ability to speak English in public. " (p. 62). Another benefit of participating in the conference is that students gain experience that is useful for the future of students.

During the conference, some students still had difficulty speaking on stage. As Thao and Nguyet (2019) say, "There are two factors that make it difficult for someone to do public speaking. Those two things are internal and external factors" (p. 53). These two problems are things that make it difficult for students to conduct conferences. When experiencing obstacles in doing public speaking, the things that students want to convey in a conference will be difficult to convey thoroughly as stated by Abdelkarim (2020), "a student who has problems in public speaking cannot express his thoughts thoroughly and his opinion satisfactorily in front of general" (p. 25). To get a good performance in conducting conferences, a student must be ready to do public speaking to conduct conferences.

This study was conducted at an Islamic University of Yogyakarta. The setting was chosen since conference activities are often held and also attended by many students from various majors. This makes the experiences experienced by students during public speaking at conferences vary about the problems they faced and how students prevented those problems while performing at the conference.

Identification of problem

The pandemic that started several years ago had an impact on several aspects of society. With less income, the education obtained is also less effective to obtain. This is because online learning is carried out during a pandemic which makes it difficult for a student to interact directly with friends and teachers at school. Online learning is usually done in the form of digital meetings (zoom

video) where the process has several weaknesses, one of which is an internet connection. Due to interference with internet access, the learning process is disrupted, so that students' understanding of the material also experiences difficulties. Not only that, online learning actually adds to the feeling of laziness and also makes it difficult for students to concentrate the lack of effectiveness of online learning also affects students' willingness to join academic activities such as academic conference.

Currently, many academic conferences are being held online by campuses and other institutions, especially for undergraduates. These conferences are an opportunity for students to increase their experience and learn in conducting research. Not only that, but there are also many opportunities that undergraduates can get to join the conference, namely scholarships that can help students in attending school.

In participating in the conference, students are required to perform optimally to get good results. However, in conducting conferences there are still obstacles faced by students in conducting conferences which make students' performance not optimal when conducting conferences. The problems that arise are usually in the form of students' confidence in doing public speaking.

Public speaking has become an obstacle for students to present the subject matter. There are still many undergraduate students who still have difficulty in overcoming their public speaking. However, for those who have often been actively doing public speaking in a conference, they definitely have a way to

reduce the problems they face to present a better performance. That is the reason why this study is conducted.

Research Question

Based on the background of the issue described above, the researcher formulated the research question as follows:

1. What are the problems faced by EFL students when doing public speaking at academic conferences?
2. What strategies do students use to prevent the problems in public speaking at academic conferences?

The purpose of the research

Based on the background of the issue described above, the researcher formulated the research question as follows:

1. To identify students' problems in presenting at academic conferences.
2. To identify how students prevent the problems when they conduct a presentation in conferences.

Significance of the Research

This research is useful for students, teachers, and further researchers.

For students. This research is expected to be useful for students to overcome their problems when going to conferences. The strategies generated from this research can help students to reduce their difficulties when going to

conferences, and it is also expected that students will be able to give their best performance when appearing at conferences.

For Teachers. This research is expected to deepen teachers in training students in building students to be brave to do public speaking so that they can encourage them to be able to do public speaking at a conference someday.

Future Researcher. The researcher hopes that this research can be used for similar research. It is hoped that similar research can get additional reading for researchers who are interested in the topic. This research can also help future researchers as a reference for their research.

Organization of the Research

This research is presented in five chapters. The first chapter is introduction. Introduction chapter consists of the background of the study which states the reason why the researcher chooses the topic and why the researcher is interested in conducting the research. In identification of the problem, researcher provides the problems about the topic followed by the delimitation of the problem which the researcher chooses to be focused on. This chapter also shows two research questions which are:1) What are the problems faced by EFL students when doing public speaking at academic conferences?.2) What strategies do students use to prevent the problems in public speaking at academic conferences?. It also shows research objectives and significance of the study for students, teachers, also future researchers. Additionally, this chapter also provides the outline of the research.

The second chapter presents a literature review of EFL student's strategies for public speaking at a conference. the literature review describes public speaking, public speaking online, problem public speaking, and how to improve public speaking. In addition, chapter two explains how the student's EFL strategies public speaking at a conference.

The third chapter consists of the methodology that will be used for this research. This chapter explains what kind of methodology that the researcher will use in conducting the research. The approach that will be used in this research is qualitative research design. The researcher will conduct the research in one of the Islamic university in Yogyakarta with six students as the research participants. It also provides the data gathering technique along with data gathering procedure and data analysis.

The fourth chapter discusses the findings of the research. This chapter consists of the analysis from the data that the researcher collected from the interviews. This chapter contains answers to the research questions of this study answered by six participants. the answers obtained from the participants are processed and explained in this chapter. .

Chapter five is the conclusion and implication. This part provides the summary of the research followed by suggestions based on the findings of the research. advice given to students, teachers, and future research.