# AN ANALYSIS ON THE NINTH GRADE STUDENTS' ABILITY TO EXPRESS *HOW TO DO THINGS* AT SMPN 1 LUNANG, PESISIR SELATAN

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**The purpose of the research was to describe students' ability in speaking, especially the ability to express how to do things. The design of the research was descriptive design. The population of the research was the ninth grade students of SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. The researcher used cluster random sampling technique to choose the sample, and the number of sample was 25 students. The researcher found out that the reliability index of the test was very high (0.98). It means that the instrument was reliable. The result of the research showed that in general, the ability of the ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 96 % students had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things in category of content at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 80 % students had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things in using appropriate grammar at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 68 % students had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things in using appropriate vocabulary at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 76 % students had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things to speak fluently at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 52% students had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students ninth grade students' ability to express how to do things in pronouncing word at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was moderate. It was proved by the finding that was 64 % students had moderate ability.**

**Keywords: Ability, Speaking, How to Do Thing.**

## Intruduction

Language is very important in our lives because it is always used in our daily activity to communicate with the others. We can't communicate each other without language. It is one of the communication tools used by people in general. We can use language to convey our messages or to express our ideas through oral, written, or signal languages.

By learning English, people can communicate to other people around the world. English is an international language. People realize that they need knowledge to survive their life. The knowledge that is needed is not only from their country but also from other countries. Therefore, people around the world speak English to communicate. To make relationship with them, people need English for communication.

In learning English, learners need to master four language skills. Those are listening, speaking, reading and writing. Listening and reading skills are regarded as receptive skills while speaking and writing skills are considered to be productive skills. Speaking, as a productive skill, expresses person idea and feeling by using spoken language. It means that everyone will express their own ideas to other people through speaking performance. Through speaking, everybody wants to express their idea, what they think and what in their mind. Showing the idea may oral and written. In speaking, expressing the ideas can be done spontaneously but in writing we should think first to arrange the words.

Furthermore, speaking as a means of communication is the process of transmitting the message from the source to target language. By practice speaking students at any levels are able to ask some questions in English. It means that speaking is used to send information, news, ideas, or opinion. Using speaking the students can express their ideas to communicate with other people.

Speaking is needed by the students for communication in the target language. It is very important to master speaking well by implementing the experience of learning the language in the real life. To be able to speak is not as easy as it is. Eventhough the students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan have studied about the way of expressing ideas or feeling orally, they are still unable to express their idea orally. Many students get some problems to do it; in consequence, the teachers feel difficult to teach speaking too.

The condition as brought up above have in inpact on students' mastery as indicated by their grades. As we know, the Standard score for English subject was 7,50, but there were many students who could not reach it yet. It might be caused by the reasons that some students did not like speaking activity and the teacher didn't give enough explanation and provide speaking activities so that the students were not active to practice their speaking skill. It made the students bored and rare to practice their speaking ability. These phenomena are supported by the data on the students grade as shown in Table 1.:

**Table 1: Mean of Students' Score in Daily Examination**

| NO | Class | Number of students | Mean score |
|----|-------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | IX $_1$ | 26 | 64.52 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | IX $_2$ | 26 | 60.64 |
| 3 | IX $_3$ | 26 | 60.83 |
| 4 | IX $_4$ | 25 | 57.00 |
| 5 | IX $_5$ | 25 | 64.60 |
| 6 | IX $_6$ | 25 | 56.00 |
| 7 | IX $_7$ | 25 | 58.11 |
| **Mean** | | | **57.55** |

Source: English teachers' book mark in Academic Year 2013/2014

Considering the phenomenon above, the researcher was interested in conducting the research entitled **"An Analysis of Ninth Grade Students' Ability to Express *How to Do Things* at SMP N I Lunang, Pesisir Selatan"**

In general, the purpose of the research was to describe the ninth grade students' ability in expressing how to do things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. Specifically, she wanted to describe: The ninth grade students' ability from the view of content in expressing how to do things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. The ninth grade students' ability to use the appropriate words in expressing how to do things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. The ninth grade students' ability to use the correct grammar in expressing how to do things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. The ninth grade students' ability to use the correct pronounciation in expressing how to things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan. The ninth grade students' ability to speak fluently in expressing how to things at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan.

The result of this research are expected to be useful reference as scientific information and contribution for the English language teaching particularly in teaching speaking for students. The teachers can make some considerations to use a valuable method in teaching after they have known the students' speaking ability to express how to do things. For students, they will know their speaking ability in expressing how to do things and they can do more exercises to improve their ability.

**Research Design**

This research used descriptive design. It described the ability of students to express *how to do thing*. The population of this study was the ninth grade students of SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Sealatan. The total number of population member was 178 students they were distributed in seven classes. Due to the larger number of population members as mentioned above, the researcher took the sample for this study.

In choosing the sample, the researcher used the cluster random sampling. Cluster random sampling is a sample in groups that are randomly selected, and all members of selected groups have similar characteristics (Gay,1987:110). In other words, the member of population have same characteristics or homogeneous. They have studied based on the same syllabus, materials, and teaching and learning process.

The instrument used to collect the data in this research was speaking test in the form of expressing 'How to do things'. The test was used to know the ninth grade students' ability in expressing how to do things. The students are asked to choose one of the three topics of doing things: how to make fried rice, how to use an ATM card, and how to charge phone cell. These three topics are selected based on the consideration that the students are familiar enough with their daily activities; therefore, they can use their own background knowledge while speaking. To collect the data, the researcher asked the students to express how to do things in three minutes. The test was considered as a non-standardized instrument since the researcher planned and wrote the instrument by herself.

A good test should be valid and reliable. Arikunto (2010:57) states that one of the type of validity is content validity. Relating to this, Gay (1987:128) states that a test is valid if it measures what is supposed to be measured. To have a content validity the researcher constructed the test based on the curriculum, syllabus, and teaching materials.

Reliability is the degree to which a test consistently measures whatever it is measured (Gay, 1987; 135). In order to get reliability of the test, researcher used inter rater technigue; the test was scored by two scorers. The first scorer was Eni Rahmi and the second scorer was Afrida Maiyati, S.Pd. The reason for choosing both scorers is to minimize the subjectivity. Why the researcher chose Afrida Maiyati, S.Pd as second scorer because she is an English teacher of SMPN 1 Lunang. To find out the correlation index of two scores, the reseacher used Pearson Product Moment formula suggested by Arikunto (2012:87) as follows:

$$r_{xy}= \frac{n\sum xy-(\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{\{(n\sum x^2)-(\sum x)^2\}\{(n\sum y^2)-(\sum y)^2\}}}$$

Where:

$r_{xy}$   = the coefficient correlation between variable x and y

$x$   = the scores given by the first scorers

y   = the scores given by the second scorers

n   = the total number of the students who follow the test

$xy$ = the total scores of cross product xy

Then the researcher used degree of coefficient correlation based on Arikunto's idea (Arikunto, 2005: 75):

0.81 – 1.00 : very high correlation

0.61 – 0.80 : high correlation

0.41 – 0.60 : moderate correlation

0.21 – 0.40 : low correlation

0.20 – 0.00 : very low

Based on the result of data analysis, the researcher found the reliability index between two scores was 0.98. it was categorized into very high correlation. Gay (1987:139) states that if the coefficient correlation is very high, it means the test is reliable. It means the test can be used as the tool of collecting data in this research.

In collecting data, the researcher followed the some procedures:

1. The researcher explained about procedure text "how to do things".

2. The researcher asked students to express their ideas on how to do things.

3. The scorers gave score by using criteria.

The researcher analyzed the data by the following steps :

1. Calculate the evarage score of student by using the following formula

Average score

$$= \frac{\text{score from scorer 1} + \text{score from scirer 2}}{2}$$

2. Calculate the mean by using the following formula

$$M = \frac{x}{N}$$

Where :

M  = Mean

x = The total score of the students

N  = Number of students

3. Calculate standard deviation by using this formula (Arikunto, 2012:289) :

$$SD = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sum x^2}{N}\right) - \left(\frac{\sum x}{N}\right)^2}$$

SD = Standard Deviation

x = The total score of the students

x$^2$ = The total of x

N   = Number of students

4. Clasify the students' ability into high, moderate, and low by using the criteria below:

> $>M + 1\ SD$ = High
>
> $(M - 1\ SD) \longrightarrow (M + 1\ SD)$ = Moderate
>
> $<M - 1\ SD$ = Low

5. Count the percentage of students who has high, moderate, and low ability by using the following formula:

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

Where :

P   = percentage of the students who have high, moderate and low ability

F   = the sum of the students who get high, moderate, or low ability

N   = the sum of the students.

**Findings and discussions**

   **a. Findings**

Based on the result by the data analysis, it was found that the lowest score was 25, the highest score was 60. The mean score was 38 and standard deviation was 13.49. The number of students who got grade above and the equal to average (M) 18 students (72%) and the students who got less than average were 7 students (28%). Based on data analysis, the students grade can be classified into three categories. The range of the students score were as follows : $> 51.49$ was high ability (4%), 24.51 until 51.49 was moderate ability (96%), $< 24.51$ was low ability (0%). As shown in Table 2:

**Table 2**

**The Percentage of Students' Speaking Ability**

*How To Do Thing*

| Frequency of Member | Classification Of Ability | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | High | 4 % |
| 24 | Moderate | 96 % |
| 0 | Low | 0 % |

The result of analyzing data showed that the highest score students got was 10 and the lowest score students got was 5. The mean was 8.3 and standard deviation was 2.8. In terms of expressing idea ( content ) to express *how to do thing,* there were 0 students ( 0 % ) who got high ability, 20 students ( 80 % ) who got moderate ability and 5 students ( 20 % ) who got low ability. It can be seen in Table 3:

**Table 3**

**Classification Of Students'**

**Speaking Ability In Expressing Ideas ( Content )**

**To Express *How To Do Thing***

| Frequency of Member | Classification of Ability | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | High | 0 % |
| 20 | Moderate | 80 % |
| 5 | Low | 20 % |

The result of data analysis also demonstrated that the highest score students got was 12.5 and the lowest score students got was 5. The mean was 8.3 and standard deviation was 2.31. The students speaking ability in using appropriate grammar to express *how to do thing* can be described as follows, there were 1 student ( 4 % ) who got high ability, 17 students ( 68 % ) who got moderate ability and 7 students ( 28 % ) who got low ability. It can be seen in table 4 :

**Table 4**

**Classification of Students'**

**Speaking Ability In Using Appropriate Grammar**

**To Express *How To Do Thing***

| Frequency of Member | Classification Of Ability | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | High | 4 % |
| 17 | Moderate | 68 % |
| 7 | Low | 28 % |

Based on the result of data analysis, the researcher found that the highest score students got was 12.5 and the lowest students got 5. The mean was 8.8 and standard deviation was 1.88. The students speaking ability in using appropriate vocabulary to express *how to do thing* can be described as follows, there were 2 student ( 8 % ) who got high ability, 19 students ( 76 % ) who got moderate ability and 4 students ( 16 % ) who got low ability. It can be seen in Table 5

**Table 5**

**Classification Of Students'**

**Speaking Ability In Using Appropriate Vocabulary**

**To Express *How To Do Thing***

| Frequency of Member | Classification Of Ability | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | High | 8 % |
| 19 | Moderate | 76 % |

| 4 | Low | 16 |
|---|-----|----|

The result of the data analysis showed that the highest score students got was 15 and the lowest score students got was 5. The students' speaking ability in pronuncing word to express *how to do thing* can be described as follows, there were 2 student ( 8 % ) who got high ability, 16 students ( 64 % ) who got moderate ability and 7 students ( 28 % ) who got low ability. It can be seen in Table 6 :

**Table 6**
**Classification of Students'**
**Speaking Ability in**
**Pronouncing Word To Express**
*How To Do Thing*

| Frequency of Member | Classification Of Ability | Percentage |
|---------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 2 | High | 8 % |
| 16 | Moderate | 64 % |
| 7 | Low | 28 % |

**b. Discussions**

As already discussed previously, this study found that the students' speaking ability in expressing how to do things was moderate. It means that most of students can speak well through in expressing how to do things, but in part of speaking like content, grammar, vocabulary, fluency and pronounciation some of the students still make errors.

The students ability in expressing idea ( content ) was moderate 80 % classified as moderate ability. It means that in general students were able to speak by considering the ideas ( content ) that they delivered. They have understood well and they can make the audience understand what they delivered. However there were a number of students ( 20% ) classified as having low ability  because they have some problem in expressing their idea and they did not understand about what they talked.

The students' ability in using appropriate grammar in expressing how to do thing was moderate 68 %. It means that most of them understood how to use appropriate grammar. Unfortunetely, there were 28 % students classified as having low ability, because they have problem in using appropriate grammar, they did not use simple present tense when speaking. For example ; *stir until well mixed and rice was hot.* The correct one is ; *stir until well mixed and rice is hot.*

The students ability in using appropriate vocabulary was moderate 76 %. It means that they have moderate in choosing vocabulary related with the picture series, most of them used appropriate vocabulary but there were still 16 % of students classifed as having low ability in using appropriate vocabulary. It means they did not understand to use vocabulary well. For example ; *contact your charge to your handphone.* The word "contact" in the example is not appropriate. The correct one is ; *connect your charge to your handphone.*

The students' fluency in expressing how to do thing was moderate. It means that the fluency of the students' speaking was classified as moderate. However there were 24 % of them classified as having low ability. It was probably caused by the fact that they are not occustumed to speak. in expressing how to do things. So, that they are usually hesistant and unsure of their ability. Example ; *wait until **aaaa uhmm** wait until the batrey **aaaa uhhmmm** is fully charged.*

The students' ability in applying good pronounciation in expressing how to do things was moderate. It means that the students' accent is intelligible though often quite faulty. But there were 28 % of students who could not apply good pronounciation in expressing how to do thing and they are classified as low ability, their unability to apply good pronounciation might due to their lack of practicing to the words. Example ; ***stear** until well mixed and rice is hot.*

*/stiir/,* this word is not pronounced correctly. The correct one is */stir/.*

## CONCLUSIONS

Having the result of the data analysis, the researcher concluded that :

In general, the ability of the ninth grade students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan was classified as moderate one. It was proved by the fact that 96% students had moderate abilty.The ability of the ninth grade students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan in expressing how to do things in bringing up ideas ( content ) was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 20 students ( 80% ) were classified as having moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan in expressing how to do thing in using appropriate grammar was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 17 students ( 68%) had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan in expressing how to do thing in

using suitable vocabulary was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 19 students (76%) had moderate ability. The ability of the ninth grade students at SMPN 1 Lunang, Pesisir Selatan in expressing how to do thing in terms of fluency was moderate. It was proved by the fact that 13 students (52%) were classified as having moderate ability.

Based on the conclusion of this research, the researcher proposed some suggestions as follows :

1. The English teachers are suggested to consider the five components : content, grammar, vocabulary, fluency and pronounciation when measuring students' speaking ability.

2. The students are suggested to do more practices in speaking English, because to improve the ability in speaking skill they must do more practice in English.

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