



The Strategies of “EFOS” English Debate Club
to Improve Students’ Speaking Skill at
SMA Negeri 1 Sidoarjo

THESIS

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ADVISORS' APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis by **Ainun Fikria** entitled **The Strategies of "EFOS" English Debate Club to improve Students' Speaking Skills at SMA Negeri 1 Sidoarjo** has been approved by thesis advisors and could be proposed to fulfill the requirement of Graduated Degree in English Teaching of Tarbiyah Faculty State Institute of Islamic Studies Sunan Ampel Surabaya

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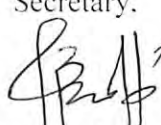
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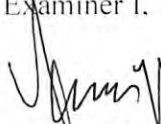
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ideals of reasoned argument, tolerance for divergent points of view, and rigorous self-examination. It emphasises on critical thinking, effective communication, independent research, and teamwork.

5. Debate Club

Debate club defined as the gathering activity that covers all the expectation and goal of its members. There is a coach provided in a club. Nowadays, the English debate club usually has specific schedule, strategies and activities to improve speaking skill of its member.

6. Effectiveness

Effectiveness is the extent to which an activity fulfils its intended purpose or function.⁷

7. Strategy

Based on the oxford vocabularies, the strategy is a plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall aim.⁸ It means that the strategy described as the systematic ways and procedure in learning activities to develop the improvement of student's learning. The Appropriate strategy is believed to carry the activities effectively.

⁷ <http://www.qualityresearchinternational.com/glossary/effectiveness.htm>, accessed on August 4, 2012.

⁸ <http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/strategy?q=strategy>, accessed on July 18, 2012.

Faiza, in the research project entitled "*Using Debate Method to Improve Speaking Ability at the second Grade of SMA Giki Surabaya*" (Surabaya: IAIN Sunan Ampel, 2011). This previous research focused on how debate being one of speaking betterment method inside the classroom, Faiza stated that debate method that teacher use in the classroom work linier with the occurance of speaking betterment. The significant difference with this research is the subject. Faiza used debate as one of the method in teaching English speaking inside the classroom. So, the result is known when the method applied in classroom. But, this research focuses on debate club that has a definite schedule and structured activities with a certain objectives each. Hence, the result of speaking improvement will be significant.²² Another study was held by Fatimah Yuliani.

Fatimah Yuliani, Undergraduate Thesis: "*The Implementation of Debate in Teaching Speaking to the First Year Students of RSBI (Rintisan Sekolah Bertaraf Internasional) Class at SMP N 1 Boyolali*" (Surakarta: Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, 2009).²³ The objectives of this research are to know the procedures of teaching speaking using debate, the activities of teaching speaking using debate, the problems faced by the teacher and the students, and the strengths and weaknesses of debate technique implementation. So, the different between the researcher's research and Fatimah's research is the subject,

²² Faiza, Undergraduate Thesis: "*Using Debate Method to Improve Speaking Ability at the 2nd Grade of SMA Giki Surabaya*" (Surabaya: IAIN Sunan Ampel, 2011)

²³ Fatimah Yuliani, Undergraduate Thesis: "*The Implementation of Debate in Teaching Speaking to the First Year Students of RSBI (Rintisan Sekolah Bertaraf Internasional) Class at SMP N 1 Boyolali*" (Surakarta: Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta, 2009)

the English community itself. This previous research was conducted in the class as a teaching method.

Afterwards, another studies concern about debate is held by Khoironiyah by the title of *The Implementation of Debate in Teaching Speaking at Eleventh Year Students of SMA Negeri 2 Rembang* in the Academic Year 2011/2012. The writer as the researcher wants to know the effect of this method in students' ability especially in speaking skill and to know the strength and weakness debate which implemented to the eleventh year students SMA 2 Rembang as the subject of the research. 44 students who sit in XI-IPA class were the subject of the research. The writer chooses debate method because debate is potential to develop the student's ability. Using debate as using the technique in teaching speaking can increase the ability and capability students in speaking. This gives the main differences to the researcher concern that this research is focusing on the debate club and its activities.

Further, the same focus of previous study were conducted by Junaidi by the title of "*Using Critical Debate Technique To Improve Students' Speaking Ability (A Classroom Action Research In The Eleventh Grader Of Sma Negeri 1 Sakra Lombok Timur In Academic Year Of 2010/2011)*" that has the similar focus to another previous studies.

Thus, the researcher collected the data of the role of the coach presence in the every single debate club meeting in order to catch the strategies of speaking betterment which the coach implemented in debate club itself. To smoothen the finding of data, the researcher provided the observation checklist which served in appendix 3.

In the field observation session, recording all the club's action, activities and rehearsal were the researcher's privilege. Hence, the researcher prepared the suitable equipment to smoothen the research project. This field observation was the main data for the research that served in the field note as presented in appendix 1.

To know the strategies of the debate club regarding its members' improvement on language development, the researcher conducted the observation in three weeks. In this observation, the researcher analyzed the activity that the coach and the member did in every single meeting and then test students' English speaking fluency by conducted the English debate simulation over EFOS member at SMA Negeri 1 Sidoarjo.

C. Data and Source of Data

Source of data of the research was the subject where the data obtained. the coach and the member of EFOS English debate club themselves. Therefore, qualitative study is description of phenomena that is written in form of text. It could be words, sentences or even picture.

Therefore, this technique was taken to answer the first research question on what the strategies that debate club implement to meet the students' expectation on speaking skill betterment.

b. Field Note

Field note, according to Bogdan and Biklen, is written record of what is heard, seen, experienced, and thought that aims to collect data and reflect the data in qualitative research.⁸ This instrument was needed to make the data valid and reliable because this field note was made, as soon as the researcher came from observation place, based on the real situation, what is heard, seen and experienced during the observation.

The content of the field note consisted of two main segments. First, descriptive part consisted of overview of background observations, people, actions and speech. Second, reflective part consists of framework of thought, researcher's opinion, ideas, and concern.⁹ This field note technique (Appendix 3) was taken to answer the second research question that focused on the effectiveness of the club's strategies towards

⁸ Bogdan, Robert C. & Sari Knopp Biklen, *Qualitative Research for Education: An Introduction to Theory and Methods*, Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc, 1982, p. 74

⁹ Lexy J. Moleong, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif – Ed. Revisi*, Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya, 2011, p. 211

EFOS. But now, the researcher could stated that their speaking ability was excellent because they speak fluently, unconsciously speak in English to answer the researchers' questions, think fast, pronounced the words accurately and have a lot of vocabularies (see appendix 8).

The observation section stated that their English speaking skill are excellent because they could speak fluently in debate simulation with the good articulation, clear accent, speaking comprehension in seven minutes length without relying much on the note, and produced rich vocabularies although not in grammatical order. But, if all of the components of speaking were achieved, the researcher could conclude that the member of EFOS acquired excellent English speaking skill proficiency (see appendix 6).

Furthermore, the data found based on the study of document stated that they obtained a lot of achievements in every English debate competitions they participated in the range of regional, national until international competitions. It was general truth that English debate competition required above average level of English speaking skill. So, based on their achievements, the researcher could conclude that the EFOS members have excellent level of English speaking skill proficiency because it was proved by their achievements in debate competitions. Here is the list of the achievements they got in the last two years (certificates enclosed);

Table 4.1

The achievements of EFOS debate club

No.	Name of Event	Year	Achievement
1	ITS Open Debate – JATIM	2011	Octo Finalist
2	SMANISDA Open Debate (SMASH) – JATIM	2011	Octo Finalist
3	STIKOM English Debate – JATIM	2011	1 st Runner Up
4	High School Debate Competition UNAIR – JATIM	2011	The Champion
5	HI-LITE Debate Competition UNAIR – JATIM	2011	Octo Finalist
6	English Debating Contest UMSIDA – JATIM	2011	The Champion
7	English Debate (PEDC) Penabur Bandung – Nasional	2011	Semi Finalist
8	English Week (E-WEEK) UNESA – JATIM	2011	2 nd Runner Up
9	Debate Competition UPH – JATIM	2011	Quarter Finalist
10	Lomba Debate “Think Safety” POLRES – Sidoarjo	2012	1 st Runner Up
11	ALSA Debate Championship (ASDC) – JATIM	2012	Quarter Finalist
12	Debate Competition Widya Mandala – JATIM	2012	1 st Runner Up
13	High School Debate Competition UNAIR – JATIM	2012	1 st Runner Up
14	ITS Open Debate Competition – Nasional	2012	Octo Finalist
15	STIKOM English Debate Competition – JATIM	2012	The Champion
16	Asian School Debating Competition di Malaysia – ASIA	2012	Participant
17	National School Debating Championship – Nasional	2012	Octo Finalist

2. Advantage and Disadvantage of Member’s Participation in Debate Club

In the interview session, the researcher limit on the advantage and disadvantage of the member’s participation in debate club which covers their improvement of speaking/communication skills, research skills, analytical/critical skills, knowledge/education, and college carrier advantage. And then the disadvantage of their participation covers feeling of being overwhelmed, hurt their health, make them frustration, costly, and hurts their academics.

The result of the interview section to each member describes that the advantages of their participation in debate club are developing their academic performance and benefiting their future college carrier (see appendix 7). Furthermore, the disadvantage covers the feeling of overwhelming because they have a lot of task given by the school and the club activities that require them to focus on that (see appendix 8).

C. Discussion

1. The Strategies of EFOS Debate Club to Improve English Speaking Skill

Strategy is the sistematic ways and procedure in learning activities to develop the improvement of students' learning.² There are some strategies for success in learning English as Douglas Brown stated on his book, those are self-motivating and setting goals, developing self-confidence and lowering anxiety, and learning to take a risk.³ Those kinds of strategies was implemented in EFOS English Debate club and will be explained as follows:

a. Self-motivating and setting goal,

In order to be self motivated, the strategy of the coach was; invite the senior of EFOS who has graduated from SMA Negeri 1 Sidoarjo and get engaged into the favorite university (Appendix 6) to be a debating

² Indah Merdekawati, skripsi: "Teacher's strategy in Teaching English speaking at Second Grade of SMPN 2 Pare-Kediri" (Surabaya: IAIN Sunan Ampel, 2011), 16.

³ Brown. Douglas, "*Strategies for Success. (In Practical guide to Learning English)*" (Longman, 2001), 24.

partner. This strategy was giving motivation to the member who has a low-motivated self. So, this strategy was successfully attracts students involvement in joining EFOS.

Invite the guest coach (see Appendix 6), the beneficial of inviting guest coach was giving the knowledge of language for students that the own coach does not gave. The presence of guest coach also gives the benefit as the comparison of speaking style which makes students aware of another style of speaking and, further, could be a figure and motivate them to learn English more.

Show-up the achievements of EFOS to the member (See Appendix 10). EFOS itself contributes lots of trophy for school. The achievements attract students' excitement of being engaged in the community and then they will be highly motivated to get their own trophy.

According the finding data of the interview session, the motive of the member to join EFOS debate club was so vary. Then, the researcher comes to divide it into two main criterions, the internal and external motivation. The internal motivation that called self-motivation means that the students doing something because they want to do it or student have made their own choice to do it. They do not need the reward, and do not

- a) Invite guest coach. The member asks the experienced speaker (guest coach) to have a conversation with them.
- b) Gossip away with your friend in English
- c) Participating in group discussion
- d) Playing conversation games such as “What would you do if you were”. This is coach-students interaction. (Appendix 4)

2) Pronunciation skill

Articulation refers to the accurate pronunciation of words. An effective debater articulates a speech, saying each word the way a dictionary said. A debater should have a good pronunciation because all the audiences are paying attention in time the debater deliver the speech

Strategies:

- a) Speak a loud. It helps the coach to correct the students’ mispronounce words.
- b) Ask for help. Members ask their coach to listen to their practice speeches for pronunciation errors.
- c) Ask dictionary. (Appendix 5) Practice pronouncing sounds and words clearly to avoid errors through English pronouncing dictionary. Whether, open *One Look Dictionary* websites for pronunciation on www.onelook.com.
- d) Articulate unusual or difficult words and phrases.

Unconscious conversation is chosen to be one of the strategies to lower students' anxiety because this activity is conducted by the student and the coach, the coach ask the student, and the student answer the coach, all the conversation delivered in English that make student continued speak in English unconsciously. The three interviewees stated that I-to-I conversation made them not afraid to speak because the coach always ask them to tell their experience in the vacation or sometime the coach stimulate them to gossip away in English and some new vocabulary occurred here. So, the researcher concluded that the activity could meet the extend purpose of decrease the anxiety of students. It is effective activity based on the data above.

Held pronunciation exercise is one of the strategies held by the coach because it could make them learn about pronouncing the words and increase their confidence in speaking English and not afraid of mispronounce words anymore. The interviewees stated that if they say the word correctly, they would not afraid of speak anymore and then the ability to speak in English accurately will give them the confidence to be engaged in such a debate competitions. So, the researcher concluded that the activity could meet the extend purpose of decrease the anxiety of students. It is effective activity based on the data above

Public speaking activity is one of the strategies that the coach held because it is the main fear of most people. They may feel dizzy, have a

the researcher concluded that the strategy of the coach was successfully meet the extend purpose to make student learn to take a risk.

Out-door activity regarding public speaking with minimal preparations was proven to make student learning to take a risk. This activity quiet challenging, the public speaking usually need such preparation of material or self-preparation as well. But, this activity requires the students to take a risk of speak in front of people in public places without preparations. The three interviewees agreed that this is challenging activity that should be taken because they aware of its benefit regarding their speaking betterment. So, the researcher inferred that this activity is effective to make the students learn to take a risk.

Engage the student to a certain debate competition was the challenging activities. The purpose of the speaking training in extracurricular is leading them to compete in such debate competitions. The interviewees agreed that taking a challenge to have a debate in such competitions make them improved their speaking ability. So, the researcher inferred that the strategy of the coach to engage them in debate competitions could make the students to take a risk in deliver their speaking along with critical thinking. Furthermore, that activity is benefit for their speaking improvements.

Based on the discussion above, the researcher conclude that the strategies hold by the coach in EFOS debate club could benefit for the

2) Identify the disadvantages to members' participation in debate.

2. Being Overwhelming

Yes. All of three students agree that being overwhelming is the main problem they face. Since they are students of SMA N 1 Sidoarjo, they have lots of homework and feel that they should set a priority and go along with that. One of the statement is "I choose Debate club as my prior extracurricular because I see the benefit in me. I just join EFOS because if too many activities I took, I will be overwhelmed and my school subjects will be dilapidated, because in EFOS there are so many activities".

3. Health/sleep/frustration:

Not really. All of the three students stated that the frustration is exist but in the day of the competition coming and the out-door activity comes, but overall is well and fun, they enjoy it. One of the reason covers that statement is "gotta admit that a week before the day of the competition is like my most toughful week in the month. But kinda enjoy it though."

4. Financial costs:

Not really. All of the three students said that the financial cost is for the benefit of the club, so it was never mind to spend money for the betterment of themselves than to spend it in the amusement park. One of the reason undercover that statement is

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