

ABSTRACT

Wulandari, Astri. (2017). *Students' Perception on The Use of Debate Activities in Improving Students' Speaking Skills in SMAN 8 Yogyakarta*. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

This research was about the use of debate activities which are implemented in SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. The aim of this research was to find out students' perception on the use of debate activities in improving students' speaking skills.

The researcher formulated two research questions in this study: (1) what is the eleventh grade students' perception on the use of debate to improve students' speaking skills? and (2) to what extent do debate activity help students to improve their speaking skills?

This research is a qualitative research. The participants of this research were eight members of debate extracurricular in SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. The researcher conducted observations, distributed questionnaires, and conducted interviews. The researcher conducted three observations in the debate activities. After that, the researcher distributed the questionnaires to the debate members of SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. The researcher also conducted interviews with eight debate extracurricular members. The researcher presented data in a form of narrative description.

This study found that the students had a positive perception on the use of debate activities in improving speaking skills. All of the respondents agreed that debate helped them to improve their speaking skills: 62.5% strongly agree and 37.5% agree. Also, they all agreed that debate helped them to know many new English vocabularies: 25% strongly agree and 75% agree. In addition, debating activity taught them to speak orderly. They should prepare their speech before speaking in front of the audience. Moreover, the students realized that the implementation of debate activities not only helped them to improve their attitude while speaking in front of public but also gave many advantages in improving their speaking skills.

Keywords: debate, speaking skills, public speaking

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Penelitian ini meneliti tentang penggunaan debat untuk mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara siswa yang dilaksanakan di SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui pandangan siswa mengenai penggunaan debat dalam mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara.

Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menyusun dua (2) rumusan masalah: (1) bagaimana pandangan siswa mengenai debat yang dapat mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara? dan (2) sejauh mana debat membantu siswa untuk mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara?

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Peserta dalam penelitian ini adalah delapan anggota ekstrakurikuler debat di SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. Peneliti melakukan observasi, menyebarkan kuesioner, dan melakukan wawancara. Peneliti melakukan tiga kali observasi di aktivitas debat SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. Setelah itu, peneliti membagikan kuesioner kepada anggota ekstrakurikuler debat SMAN 8 Yogyakarta. Peneliti juga melakukan wawancara dengan delapan anggota ekstrakurikuler debat. Peneliti menyajikan data dalam bentuk deskripsi narasi.

Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa siswa mempunyai pandangan yang positif mengenai praktik debat dapat membantu mereka untuk meningkatkan kemampuan berbicara. Seluruh responden setuju bahwa debat dapat membantu mereka untuk meningkatkan kemampuan berbicara: 62.5% sangat setuju dan 37.5% setuju. Semua responden juga setuju bahwa debat membantu mereka untuk mengetahui banyak kosa kata bahasa Inggris: 25% sangat setuju dan 75% setuju. Sebagai tambahan, debat mengajarkan siswa untuk berbicara secara runtut. Siswa harus menyiapkan skema pembicaraan sebelum berbicara di depan publik. Para siswa menyadari bahwa praktik debat tidak hanya membantu mereka dalam memperbaiki sikap mereka saat berbicara di depan publik, namun juga memberikan banyak manfaat untuk mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara mereka.

Kata kunci: debate, speaking skills, public speaking