

ABSTRACT

Izzanatun Nisa' Fajriyyah, NIM. 1810510018, 2023, Teacher's Role to Enhance the Students' Confidence in Speaking Skills at SMPLB Negeri Kaliwungu Kudus.

Confidence is something that all students need to have in learning English, especially in speaking skills. This also applies to mentally retarded students. The role of the English teacher is needed to enhance students' confidence in speaking skills, especially for mentally retarded students who tend to feel more inferior. This study aims to analyze 1) The self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking ability, 2) The factors that influence the self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking ability, 3) The role of the teacher to enhancing the self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking ability.

This research was conducted at SMPLB Negeri Kaliwungu Kudus, precisely in class VII of mentally retarded students. Participants in this study were taken using a purposive sampling, they were six students consist of two male students and four female students. This study used a descriptive qualitative approach and the data was obtained using three techniques, namely; interview, observation and documentation. Data validation in this study used source triangulation, method triangulation, and time triangulation.

The results of this study indicate that; 1) The self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking is still low. 2) There are two kinds of factors that influence the self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking skill, the internal factors are; lack of vocabulary mastery, difficult concentrate, difficult understand pronunciation, fear of being laughed, and physical condition. While the external factors are; family environment, school environment, and classmates. 3) The teacher acts as a learning resource, controller, motivator, appreciator, and guide to enhance the self-confidence of mentally retarded students in speaking abilities.

Keywords: *Teacher's role, Students' confidence, Speaking, Mental retarded.*