ABSTRACT

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In this era, Pesantren not only focused on religious education and Arabic but also began integrating English as a tool of communication that students used in daily. Therefore, this study aimed to explore the speaking challenges encountered by the students in Pesantren Margoyoso and the strategies they used to overcome these challenges.

This study used a qualitative method with the subjects being four students of senior high school at Pesantren Margoyoso. The data were collected through interviews, observation, and documentation. The data analysis was conducted using the model of Miles and Huberman, which consists of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification.

The results showed that students at Pesantren Margoyoso encountered several challenges in speaking English from the linguistic aspect, which were lack of vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. In addition, there were two main challenges from the non-linguistic aspect, which are the fear of making mistake and lack of confidence. This study also showed that students used strategies proposed by Oxford to address these challenges. The strategies used by students were direct strategies, such as memory, cognitive, and compensation strategies, and indirect strategies, such as metacognitive, affective, and social strategies.

Keywords: Speaking Skill, Speaking Challenges, Language Learning Strategy, Pesantren