

**THE STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF ENGLISH DAYS ACTIVITY AT ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF INDRAGIRI**

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ABSTRACT

The importance of conducting this research is to introduce to students that English Days activities can help students to get used to speaking English. Researchers conducted this research to find out information about students' perceptions of English talent on campus (English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri) as an illustration of whether the implementation of English Days activities can support students' English language skills. The design of this research is descriptive quantitative. The population of this research are all of students English Study Program which consists of 3 (three) levels which are divided into 4 (classes), namely; Semester 2 class A, Semester 2 class B, Semester 4 and Semester 6. To determine the sample, the researcher used the Total Sampling technique. The total population is 56 students. In collecting data, researchers used a questionnaire as a research tool. This questionnaire is used to find out how students perception on the implementation of English days activity at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. The questionnaire used in the study was presented in 5 (five) alternatives, commonly known as the Likert Scale. The results showed that students' perceptions on the implementation of English days activity were good (75.3%), which were between 66-100%. So, it can be said that the students' perception on the implementation of English days activity at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri is Good.

Key words: *Students' Perception, English Days.*

INTRODUCTION

English is language that is taught at many countries in the world. English is second language that include requirement to master it used society in Indonesia. English is also important and needed in education and business. One of the functions of language is as tool to communication.

Perception is the process through which the information from outside environment is selected, received, organized and interpreted to make it meaningful to people. According to Rahmanto (2011: 8) Perception is the observations of objects, events or relationships obtained by inferring information and interpret the message. Perception is giving meaning to sensory stimuli. It means that the interpretation is obtained after the observation process with concludes the information and interpret message through sensory stimulus.

English days activities is an activity that created by campus in which the whole activities in campus using English. One of the campuses that have applied English days activity at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. It caused as the education department that prior the skills, the students are demanded to able speak English well. According to Setiawan (2012: 18) English day is program which is made by a school or an institution with purposes to make students more active in speaking English and to improve the students' speaking skill.

After the researcher conducted informal interviews with several students who have implemented English days activities in the English Study Program at Islamic University of Indragiri. They think that English days activity has a good influence in improving their English days activity English skills students' because for them with the English day activity it can improve their speaking skills in English and can also increase their vocabulary. However, when the implementation of English days has been in progress, there are still many students who do not practice it, such as those who spoke Indonesian to their friends and there is also a lows students' vocabulary in English. In fact, with English days activities, students have the opportunity to show their skills and English days activities can also be used as a means for students to train their mentality when facing the audience. Because the students' perception on the implementation of English days activity is not recognized yet, the researcher decided to find out the students' perception of the implementation of the English days activity.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Students' Perception

Perception is an individual observation or process of giving meaning as a result of observations about an object, event, and so on through the five senses, which is obtained by inferring information and interpretation of the message so that someone can provide feedback on good or bad and positive or negative. According to Nursalma (2018: 25) perception is something more than sensation. It correlates, integrates and comprehends diverse sensations and information from many organs of the body by means of which a person identifies things, objects, and the sensations.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that perception is an act of judgment in a person's thinking after receiving a stimulus from what his senses feel. The stimulus then develops become a thought that finally makes a person have something view related to a case or event that is happening.

Elements of Perception

According to Maddy and Giddings (2008: 2), perception involves several elements (sub processes) which are listed (1). Stimuli, it means the receipt of information is the stimulus which result in sensation, knowledge and behavior depend on senses and their stimulation. (2). Attention, it means the stimuli that are paid attention depend purely on the people's selection capacity and intensity of stimuli. Educated employees pay more attention to any stimuli. (3). Recognition, it means the message or incoming stimuli are recognized before they are transmitted into behavior. (4). Translation, it means the management in an organization has to consider the various processes of translating the messages into action. (5). Behavior, it means behavior is the outcome of the cognitive process. It is a response to change in sensory inputs. (6). Performance, it means proper behavior learns to higher performance. High performers become a source of stimuli and motivation the other employees. A performance-reward relationship is established to motivate people. (7). Satisfaction, it means high performance give more satisfaction. The level of satisfaction is calculated with the difference in performance and expectation. if the performance is more than the expectation, people are delighted, but when performance is equals to expectation, it results in satisfaction.

English Days

English days is program holds by English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri, in which requires all members to use English as a medium of communication. The purpose of this program is to support teaching and learning activity inside classroom where students get theoretical knowledge but limited time to practice speaking English. According to Resty (2012: 1), The objective of the English day activity is to improve students' speaking skills. Because the focus of this activity is to make students active in English then activities designed to facilitate students to dare to speak-producing sentences in English. Based on the definition above, English day activity is an activity or activity in English that is carried out every days as a result of interaction with the environment that causes changes in individuals, both attitudes and behavior. These changes can be in the form of changes in knowledge, skills, personality, and attitudes, habits that are finally able to do certain tasks or jobs well.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is descriptive quantitative. This research was conducted at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. This is located on Soebrantas Street Tembilihan. The researcher conducted the research on May 2022. The totals of students at English Study Program are 56. So, the population in this research is 56 students. To take a sample, the researcher was use total sampling. According to Sugiyono (2014: 80) population is the area of generalization consisting of objects or subjects that have certain qualities and characteristics that have been defined by the researcher. The sample was taken based on a total population of less than 100. According to Arikunto (2010: 174) sample is a part or representative of the population studied. According to Sugiyono (2014: 120) total sampling is taking all of member of population as the samples of the research. Therefore the sample of this research is total sampling techniques. In this research, the researcher uses a questionnaire as an instrument guide. To analyze the questionnaire, the researcher used the Likert Scale. A Likert scale will analyze the answer to each item in the instrument. It has gradations starting from one until five which form of words, are:

SDA : Strongly Disagree, rated with a value 1

D : Disagree, rated with a value 2

AB : Abstain, rated with a value 3

A : Agree, rated with a value 4

SA : Strongly Agree, rated with a value 5

To identify students' perception the researcher was use questionnaire. For each item consist of 5 alternative answers by using Likert scale. After the students' perception is known, we use the formulation to identify how the percentage of students' perception on the implementation of English Days Activity.

The formula was use to percentage the data in this research as follow:

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

Where :
 P = Percentage of the students score
 F = Frequency of Score from students' perception
 N = Sum of Score

Table 1 Classification of Perception Questionnaire Score

| Classification | Description of Score Answer |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 66 – 100% | Good |
| 56 – 65% | Enough |
| < 55% | Less |

Munawaroh (2012: 78)

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Findings

This study explores how is students' perception on the implementation of English days activity at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. The following details present a short participants' overview overall.

Table 2 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Stimuli

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 1 | English day inspired me to create creative performance. | 4% | 4% | 18% | 60% | 16% |
| 2 | English day can stimulate me to speak English every day. | 5% | 0% | 13% | 46% | 36% |
| 3 | English day offers activities that can stimulate my interest in English. | 5% | 2% | 20% | 46% | 27% |
| Total | | 5% | 2% | 17% | 51% | 26% |

Table 2 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to students stimulation in English day activities which includes three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 are 16% of students answered *strongly agree*, 60% gave respond *agree*, 18% answered *Abstain*, and 4% of students answered *disagree* as well as *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day inspired me to create creative performance". Then their responses to question no. 2 are 36% of students answered *strongly agree*, 46% answered *agree*, 13% answered *Abstain*, none of them students answered *disagree*, and 5% students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day can stimulate to speak English every day". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 27% of students answered *strongly agree*, 46% gave respond *agree*, 20% answered *Abstain*, 2% of students answered *disagree* and 5% answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day offers activities that can stimulate my interest in English". From the data, it can be concluded that the students' at English Study Program have a positive attitude towards statements that can stimulate them in English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 51% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 3 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Attention

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 4 | I watch followed in earnest when English Day activities are being carried out/in progress. | 2% | 2% | 43% | 46% | 7% |
| 5 | Teachers/teaching staff/senior/supervisor and classmates correct and evaluate me English speaking performance. | 4% | 11% | 36% | 34% | 16% |
| 6 | I listen to my classmates' respond/comment on my English | 2% | 7% | 21% | 50% | 20% |
| Total | | 3% | 7% | 33% | 43% | 14% |

Table 3 shows the percentage of students' at English Study Program related to students' attention in English day activities which include three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 are 7% of students answered *strongly agree*, 46% gave respond *agree*, 43% answered *Abstain*, and 2% of students answered *disagree* as well as *strongly disagree* to the statement "I watch followed in earnest when English day activities are being carried out / in progress". Then their responses to question no.2 are 16% of students answered *strongly agree*, 34% answered *agree*, 36% answered *Abstain*, 11% students answered *disagree*, and 4% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "Teachers/teaching staff/senior/supervisor and classmates correct and evaluate me English speaking performance". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 20% of students answered *strongly agree*, 50% gave respond *agree*, 21% answered *Abstain*, 7 % of students answered *disagree* and 2% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I listen to my classmates' respond/comment on my English". From the data, it can be concluded that English Study Program students have a positive attitude towards statements that they can pay attention to in English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 43% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 4 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Recognition

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 7 | English day can improve my ability in speaking English. | 5% | 2% | 4% | 45% | 45% |
| 8 | English day is one of the activities that I enjoy do in English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. | 4% | 4% | 27% | 43% | 23% |
| 9 | I enjoy all the activities displayed in English day. | 4% | 5% | 36% | 39% | 16% |
| Total | | 4% | 4% | 22% | 42% | 28% |

Table 4 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to student recognition of English day activities which includes three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 are 45% of students answered *strongly agree*, 45% gave respond *agree*, 4% answered *Abstain*, 2% students answered *disagree* and 5% students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day can improve my ability in speaking English". Then their responses to question no.2 are 23% of students answered strongly agree, 43% answered *agree*, 27% answered *Abstain*, and 4% students answered *disagree* as well as *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day is one of the activities that I enjoy doing on the English Study Program of the Islamic University of Indragiri". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 16% of students answered *strongly agree*, 39% gave respond *agree*, 36% answered *Abstain*, 5% of students answered *disagree* and 4% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I enjoy all the activities displayed in English day". From the data, it can be concluded that students have a positive attitude towards statements that they can recognition in English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 42% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 5 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Translation

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 10 | I can translate and understand the meaning and the message displayed by the classmate/other people on English day. | 0% | 5% | 23% | 57% | 14% |
| 11 | The classmate/other people give explanations, suggestions and criticism that I can easily understand. | 2% | 5% | 32% | 43% | 18% |
| Total | | 1% | 5% | 28% | 50% | 16% |

Table 5 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to student translation in English day activities which include two sub-indicators. Their responses to item no.1 are 14% of students answered *strongly agree*, 57% gave respond *agree*, 23% answered *Abstain*, 5% students answered *disagree* and none of them students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I can translate and understand the meaning and the message displayed by the classmates'/other people on English day". Then their responses to question no.2 are 18% of students answered *strongly agree*, 43% answered *agree*, 32% answered *Abstain*, 5% of students answered *disagree*, and 2% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "The classmates'/other people give explanations, suggestions and critics that I can easily understand". From the data, it can be concluded that the English Study Program students have a positive attitude towards the statements translated in English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 50% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 6 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Behavior

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 12 | English day makes me understand the meaning of discipline time | 5% | 2% | 25% | 55% | 13% |
| 13 | English day makes me accustomed to speaking according to the rules that have been set | 2% | 2% | 36% | 43% | 18% |
| 14 | English day taught me how to build unity and good teamwork. | 2% | 5% | 45% | 32% | 16% |
| Total | | 3% | 3% | 35% | 43% | 16% |

Table 6 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to student behavior in English day activities which includes three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 are 13% of students answered *strongly agree*, 55% gave respond *agree*, 23% answered *Abstain*, and 2% of students answered *disagree* and 5% answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day naked me understand the meaning of discipline time". Then their responses to question no. 2 are 18% of students answered *strongly agree*, 43% answered *agree*, 36% answered *Abstain*, and 2% students answered *disagree* as well as *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day makes me accustomed to speaking according to the rules that have been set". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 16% of students answered *strongly agree*, 32% respond *agree*, 45% answered *Abstain*, 5% students answered *disagree* and 2% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day taught me how to build unity and good teamwork". From the data, it can be concluded that English Study Program students have positive attitudes towards statements that can make their behavior better in English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 43% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 7 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Performance

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 15 | Performance is shown in English day activities create a fun and educational atmosphere. | 4% | 4% | 29% | 52% | 13% |
| 16 | English day activities also educate me to be more motivated in learning English | 0% | 7% | 5% | 57% | 30% |
| 17 | I enjoy preparing on the activities of English day. | 2% | 5% | 36% | 46% | 11% |
| Total | | 2% | 5% | 23% | 52% | 18% |

Table 7 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to students' performance on English day activities which includes three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 was 13% of students answered *strongly agree*, 52% gave respond *agree*, 29% answered *Abstain*, and 4% of students answered *disagree* as well as *strongly disagree* to the statement "Performance is shown in English day activities create a fun and educational atmosphere". Then their responses to question no.2 are 30% of students answered *strongly agree*, 34% answered *agree*, 57% answered *Abstain*, 7% students answered *disagree*, and none of them students answered *strongly disagree* in the statement "English day activities also Educate me to be motivated in learning English". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 11% of students answered *strongly agree*, 46% gave respond *agree*, 36% answered *Abstain*, 5% students answered *disagree* and 2% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I enjoy preparing on the activities of English day". From the data, it can be concluded that English Study Program students have a positive attitude towards statements that can display students to speak in English during English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 52% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 8 The Students' Perception Responses Percentages on Satisfaction

| No | Statements | Percentage (%) | | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Abstain | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| 18 | English day provide an opportunity for me to show the best performance. | 4% | 2% | 38% | 36% | 21% |
| 19 | I am satisfied on the activities of English day. | 2% | 11% | 25% | 54% | 9% |
| 20 | I feel very satisfied with this English day, because it made me know a lot of vocabulary that I didn't know before. | 5% | 2% | 16% | 36% | 41% |
| Total | | 4% | 5% | 26% | 42% | 24% |

Table 8 shows the percentage of students at English Study Program related to student satisfaction with English day activities which includes three sub-indicators. Their response to item no.1 are 21% of students answered *strongly agree*, 36% gave respond *agree*, 38% answered *Abstain*, 2% students answered *disagree* and 4% students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "English day provide an opportunity for me to show the best performance". Then their response to question no.2 are 9% of students answered *strongly agree*, 54% answered *agree*, 25% answered *Abstain*, 11% students answered *disagree* and 2% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I am satisfied on the activities of English day". Furthermore, their answers to item no.3 are 41% of students answered *strongly agree*, 36% respond *agree*, 16% answered *Abstain*, 2% students answered *disagree* and 5% of students answered *strongly disagree* to the statement "I feel very satisfied with this English day, because it makes me know a lot of vocabulary that I didn't know before". From the data, it can be concluded that English Study Program students have a positive attitude towards statements that give satisfaction to English day activities. This can be seen from the total score of the statements on this indicator from the questionnaires that have been distributed, where the 42% number on the Agree scale is in the highest position than on the other scales.

Table 9 Descriptive Statistics on the Students' Perception

| Indicator Item | Std. Deviation | Mean | Overall Mean Score | Criteria |
|----------------|----------------|-------|--------------------|----------|
| Stimuli | 658 | 11,75 | | |
| Attention | 606 | 10,82 | | |
| Recognition | 649 | 11,59 | | |
| Translation | 420 | 7,5 | 75,3 | Good |
| Behavior | 616 | 11 | | |
| Performance | 636 | 11,36 | | |
| Satisfaction | 634 | 11,32 | | |

Based on the table above, it informs students' perceptions on the implementation of English day activities at English Study Program Islamic University of Indragiri. The indicators describe students' perceptions in English day activity, as evidenced by sharing each indicator, namely 11, 75, 10.82, 11.59, 7.5, 11, 11.36, 11.32. It is classified as a good response. Moreover, the overall mean score is 75.3 which is also categorized as a Good response. Thus, the researcher implies that the English Study Program students agree with the English day activity.

Discussion

English days activity was an appropriate activity to be implemented in the campus because this activity gave students more time to practice English not only in the classroom. But also, based on the result of questionnaires, the majority of the students had positive responses toward the implementation of the English day activity. By English days activity students are also having fun in studying English. An English day was very interesting activity. The regulation of the English days implementation made all students enthusiastic and actively involved in the speaking activities. Based on the data analysis above, the researcher presented the discussion of the research based on the result of questionnaire, it was found the students' perception on the implementation of English days activity was "Good". Because the students' at English Study Program think that having English days activity can improve their speaking skills in English and also make them understand the meaning of time discipline and build cohesiveness and good teamwork. Moreover, the sanctions given make them motivated to carry out this activity. Therefore, the students' agree if this activity continues. And then the total sum of all scores for each statement from the questionnaire that has been distributed showed

the number 75.3% where this number is in positions 66–100% in the interval score table.

CONSLUSION

This research was conducted to find out the students' perception on the implementation of English days activity at the English Study Program of the Islamic University of Indragiri. After the researcher distributing questionnaires to 56 students, the results showed that on average all of them agree with the English days activity. This can be seen from the final percentage, which is 75.3% where the numbers in the interval table are in the range of "Good". Because the students' at English Study Program think that having English days activity can improve their speaking skills in English and also make them understand the meaning of time discipline and build cohesiveness and good teamwork. Moreover, the sanctions given make them motivated to carry out this activity. Therefore, the students' agree if this activity continues. And then the total sum of all scores for each statement from the questionnaire that has been distributed showed the number 75.3% where this number is in positions 66–100% in the interval score table. This could be one of the reasons why English days should still be carried out in the English Study Program because this activity really helps them to fluently speak the language. their English and can also increase their vocabulary in English.

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