A CRITICAL REVIEW ON THE DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS THROUGH TASK BASED MATERIALS

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Abstract: This is a critical review elaborated on the strengths and the weaknesses of the article content. The Purpose of the Study. It is aimed to review critically on the discussion of Developing Speaking Skills Through Task Based Materials by relating those findings with the theories, books and articles in reputated journal. Research Method. This study used Systemic Literature Review to identify, study, evaluate, and interpret the research about interesting phenomenon with certain relevant research. Every data is linked to studies which have the same discussion either from theories, books and relevant articles published in reputated journal. The data is analyzed using Content analysis to analyze the content of the article as the main data. The source of data were taken from the whole content of the article that discussed about processing action on improving speaking through the implementation of Task Based Material. Main Findings. The findings showed that there were some unclear discussions about abstract information; moves organization in introduction; lack of current and relevant studies and theories; unsystematic findings related to the proposed research questions; and the terms used in the article. As the conclusion, this critical review has given informative and suggested references to support the ideas and views of the articles from reputated and current journals and recent books started from 2003 (telling the story of Task Based language teaching implementation and theories) to 2021 (suggesting the steps in developing materials through Task Based materials).

Keywords: speaking skills; task based materials; critical review.

INTRODUCTION

Mastering speaking skill is still challenging issue for students who learn either English in EFL or ESL classes. Since it is one of productive skills, so in implementing it the learners should consider the language they produce both in conveying ideas. feelings or thoughts and responding toward ones' utterances and expressions directly. In speaking, consideration of being interactive and responsive are dominated when speakers have their taking in turn. Moreover for the students who major in (Jaya, Petrus, & Pitaloka, 2022). Speaking English English at their study program are highly motivated fluently is the main goal to be able to speak to

to speak English fluently and accurately (Tao & Gao, 2022). However, the learners of English get problems in producing their ideas, feelings, and thoughts orally, especially when they struggle in speaking performances. Those problems are (1) affected related problems: self-problems and anxiety; (2) socially related problems: difficulties to find the opportunities to learn and to perform in spoken English; (3) linguistically related problems: vocabulary, grammar, fluency and pronunciation

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language without anv missed (Handayani & Rahmawati, 2017).

In the context of the teaching and learning English, many students have focus on reaching the goal, it is being success in mastering oral proficiency (Dincer, 2017). In short, speaking is urgent to be learned and interesting to be discussed in the context of teaching and learning English.

This review has a basic purpose to promote creative and innovative way in teaching English Speaking skill, so that the readers either as teachers, students or researchers are also asked to be more critical in finding current and relevant studies to support literature review and findings of the research or study about English speaking skills. Hopefully, what have been discussed in this article could be insightful knowledge and references to the academic world.

The technique of analyzing data was content analysis that focused on whole content of the article. Then the result of the critical review is discussed in the findings and implication. Each findings are supported by relevant theories and articles from the books and reputated journals that elaborated current issue in the teaching and learning English speaking.

Task based language teaching is not a new approach in the teaching language methodology. This following issues show that the study about Task Based materials, Task Based teaching and learning started from previous years to the recent year. As the research conducted in 2003 by Carless under the title Factors in the Implementation of Task-Based Teaching in Primary Schools (Carless, 2003) reviews on how teachers approached on using communicative task during the implementation of Task Based teaching and learning. Another research had also been conducted regarding to the implementation of Task Based language teaching during the learning process of grammar in intermediate EFL learners. This issue seems to focus in the context of meaning focus instruction to do and complete the task during the implementation on Task Based materials in teaching and learning English. The result showed that if the materials in the task contain meaningful instruction it will guide the learners to complete the task during learning grammar (Marzban & Mokhberi, 2012). An article published in 2020 conducted by Bystrom and Kumpulainen discussed on providing conceptual

friends even foreigners and understand the spoken framework of information needed either vertically perception or horizontally in the implementation of task based learning and teaching. They emphasized that information is needed in the task vertically (general and specific context) and horizontally (the conceptual understanding and the information in the task) will guide the learners to complete the task (Byström & Kumpulainen, 2020). There was a study focused on doing the assessment based on Task Based Approach which discussed about certain system to assess task difficulty and to rate the performances, spoken or written. There should be difficulty scale and interrater agreement for the performance between ELT professionals and novices (Skehan & Luo, 2020).

> Those researches were about teacher's beliefs. teacher's understanding, the syllabus time available, the textbook and the topics, preparation and the available resources, and the language proficiency of the students (Ellis, Skehan, Li, Shintani, & Lambert, 2021). Since it was introduced to the educational field, teachers and lecturers as the educational practitioners have implemented this approach either focus on the teaching, learning and the material development and it is still interesting to be discussed about (Snowden, Martin, Mathers, & Donnell, 2014). There are also some researchers who have talked and shared their findings of the researches both exploring theoretically and practically. Researches that focused on Theories, Findings and Discussions on Task Based Materials: Harper and Widodo (2020); Suhandoko (2019); Wijayatiningsih, Lestariningsih, and Agustina (2020); Yundayani and Sri Ardiasih (2021); and Yundayani, Kardijan, and Herawan (2019). Some books also can be insightful inputs to develop the ideas and supporting arguments for further research: Nunan (2010) and Hawkes (2019). Thus, this critical review focused on the strengths and weaknesses of its whole content and discussion and the link to relevant studies/issues. All articles are published in reputable journals (Sinta and Scopus) published by SAGE, Elsevier, Taylor and Francis, Routledge, Cambridge, and Wiley.

> Theoretical Speaking is one of English skills that must be learned and mastered by EFL learners. Teaching speaking to EFL learners means helping the students develop specific sets of interactional communication skills, because and spoken communication take in a real time (Hinkel, 2018, and Roever & Kasper, 2018). Speaking requires the

development of speech processing and oral production skills which almost always include accurate pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary as well as information sequencing and discourse organization (Halimah, Lustyantie, & Ali, 2018); (Menggo, Suastra, Budiarsa, & Padmadewi, 2019);

In recent years, teaching English speaking to higher educational students, university students, the main role is leading the students to construct the learning assumptions that seek to improve students autonomy, motivations and achievement. Teacher/lecturer form the students have self determined learning by putting learners in control of their own learning, moving beyond the development of knowledge and skill, and instead of focusing on the capability, that is the ability to integrate and effectively apply a new knowledge and skills in unanticipated situations (Stoszkowski & Mccarthy, 2019); (Ekoc, 2020); (Lumettu & Runtuwene, 2018). Dincer added that speaking English fluently can bring forward people in their career because it can make them speak clearly while delivering information and materials (Bustari, Samad, and Achmad, 2017); . Therefore, people will not have any misunderstanding in communication while working on their jobs (Dincer, 2017); Discussion on teaching speaking, hopefully the learners of speaking skill will earn much knowledge, have many experiences, decide smart steps in solving the problems, having mutual collaboration, skillful in communicating the feeling, thoughts and argument/ ideas by exploring and empowering information and technology as digital or printed sources (Lestari, 2019); (Bustari, Samad, & Achmad, 2017b); (Noviventy, 2018).

Since the 1980s, task-based language instruction has gotten increased attention in the field of foreign language education. It examines leaner as a communicative tool since it is a learner-centered approach. The task-based approach strives to provide chances for learners to speak and write in natural, practical, and functional ways through learning activities that engage learners in the natural, practical, and functional use of language for meaningful objectives (Hismanoglu and Hismanoglu, 2011). The characteristics of task based language teaching based on Swan (2005) emphasizes on: (1) Instructed language learning should mainly contain natural language use and the activities are related to meaning rather than knowledge. (2) Instruction should support students'

centered learning that teacher centered leaning. (3) Promoting the internationalization of formal linguistic elements while keeping the perceived benefits of natural approach. (4) Focus on the form that will attract students' attention to linguistic components and emerge it to the main focus on meaning or communication ((Marzban and Mokhberi, 2012). (5) Providing communicative tasks in certain device. (6) There is pre task and post task of language study to internalize the formal communication (Hawkes, 2019). (7) Requiring passive formal instruction and practice isolated from communicative works (Swan in Hismanoglu and Hismanoglu, 2011); (Najjari, 2014).

Language learning is a developmental process that enhances communication and social interaction rather than a product internalized by practicing language items, and learners master the target language more powerfully when exposed to meaningful task based activities in a natural way. In short, task is the core unit of instructional materials in language teaching (Richard and Rodgers, 2001). The task based language teaching is a teaching approach that employing tasks as its main pedagogical tools to structure language teaching (Nunan, 2010); (Skehan & Luo, 2020)

Regarding to the Task based language teaching materials, Tasks are the key word in developing materials. Ellis in Harper and Widodo (2018) stated that the material development consist of: (1) the primary focus should be on the meaning; (2) There should be kind of gap to express the opinion or to infer the meaning); (3) complete activity between linguistic and non-linguistic ones; (4) Clearly define to the outcomes rather than the use of language; (5)Focus on the comprehension of the task (Hismanoglu and Hismanoglu, 2011); (Wijayatiningsih et al., 2020). While Long and Crookes (1993) in Sundari proposed how to design and develop task based design: a comprehensive needs analysis, diagnosis of leaner' needs, identification of target tasks learners, the classification of the task types, selection of pedagogical tasks for the classroom, sequencing of pedagogical tasks (Sundari, Febrivanti, and Saragih, 2018: and Suhandoko, 2019).

Reviewing the article is challenging choice to do as the researcher. Furthermore, it needs deep reading and empiric supporting data in terms of relevant studies as references. In writing critique, the researcher or writer will analyze, examine, or

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investigate with the underlying assumption by **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION** exploring critical thinking, creative thinking and critical eyes (Swales & Feak, 2008). They also provided eight questions to be considered in criticizing the journal articles while reading and writing the articles. Those are (1) who is the audience; (2) what is the purpose of the article; (3)what research questions are being addressed kin the article; (4) What conclusion does the author draw from the research; (5) What kind of evidence is offered in support of the conclusion, how good is the evidence; (6) are the conclusion valid based on the evidence and why; (7) Are there any important assumption underlying the article; (8) does the research make an original contribution to the field? Whv?

Therefore, this article is aimed to have critical review on certain discussion in the teaching and learning speaking including the strengths (things that could enrich the teaching and learning of English speaking skill and develop knowledge and references academically) and the weaknesses (things that have not discussed further and explored well) of the discussion in the article entitled: Developing Speaking Skills Through Task Based Materials (Masuram and Sripada, 2020).

METHOD

This critical review article used qualitative method by implementing Systemic Literature Review to have deep and further discussion on this topic. Systematic Literature Review is a term used to refer to a particular research methodology or research and development carried out to collect and evaluate research related to the focus of a particular topic. Purpose of SLR research is carried out for various purposes, including identifying, reviewing, evaluating, and interpreting all available research with topic areas of interest to phenomena, with certain relevant research questions (Triandini, Jayanatha, Indrawan, Putra, & Iswara, 2019). SLR is used to elaborate the discussion on the article "Developing Speaking Skills Through Task Based Materials" (Masuram and Sripada, 2020). The data analyzed through content analysis which focused on the main data the content of the research article. The finding data then elaborated and confirmed them to theories in the books, previous relevant studies discussed in the articles published in Scopus (Sage, Elsevier, Routledge, Tailor and Francis, Cambridge) and Sinta.

Results

Researcher found that there were three points to be discussed and elaborated deeply. The researcher explored the strengths and weaknesses started from the abstract, introduction moves (by Swalles), theories, findings and conclusion.

Abstract

Language of the abstract

The first sentence in the abstract is generalization of English as global language which is used to communicate internationally. It is statement attracted readers to find the reason that speaking English is urgent to be learned if ones want to communicate globally. However, it will be more enlightening if the word or the term communication skills in the four opening sentences in abstract, specified whether the communication skill in the discussion is an oral communication skill or speaking skills as it is stated by Swalles and Feak that some terms in certain field has different meaning in other fields depending on the field of study (Swales & Feak, 2008). So, the writer of academic or scientific paper should significantly focus on the rightt term based on the education field, speaking skills refers to oral communication skills and writing skills refers to written communication skills. The writer of that article keep using the term/ diction communication skill rather than using speaking skill.

Content of the abstract

The abstract has successfully informed the reasons why this study should be conducted by stating "spoken English is a gateway to improve and achieve success in career of the students and it is taught as compulsary subject in India as well as countries". Things that are not clear yet: telling the participant of the research whether secondary schools, high schools or university students. It was only stated the place of the research was in India. The method was not stated clearly. Instead of stating certain method like whether it was action research or case study or experimental study, the researcher's wrote design of the research which was separated into two phases: " pre intervention stage and intervention stage. If it an action research, so the data could be collected through test. questionaire, observation, interview and documentation sin action research is one of mix

method (Aristy, Hadiansyah, & Apsari, 2019). The researcher only mentioned instrument to collect the data (questionnaire for teachers and students) but has not stated the data analysis used in this research. If it is an action research, so it use Miles and Hubbermen design of anlysis: data reduction, data display and data verification (Miles, 2014). The resaerch objectives and the finding at the closing statement of the abstract is different. It informed the objectives of the research: " Students should use correct pronunciation and intonation, speaking coherently on certain topic". In the closing statement the objective of research was students were able to communicate confidently and fluently. Those goals were different from the first statement of the research objectives: There was inconsintence terms used by the researchers.

Introduction moves and literature review

In the introduction, the researchers wrote speaking in second language, speaking as productive skills. The researchers go directly to put all theories related to the resaech such as : Speaking (Sub Skills of Speaking; Essensial Elements of Speaking; Function of Speaking); Task Based Language Teaching (Input and Material Used for Task; Framework for Task Based Instruction, Role of Task in Developing Speaking; Principles of Task Based Materials Development, Roles of Materials); and Approaches addapted for The Materials Design. It would have been batter if the researcher with inform their introduction these points:Introduction explores the general purpose of the study, exposes significant study either practically or theoretically, has well and clear organization, establishes territory and niche, and whether it occupies ther niche (Swales & Feak, 2008); (McMillan & Wergin, 2010).

Introduction Move by Swales and Feak, rhetorical pattern in the Create Research Space Model, CARS model (Swales & Feak, 2008). The moves are: Move 1: Establishing a research Teritory (showing general research and problematic discussion; reeviewing items of previous research). Move 2: Establishing a niche (indicating gap in the research bv extending previous previous knowledge. (Outlining purposes, listing research questions, announcing principal findings, stating value of recent books started from 2003 (telling the story of present research, indicating the structure of research Task Based language Teaching implementation and paper).

The Literature Review commonly becomes scaffolding to the findings of the research, whether the finding would give insightful, inspiring and current information, knowledge and experience for education field. The hot finding would be beneficial significantly either theoretically and practically. The literature reviews: theories and relevant studies written to support the findings were not yet taken currently. The latest year to support the ideas was in the year: 2010 and the oldest one was 1987. The concept eitheir basic theories or relevant studies would have been somewhat more relevant if the researcher has more recent literature to support his views (Swales & Feak, 2008).

Here are the recent relevant studies to support interesting and inspiring idea and theories in this article.. The first concept was Speaking: Sub Skills of Speaking; Essensial Elements of Speaking; Function of Speaking (Leonard & Shea, 2017); (Roever & Kasper, 2018); (Menggo et al., 2019); (Noviyenty, 2018); (Bangun, 2018); (Bustari et al., 2017b); (Lestari, 2019); (Saeed Al-Sobhi & Preece, 2018); (Lumettu & Runtuwene, 2018); (Syarifudin, 2019); and (Ekoç, 2020). The second concept was Task Based Language Teaching: Input and Material Used for Task; Framework for Task Based Instruction, Role of Task in Developing Speaking; Principles of Task Based Materials Development, Roles of Materials cold be more deeply explored by reading these relevant articles about those points (Hawkes, 2019); (Hismanoglu & Hismanoglu, 2011); (Najjari, 2014) (Marzban & Mokhberi, 2012). The third concept was Approaches addapted for The Materials Design coul be elaborated by reading all the concept in these discussions of articles (Harper & Widodo, 2020); (Dempsey & Mathiassen, 2006); (Carless, 2003); (Suhandoko, 2019); (Wijayatiningsih et al., 2020); (Yundayani et al., 2019). In the literature review, there was a theory from Nunan, However it was still the old, one published in 2004, whereas there is the current one that published in 2010. Things to be concidered well is the phenomenon of this article which was published in 2020, but the references have not quoted from the latest ones vet. So, this critical review has given informative and suggested Move 3: occupying the Niche references to support the ideas and views of the articles from reputated and current journals and

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thories) to 2021 (suggesting the steps in developing friendly: students were able to communicate materials through task based materials

Findings

In the Finding session, the writer only informed that there was improvement on the students' quality in communication skill. It surface meaning, it was in line with the aims of the research. However, not all supporting data collecting techniques were explored and elaborated toward the result of the research either in description data qualitatively or quantitatively.

There was not information briefly of how significant is the students' speaking skill (in the data it was stated "students' communication skill"). There was neither displaying the result of the intervention through tables nor statistic data that proven there was improvement or development after treatment by calculating the pretest or posttest. It was reported that improvement could be proven on the quality of the students' communication skill community. However, it was not briefly explained what kind of quality and how that quality was measured. The interpretation of how was the data from observation, interview, questioner, learner's diary were not available discussed in the findings. In short, the data which were collected through qualitative and quantitative (test) technique were not displayed and elaborated. It will be better if there is information about how is data collected and analyzed. Then the researcher also has to inform the descriptive of the result through displayed diagram or tables (Cresswell, 2018).

Things that should be more critical is the research objective related to this findings. It was informed the objectives of the research: "Students should use correct pronunciation and intonation, speaking coherently on certain topic". The research forgot to make intonation as one of skills in mastering pronunciation Intonation is one of prosodic features in Pronunciation (van Maastricht et al., 2020); (Yangklang, 2013). Another goal of this study was students could "speak coherently" rather than "speaking communicatively" as they started their statement in the early abstract, to speak interactively communicatively and (Demir. Yurtsever, & Cimenli, 2015) and to focus on fluency, accuracy and complexity However the abstract was closed by informing the findings: students' development after having those two phases: having communicate confidently and the next researcher to make this article for their

confidently and fluently. Those goals were different from the first statement of the research objectives: students could speak in correct pronunciation, intonation and to speak coherently. There was inconsistence terms used by the researchers.

Those findings would have been more inspiring and reasonable if all supporting theories, concept and findings written by the elaboration of the current literature since knowledge and science keeps developing every year even in minutes counting.

Conclusion

Another finding of this critical review, was in conclusion statement. The researcher concluded that by implementing task based material students have developed their speaking skills in terms of effective communication, being fluent and being accurate in pronunciation. While the primary concern of this article was making the students have correct pronunciation, and intonation, and speak coherently (abstract) and another different terms of research goal was the students can communicate confidently and fluently (in the findings). Perhaps the researchers could be more consistence in adjusting the research objectives and the terms used in their articles (Leonard & Shea, 2017).

This critical review has got the points to be suggested based on the findings: the abstract content, Introduction moves which was blended and integrated to the discussion of literature review and the findings, the conclusion that showed different terms in showing the result related to the research objectives. The finding also was not elaborated well in displaying the data from qualitative and quantitative instruments. The data will be meaningful result if those data was explained in detail through tables or diagram to show significant improvement/ development. The references in the literature review was in discussion of relevant theories and concepts taken from the year of 1989 to 2007, whereas this article published in 2020. So this critical review has given informative and suggested references to support the ideas and views of the articles from reputable and current journals and recent books started from 2003 (telling the storv Task Based language Teaching of implementation and thories) to 2021 (suggesting the steps in developing materials through task based materials). Hopefully it will be more insightful for

supporting ideas and views as one of relevant REFERENCES references.

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