

## **ABSTRACT**

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The purpose of this study was to discover the students' problems in speaking skills. This study was conducted at SMK Swasta Dwiwarna Medan. The subject of this study were 23 eleventh grade students of office administration and an English teacher that were chosen by using purposive sampling technique. A descriptive qualitative design was used in this study. The data collection was done by distributing the questionnaire. There were 25 items of questionnaire about speaking problems that divided into 2 main aspects; linguistic and psychological problems. Linguistic problems are the problems related to students' grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation problems. While the psychological problems are the students' problems regarding to fear of mistake, shyness, anxiety, lack of self-confidence and lack of motivation. The results of questionnaire used to serve as references in interviewing to obtain the valid information. Based on the findings on students' responses in the questionnaire, it can be concluded that the first problems was the linguistic problems with lack of vocabulary (15,18%), the second and the third were occupied by pshycological problems with fear of mistake (15,18%) and lack of confidence (15,18%). For the whole of percentages, psychological problems was the dominant problems faced by the students with 60,75% and linguistic problems with 39,24%. Some solutions were got through the documents based on experts' explanation from books, journal articles and even theses.

**Keywords:** *students' speaking problems, learning English speaking*