

ABSTRACT

Cut Alya Sarah, Registration Number 2213121050, Students' Perception of Speaking Materials In The “English For Nusantara” Textbook For Seventh Grade Of Smp Negeri 7 Medan, A Thesis, English Department, Faculty of Language and Arts, State University of Medan, 2026.

This research aims to investigate (1) the types of students' perceptions toward the speaking materials in the English for Nusantara textbook and (2) the factors influencing those perceptions among seventh grade students at SMP Negeri 7 Medan. This research was conducted using a descriptive qualitative method. The data were collected through questionnaires and structured interviews involving 30 students. Questionnaire data were analyzed using a Likert scale, while interview data were analyzed descriptively. The results of this research showed that the majority of students had positive perceptions with the percentage 61.78%, while negative perceptions accounted for 38.8%. Positive perceptions were reflected in students' acceptance, enjoyment, utilization, and perceived support of the speaking materials, indicating that the materials were understandable, interesting, and useful for improving students' speaking skills. Meanwhile, negative perceptions appeared at a relatively low level and were mainly related to students' lack of familiarity with vocabulary and feelings of anxiety when speaking English. Furthermore, the interview findings revealed that students' perceptions were influenced by three main factors: the perceiver, the target, and the situation, as proposed by Robbins (2002). The perceiver factor was the most dominant, as students' motivation, confidence, interest, and personal beliefs strongly shaped their perceptions. Students with high motivation and confidence tended to respond positively, whereas students with low English proficiency and speaking anxiety were more likely to develop negative perceptions.

Keywords : Students' perception, Speaking Materials, English for Nusantara Textbook