

ABSTRACT

This research aims to investigate students' speaking anxiety at English classroom at the first grade of SMP Adhyaksa 1 Jambi. Specifically, it ought to investigate the factors affecting students' speaking anxiety and the strategies to minimize their anxiety based on what the students have experienced. Ten participants were selected as the participants using purposive sampling method. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method, with phenomenology approach by conducting interviews with students who had anxiety in speaking English.

The result of the research showed in two factors, they are internal factors (shyness, lack of self -confident, and fear of making mistakes, and the external factors (limited vocabulary, and friends/classmates). And there were five strategies showed in this research (preparation, relaxation, positive thinking, concentration and peer seeking).

Keywords: *speaking anxiety*.