

## ABSTRACT

**Riwin Nanto: Descriptive study on students' problems in English conversation. (A research conducted in SMA N I Tilamuta at 11<sup>th</sup> grade)**

This research was aimed at findings out the students' problems in English conversation in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade of SMA N I Tilamuta, as well as the causes of the problems in doing English conversation.

In this research, a descriptive qualitative method was applied. The participants were the students of SMA N I Tilamuta at 11<sup>th</sup> grade in academic year 2012/2013. They consists of 24 students, who were purposively selected.

The instruments used in this research were (a) observation which was used to observe the teaching and learning English process about conversation, (b) the interview, conducted for the students to support or became reinforcement of observation. All the findings were described in percentage form.

The result of this research finally showed that almost all the students liked to learn English but they also recognized that they found more obstacles when they learn English. Most of students were easy to feel shyness, anxiety, fear of mistake, lack of confidence and lack of motivation when they perform conversation in front of the class. (1) When they perform conversation in front of class, they feel shy of being looked at by classmates, shy to talk, and so on. Shown in graph 2, about 75 % students' felt shy when they perform in English conversation. (2) Most of the students (92 %) felt anxious when they perform conversation in front of class. (3) All of the students' fear of making mistake when they perform conversation, the percentage is 100 %, they fear of making mistake because they were afraid to be wrong in pronunciation. (4) Eighty eight percent students lack of confidence when they perform. (5) lack of motivation gets about 58 % where this was due to psychological factors faced by students in doing English conversation.

**Key Words: Psychological factors, English conversation**