

**COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES USED BY THE STUDENTS
ON THE PERSPECTIVE OF ORAL PROFICIENCY
AND GENDER DIFFERENCES
(A Case Study at the Second Year Students of English Education Department at
UIN Walisongo Semarang in the Academic Year of 2017/2018)**

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Attainment of the
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A THESIS



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PRONOUNCEMENT

I would like to certify that the thesis entitled “Communication Strategies Used by the Students on the Perspective of Language Proficiency and Gender Differences (A Case Study at the Second Year Students of UIN Walisongo Semarang in the Academic Year of 2017/2018) is definitely my work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Anything related to other’s work is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

If then this pronouncement is incorrect, I am ready to accept any academic punishment, including the withdrawal or cancellation of my academic degree.

Surakarta, April 2018

Hanita Masithoh

MOTTO

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

DEDICATION

No writing project of mine reaches fruition without the patience and support of my family, my teachers, my friends, and whom I am indebted and from whom I receive energy and sustenance. Finally, this thesis is dedicated for them, but the foremost dedications are to:

1. My beloved father and mother, Bpk. H. Badrussalam and Ibu Hj.Muthoharoh,
2. My grandfather and grandmother, the deceased mbah H. Suyuthi and mbah Hj. Halimah,
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ABSTRACT

This research sets to investigate: (1) The types and sub-types of communication strategies (CSs) employed by the students; (2) The similarities and differences of CSs employed by the students on the perspective of oral proficiency and; (3) The similarities and differences of CSs employed by the students on the perspective of gender differences.

The research was conducted at the English Education Department of UIN Walisongo, Semarang from December 2017 to February 2018. It was a qualitative research in the form of case study. There were 12 students involved as the subjects in this research. The data were obtained from observation, interview, and document analysis. Ary, Jacobs, Sorensen, Razavieh's concept was utilized to analysis the data.

The findings revealed that: (1) The students employed five types and thirteen out of eighteen sub-types of CSs. The five types were avoidance or reduction strategies, achievement or compensatory strategies, stalling or time-gaining strategies, self-monitoring strategies, and interactional strategies. The sub-types were topic avoidance, message abandonment, all-purpose words, non-linguistic means, restructuring, literal translation, code switching, fillers/hesitation devices/gambits, self-repetition, self-initiated repair, self-rephrasing, appeal for help, and meaning negotiation strategies.; (2) The students with high proficiency level used five types and ten sub-types of CSs. Meanwhile, the students with low proficiency level used four types and nine sub-types of CSs. It means that the students with high proficiency level utilized more types and sub-types of CSs than the low proficient students did; (3) The female students used four types and ten sub-types of CSs. Meanwhile, the male students utilized five types and ten sub-types of CSs. On the other words, gender differences influence the use of CSs because male students employed more types of CS that the female students did.

Espousing to the findings of the research, it can be inferred that CSs aid the students to circumvent their linguistic difficulties. These strategies also promote students' fluency in speaking because the students can communicate without any restrictions. From this point of view, it can be indicated that CSs have a direct influence on communication and plays a constitutive role in second language acquisition.

Keywords: Communication strategies, oral proficiency, gender differences.

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The writer realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect. She humbly welcomes any criticism and suggestion for improvement of future research through hanitamasithoh.hm@gmail.com. She expects that this thesis would provide beneficial contribution to the academe.

Surakarta, April 2018

Hanita Masithoh

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	i
APPROVAL	ii
LEGITIMATION	iii
PRONOUNCEMENT	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION	vi
ABSTRACT	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	viii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES	xiii
CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background of the Study	1
B. Limitations of the Study	5
C. Research Questions.....	5
D. Objectives of the Study.....	5
E. Benefits of the Study	6
CHAPTER II. LITERATURE REVIEW	7
A. Underlying Theories.....	7
1. Communicative Competence	7
2. Communication Strategy.....	9
a. The Notion of Communication Strategy	9
b. Taxonomy of Communication Strategy	11
3. Communication Strategy & Oral Proficiency	14
4. Communication Strategy & Gender Differences	15
B. Review of Previous Studies	17

CHAPTER III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	24
A. Research Context	24
B. Research Type	26
C. Data & Sources of Data.....	26
1. Participants.....	27
2. Events.....	28
3. Documents.....	28
D. Technique of Data Collection	28
1. Observation	28
2. Interview	29
3. Document Analysis	30
E. Trustworthiness	30
F. Technique of Data Analysis	32
CHAPTER IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	35
A. Research Findings	35
1. Types and Sub-types of CSs Used by the Students	35
2. The Similarities and Differences of CS Types and Sub- types Used by the Students on the Perspective of Oral Proficiency	61
3. The Similarities and Differences of CS Types and Sub - types Used by the Students on the Perspective of Gender Differences	69
B. Discussion	76
1. Types and Sub-types of CSs Used by the Students	76
2. The Similarities and Differences of CS Types and Sub-types Used by the Students on the Perspective of Oral Proficiency	79

3. The Similarities and Differences of CS Types and Sub- types Used by the Students on the Perspective of Gender Differences	81
CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION, SUGGESTION.....	83
A. Conclusion.....	83
B. Implication	84
C. Suggestion.....	86
REFERENCES.....	88
APPENDICES	94

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1 The Time Schedule for the Study	25
Table 3.2 Standards of Rigor for Research	30
Table 4.1 Types and Sub-types of CSs Employed by the Students	61
Table 4.2 Types and Sub-types of CSs Employed by High Proficient Students	64
Table 4.3 Types and Sub-types of CSs Employed by Low Proficient Students	66
Table 4.4 Types and Sub-types of CSs Employed by High and Low Proficient Students	67
Table 4.5 Types and Sub-types of CSs Used by Female Students.....	71
Table 4.6 Types and Sub-types of CSs Used by Male Students	73
Table 4.7 Types and Sub-types of CSs Employed byFemale and Male Students	74

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Observation Sheet.....	94
Appendix 2 Interview Transcript	130
Appendix 3 Field Note.	194
Appendix 4 Students' Transcript	198
Appendix 5 Lesson Plan.....	215
Appendix 6 Students' Score.....	220
Appendix 5 List of Participants.....	221