

**SOCIAL EXPRESSIONS IN SPEAKING: STRATEGIES TO BUILD
STUDENTS' INTERACTION IN EFL CLASS
(A Case Study at Eighth Grade Students of Private Islamic Secondary
School in Bengkulu)**

THESIS

**Submitted as Partial Requirements
For the Degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan* (S.Pd)
In English Department of UIN Fatmawati Sukarno Bengkulu**



Arranged by:

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SRN. 2111230033**

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TARBIYAH AND TADRIS FACULTY
UIN FATMAWATI SUKARNO BENGKULU**

2025

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I here by declare that thesis entitled **“SOCIAL EXPRESSIONS IN SPEAKING: STRATEGIES TO BUILD STUDENTS’ INTERACTION IN EFL CLASS (A Case Study at Eighth Grade Students of Private Islamic Secondary School in Bengkulu)”** in my own work or research and is not a plagiarism of the work of others. If in the future it is known that this thesis is the result of plagiarism, I am ready to be subject to academic sanctions.

Bengkulu, september 2025
Stated By,



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The thesis entitled **“SOCIAL EXPRESSIONS IN SPEAKING: STRATEGIES TO BUILD STUDENTS’ INTERACTION IN EFL CLASS (A Case Study at Eighth Grade Students of Private Islamic Secondary School in Bengkulu)”** has been guided, examined, and corrected in accordance with the suggestion of supervisor I and II. Therefore, the thesis has fulfilled the requirements for the munaqosyah examination.

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MOTTO

“Maka sesungguhnya beserta kesulitan ada kemudahan, sesungguhnya beserta kesulitan ada kemudahan”

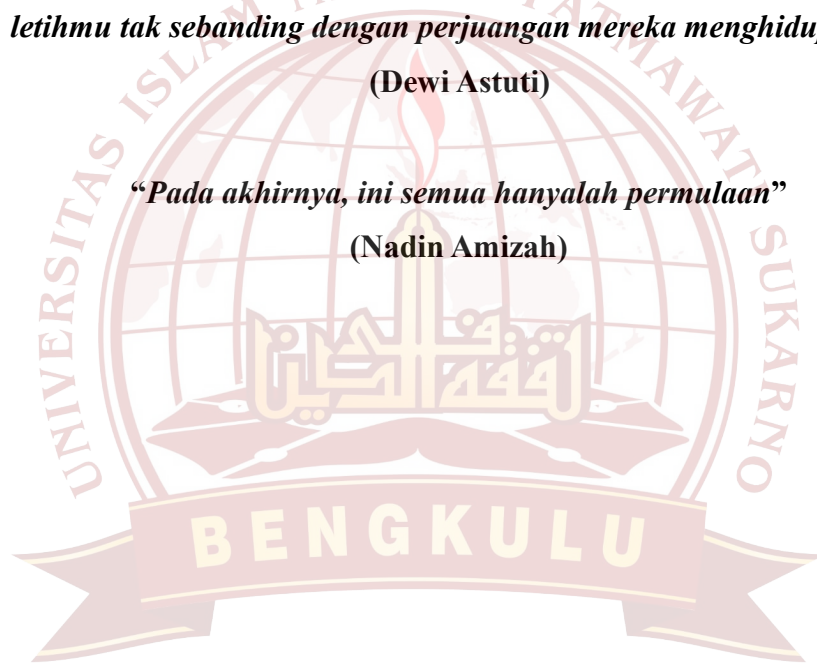
(Al-Insyiroh: 5-6)

“Orang tua dirumah selalu menanti kepulanganmu dengan hasil yang membanggakan, janganlah kecewakan mereka. Simpan saja keluhmu, sebab letihmu tak sebanding dengan perjuangan mereka menghidupimu”

(Dewi Astuti)

“Pada akhirnya, ini semua hanyalah permulaan”

(Nadin Amizah)



DEDICATIONS

With gratitude and love, this thesis is dedicated to:

- ❖ Allah SWT, the Almighty, the source of all knowledge, strength, and peace. Without your help, I am nothing. All praise is due to you, who have made every step of this journey possible.
- ❖ My beloved parents, Yatman and Sriyati. Thank you for your endless prayers, for every drop of sweat and hard work you gave to support my education. Thank you for having the strength and sincerity to let your only child go far away to pursue knowledge, even while holding back your longing every day. I know that behind every step I take, there is a great hope and unconditional love from both of you. You are my strength, my inspiration, and my reason to keep going. May this small achievement become the beginning of even greater pride for you. I love you always.
- ❖ My first supervisor, Ma'am Fera Zasrianita, M.Pd. Thank you sincerely for the valuable opportunities and experiences you have given me. Thank you for opening the way, for your trust, and for your patient and attentive guidance. Most of all, thank you for the motivation you have provided, which became an essential encouragement for me to keep moving and complete this process. Your guidance means so much in this thesis journey.
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up. I also sincerely appreciate all the motivation and support you have given me, which enabled me to complete my studies and earn my bachelor's degree.

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- ❖ The author of this thesis is myself, Dewi Astuti. A 21-year-old, the youngest daughter. Thank you for holding on this far, for choosing to keep trying, and for celebrating yourself at this point. Even when you felt hopeless about efforts that had not yet succeeded, thank you for deciding not to give up, despite the challenges of the thesis writing process, and for completing it to the best of your ability. This is an achievement worth celebrating for yourself. May you always find happiness wherever you are. The journey ahead is still long, and there will be more challenges and processes to face. Whatever your flaws and strengths may be, let us celebrate them and embrace ourselves fully.

ABSTRACT

Dewi Astuti: Social Expressions In Speaking: Strategies To Build Students' Interaction In Efl Class (A Case Study At Eighth Grade Students Of Private Islamic Secondary School In Bengkulu)”

Advisor I: Fera Zasrianita, M.Pd

Advisor II: Andriadi, M.A

This study addresses a research gap regarding the use of social expression strategies in English-speaking classes, particularly in the context of intermediate-level students who tend to be passive and lack confidence. The limited number of studies integrating social expressions as an affective approach highlights the importance of this research. The main objectives are: (1) to identify and explain how social expression-based strategies can be implemented to improve students' confidence in speaking English; (2) to analyse the factors influencing the success of such strategies in speaking activities; and (3) to evaluate the impact of these strategies on students' participation levels in class. This study employs a descriptive qualitative method. Data were collected through classroom observations and interviews with one English teacher and 19 eighth-grade students at MTs Humairah, Bengkulu City. The results show that the strategy effectively enhances students' speaking confidence through role-play, group discussions, and peer interaction, supported by teacher modelling. Its success is influenced by a combination of internal factors (motivation, self-confidence, and open personality) and external factors (teacher support, constructive feedback, and adaptive teaching approaches). This strategy also encourages previously passive students to participate more actively in speaking activities. The methodological implication suggests that a descriptive qualitative approach is effective for capturing the emotional and social dynamics of students in speaking classes.

Keywords: Social Expressions, Speaking Strategies, Interaction

ABSTRAK

Dewi Astuti: Ekspresi Sosial dalam Berbicara: Strategi untuk Membangun Interaksi Siswa (Studi Kasus Siswa Kelas VIII SMP Islam Swasta di Bengkulu)

Advisor I: Fera Zasrianita, M.Pd

Advisor II: Andriadi, M.A

Penelitian ini mengisi kesenjangan penelitian terkait pemanfaatan strategi ekspresi sosial dalam pembelajaran berbicara bahasa Inggris, terutama pada konteks siswa tingkat menengah yang cenderung pasif dan kurang percaya diri dalam speaking class. Minimnya studi yang mengintegrasikan ekspresi sosial sebagai pendekatan afektif menjadi alasan pentingnya penelitian ini dilakukan. Tujuan utama penelitian adalah: (1) Mengidentifikasi dan menjelaskan bagaimana strategi berbasis ekspresi sosial dapat diterapkan untuk meningkatkan kepercayaan diri siswa dalam berbicara bahasa Inggris; (2) Menganalisis faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi keberhasilan penerapan strategi berbasis ekspresi sosial dalam pembelajaran berbicara; dan (3) Mengevaluasi dampak strategi berbasis ekspresi sosial terhadap tingkat partisipasi siswa dalam berbicara di kelas. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif dengan pendekatan kualitatif. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi kelas dan wawancara guru serta siswa, dengan subjek 1 guru Bahasa Inggris dan 19 siswa kelas 8 MTs Humairah Kota Bengkulu. Hasil menunjukkan bahwa strategi ini efektif dalam meningkatkan kepercayaan diri siswa melalui kegiatan roleplay, diskusi kelompok, dan interaksi sebaya dengan dukungan modeling dari guru. Keberhasilan strategi dipengaruhi oleh faktor internal (motivasi, kepercayaan diri, dan kepribadian) serta faktor eksternal (dukungan guru, koreksi membangun, dan pendekatan yang sesuai). Strategi ini juga mendorong partisipasi aktif siswa yang sebelumnya pasif. Implikasi metodologisnya menunjukkan bahwa pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif mampu menangkap dinamika emosional dan sosial siswa secara mendalam dalam konteks pembelajaran berbicara.

Kata Kunci: Ekspresi Sosial, Strategi Berbicara, Interaksi

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All praises be to Allah SWT, the Lord of the Worlds, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful, who has bestowed countless blessings, mercy, strength, and guidance upon the writer throughout the journey of completing this thesis. Without His divine will and grace, this academic endeavour would not have been possible. In every challenge faced, Allah SWT has provided the patience, perseverance, and clarity of mind needed to overcome it. May our gratitude always remain for His continuous guidance in both worldly and spiritual matters.

Peace and salutations be upon the Prophet Muhammad SAW, the last messenger of Allah, whose noble character and teachings have illuminated the path of truth, knowledge, and morality for all of humanity. His life serves as a timeless example of wisdom, patience, and compassion, inspiring Muslims around the world to strive for excellence in every aspect of life, including the pursuit of knowledge.

This humble work, entitled **“Social Expressions In Speaking: Strategies To Build Students’ Interaction In Efl Class (A Case Study At Eighth Grade Students Of Private Islamic Secondary School In Bengkulu)”**, is submitted as a partial fulfilment of the requirements to obtain the Undergraduate Degree (S1) in the English Education Study Program at the State Islamic University of Fatmawati Sukarno Bengkulu. The process of completing this thesis has been both a valuable academic experience and a meaningful personal journey, filled with lessons, challenges, and growth.

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7. And for my almamater

Bengkulu, August 2025

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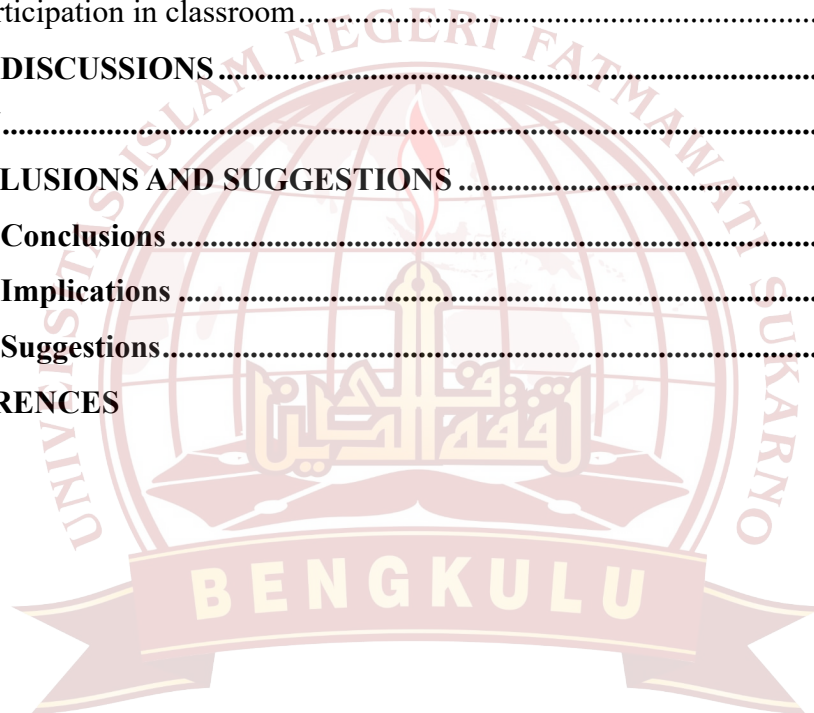


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