THE CONTRIBUTION OF ENGLISH COMPETENCY ON WORKING READINESS OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE PRODUCT STUDENTS

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Abstract

This research aims at knowing the contribution of English competency on working readiness of Food and Beverage Product students in Akademi Komunitas MAPINDO. This research applies the correlational research design. To run this research, 30 students were selected as sample taken from two classes, TB A and TB B. The data of English Competency were collected directly from English instructor report; and students’ readiness were collected by using a questionnaire with Likert scale. The obtained data were then analyzed by using Pearson Product Moment correlation and Multiple Regression with one predictor formulas. This research discovers that both partially and simultaneously there is a significant effect of English competency on working readiness of food and beverage product students in Akademi Komunitas MAPINDO. English is very important to improve the students’ readiness in working through the hospitality industry. For that reason, it is suggested for the campus to improve students’ English competency, to be hard workers.

Keywords: English Competency and Working Readiness
Introduction

Working readiness is one of the problems which is still encountered by students taking hospitality hotel field in Buleleng Regency. Working readiness itself is individual working ability which covers knowledge, competency and working attitudes based on the established standard (UU No. 13 Tahun 2003). According to Slameto (2010), working readiness covers four aspects, namely; maturity, intelligence competency and healthiness. Someone is said ready to work if they can adapt themselves with the working environment, solving problems, having skill on the field and having healthy physical body.

The result of tracer study in Akademi Komunitas MAPINDO shows that mostly the graduated students have difficulty in adapting themselves in working world. Besides that, the result of interview with the students who had taken job training program showed that mostly the students were not ready to compete in working field. Most of them say that there is a gap between academic field and requirement in working place. From the result of tracer study, it can be known that the factors causing the problem can be in the form of English competency

As the international tourism agents, English is the basic skill which should be owned. English competency covers how the people can demonstrate four language skills, namely: speaking, reading, writing, and listening (Chaer, 2009; Boric, 2007). From the result of interview, it is identified that English competency is still low, especially in speaking and listening skills. They had difficulty if they spoke face to face with the guest, especially English native speakers like USA, Australia, and British. As the result, many guests complained to the students or supervisor because the students did not understand on the topic or guest intention.

Bali tourism is famous from culture, art, especially those who live in the mountainous hills where they have diverse languages and cultures (Anggayana, Budasi & Suarnajaya, 2014). Service quality also plays an important role in the existence of tourist objects in Bali (Anggayana, Nitiash & Budasi, 2016). Productive skills are seen as skills that need to be considered in supporting tourism progress (Lindawati, Asriyani & Anggayana, 2018). It requires creativity physically, critical and systematic thinking (Lindawati, Asriyani & Anggayana, 2019). Develop communicative competence in four language skills, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, and determining communication success in tourism (Asriyani, Suryawati & Anggayana, 2019).

Bali has long been known for its tourism, so many foreign tourists visit every holiday season and every day (Anggayana & Sari, 2018). Bali's island has grown to become one of the most visited tourist destinations in the world, with more than one million foreign visitors flying directly to Bali (Budasi & Anggayana, 2019). In the world of tourism, one of the most popular languages in the world is English. It is even known as an international language (Asriyani, Suryawati & Anggayana, 2019). English is one of the languages that must be mastered (Sudipa, Aryati, Susanta, & Anggayana, 2020).

Balinese culture is very attached to the Balinese people themselves, as evidenced by the culture of menyame braya, Balinese dance, traditional houses (Redianis, Putra & Anggayana, 2019). It is important to preserve language and culture in its variety (Anggayana, Suparwa, Dhanawaty, & Budasi, 2020). Bali is an international destination that has diversified various tourism products to answer market challenges (Osin, Pibrari & Anggayana, 2019). Tourists want to be served and get decent accommodation according to tourist expectations (Anggayana, Budasi, & Kusuma, 2019).

Most students thought that English is complicated to be learned. They did not want to learn it more because of its difficulties. Based on the observation, it can be defined that the students got problem in speaking. Speaking is so important as a means of communication. If they lack in communicating, it will influence their working readiness in the
hospitality industry. Creating idea is not easy to be done for them, that is why they feel afraid in responding statements in English. It becomes great challenge for the lecturers in improving their English. The researchers collected the data from the lecturers, especially from Food and Beverage Product course. The data shows that the students still lack in speaking and writing. Food and Beverage product program concerns on Speaking and writing the terms in the kitchen. So, the score and results of study during a semester was collected through practice test.

This research focuses on finding the contribution of English competency on students’ readiness in working in the hospitality industry. Based on the explanation, this research analyzes the simultaneous and separate contribution of English competency on the working readiness of the students in Akademi Komunitas MAPINDO especially for Food and Beverage Product.

Methods

This correlational research was categorized into ex-post facto. It means that there is no treatment is given. The population was the students of Food and Beverage product in Akademi Komunitas MAPINDO. Among the population members, 30 students were selected as samples by using simple random sampling. They are distributed in class A and class B. Data of English competency were collected from the instructor diary, meanwhile working readiness were collected by using questionnaire with a Likert scale. Before the questionnaires were used, they were validated firstly. The obtained data were then analyzed by using Regression Analysis with one predictor. Then it was followed to calculate the effective contribution test for each predictor variables.

Finding and discussion

Before the regression analysis was done, prerequisite tests had to be valid. It covers normality, linearity multicollinearity and heteroscedasticity tests. The calculation was done by using SPSS 17 for Windows and the result is presented in the Table 1.

Table 1. The Result of Prerequisite Tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Normality</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Linearity</td>
<td>Y-X1</td>
<td>0.085</td>
<td>Linear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Multicollinearity</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>0.795/1.258</td>
<td>Nircolinear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Heteroscedasticity</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>Spread</td>
<td>Homoscedastic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: X1 = English competency, Y = working readiness

Based on the Table 1, it was known that the data was normally distributed, linear, nircolinear dan homoscedastic. It means that all prerequisite tests have been fulfilled. Therefore, regression analysis can be done. The calculation was done by using SPSS 17 for Windows and the result can be summarized in the Table 2.

Table 2. The Summary of Regression Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Constan t B</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Conclusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>X1 - Y</td>
<td>0.589</td>
<td>38.73</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the Table 2, it was known R = 0.589, F = 38.73 with probability 0.000 showing that the regression is significant.
From the result, it can be known that English competency, contributes 58.9% on working readiness. The rest is influenced by other factors. By this result, all the predictor can be used to predict the level of students' working readiness in hotel hospitality industry. In addition, the value of constant B is positive meaning that there is positive correlation among English competency on working readiness. The higher English competency is, the higher working readiness is.

Next, it was continued to know the effective contribution of the predictor. The calculation was done manually and the result can be presented in the Table 3.

Table 3. Effective Contribution of the Predictor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Effective Contribution (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>X1</td>
<td>58.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the Table 3, it can be known that English competency contributes 58.9%. It means that the Speaking Competency brings great impact toward the working readiness.

Working readiness is one problem commonly faced by young generation especially fresh graduate from tertiary education. Especially in Bali which is mostly dominated by tourism industry, the hospitality students should be ready for competition. Besides that, the number of tourism school or college also mushrooms in Bali which offering their program. If the students do not ready, they will leave behind. However, for the students who are ready for working, they usually recruit during on the job training.

Working readiness is not merely about skill, but also other parts such as: responsibility, adaptation, communication, self-view, and healthiness. Good hotelier should have good skill on their department, for example a waitress must be good in all skills needed such as: taking order, repeating order, cleaning, hanging food, handling complains, presenting menu, and mastering SOP. Those skills are not enough, because they also have to be able to communicate with guests and their friends. It is because they work as team, not as an individual. Working as team needs absolutely need a process of adaptation. They adapt with their friends and working condition.

In addition, a good worker also must review on his way or self-reflection. It is important to be done to correct on their weaknesses so that it can be improved later on. By doing it, they can be better and better in the future. Moreover, all the skills should be supported with good healthiness. Hotel jobs need good power. They have to be ready working from morning until evening or working at night until morning.

All those dimensions of working readiness is mostly influenced by English competency. If students have good competency in English, they have good working readiness. English competency, is a push to achieved goals in working, in this context is good worker. If the students have strong push, all challenges can be solved. A good motivated person have good working quality, creating good relationship with others, having responsibility and achieving the highest position. The characteristics are matched to the requirement needed to be professional workers or ready worker.

Lastly, English competency requires to be a good hotelier. Working in the hotel, especially in Bali, English competency is the main question to be asked in the interview. Guests are mostly overseas so the communication is done by using English. Good English competency helps the students to do good communication with guest and managers. In other words, it facilitates the students to be ready worker or to have good career in the future.

Conclusion

Based on the hypotesis testing by regression analysis, it can be concluded that English competency can be used to predict the students' working readiness level. In addition, there is a positive correlation among them. It means that if we want to improve the students' working
readiness, the campus has to improve students' English competency. Campus should aware with the importance of English in the tourism. This campus concerns on tourism, especially for culinary. The higher understanding of English in each term of product, the higher the students confidence and readiness to go through industry directly.

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