

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS

This chapter presents the findings on some factors influencing confidence in speaking English of senior Thai undergraduate students. The results were obtained and analyzed from the questionnaires distributed to 100 students at Srinakharinwirot. In order to answer the research questions, the questionnaires were divided into 3 parts: general information of the respondents, the respondents' attitudes towards speaking English, and the respondents' confidence in speaking English.

#### 4.1 GENERAL INFORMATION OF THE RESPONDENTS

This part showed the general information of the respondents (gender, major of study, personalities, participating in English activities or speaking English in several situations, watching TV's, listening to English songs or news and reading English books). The results were analyzed in terms of frequency and percentage as follows:

As Table 1, the majority of the respondents were female 69 % and the rest were male respondents.

*Table 1. Gender of the Respondents*

Gender	Frequency
Male	31
Female	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

n =100

Table 2, the respondents who studied a language or social science major were more (54%) than the respondents who studied a science major (46%).

*Table 2. Major of Study*

Major of Study	Frequency
Language Major	54
Science Major	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3.1, most of the respondents were moderately easy going (54%), followed by the respondents who were mostly easy going (37%) and the rest of the respondents was less easy going (9%).

**Table 3.1 Personality: Easy Going**

(n=100)

<b>Easy Going</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Largely	37
Moderately	54
Rarely	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3.2, largely, the respondents were moderately outgoing and confident (68%), some of the respondents were very outgoing and confident (24%) and the remainder of the respondents were less outgoing and confident (8 %).

**Table 3.2 Personality: Outgoing and Confident**

<b>Outgoing and Confident</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Largely	24
Moderately	68
Rarely	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3.3, the majority of the respondents was really satisfied to learn more English (51%). There were some respondents who moderately wanted to learn English (43%) and a minority of the respondents was less interested in learning more English (6%).

**Table 3.3 Personality: Satisfied to learn more English**

<b>Interested in English Learning</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Largely	51
Moderately	43
Rarely	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4, most of the respondents participated in English activities like competing in English academic contests or attending English summer camps (56%). Some respondents rarely participated in English activities (42%) and a minority of the respondents usually participated in English activities (2%).

***Table 4. Participation in English Activities***

(n=100)

<b>Participation in English Activities</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Often	2
Sometimes	56
Seldom	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 5, mostly, respondents sometimes had a chance to communicate in English in several situations (61 %). The respondents who seldom had a chance to communicate in English (27%) were more than the respondents who often had a chance to communicate in English (12%).

***Table 5. Speaking English in Several Situations***

<b>Speaking English in Several Situations</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Often	12
Sometimes	61
Seldom	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 6, the large numbers of the respondents sometimes watch English TV programs (43%), followed by the respondents who mostly watch English TV programs (42%) and there were some respondents who rarely watch English TV programs (15%).

**Table 6. Watching English TV Programs**

(n=100)

<b>Watching English TV's Programs</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Often	42
Sometimes	43
Seldom	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 7, most of the respondents moderately listened to English songs and news reports (47%). Some respondents usually listened to English songs and news reports (38%) and a minority of the respondents rarely listened to English songs and news reports (15%).

**Table 7. Listening to English Songs and News Reports**

<b>Listening to English Songs and News Reports</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Often	38
Sometimes	47
Seldom	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 8; largely, the respondents sometimes read English books (42%) and some respondents who seldom read English books were (38%). There were a few respondents who normally read English books (20%).

**Table 8. Reading English Books**

<b>Reading English Books</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Often	20
Sometimes	42
Seldom	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

## 4.2 THE RESPONDENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS SPEAKING ENGLISH

In the second part, the respondents were asked to indicate their attitudes towards speaking English composing of roles of English at this moment, improvement of English speaking and supportive issues towards speaking English with confidence. Close-ended questions with the Likert 5-point scale were used to rank the degree of the respondent attitudes. The analysis in this part presented frequency, percentage and mean of the respondents' attitudes towards speaking English; the following scores represented the degree of attitudes:

4.21 - 5.00	→	Strongly Agree
3.41 - 4.20	→	Agree
2.61 - 3.40	→	Moderately Agree
1.81 - 2.60	→	Disagree
1.00 - 1.80	→	Strongly Disagree

**Table 9. Attitudes Towards Speaking English of Senior Thai Graduate Students at Srinakharinwirot**

Items	Level of Attitude					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
9. At present, speaking English has more a important role in daily life and working.	77 (77%)	22 (22%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.76
10. Speaking English can be more efficient, if it is usually practiced.	49 (49%)	38 (38%)	10 (10%)	2 (2%)	1 (1%)	4.32
11. Lack of ability in speaking English might result in communication problems with foreigners.	48 (48%)	42 (42%)	9 (9%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	4.37

(table continues)

*(Table 9. continued)*

Items	Level of Attitude					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
12. Speaking English efficiently can create a good image and bring about good work opportunities.	51 (51%)	42 (42%)	6 (6%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	4.42
13. It is very important to pronounce English correctly.	34 (34%)	47 (47%)	18 (18%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	4.14
14. To speak English speaking as well as a native speaker, you must take any chance to practice your English pronunciation.	38 (38%)	51 (51%)	10 (10%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	4.26
15. Learning more English vocabulary is essential in speaking.	38 (38%)	42 (42%)	18 (18%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	4.15
16. For communicating in English effectively, you should use correct English grammar.	10 (10%)	38 (38%)	41 (41%)	10 (10%)	1 (1%)	3.46
17. Watching English TV program and listening to English songs or news reports are supportive to speaking English with confidence.	36 (36%)	48 (48%)	16 (16%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.20

(table continues)

*(Table 9. continued)*

Items	Level of Attitude					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
18. Confidence is important in supporting you to speaking English fluently.	48 (48%)	44 (44%)	6 (6%)	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	4.38
Total image of the respondents' attitude towards speaking English						4.25

Table 9 showed that the total image of respondent attitudes toward speaking English with confidence was at a high level with a Mean = 4.25 and S.D. = 0.435.

According to the result, it pointed that the role of English speaking was quite crucial at present both in daily life and work. It accounted for the highest portion (99 %). Furthermore, speaking English fluently resulted in a good image and also good job opportunities for each person (93%). Speaking English with confidence was important and supports the respondents to speak English fluently (92%). One of the outstanding results was that a lack of English speaking skills; might cause communication problems between respondents and foreigners (90%). In addition, the following results presented some agreements that were fewer in proportion to the respondent attitude. The respondents agreed that watching TV programs and listening to English songs or news might strengthen their confidence in speaking English (84%). Learning more vocabulary and correct English pronunciation were very essential in speaking (around 80%) and followed by communication in English with correct English grammar (48%).

### **4.3 THE RESPONDENTS' CONFIDENCE IN SPEAKING ENGLISH**

From the third part of the questionnaire, the respondents were asked to rate their degree of confidence towards speaking English that presented their behaviour like communication skills, English abilities, and English practice in daily life by the

answers of strongly agree, agree, moderately agree, disagree, and strongly disagree. The analysis in this part showed the frequency, percentage and mean of the respondents' confidence in speaking English; the following scores represented the degree of confidence.

**Table 10. The Degree of Confidence Towards Speaking English in Daily Life**

(n=100)

Items	Degree of Confidence					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
19. You are confident about speaking English.	5 (5%)	26 (26%)	52 (52%)	14 (14%)	3 (3%)	3.16
20. You are able to communicate or express your ideas in English instantly; without hesitation.	4 (4%)	20 (20%)	47 (47%)	21 (21%)	8 (8%)	2.91
21. You focus on speaking English with confidence more than correct grammatical structure.	13 (13%)	49 (49%)	29 (29%)	6 (6%)	3 (3%)	3.63
22. You spend just a little time to think and communicate with others; even though, you are not quite sure of the correct structure.	6 (6%)	31 (31%)	47 (47%)	12 (12%)	4 (4%)	3.23

(table continues)



*(Table 10. continued)*

Items	Degree of Confidence					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
23. You can speak English; even though you have no chance to prepare phrases beforehand.	5 (5%)	26 (26%)	40 (40%)	21 (21%)	8 (8%)	2.99
24. You are not nervous when you have to express your ideas in English.	11 (11%)	21 (21%)	37 (37%)	25 (25%)	6 (6%)	3.06
25. Even though you sometimes make a mistake in speaking English; it does not make you avoid speaking it.	12 (12%)	46 (46%)	32 (32%)	7 (7%)	3 (3%)	3.57
26. In your opinion, you mostly speak English as correct grammatical structures.	3 (3%)	14 (14%)	31 (31%)	42 (42%)	10 (10%)	2.58
27. You are able to communicate in English confidently with unfamiliar people or in unusual situations.	8 (8%)	23 (23%)	36 (36%)	28 (28%)	5 (5%)	3.01

(table continues)

*(Table 10. continued)*

Items	Degree of Confidence					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
28. You are not afraid that you will speak English incorrectly.	5 (5%)	33 (33%)	36 (36%)	21 (21%)	5 (5%)	3.12
29. Normally, you always find a chance to practice better English speaking.	13 (13%)	30 (30%)	40 (40%)	15 (15%)	2 (2%)	3.37
30. You are more confident in speaking than writing.	12 (12%)	28 (28%)	33 (33%)	22 (22%)	5 (5%)	3.20
31. Your speaking ability is better than your reading ability.	8 (8%)	20 (20%)	31 (31%)	32 (32%)	9 (9%)	2.86
32. You focus on what you want to say to respondents more than stressing an English accent the same as a native speaker.	16 (16%)	39 (39%)	36 (36%)	5 (5%)	4 (4%)	3.58
33. Your knowledge of vocabulary makes you speak English fluently.	17 (17%)	35 (35%)	37 (37%)	10 (10%)	1 (1%)	3.57

(table continues)

*(Table 10. continued)*

Items	Degree of Confidence					Mean
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Moderately Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	
34. You try to use English to communicate with your instructors and your classmates if you have a chance.	15 (15%)	23 (23%)	35 (35%)	19 (19%)	8 (8%)	3.18
35. You are able to greet, talk and give foreigners directions to where they want to go.	24 (24%)	35 (35%)	31 (31%)	7 (7%)	3 (3%)	3.70
36. You are welcome to present work in English at a meeting.	11 (11%)	24 (24%)	35 (35%)	24 (24%)	6 (6%)	3.10
Total image of the respondents' confidence towards speaking English						3.21

Table 10 presents, the whole image of English speaking with confidence. Most respondents were moderately confident (Mean = 3.21, S.D. = 0.744). According to the analysis of this part, the result found that the respondents mostly were able to talk and give foreigners directions (69%), followed by emphasizing the meaning of sentences more than grammatical structure (60%). Though, the respondents made a mistake in English, it didn't make them avoid speaking English (58%). In addition, the respondents focused on what they wanted to say more than stressing their pronunciation (55%). The respondents also believed that a good knowledge of vocabulary can assist them in speaking better English (52%). With a lower proportion of agreement, if they had to present or express their ideas in English, a few respondents would not be concerned about their English speaking (32%).

Additionally, few respondents were able to communicate with unfamiliar people and unusual situations in English with confidence (31%). They can communicate and gave ideas in English without spending a long time to think about the words (24%); and finally, some respondents believed that they spoke English by the using correct structure.