

PREFACE

This thesis entitled “English Speaking Challenges and Opportunities: An Investigation of University Students in Survival English Course” is submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Pendidikan at the English Education Department, Faculty of Educational Sciences and Teachers’ Training, Siliwangi University, Tasikmalaya. This thesis contains background information, a literature review, and a methodology section. The background information provides a context related to the challenges and opportunities faced by first-year students, a gap, formulation of the problems, significance of the research, and aims of the research. The literature review provides an explanation of speaking skills: how to learn to speak and factors in influencing students' speaking; and sociocultural theory by Vygotsky. The research design used in this study is a descriptive case study. Furthermore, the data was collected through semi-structured interview and analyzed by thematic analysis.

Lastly, I will greatly receive any kind of suggestions and criticism from the readers. Hopefully, this research proposal will be useful and valuable both for the researcher and the readers. However, with the support of many participants, this research can be completed. As a result, the researcher expresses heartfelt gratitude to them in the acknowledgment section.

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The Writer