

**THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

NGUYEN THI SAC

**IMPROVING ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS
THROUGH GAMES FOR 11th GRADE STUDENTS
AT YEN PHONG NO.2 HIGH SCHOOL**

**(Cải thiện kỹ năng nói Tiếng Anh
thông qua các trò chơi cho học sinh khối 11
tại trường THPT Yên Phong số 2)**

M.A THESIS

**Field: English Linguistics
Code: 8220201**

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(APPLICATION ORIENTATION)**

Field: English Linguistics

Code: 8220201

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof . PhD. Hoang Tuyet Minh

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DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, declare that this thesis is the result of my own research for the Degree of Master at Thai Nguyen University and that this thesis has not been submitted for any degree at any other university or tertiary institution.

Thai Nguyen, 2020

Student

Nguyễn Thị Sắc

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ABSTRACT

One of the most challenging tasks facing any language teachers is to capture students' interest, and therefore, keep them in high learning spirit. Meanwhile, English speaking skills are a hard skill which can sometimes be frustrating especially students. To realize this situation, the teachers are supposed to find out teaching ways corresponsive to students' needs and wants. The study, in that light, lays a focus on students' improvement in English speaking skills through games. The study was conducted in the form of an action research with the research tools being observational note, pre-test, post-test 1, post-test 2 and survey questionnaire to collect data. Then the data from observational note and tests were exploited to find out the improvement in students' English speaking skills. And the data from survey questionnaire was used to find out students' attitude when using games in speaking lessons. Through the results of the teacher's observation, the pre-test, post-test 1 and post-test 2, it can be concluded that games could help improve students' English speaking skills. The results collected from the questionnaires showed that most of the students expressed their positive attitudes towards the games carried out in teaching English speaking skills.

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CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Rationale for the study

Speaking is one of the basic language skills that have to be mastered by English foreign learners due to its significant and its use for communication. It is very important to be able to speak English regarding that it is the most commonly accepted language in the world so that it will be very beneficial for those who comprehend it not only to improve their knowledge and skills but also easier for them to get a job. More than that, they will not find it difficult to communicate and interact with people around the world when they travel (Gard & Gautam, 2015).

From the observation and teaching process done by the researcher with the 11th grade students at Yen Phong No.2 high school, lack of students' speaking proficiency is the problem. Their vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation are low which make them unable to say something during the speaking class. Related to the competence of the students speaking skills, there are some indicators which show that they do not speak accurately.

First, in language teaching class, they rarely answer the question given by the teacher orally. Second, they also speak with a lot of pauses. Third, they get difficulties to find the appropriate words to create sentence or expression. Fourth, dealing with the vocabulary mastery, for instance when the teacher asks the meaning of *seldom*, *never*, several of them cannot answer them. Fifth, in grammatical item when the teacher explains recount text, she asks the past form of the words *bring*, and *think*, the students do not understand. Another difficulty is found in speaking material. The teacher has to translate all the sentences first before explaining what kind of expression it is.

Other indicators are shown in the classroom atmosphere. During the teaching learning process, the students are not enthusiastic and interested in joining teaching activities. Only a few students have great willingness to speak up voluntarily. They do not enjoy the lesson. When all the students speak together, it gets too noisy and