Encountering with Native Speakers:

An autoethnography in Learning English as a Foreign Language in Indonesia



A Thesis

By

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ENCOUNTERING WITH NATIVE SPEAKERS:

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A THESIS

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The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education



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APPROVAL SHEET 1

This thesis entitled "ENCOUNTERING WITH NATIVE SPEAKERS: AN AUTO-ETHNOGRAPHY IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN INDONESIA" prepared and submitted by Thalia Noya has been approved to be examined by the Thesis Board of Examiners.

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APPROVAL SHEET 2

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ABSTRACT

As a foreign language in Indonesia, English has been one of the compulsory subjects in schools. Thus, the majority of the time I was learning English was in the classroom. However, I wanted to improve my English by learning it outside the classroom. One of the ways I use to learn English outside the classroom is by encountering with native speakers in social media and real-life settings. Therefore, in this research, I would like to find what events that native speakers contribute to my English learning, what roles they have in my English learning, and what I have learned from them.

To answer the questions, I did an autoethnography study in which I describe and analyze my personal experiences in meeting with native speakers. The data was taken from my encountering with native speakers both online and offline. Although, the majority of the encountering occurred online which also makes this study more of a netnography study. The data of this autoethnography study are my personal documents and artifacts which I then reconstructed into narrative and analysed the data and co-constructed the narratives to answer my questions.

The findings show that I learned the most through events such as small talk where native speakers contribute me with new words and informal abbreviations which mostly used in informal text messages. Nevertheless, native speakers contribute more in my speaking skills. When it comes to ELT, the data shows that teachers may want to consider creating a learning space where students can interact with each other, including the teacher in English to get them used in speaking English and indirectly learn from the teacher as well. Learners may also want to consider encountering with native speakers as one of the ways to learn English.

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