

## **STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKER TEACHERS**

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**Abstract.** There was an argument that native English teachers have many advantages than non-native English teachers and students preferred native to non-native teachers; however, the argument had to be assessed. Many researchers had been exploring students' perceptions of native and non-native English teachers worldwide in formal education institutions. This study aimed to explore students' perceptions of native and non-native English teachers in a non-formal education institution. This was a qualitative study based on a descriptive approach conducted using three instruments: close-ended questionnaire, semi-structured interview, and documentation. The study revealed that native and non-native English teachers had their own specific roles in the Indonesian context. Students needed native more than non-native teachers because the latter were bilingual having the same mother tongue as them, and they enabled a successful learning process because of the effective learning strategies they shared. Also, non-native teachers helped students deal with difficulties and challenges in their learning process.

**Keywords:** *Perception, native English teachers, non-native English teachers*

### **INTRODUCTION**

English is the most popular international language used all over the world. For this reason, English must be taught in all education levels. People are required to speak like a native. Hence, many parents send their children to non-formal education institutions, like English courses, to let them learn English more intensively. In this case, the existence of English courses in Indonesia is growing rapidly years to years with the presence of native and non-native teachers. Many institutions employ these two types of teachers to promote the language learning process. "The competencies of English teachers as Native English Speaking Teachers (NESTs) and Non-Native English Speaking Teachers (NNESTs) have become a significant matter of discussion" (Tsou & Chen, 2019). This case happens worldwide including in Indonesia which uses English as a foreign language.

The issue about the effectiveness of the NESTs and NNESTs is not a new case in English teaching and learning. It has become a questionable and debatable issue in EFL and ESL studies over the years since it contains two opposite points of view and has been a researchable issue by many scholars, not only in EFL but also in ESL contexts; (Tajeddin & Adeg, 2016), (Novianti, 2018); (Lourie, 2019); (DY & Oladele, 2019). The debates are

about the thought to decide whether NESTs or NNESTs compete with each other in terms of teaching preferences.

English education in various settings has been connected to the instructors' capacities, and it is believed that teachers who communicate in English as their first language can be more powerful study hall professionals than those whose first language isn't English. Besides that, there is a worldwide negative bias against NNESTs around the world (Tosuncuoglu, 2017). NESTs are frequently decided to be predominant to the NNESTs, both by people who have not reflected fundamentally on the natural contrasts between realizing how to utilize a language and knowing how to teach a language and by people who accept that NNESTs are not accurate speakers. In non-language English country especially in the classroom situation, there is a big picture that portrays NESTs as better teachers or lecturers considering their inherent language English ability (Lourie, 2019).

Notwithstanding, research on the marvel of NESTs and NNESTs shows that the last can be more powerful a direct result of their experience of being language students. Further, teaching a language is not really connected with the teachers' status; native or non-native. Teaching a language requires people to be trained and prepared to be teachers since teachers are made not born, whether native or non-native. As a result, NESTs are not a guarantee that they are much better than NNESTs in teaching the language. However, we can see some advertisements around us promoting English courses with the natives. This is because of the claim mentioned previously.

In fact, since English is recognized as the international language that is taught worldwide across varieties of education levels, the number of NNESTs is increasing gradually all over the world and recent information reveals that they have outnumbered the NESTs, including in Indonesia. Even, as cited in Jaber (2016), Richardson states that nine out of ten English teachers around the world are non-native and Freeman, et al (as cited in Floris and Renandya (2020) add that 80% out of the 15 million English teachers are NNESTs. It may indicate that more people put more trusts on the NNESTs.

There have been various investigations in the field of NESTs and NNESTs all throughout the places. Be that as it may, since there is no solid observational demonstrate to point whether NESTs or NNESTs can add to the learning aftereffects of EFL students, more assessment is required, (Chun, 2014). In fact, there has been a few clear investigations in the East Asia, Central Asia and South Asia context raising different issues (Sun, 2017); (Nguyen, 2017); (Tajeddin, 2018). Further, currently, very few studies on students' perceptions exist on NNESTs and their professional status has raised an area of interest. Therefore, in this study, the researchers tried to explore students' perceptions towards their native and non-native English teachers. The purpose of this study was to investigate the perspective or perceptions of students based on the NESTs and NNESTs in EFL teaching. While other similar studies focused on the formal education institutions, this study focused on the non-formal education institution which referred to as English course that hired both native and non-native English teachers.

### ***Native English Speaker Teachers (NESTs) and Non-Native English Speaker Teachers (NNESTs)***

A native speaker of a language is someone who has obtained the language as their first language since early childhood. They are considered to master their language instinctively and to utilize it precisely, smoothly, and appropriately.

All in all, a long way from being a goal name, the English “local speaker” is labelled with the political and social conditions of its introduction to the world. Therefore, a native speaker is noticed as an ideal speaker-listener in a completely homogeneous speech community who knows the language perfectly and is unaffected by grammatically irrelevant conditions such as memory limitations, distractions, shifts in attention and interest, and errors (random or characteristic) in applying his language knowledge in actual performance (Lowe, 2020).

On the other hand, a non-native English speaker is a person who does not speak English as his first language. He uses English as the second or foreign language instead. According to Medyges as cited in (Novianti, 2018), a non-native English speaker teacher is defined as a person who: (1) learned English as a second or a foreign language; (2) works in an EFL (English as a Foreign Language) environment; (3) teaches mostly monolingual students; (4) speaks the same mother tongue as his students.

For short, it could be said that native English speakers are those who born with the first language (L1) is English, and communicate along with this language since they were child. On the contrary, non-native speakers refer to those whose first language is not English and they learn English as their additional language (L2). Concerning this study, NNESTs refer to those whose first languages are not English, yet they have learned the language and prepared to be teachers in an organized educational system. On the other hand, the term NESTs is used to describe those whose first language is English and have been prepared to be teachers in an organized educational system.

**Table 1** The Difference Between Native and Non-Native Teacher (Meidita, 2019)

No	Native Teacher	Non-Native Teacher
1	Attitude Positive: self-confidence, open argument, humorous, caring, good relation Negative: indiscipline, ignoring	Attitude Positive: self-confidence, humorous, caring, Negative: punisher
2	Teaching Performance Positive: innovative, good outcome Negative: too patient	Teaching Performance Positive: innovative Negative: monotonously
3	Feeling Positive: unique Negative: confuse	Feeling Positive: understanding Negative: play favor

In the English teaching profession, it can be found that the tendency for native speakers is based on the belief that NESTs are the perfect teachers. One of the causes is because they were born and raised within the environment in which English is utilized persistently and intensively in all situations so that they are suitable as ideal models for language learning. Sound, commotion, pitch, musicality, length, crossroads and stress are among complement's numerous highlights; all of which group speaker expectation as they encode semantic and rambling importance: emphasize is a medium, through which we project

singular style and sign our relationship to conversationalists. Much more comprehensively, it reflects social character along different unmitigated lines (Davies, 2017). On the contrary, NNESTs tend to be determined as inadequate speakers of English with imperfect grammatical and pragmatic knowledge, bad pronunciation, and inferior knowledge about foreign culture.

Nowadays, the number of NNESTs overwhelms NESTs. Hence, it is not appropriate to mention that a native speaker is more valid and trustworthy than a non-native speaker. This perspective is indicated in the hiring practices of educational institutions, news media, and other interested parties. Reference on NNESTs also reveals that the reason program administrators emphasize nativeness is that they believe that students choose NESTs over NNESTs. The viewpoint of the NNESTs as the inferior factor of language teaching and the negative perspective about them has caused them to feel low self-confident in their language classes. The address of NESTs or NNESTs has to be examined more as the request for well quipped and qualified English teachers are developing. The perspective should be that both the NESTs and NNESTs have abilities and qualities that suits the students' needs.

According to Medyges (as cited in Novianti, 2018), the superiority of the NNESTs are as follow:

1. NNESTs are good learner models. If they had not effectively mastered English, non-native English speakers would have not been qualified to be English teachers. All the process and achievement can inspire the learners to achieve the same or indeed way better results.
2. NNESTs will teach more efficient techniques for learning. Unlike the native who just gets it, NNESTs possess a lot of encounters and understand how to learn the language through deliberate process. Hence, they may apply and share their strategies of learning with their students.
3. NNESTs can give more English language knowledge for learners. It's due to the fact that NNESTs have learned English form piece of information and within the process, they comprehend how English works. NNESTs have bilingual or multilingual competencies.
4. NNESTs are more skilled to predict the challenges faced by learners in the learning process. NNESTs know precisely how to deal with the challenges and difficulties faced by their students from their own learning experiences. They are able to foresee and avoid the students' linguistic problems.
5. NNESTs tend to be more sympathetic about the concerns and needs of students. The similar experience enables NNESTs more receptive and understanding, and they can share their tips and strategies.
6. By using the same mother tongue as the students, NNESTs have certain advantages. There has been a notion in the past that a good lesson has to be delivered entirely in English. Now, however, scholars think that the use of L1 could enable the teaching and learning process more effective.

For these reasons, (Chun, 2014) recommends that native speakers should not be hired solely because they are native speakers, and that they should not be given preference over NNESTs. It is because sharing the same mother tongue as the students would bring its own advantages in teaching learning process, also, becoming an English teacher is not fundamentally related to the status of nativeness. Even though the English proficiency level is a vital component in professionalism, becoming a teacher is not something born.

Regardless of their first language and proficiency level, teachers should have satisfactory training to teach a language. In other words, they should be trained in an organized educational system and prepared to be English teachers.

As the researchers mentioned previously, there have been numerous studies in the field of NESTs and NNESTs. The study was initiated by Medyges in London in 1992 who found out that most of his respondents preferred NNESTs to NESTs. Since then, many researches have been conducted with the same issues, Gurkan & Yuksel (2012) who conducted a study on the performance of NNESTs and NESTs in the classroom. The results showed that the NNESTs and the NESTs are not different in the terms of pedagogy. Then, Brown (2013) carried out a similar study in Sweden which showed that both NESTs and NNESTs were confident in their language abilities and there were significant differences of perception among the respondents towards their NESTs and NNESTs. The results of the study showed that students thought that it did not matter whether the teachers were native or non-native as long as they were good teachers.

In a study conducted by Walkinshaw & Oanh (2014) to university students in Vietnam and Japan, it was found that students viewed NESTs as models of pronunciation and correct use of language, but also found that NESTs were poor in explaining grammar and created tension between their different cultures. NNESTs were regarded good grammar teachers and were willing to revert to the first language of the students if necessary. Students considered classroom experience with NNESTs easier since they share cultures. Pronunciation of the NNESTs was inferior to that of NESTs, yet easier to understand. Some students recommend learning from both NESTs and NNESTs according to the skills and abilities taught to the learners. Other research was conducted by Novianti (2018) to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students of English Department at a university in Cimahi, West Java. The study showed that students have positive perceptions towards NESTs and NNESTs, though, in some conditions, students face few issues in their learning process, so that both NESTs and NNESTs were required to overcome the difficulties experienced by students

## **METHOD**

A qualitative analysis based on a descriptive approach was used to investigate the perspectives of the students on NESTs and NNESTs. The students' views on NESTs and NNESTs were gathered in the form of standardized questionnaire data (quantified for analytical purposes) to answer the research questions because the researchers wanted to examine rather than evaluate specific attitudes and beliefs (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005). To endorse the questionnaire, interviews were also used. Furthermore, the researchers decided to leverage the evolving nature of the qualitative analysis, keeping the design relatively loose and flexible to respond to evolving knowledge (Dörnyei, 2011). This section describes the technique used in this study, including the participants, instruments, and data collection methods.

### ***Participants***

The study participants were students from EF English First Cilegon, Banten Province since both NESTs and NNESTs were recruited. The participants were chosen by using a purposive sampling technique. The samples were 20 students whose classes had ever been accompanied by both NESTs and NNESTs.

### ***The Instruments***

A close-ended questionnaire was employed to gather data on students' perceptions of NESTs and NNESTs. This instrument allowed for the collection of a significant amount of data in an easily processed format, and it followed the same methodology as other questionnaire-based research on the issue (Brown, 2013; Tajeddin & Adeh, 2016; Novianti, 2018). The questionnaire was in the form of scaled questions by using *Likert-scale* from 1 to 5 ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree." The questions were structured by paying attention to the indicators forming the theories, the concepts of writing the questionnaires, such as the contents and aims of the questions, the vocabulary used, styles and forms of the questions, the length of the questions, the order of the questions, and the questionnaires' physical appearance. In addition, a semi-structured interview and documentations were used to elicit more detail information on the study and triangulate the collection of data.

### ***Data Collection Procedures***

As demonstrated by DÖrnyei (2011), this research may well be thought of a quantitative one because it included data collection procedures primarily resulting in numerical data which was then analyzed primarily using statistical methods. Since it used a 5-point *Likert-type scale*, it was referred to as quantitative. The responses of students were counted and translated into percentages; however, a descriptive method of the study was performed, and, based on probability theory, descriptive statistics were not advanced. The qualitative information was used to address the research questions. The data from the semi-structured interview with the director of EF English First Cilegon belongs to qualitative.

Furthermore, the writers employed some procedures in this study, they were: (1) planning, (2) gathering the data, and (3) processing and analyzing the data. In the planning process, the study method and the participants were determined by the writers, as well as organizing the questionnaire and the delivery technique of the questionnaire, also the method and data collection technique. In this study, there was only one variable: the perspective of students on the NESTs and NNESTs. A close-ended questionnaire to collect the quantitative data was conducted while collecting the data. Next, using a semi-structured interview, the qualitative data was carried out and documentation was used to generate more detailed information and triangulate the data.

To address the research questions, both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to evaluate the questionnaire and interview data that were obtained in the second step of this inquiry. The descriptive statistics including frequency counts and percentages were determined. Interview data was then analyzed by using content analysis. To promote research, answers were carefully read, keywords were highlighted, and documentation was used.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### ***Students' Perception towards Native English Speaker Teachers (NESTs)***

Referring to the students' personal opinion about their preference for having the NEST (Q1), 45% of students agree that the NEST is necessary for their learning process since they speak English more fluently. Even, 10% of students strongly agree with this statement. As to meet their learning needs (Q2), 55% of students agree that clear and

accurate pronunciation of the NEST will affect their natural ability to speak in English. So, they need more exposure to meet their learning need; that is being able to speak in English fluently with clear and accurate pronunciation in a natural way. This is supported by the interview result with the director of EF English First Cilegon who stated that,

"They [the NESTs] have been exposed to English since childhood, so their language is more natural. This natural is something that we want our children to have. So we apply English here in EF also to make our students more natural in becoming a speaker,...we bring native here to give more exposure to our students from natural English." (I1)

In the second indicator (Q3 & Q4), 55% of students agree that the idioms used by the NESTs motivate them to enhance their learning skills, especially in speaking. The same number of students also agrees that those idioms make them want to learn English more to enhance their skills. However, for young learners, the idioms do not seem to play an important role in their learning process, and even for the adult learners, memorizing idioms as they are will not work. We have to bring the idioms into the contexts as the interview result showed,

"I'm not sure about idiomatic grammar because we have so many young learners here. We cannot use idioms here in the class. But our native teachers try to motivate the students using fun activities, like games or songs or chants. So, it will motivate them more rather than using language they don't understand." (I2)

For the third indicator saying that native speaker understands and uses the standard language, 35% students agree, and even 45% of them strongly agree, that the NESTs understand their utterances even though they pronounce the words incorrectly (Q5). Moreover, 40% of students agree that their NESTs can make immediate correction according to the standard language even though the NESTs themselves have different accents, dialects, pronunciation since they come from different places of origin (Q6). The interview revealed that:

"Well, based on my opinion, yes [native speaker understands and uses the standard language]. But we have to remember that they have special accents as well and sometimes it's different from the common language or general English language that we learn...but for grammatically correct, I can say yes...sometimes they have different accents, dialects, pronunciation even though they come from the same country." (I3)

In the next indicator, 40% of students agree that their NESTs' spontaneous discourse can enhance the communication flow in the learning session (Q7). Most students (40%) also think that the wide range of communicative competence possessed by the NESTs enhances their language skills (Q8). For example, students can speak much longer, write varieties of ideas with a wide range of vocabulary, understand better various types of texts, and understand better the meaning of spoken communication during listening sessions. All of those language skills developments must consider the level of the learners as the interview added that,

"...yes, because it's their first language; their mother tongue. So, of course, it will be different but sometimes we have to find out sentences to give instructions to the children...So the communicative competence should be adjusted to the learner levels and also the language proficiency of the audiences." (I4)

In the fifth indicator, 45% of students agree, and even 20% of them strongly agree that the NESTs are competent in writing to expose students to different text types, for example descriptive, narrative, and recount (Q9). Students are also involved in regular classroom

activities and a two-week-program of writing class in which they must enrol creative writing sessions, writing news items, and writing essays. The curriculum and program are also linked to the NESTs writing competency, so that it will produce the better result of students' writing ability. In other words, the NESTs support the students in improving their writing skills (Q10). As the interview mentioned,

"...we had a program for writing only and it's only two weeks program. In the programs, they [the students] created many kinds of writings like creative writings, news, and essay... students will have specific session for writing about something and they will discuss first and decide the topic, the main idea, the supporting sentences. And after that they will write..." (I5)

In the last indicator (Q11), 40% of students agree that their NESTs can interpret oral texts in speech form to help them understand the materials better, for example in giving instructions and doing exercise. Also (Q12), the same numbers of students agree that the NESTs can easily explain the meanings of unfamiliar words found in written materials or texts in a more comprehensible way to the students without looking up to the dictionary. However, from the teacher's point of view, this is not the case. Interpreting and translating texts need hard work at the beginning and a lot of trainings as the interview mentioned,

"Maybe it's not easy for the first time...they will take time at the beginning while they join EF, but here at work, I think they will be more flexible in the lesson because they already know the strength or weakness, or the cracking point they can fit in...so it's not easy in the beginning but as the time passes by, it will be a lot easier for them..." (I6)

**Table 2** Students' Perception towards Native English Speaker Teachers (NESTs)

Item No.	Statement	SD	D	U	A	SA
1	I prefer native English speaker teachers because they speak English more fluently.	1 (5%)	3 (15%)	5 (25%)	9 (45%)	2 (10%)
2	Since the native English speaker teachers acquire the language from early childhood, they pronounce words clearly and accurately which I need for my learning.			4 (20%)	11 (55%)	5 (25%)
3	The idioms used by the native English speaking teachers give me motivation in learning English.			3 (15%)	11 (55%)	6 (30%)
4	The idioms used by the native English speaker teachers make me want to learn English more.			4 (20%)	11 (55%)	5 (25%)
5	The native English speaker teachers understand my utterances though I mispronounce them.			4 (20%)	7 (35%)	9 (45%)
6	The native English speaker teachers can correct immediately when I make errors or mistakes in my learning process.		2 (10%)	7 (35%)	8 (40%)	3 (15%)
7	The native English speaker teachers teach spontaneous discourse that enhances communication skills.		3 (15%)	5 (25%)	8 (40%)	4 (20%)

8	The native English speaker teachers possess wide range of communicative competence which helps me promote the language skills.	2 (10%)	6 (30%)	8 (40%)	4 (20%)	
9	The native English speaker teachers have great ability to write many various types of texts that help me to recognize the genre of English texts.	1 (5%)	6 (30%)	9 (45%)	4 (20%)	
10	The native English speaker teachers have great ability to write many various types of texts that support me to improve my writing skills.	3 (15%)	7 (35%)	8 (40%)	2 (10%)	
11	The native English speaker teachers have a great ability in interpreting oral texts that help me to understand the materials better.	1 (5%)	7 (35%)	8 (40%)	4 (20%)	
12	The native English speaker teachers have a great ability in translating texts that help me to understand the materials better.	1 (5%)	2 (10%)	6 (30%)	8 (40%)	3 (15%)

Below is some documentation of the classroom activities with the NEST.



**Figure 1** NEST and the young learners



**Figure 2** NEST and elementary school students (High Flyers Class)



**Figure 3** NEST and teen students (Front Runner Class)

### ***Students' Perception towards Non-Native English Speaker Teachers (NNESTs)***

Based on the questionnaire result in the first indicator of the NNESTs, 45% of the students agree that the NNESTs are the perfect examples of fruitful English students. Moreover, 20% of the students strongly agree with the statement (Q13). Then, most of the students (55%) believe that the language competencies and the success of the NNESTs have motivated them to attain the same or indeed way better skills than theirs (Q14). This is in accordance with the interview result saying:

"Well, yes I believe because if they are not successful, they will not be teachers. They are models of successful language learners because they can master the second language and they can share it. Many people can master English, but it's only for themselves...however, teachers master the English skills for themselves and they can share those skills with the students. So they make other people successful in learning English." (I7)

As for the next indicator, most students (45%) strongly agree, without any doubt, that the NNESTs can instruct more viable learning strategies in the English teaching and learning activities (Q15). This is very helpful for the students, both for the low level and the higher level ones. Further, there is no question that the NNESTs have numerous encounters and recognize how to explore the language by applying aware process since they were language learners in the past, just like their students in the present time (Q16). This is supported by the interview result as stated below:

"Well, of course, because they have been there; learning the same materials...and they face the difficulties. They can be successful and they can share their experience when their students are facing the same difficulties because I believe that these things are not something that is experienced by the native teachers...they [NNESTs] can share also with the students, their strategies or like 'If you face these difficulties try to do this one, or if you face this or learn this, try to do that one'. It will be more effective." (I8)

In the next indicator, 55% of the students agree that their NNESTs continuously give further data about the lessons being delivered (Q17). This is very helpful for the students to deal with issues that would appear in the future related to the language being learnt and to understand how language works. Moreover, 40% of the students agree that their NNESTs possess bilingual or multilingual competencies. This may be beneficial in terms of the language learning and teaching process since the teachers have already understood how languages work (Q18). From the interview, it could be found that,

"As teachers, I believe that they understand how language works. If they do so, then it will be easier for them to teach or to deliver the materials. If they don't understand, then they don't have ideas of how to deliver the expected materials for the students." (I9)

In the fourth indicator, 50% of students agree and even 25% of them strongly agree that their NNESTs are more capable to predict learners' challenges during the language learning. This is because they have similar experiences as past language learners (Q19). Further, 45% of students agree and 25% of them strongly agree that their NNESTs know precisely how to figure out the obstacles and challenges experienced by them. Again, this is related to their previous status of language students. As the interview showed,

"...They have been through all of these difficulties so they can predict. For example, if they have materials about past tense saying about holidays, they will warm up the students first then show pictures about tourism object. It will relate to the students' background knowledge to the materials being learnt. This is an example of prediction activity given by the NNESTs." (I10)

In the following indicator, 45% of the students think that in the learning process, the NNESTs express more sympathy toward their learning issues and learning needs (Q21). This may be because the NNESTs had experienced similar matters in the past so that they could manage it well. Most students even think that their NNESTs are more sensitive and understanding to them and they are eager to share appropriate tips and strategies of learning English as well (Q22). This result is supported by the interview which highlighted,

"Yes, I guess because they have already been there, they understand the problems that matter in learning English to meet the learning needs. For example, students cannot really memorize the words, so maybe the teachers can reflect their experience...They have to motivate [the students] from behind." (I11)

In the last indicator, most students, 45% agree and 30% strongly agree, think that they can understand what their NNESTs are saying because the way they speak and explain the materials are easy to follow (Q23). Further, 50% of the students agree and 35% of students strongly agree that the background of the first language of the NNESTs enables them to be more successful in their language learning process since they share the same mother tongue (Q24). However, the interview reveals that:

"When you are learning English, you have to familiarize your ears to English words, English pronunciation. So if you explain something and you have difficulties in explaining the materials, or the students have difficulties to understand what you mean, then you have to simplify the words, find the examples, or even find the pictures...In English, if you want to be fluent in speaking, they need to build up their confidence." (I12)

Although students think that they can be successful learners in hands of the NNESTs who have the same background language as theirs, the institution policy requires the learners to have more interaction with the NESTs. Besides that, the NNESTs must use full English in the teaching-learning processes to build students' confidence in productive skills. Hence, they can have similar procedures and activities in learning English at EF English First Cilegon.

**Table 3** Students' Perception towards Non- Native English Speaker Teachers (NNESTs)

Item No.	Statements	SD	D	U	A	SA
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<b>13</b>	I believe that non-native English speaker teacher is the best model of successful language learner.	1 (5%)	6 (30%)	9 (45%)	4 (20%)
<b>14</b>	The skills and the success of non-native English speaker teachers inspire me to achieve the same or even better competence than theirs.		4 (20%)	11 (55%)	5 (25%)
<b>15</b>	I am sure that non-native English speaker teachers can teach more effective learning strategies.		3 (15%)	8 (40%)	9 (45%)
<b>16</b>	There is no doubt that non-native English speaker teachers have many experiences and know how to learn the language through a conscious process.		5 (25%)	9 (45%)	6 (30%)
<b>17</b>	My non-native English speaker teachers always provide more information about the materials taught.		5 (25%)	11 (55%)	4 (20%)
<b>18</b>	My non-native English speaker teachers have bilingual or multilingual competences.		6 (30%)	8 (40%)	6 (30%)
<b>19</b>	Non-native English speaker teachers are more capable to anticipate my difficulties in learning.		5 (25%)	10 (50%)	5 (25%)
<b>20</b>	Non-native English speaker teachers know exactly how to solve the problems and difficulties encountered by students.	1 (5%)	5 (25%)	9 (45%)	5 (25%)
<b>21</b>	Non-native English speaker teachers show more empathy toward my learning problems and learning needs.	1 (5%)	6 (30%)	9 (45%)	4 (20%)
<b>22</b>	Non-native English speaker teachers tend to be more sensitive and understanding, and they can share their tips and strategies.		2 (10%)	8 (40%)	10 (50%)
<b>23</b>	The way non-native English speaker teachers talk and teach is easier to understand.	1 (5%)	4 (20%)	9 (45%)	6 (30%)
<b>24</b>	I can be more successful in learning because I share the same mother tongue with the non-native English speaker teachers and it's beneficial for my English language learning.	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	10 (50%)	7 (35%)

Below are the classroom activities with the NNESTs and the interview session with the Director of EF English First Cilegon who is also part of the NNESTs:



**Figure 4** Classroom activity with the NNEST: being a chef



**Figure 5** NNEST and the adult learners (Front Runner Class)



**Figure 6** Interview Session with the Director of EF English First Cilegon

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### Conclusion

Based on the findings, it could be concluded that both NESTs and NNESTs have their own specific roles in English language teaching in Indonesian context. In students' perspectives, they need NNESTs more than NESTs because they share the same background of the first language. They believe that NNESTs can bring successful teaching-learning process since they truly understand the appropriate strategies in learning the language. Further, the NNESTs are helpful in dealing with students' difficulties in learning.

On the other hand, the institution does not really differentiate between NESTs and NNESTs. They hope that the students will have the same experience in learning English in fun ways. Nevertheless, the existence of the NESTs is the best way to give more exposure of natural English to the students. Hence, the students will be motivated and confident in their English ability.

### Suggestion

The suggestion that can be drawn from this research that the NESTs should reduce the speed of speaking when explaining the material, to better balance the students to make it easier to follow the learning process, then re-explain the vocabulary related to the material to be discussed, so that students are not confused. In addition, it is also recommended to study students in their class so that they can memorize and understand the characteristics of their students, and make it easier for the learning process. In other hand, NNESTs use students' mother tongue effectively and are more disciplined and consistent with time and manage classes appropriate. In addition, it is also recommended to practice speaking with proper English spelling and accent to provide the correct example to students.

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