CHAPTER I

Statement of the problem
1.1 PROBLEMATIC SITUATION

Nowadays The English Language is one of the most important languages around the world, and everyday more people are interested in accurate as a second language, and our country is not the exception.

The English Language is a very important tool to get better job opportunities now that is a requirement for applying for a job in a multinational companies, so it helps to have more advantages over those people who do not have English as a second language.

The Francisco Gavidia University has the mission of the preparation of competent professionals in the different careers which offer to student community. Also it is interested in offer quality level of teaching with a staff capable of satisfying the students’ needs.

According to the description of the pensum of The English Major the main objective is the preparation of competent students, able to communicate accurate ideas at the time to express themselves, but the reality is another. It has been detected that some students when have oral presentations in front of an audience; they show insecurity in the use of adequate vocabulary for a specific topic. Another situation they have faced is when they try to apply for a job; according to their speciality in the knowledge of the English Language they are unable to make connection between their thoughts and their words due to the lack of oral practice that the English Language requires to master it perfectly.

However; the University faces the problem of not having the appropriate material for teaching specific English Subjects, such as Oral Expression Subject that could be helpful as a support for the teachers and as a guide for the students.

Students can develop in this kind of material practical oral exercises to increase their fluency.
The English Major students, to become competent professionals to master the English Language need a series of techniques which help them to develop the main four skills. According to a research made by Summer Institute of Linguistics, SIL International the most important skills for acquiring the language properly are:

**Listening, speaking, reading and writing**

- Listening skill: students do not get the complete ideas from any materials presented in the class, such as: tape recorder, lectures, and oral presentations, in some cases students do not even understand teacher’s explanations.

- Speaking skill: students are unable to produce their own ideas criteria in order to express their thoughts, especially when they are in front of the class, this can occur, due to the lack of vocabulary, insecurity is another reason why students are unable to produce the language this can be because they do not know how to say or pronounce some words.

- Reading skill: students do not have the habit to read. This affects them at the time they have to apply it, also the lack of grammar and vocabulary do not allow them to get ideas nor logical sequence for a specific matter.

- Writing skill: students face a lot problems, such as: incorrect grammar, lack of vocabulary also this affects them at the time they have to present a written report from a specific subject, for example when they have to analyze a book as a novel and they have to present a report with their own words; they do not know what to write and how to connect ideas.

It is clear each skill is a complement for the next one according to the sequence that they must have that is why students of the English Major need to apply them correctly for mastering the English Language. According to the sequence the first skill to be developed is listening after to master this one, it is easier to develop the next that is speaking when students have gotten these skills they precede with the two last ones which are reading and writing, so students are able to make a good performance for any situation.
1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Could the creation of a text for the Oral Expression subject improve the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, especially the two first ones, so students can express themselves properly?

1.3 JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROBLEM.

The Oral Expression Subject is where the English Major Students have to demonstrate their abilities to communicate themselves in an efficient way. That is why, it is necessary to develop an investigation which helps students get accurate ideas, avoiding periphrasis, above all security at the time to express ideas and give opinions, taking into account the importance which this subject has for further subjects in which students have to apply oral skills.

Students of the English Major, face a lot of problems to perform completely, especially in oral skills.

Now that, it has been realized that some students are unable to produce a conversation among them, due to the lack of knowledge of the language which helps students speak fluently in any situations not only in the classroom but also outside as much as possible among them.

Another factor is that students do not know how to organize their ideas with their words at the time to speak, that is why, it is necessary to use a methodology for teaching oral expression subject through the use of interactive activities, teacher can give students practice in managing and varying the language for a better domain of the subject, the teacher who is in charge of this assignment must have a attitude according to the development of this subject and know how to manage it properly to motivate students to the active participation inside the classroom, where is the main place where students can put into practice what they have just learnt.
The Oral Expression Subject improves the English fluency and provides for the acquisition of rules to communicate effectively for the correct way of speaking in public in any situation.

Nowadays, teachers use different resources like pamphlets, photocopies of textbooks and they also get material from internet such as work guides, written exercises and texts, etc.

Also, textbooks help organize ideas, clarify doubts, and provide new vocabulary and participative techniques. However; teachers have to select which textbook are appropriate to the level that the students are.

The Francisco Gavidia University does not have a specialized textbook for specific subjects, such as Oral Expression Subject among others. That is why the creation of a specialized textbook will be a great option for teachers to support their classes and excellent tool for students to get the knowledge in a better way, because when they have troubles to remember or complete an idea they can check their textbook to refresh the knowledge that their already acquired in class, and they can also study at home the contents learnt before, and they had had a hard time to understand them.
1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE INVESTIGATION

1.4.1 General Objective:

-To demonstrate the necessity of creating a text for teaching The Oral Expression in the English Major at the Francisco Gavidia University.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives:

-To investigate advantages of having a text book as a support of Oral Expression Subject to create participative activities which involve all students inside the classroom.

-To elaborate exercises that help students to practice Oral Expression in order to express themselves properly.

-To create a text book for teaching Oral Expression Subject of the English Major at the Francisco Gavidia University.

1.5 RANGES AND DELIMITATIONS

1.5.1 Ranges

The research work benefited students who were coursing the Oral Expression Subject from fourth semester and those who took it as a requirement of other subjects and it also benefited teachers who were in charge of that subject as a didactic resource in the teaching process of the English Major at the Francisco Gavidia University.
The research group considered that a textbook would be an excellent support for the teaching Oral Expression Subject now that, exercises, activities and other resources were included on it to improve students' skills.

**1.5.2 Delimitations**

The research work began in September 2007 and it finished in March 2008 and it took place at Francisco Gavidia University with Students from fourth semester of the Oral Expression Subject of the English Major to determine the necessity of having a specific textbook for the Oral Expression Subject.