

Chapter I

Introduction

This chapter discusses the basic consideration, the research questions, objectives of research, scope of research and the significance of research.

Basic Consideration

Speaking skill is an important part of communication in daily life which is needed in communication. People, especially students use, this skill as a tool to exchange their ideas or to express their thinking, opinion and feelings. Students who are able to speak English can easily interact and communicate with others in foreign countries, where English is mainly spoken. According to Thornbury (2005), speaking is so much a part of daily life for example, travel overseas that we take it for granted. By mastering the ability of speaking English, students can speak well; they can share their ideas with others, students can communicate their opinion, and talk with others in the language as well.

Improving the students' ability in speaking English is necessary for teachers in teaching English, especially for the students in junior high school. Teacher has a duty to transfer the information and knowledge to students, and students must study hard so they can speak English. Harmer (2007, p. 345) said that if students want to be able to speak English fluently in English, they need to be able to pronounce phonemes correctly, use appropriate stress and intonation patterns and speak in connected speech. Speaking is the activity which include two or more people have to react to what their hear and make their contribution.

Based on the result of interview with one of English teacher at SMP Negeri 3 Limboto, the teacher said that students have several problems in speaking English. The problem frequently was found that their native language causes them difficult to use the foreign language. Other reason is they lacked of motivation to practice speaking English, especially English in conversation. They were also feel shy and afraid of making mistake when speaking English. And also teacher said that, sometimes in learning process, they just gives the material on that day without giving them attractive method. For example, in speaking subject, they just asks students to memorize many dialogues on book while they do not understand many of the sentences in the dialogues. then they would read in front of the class. This situation also makes students lazy and bored to study, and then they feel English is a boring subject. In another case, sometimes teacher just leave the class so it allows students to do this without being controlled.

Considering the problem above, the researcher wants to solve problem of the students by using describing pictures as a method to teach speaking in Junior high school. The major concern of this research is to find out if describing pictures can improve students speaking ability level. The researcher chooses the describing pictures because pictures as one of the media in teaching and learning are expected to overcome the problems as they provide a number of benefits. Using pictures can help students to solve their problem.

A picture is an excellent media which is interesting for students (Asfa, 2010). Pictures can be taken from magazine or newspaper, poster, and internet. According to Kidler (1992:1), pictures can help teachers to make the students

interest and enjoy learning especially English. Pictures themselves are powerful to develop learners' imagination and stimulate them to express ideas. Picture was considered as a good media to be applied in English language teaching because it can help the students to relax while they were studying and the use of picture as media in teaching speaking can help the students to memorize the words easily. It was because picture can show similarity with the real object in the picture, so their meanings were easier to guess by the students.

This method has already applied by Listyowati (2015), in this research she just focused on implementation of series pictures technique. She used qualitative method in her research, they were observation check list, questionnaire, and test. This method also has applied in other research. This method was applied by Ariningsi (2010). By applying using picture series; it can more effective to teach writing., and the student use picture series to improve their writing ability as it can help them with the new ideas and vocabulary. Meanwhile this research is different from others, because this research focus to improve students speaking English ability by using describing pictures method and the participant of this research is 8th grade of SMP N 3 Limboto, the researcher used quantitative method, they were pre test, treatment and post test. While the other research, they was using pictures in reading and writing. So, the researcher try using pictures in other skill like speaking.

Therefore, based on explanations above about students' problem in speaking English and the facts that the researcher found in the school, hence formulated this

research is “ Improving Students' speaking English ability by Using Describing pictures at 8 Grade of SMP Negeri 3 Limboto”.

Research Question

Based on the explanation above, the research question of this research is can describing pictures method improve student's speaking English ability related to the test given by the researcher?

The objective of research

The objective of this research is to find out whether or not describing pictures method can improve students speaking English ability at SMP Negeri 3 Limboto. Sometimes students not interesting or bored when study English lesson and this situation makes students difficult to speak English. So researchers will use the pictures to see if the pictures can make students interesting in learning English, as well as students' ability in speaking English whether increased after using picture.

The scope of Research

This research focus on using describing pictures as a method. The researcher applied the pictures in learning process to know the effective in improving their speaking ability of 8 grade of SMP Negeri 3 Limboto. According syllabus at SMP Negeri 3 Limboto, the scope of this research its about pictures an object, places and people.

The Significant of research

The main significance of this study is to give information about the effectiveness of describing pictures, so teacher can consider it as an effective method to increase students' speaking English ability. The other significance is to help students in identifying and improving their speaking English ability.