

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language have important role in our life. People use language to communicate with one another constitutes a society. Language is a system of symbols through which people communicate. The symbol may be spoken, written, or signed with the hand.¹ We can use language to express thoughts or feelings

Language is a system for the expression of meaning. Its primary function is for interaction and communication.² As its primary function is for communicate, this is human's duty to learn and understand language since there are many kinds of languages. Those kinds of languages are formed because Allah has created people differently. As what has been said by Allah in holy Quran that we are created differently to know each other. It has been explained in the holy Quran, language is needed by human for communication, to express their ideas and to cooperate with another. Allah said in surah al-Hujurat verse 13:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۚ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

“O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye may despise (each other). Verily the most honored of you in the sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things)”.³

¹ Charles W. Kreidler, *Introducing English Semantics*, (London: Routledge, 1998), p. 19

² Jo McDonough and Christopher Shaw, *Materials and Methods in ELT : A Teacher's Guide*, (UK: Blackwell Publishing, 2003), p.135.

³ Muhammad Shohib, *Al Quran Al Kariim*, (Jakarta: Curzon Press, 2009), p. 517

That verse shows us that Allah deliberately create human differently to know each other using knowledge they have. People are unique, also with language. The language we speak or write is governed by number of rules, styles and constraints differently according to the place and inhabitants' agreement.

Human, community and language are very closely related.⁴ It because human are social creatures which they cannot live alone and need another. Human are social beings that seem driven to communicate. Deaf people develop the ability to communicate with gestures. And hearing people use sounds.

To most people, mastering the art of speaking is the single most important aspect of learning a second of foreign language, and success is measured in terms of ability to carry out a conversation in the language.⁵ There are some reasons why people are rather use sound than written language. Firstly, when people are using sound to express their idea, their hands are free for other task, and thus they can talk while the work. On the other hand, human use sound to communicate because using sound means changing the way people breathe and eat (Akmajian, Demers, et. al 1979).

Speaking is said as a part of the language ability in productive skill related to aural and oral medium that students need to acquire.⁶ Speaking proficiency becomes a primary intention for numerous language learner study English that need to be developed, because speaking is used in many different purposes. In several situations, we use speaking to make social contact with others, to adjust relationship, to express or give ideas. We may use speaking to describe

⁴Ramelan, *Introduction to Linguistic Analysis*, (Semarang: IKIP Semarang Press, 1992), p. 8.

⁵David Nunan, *Language Teaching Methodology (a textbook for teachers)*, (UK: Prentice Hall International, 1991), p. 39

⁶ H.G Widdowson, *Teaching Language as Communication*, (New York : Oxford University Press, 2004), p. 57

something, to make polite request, to interrupt people's argument, to entertain other people with jokes or to get things done etc.⁷

On the other hand, sound also makes one of the greatest distortions of the breathing rate occurs during speech. Breath is down rapidly and let out over a much longer period than during normal breathing.

From those all reasons, speaking is one of four language skills that needed in human life. It is a direct and easy way to send idea or feeling. Vice versa, speaking is one of students' redoubtable skills. Mostly students think that speaking is a hard skill that they need to reach. One problem in speaking appears because students think that speaking is hard, moreover, English is not their mother tongue.

Another problem in speaking appear because firstly, student (speaker) does not have full command of the target linguistic knowledge and acceptable or unintelligible form (unacceptable or unintelligible in terms of phonology, grammar or lexical). Secondly is student's knowledge of language. The necessary background knowledge (content, propositions) is not shared by the speaker and the hearer, and they bring a different set of expectation to the spoken interaction. The objective of the speaker is to be understood and for the message to be properly interpreted by the hears.⁸

To solve students' problem, they need to learn about speaking. It is a big duty for teacher to give an effective method in teaching speaking, because speaking has increasingly emerged as a special area in language pedagogy.⁹ One of basic problem in foreign language teaching is how to prepare learners to be able to use the language. So that the succession depends on how does teacher prepare appropriate method for students. Teacher should bring out the

⁷ Jack C. Richards and Willy Renandya, *Methodology in Language Taching,an Anthology of Current Practice*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), p. 201

⁸ Marianne Celce-Murcia Elite Olshtain, *Discourse and Context in Language Teaching*, (USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), p. 166.

⁹Martin Bygate, *Language Teaching: Speaking*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1987), p. 15.

method that makes students comfort and enjoy in speaking class. The method should build students' bravery, and students' interest in speaking.

In hundreds of studies, cooperative learning has been associated with gains in such variables as achievement, interpersonal skills, and attitudes toward school, self, and others. Beyond these overall gains, research also suggests that cooperative learning may lead to gain in thinking skills (Johnson & Johnson, 1990; Qin, Johnson, & Johnson, 1995). Therefore, as a classroom organization and instructional method, cooperative learning merits serious consideration for use in thinking classrooms. Indeed, several thinking skills programme, such as Dimensions of learning (Marzano, 1992).

In cooperative learning, there are some techniques that used. One of them is Bamboo dancing technique. Bamboo dancing technique gives a alternative technique for students to stimulates them to speak up when the teacher ask them about the material.

Bamboo dancing technique gives students opportunity to speak more in front of class. So the researcher chooses the title: "THE USE OF BAMBOO DANCING TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' SPEAKING SKILL (A Classroom Action Research at The 8th Grade Students of SMP Nurul Islam Semarang in The Academic Year of 2014/2015)"

B. Definition of Key Terms

1. Improving

Improving, based on *Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary* is making something to be better, making good use of something. Improving means make something better than before.¹⁰ In this case, improving students' speaking skill means develop students' ability to be better than before. Upgrading students' skill in order to make them better than before.

¹⁰ A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary of Current English*, (NY: Oxford University Press, 2010), p. 755.

2. Speaking Skill

Speaking is making use of language in ordinary voice; uttering words; knowing and being able to use a language; expressing oneself in words; making a speech or conversation.¹¹ Speaking skill is someone's ability to convey messages and idea in his mind. Speaking is one of productive skills besides writing, which requires direct response, spontaneity and automaticity.

3. Bamboo dancing Technique

Technique is an important tool in classroom activity. Teachers need technique in conveying the subject in order to make students interest to the lesson. Technique is used by the teacher in order to convey material and make students enjoy in receiving the material. In this research, the technique which is used is Bamboo dancing technique. Bamboo dancing technique is a branch of cooperative learning.

Bamboo Dancing Method is a method of learning where teachers divide students into two large groups. Suprijono, introduced that learning model is usually preceded by dividing the class into several groups¹². If in class composed of 40 students, the teachers split into two groups, each group content of 20 students. Each group has two different tasks; each group is further divided into two parts each of 10 students. The teacher asks the students to discuss different topics that will be studied. After discussion, 20 people from each major group that stood in a row following the line, they are shifted clockwise.

This technique not only asks students to convey speaking skill, but asks them to work cooperatively with their friends. Merges students' different opinion, and trains students to appreciate different opinion that arises from the topic.

4. Classroom Action Research

¹¹ A. S. Hornby, *Oxford Advanced Learners' Dictionary of Current English*, p. 1429.

¹² Agus Suprijono, *Cooperative Learning* (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar, 2014), p. 54

McNiff stated that classroom action research is a reflective research done by the teacher and the result can be used as an improving toll in teaching activity. According to Carr and Kemmis (1986), classroom action research is a self-reflective research done by the participants in social situation to improve rationality and validity.

From opinions above, it can be concluded that classroom action research is a research done by the teacher in class by way of planning, acting, observing and reflecting the action collaboratively and participative to improve teacher's activity and students' achievement.¹³ Classroom action research is series of "research-action-research-action-research" to solve the problem. Classroom action research is done in some cycles until the teacher gets what they need.

5. Student

Student is person who is studying at collage, polytechnic or university; boy or girl attending school; anyone who studies or who is devoted to the acquisition of knowledge (Hornby, 1974: 859). The other definition of student is a person engaged in study; one who is devoted to learning; a learner; a pupil; a scholar; especially, one who attends a school, or who seeks knowledge from professional teachers or from books; as, the students of an academy, a college, or a university; a medical student; a hard student.(Collins Thesaurus of the English Language, 2002: 134)

6. SMP Nurul Islam

SMP Nurul Islam Semarang is one of state Islamic junior high school in Semarang, Semarang Regency. This school has strategies location at Purwoyoso. It has good building and good facilities to support teaching learning process.

¹³Wijaya Kusumah, Dedi Dwitagama, *Mengenal Penelitian Tindakan Kelas*, (Jakarta: Indeks Penerbit, 2010), p. 9

C. Reason for Choosing The Topic

The reasons for choosing the topic are as follows:

1. Speaking is one of the language skills to be interested by students in order to be able to communicate using English well.
2. Bamboo dancing is an interactive technique used for speaking activity, this technique emphasizes on interactive activity involving the use of knowledge that can help students improve their speaking skill.
3. Many students face difficulties in speaking activity.
4. Speaking is needed in order to train students speak in a communicative language.

D. Research Questions

The research questions of this research as follow:

1. How is students' involvement during the implementation of Bamboo Dancing Technique to improve students speaking skill?
2. How is the improvement of students speaking skill after being taught using Bamboo Dancing Technique?

E. Objective of Research

The objective of this research as follow:

1. To describe the students' involvement during the implementation of Bamboo Dancing Technique to improve students' speaking skill.
2. To identify whether Bamboo dancing technique improve students' speaking skill.

F. Limitation of Research

1. This study done with class 8 SMP Nurul Islam Semarang in the academic year of 2014/2015.
2. This study is about the use of Bamboo dancing technique to improve students' speaking skill. It is done to find how much the improvement of students' speaking skill after being taught using Bamboo dancing technique.

G. Pedagogical Significance

The writer hopes that this study can be useful for teachers, students, readers and writer for the following purposes:

1. For teachers:
 - a. To give contribution to the English teacher that teaching speaking using Bamboo dancing technique is more interesting and requires all students to be active in speaking.
 - b. To finds out an interesting way of teaching as students need.
2. For students
 - a. To improve students ability in speaking.
 - b. To build students activeness.
 - c. To give new technique.
 - d. To make students enjoying the lesson using new and interesting technique.
 - e. Trains the students to speak in front of public using communicative language.
 - f. Trains the students to work cooperatively.
3. For readers

This research brings a new technique to teach speaking skill. By reading this research, the readers can get any other way in teaching speaking using Bamboo dancing technique and interesting way.
4. For writer

This writing helps writer to develop her knowledge and help in composing this research.