CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

The basic function of language is to interact with others and always used in our daily activity. Language is a tool of communication in human life.[1] Communication is very important. We cannot communicate each other without language. However, language is a cultural product, a system of human relation, a social institution, and a learned behavior.[2] By using a language, people are able to convey their message, to express their ideas in oral, written, or signal language, so that they can cooperate and get along with each other.[3]

From the above explanation, we can conclude that we need to interact with other people. Allah has explained this instruction in the Quran at Surah Al-Hujarat verse 13:

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[1]Decy Anggriani, "Improving Students' Vocabulary Achievement ThroughWord Walls Strategy", (Medan, 22 January 2013), p. 1.

[2]Djoko Sriyono, *An Introductory Course of Linguistic*, (Surakarta: Muhammadiyah University Press, 2001), p. 3.

[3] Victoria Fromkin, Robert Rodman, et.all, *An Introduction of Language*, (Los Angeles: Thomson Heinle, a part of Thomson corporation, 2003), p. 3.

يَـٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَـٰكُم مِّن ذَكَرٍ وَأُنثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَـٰكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَآئِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوٓا۟ ۚ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِندَ ٱللَّهِ أَتْقَىٰكُمْ ۚ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

> O mankind, We have created you from male and female;
> and We have divided you into tribes and sub-tribes for
> greater facility of intercourse. Verily, the most honored
> among you in the sight of Allah is he who is the most
> righteous among you. Surely, Allah is All Knowing, All
> _Aware. [4]

From the above statement, people need a communication to know each other. it shows that people have been instructed by Allah to be a friendship or can be understood between each other, although they have different sex, tribe, country, and language. It is a basic human activity, and basic of all human's communication is language. Language has some functions in people life, in everyday activities. People use language; they can introduce themselves, communicate with other, and enlarge their knowledge.[5]

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[4] Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, *The Quran*, (London: Curzon Press, 1981), p. 518-519

[5] Muhammad Nasib ar Rifa'i, *Kemudahan dari Allah: Ringkasan Tafsir Ibnu katsir*, (Jakarta: gema insane press, 2000), jilid 2, p.437

Based on the above explanation, it can be concluded that language is used by people in the world, the function of language is to communicate with others. The purpose of communication is to send a message from the writer or speaker to the reader or listener.

There are many languages in this world. Indonesian people speak Indonesian while Arabian speaks Arabic and all of people speak their country's language. So, how we can communicate to foreign people? We have to use international language.

As an international language, Englis is taught in every formal education in Indonesia as a foreign language. Then, English becomes one of school subject. It is introduced begin from playgroup, elementary school, junior high school, senior high school and university. English is one of the most popular languages in the world. The people use it either as a foreign or a second language. It is used by many people in many countries. It is also used to minimize misinterpretation between many people from different country because, they have different language.

The importance of English cannot be denied and ignored by people. It has been playing a major role in many sectors like education, business, etc. There are some reasons of the importance of learning English. Firstly, students will be able to find a high-quality job. In business life, the most important common language is obviously English. Secondly, learners will

be able to communicate with the international community. The last is, learners will have a great ability to access information all over the world.[6] Therefore, English must be learnt for all grade school.

There are four skills in English learning; listening, speaking, reading and writing. Those skills are important to be mastered without ignoring each other.[7] Speaking is the most important skill in gaining our daily communication. From speaking we recognize each other and share some information. Speaking makes people able to communicate and maintain the relationship in society.[8]

Speaking in native language (Indonesian) is easier than speaking in a foreign language. Many people regard speaking in a foreign language is the most difficult skill with the reasons, "first, unlike reading or writing, speaking happens in real time: usually the person you are talking to is writing for you to speak right away to them. Second, when you speak, you cannot edit and

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[6]Tari Nirmala, "A Comparative Study of Different Teaching Strategies Based on Text Types on Students' Speaking Competency", e-Journal Program Pascasarjana Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris (Volume 1 Tahun 2013), p. 1

[7]David Nunan, *Language Teaching Methodology*, (Sydney: Phoenix ELT, 2009), p. 39.

[8] Quthb, Sayyid, *Tafsir fil zhilalil Qur'an di Bawah Naungan Al-Qur'an*, jilid 2, penerjemah As'ad Yasin, et,al, cet.I (Jakarta: Gema Insani Press, 2004).P.23.

revise what you wish to say, as you can if you are writing".[9] Besides that, speaking as a productive skill that can be directly and empirically observed, those observations are invariably colored by the accuracy and effectiveness of a test-taker's listening skill, which necessarily compromises the reliability and validity of an oral production test.[10]

From the above reasons, it can be concluded that speaking was the most difficult skill in language. Different from the other skill, speaking was productive skill and used in a real life. So, this reality makes teachers think that speaking ability should be mastered well by their students.

The mastery of speaking skills in English is a priority for many second language or foreign language learners.[11] In speaking, students should master the elements of speaking, such as vocabularies, pronunciation, grammar, and fluency.[12] As a

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[9]Heni Purwo Astute, "The use of word wall as a media to improve students' speaking ability: *An action research at the first year students of SMPN 1 Temanggung in the academic year of 2009/2010,* (Semarang: UNNES, 2011). p. 22.

[10]Sri Endang Kusmaryati, Improving English Speaking Ability Through Classroom Discussion for Students of MA NU BANAT KUDUS in The Academic Year 2008/2009, p. 6.

[11]Jack C. Richards,*Teaching Listening and Speaking From Theory to Practice,* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008), p. 19.

[12]Siti Syafa'ah, Improving Student's Speaking Skill Through Using Fishbowl Technique (A Classroom Action Research with Students' of 5B at

foreign learner in Indonesia, many students have amount vocabularies and mastering the grammatical structure, but they still have difficulty in speaking. This problem also appears to the students of MTs Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus. They felt difficult to speak well.

In addition, curriculum used by most school is Kurikulum Tingkat Satuan Pendidikan (KTSP) or School Level Based Curriculum in which the basic language skill are taught and trained intensively based on genres and functional speeches. Genre is a type of written or spoken discourse.[13] There are some types of genre. In Junior High School, based on KTSP, there are four types of genre that must be learnt such as; Procedure text, Descriptive text, Narrative text, and Recount text.

This study specifically focus on teaching learning speaking descriptive text, because it is one of genre in learning English. Descriptive text is a text which says what a person or a thing is like. Its purpose is to describe and reveal a particular person, place, or thing. The understanding of descriptive text includes four skill; Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing skill. Speaking is the most difficult skill because it needs a habit.

MI Tarbiyatul Banin Pekalongan Winong Pati in The Academic Year of 2009/2010), (IAIN Walisongo Semarang, 2010), p. 2.

[13]http://www.sil.org/linguistics/GlossaryOfLinguisticTerms/WhatIsATextGenre.htm, Sunday, 9 November 2015.

So, speaking descriptive is describing people, place or thing in spoken language.

To maximize in the teaching and learning process, a teacher needs media to give motivation for students to be more interested in learning. It provides various kinds of teaching methods and technique, so students are not bored with the monotonous teaching and learning process. Besides that, media can bring and arouse students' happiness and renew their spirit in studying. It also can help the students in placing their knowledge to their mind and rekindle the lesson.[14]

Gerlach and Ely states that media is any person, material or event that establishes conditions which students to acquire knowledge, skill and attitude.[15] From the definition, its means that media has important roles in teaching and learning process. Media gives motivation for students to be more interested in learning process. They are able to understand the message better as the materials are presented in a certain way.

Learning speaking at Junior high school can be done with many media to help students' speaking skill uch as: pictures, movie, card, etc. So, the researcher choose word wall as a media

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[14]Azhar Arsyad, *Media Pembelajaran*, (Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada, 1996), p. 16.

[15]Gerlach and Ely, *Teaching and Media a Systematic Approach,* (New York: Prenticehall,Inc,1980), p. 241.

in teaching learning process, especially in speaking descriptive text. with some reasons:

1. A word wall is an interactive medium in the classroom to support listening, speaking, reading, and writing.[16]Besides that, it is an interactive collection of words or parts of words used to teach vocabulary, spelling, letter-sound correspondence, and more.[17]

2. Word wall is simple and easy media to use. It is cheap but interesting. It is suitable for the school which has limited media to teach English. The teachers don't need to spend too much money for making teaching media. Word wall is a one of media that will help teacher easier to teach speaking.

3. Word wall activities are incorporated to give students the opportunity to use these words in various ways. These words then become anchored in long-term memory allowing quick and easy access, promoting detection of patterns, and encouraging connections between words.[18]

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[16]http://alamsetiadi08.wordpress.com/upaya-peningkatan-vocabulary-siswa-dengan-media-wordwall/, 9 November 2015.

[17]http://www.santarosa.k12.fl.us/reading/WordWall.htm, 9 November 2015.

[18] Jasmine, Joanne "The Effects of Word Walls and Word Wall Activities on the Reading Fluency of First Grade Students", Jurnal, (Volume 49, Issue 4, No 4, Desember 2009)

In fact, when the writer visited to MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus, students had many problems in English learning. According to the English teacher of MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus, most of them still got the difficulties in English. The most influence for students was speaking ability that the lack of practicing English. Sometimes, students has an idea in their mind, but difficult to express orally.

Besides that, the students still confused to understand about genre text, especially in descriptive text. The students felt difficult to identify the social function, generic structure, and grammatical features of descriptive text. So, in this study focused on descriptive text.

Considering the above problems, the researcher was interested in conducting an Experimental research on the teaching of speaking in descriptive text using word wall. In this research the researcher gave some words in the wall and students can practice speaking related to word wall. It was expected that word wall can improve student's speaking skill. From this technique the researcher wants to know the result of teaching speaking using word wall especially in descriptive text.

B. **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. Many students face difficulties in speaking activity.

3. Speaking is needed in order to train students speak in a communicative language.

4. Word wall is simple and practice media that can be used to improve speaking skill.

5. Descriptive is kind of text which describes a particular person, place, things.

6. The researcher wants to know the effectiveness of students' speaking skill of descriptive text in the VIII of MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus using word wall.

C. Question of Research

According to background of study above, the problem can be formulated in the research, that is: **What is the effectiveness of word wall media toward students' speaking skill in descriptive text at the eighth grade students of MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus in the academic year 2015/2016?**

D. Objective of Study

This research is intended to get the following objective: To know the effectiveness of word wall media toward students' speaking skill in descriptive text at the eighth grade students of MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus in the academic year 2015/2016.

E. Significance of Study

The researcher hopes that the results of this study can be used by the researcher, teacher, students, educational institution, and next researcher for the following purposes:

1. For the researcher

   This research can add more knowledge about discourse study especially about this method in descriptive text.

2. For the students

   It will make easy for students to improve their speaking skill especially in descriptive text.

3. For the teacher

   As an additional reference that may be useful for the teacher that good learning strategy and using of media can be interesting in teaching and learning process.

4. For educational institution

   It will make a right decision to use a new method to support teaching and learning process in MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus in order to get better output.

5. For the next researcher

   The result of this research can be used as previous research in his/her research.

F. Scope of The Research

In order to make a better result of this research, the researcher needs to limit it.

1. This research was limited only on speaking descriptive especially in describing people, between students who are taught using word wall and students who are taught using without word wall.

2. This research was conducted in eighth grade students of MTs. Nahdlatul Muslimin Undaan Kudus in the academic year 2015/2016, because he thought that the technique was suitable for them and will not disturb the teaching learning process.