

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language according to Lim Kiat Boey is “A social phenomenon. It is a means of communication between individuals. It also brings them into relationship with their environment. Language is therefore socially learned behaviour, a skill that is acquired as we grow up in society”.¹

In this world, there were varieties of language. People who live in different countries, ethnics and cultures have different language. Allah states about the varieties of language in surah Ar-Rum verse 22 :

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلْقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافُ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَالْوَالِدَاتِ

إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّلْعَلَمِينَ ﴿٢٢﴾

“ And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the difference of your languages and colours. Verily, in that are indeed signs for men of sounds knowledge”(Ar-Rum verse 22)²

In surah above, Allah shows us the signs of His authority through differences of tongue. Tongue means a language, from

¹Lim Kiat Boey, *An Intoduction to Linguistics for the Language Teacher*, (Singapore: Singapore University Press,1975), p.3.

²Muhammad Taqi'ud-Din Al-Hilali and Muhammad Muhsin Khan, *Translation of the Meanings of the Nobel Qur'an*,(Madinah: King Fahd Complex for The Printing of the Holy Qur'an,1998), p.542.

different language in the world there is which has very important role as the language of science, technology and international communication

English is the international language used by largest number of people in the world. Our government states that English is taught as a compulsory subject for students from the elementary school to the university.

English is not our own language; everyone will feel that it is difficult. Using a language may not be easy at first; beginner will feel not comfortable about speaking a new language before they make attempt to do it. They are afraid to make sentences, to speak or to express their ideas in English. They think the other people will laugh at them when they make mistakes. Teacher has to anticipate this condition by presenting English in an interesting way. English teacher should understand the condition, he/she has to motivate the students to learn English, and also bring the students to joy English as well as encourage them to use English in expression their ideas.

There are some aspects that should be considered in mastering English. There are four skills and the four components. The four basics are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There are also four components are pronunciation, vocabulary, fluency and grammar. Therefore, when someone wants to master English he should learn both the four components and the four basic skills.

Mastering English includes the written and the spoken forms with the ability to master the four skills namely: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Principally learning language is learning how to be skillful in listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Those skills are emphasizing. Language includes complex skills or four skills namely: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It indicates that to master English without mastering those skills is impossible to be advance in English.

English lesson, in the School Based Curriculum (KTSP) consists of speaking skill. Speaking is one of the skills that important in a language. By speaking, we can express our ideas or feeling orally. Speaking also has important position in language teaching and learning. By speaking, we can communicate to the other people and share what we want. Speaking as one of the language skills has given an important contribution to human life. Allah decrees in Holy Qur'an:QS.Al-Balad/90:8-10).

أَلَمْ نَجْعَلْ لَهُ عَيْنَيْنِ ﴿٨﴾ وَلِسَانًا وَشَفَتَيْنِ ﴿٩﴾ وَهَدَيْنَاهُ النَّجْدَيْنِ ﴿١٠﴾

“Have we made for him two eyes. And a tongue and two lips. And shown him the two ways (good and evil)” (QS. Al-Balad/90:8-10)³

³Muhammad Taqi'ud-Din Al-Hilali and Muhammad Muhsin Khan, *Translation of the Meanings of the Noble Qur'an*, (Madinah: King Fahd Complex for The Printing of the Holy Qur'an, 1998), p.836.

From the verse above, we know that Allah creates tongue and lips for us in order we can communicate orally. That is why human being needs to learn how to speak correctly.

Speaking skill is one of the goals which must be achieved by the students. However, to gain the goal is rather challenging. In a class, it is really hard to make the students understand about the lesson which has just been explained by the teacher and apply the lesson to communicate orally. Although the teachers have done any possible thing to explain as clear as possible, but most of the students can't understand about the lesson well. It shows that most of students have difficulties in speaking.

The main difficulty faced by the students in speaking skills is to arrange all the ideas which they hear to make an understanding. One of the efforts which can be applied both by the students themselves and also English teacher is by accustoming the students with speaking English at school, whether there is a compulsory for the students and the English teacher to have English days or the other activities which can motivate or stimulate the students to be more active in increasing their English skills, especially in speaking.

There are many kinds of method that can be used in teaching English for the students. It's possible for one material in that day teacher uses more than one method. In this way, it makes teacher easily to transfer ability, in giving the material and making

students easily to understand the material. It will be not effective and useless if teacher chooses the wrong method.

The researcher thinks that teaching grammar by using oral cues technique is the solution to solve this problem. In the researcher's opinion, oral cues technique will be effective to teach the mastery of grammar of the student by using this technique. By applying this technique, teacher can see whether the student really understand or not, whether the student has already achieved the goal of the lesson or not. Simply, the use oral cues technique can lead to the result that really shows the student abilities, just like the purpose of every lesson.

Based on the background, the researcher is interested in knowing which one is the effective one, using oral cue technique or not. The researcher has the hypothesis that oral cues technique is effective in teaching student mastery of simple past tense. The researcher conducts a research to collect data that will be used to answer or to prove the hypothesis.

B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

The writer chooses this topic due to the following reasons:

1. Grammar is one of the important English component that are considered difficult to learn by the students especially for junior high school.
2. Some English learners are faced difficulties to master grammar. They felt difficult to understand the material taught by the teacher.

3. The use of technique will offer different learning atmosphere by increasing student's interest to the lesson. Technique can be used by both teachers and students. In this case, Oral Cue Technique for teaching Simple Past Tense.
4. The writer wants to know the effectiveness of using Oral Cue Technique as a technique to teach Simple Past Tense in SMP Islam Walisongo Pekalongan in the academic year 2013/2014.

C. Research Question

This research is aimed to find the answer to the following research questions.

1. Is oral cues technique effective to facilitate student oral use of simple past tense in SMP Islam Walisongo Kedungwuni Pekalongan?
2. What do the problems of using oral cues technique that probably occur in learning simple past tense in SMP Islam Walisongo Kedungwuni Pekalongan?

D. Objective of Study

The objectives of the research are as follows.

1. To know whether teaching grammar using oral cues technique is effective or not.
2. To describe the problems of using oral cues technique that probably occur in learning simple past tense.

E. Significance of Study

This study hopefully can give some positive contributions to the English language learning context and will be beneficial for many sides such as for; students, teacher and for the next researcher.

1. For the students

This study will help the students to understand how to use the English grammar that they have learnt in the real context or communication. As the result, student will not only know the knowledge but also know how to use it.

2. For the teacher

The result of this study will help the teacher in choosing technique of teaching grammar that can really show the students' mastery of grammar.

3. For the writer

The writer is would be a teacher; the result of this study will be a very beneficial knowledge that can be used when the writer becomes a teacher in the future.