

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Research

Speaking is the most important skill in English learning, as language learners are considered successful if they can communicate fluently. Speaking skill is one of the main focuses in English teaching. According to Brown and Yule (1984:14) “speaking is oral skill to express the needs, to deliver information, and to serve the service”. Based on this opinion the speakers say words to the listener not only to express what in her mind but also to express what he needs. Most people might spend their everyday life in communicating with other. Therefore, speaking involves at least two persons, sender and receiver who need to communicate and to exchange information, ideas, opinion, views, or feelings.

For those students who are learning English as a foreign language, speaking is not easy. Although speaking is the key to expressing ideas, but sometimes it is difficult to speak or produce some words. In improving students' speaking skills there are many methods, techniques and strategies in learning English. So, the researcher will use one of the alternatives to improve students' speaking ability and the researcher uses the talking stick method. This method makes students feel happy and students can be more active in doing some activities such as: answering questions, and working together with their friends or team.

According to Candler, Laura (2009), Talking Stick is a technique that uses a stick as a learning tool or media technique that uses a stick as a learning tool or media, whoever holds the stick must answer questions from the teacher after the students have learned the material students learn the material. That is, Talking Stick is learning by using a stick, and only students who hold the stick can speak and other students listen to the speaker who holds the stick can speak and other students listen to the speaker.

The aspects of the English language that takes the most part and plays an important role is the grammar and pronunciation aspect. The grammar of a language is the conventional system of rules for creating and structuring expressions (e.g. sentences and phrases) that belong to that language (Nababan, 1984). Previous study Rahayuningsih thesis entitled "Improving Students' Vocabulary Mastery through talking stick method for the Second Grade Students of SMPN 3 Salatiga in the Academic year of 2012 /2013" specified the outcome that students participate in enjoyable classroom learning activities. The talking stick technique gives children the courage to speak English, and the teacher and students provide feedback. Speaking skill is one of manner interaction with people in social community.

According to Harmer (2001) and Gower (1995, p.99-100) note down that from the communicative point of view, speaking has many different aspects that including in two major categories: accuracy is involving the correct use of vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation practiced through controlled and guided activities. Fluency considered being the ability to keep going when speaking spontaneously. Moreover, accuracy is ability to produce correct sentences using correct grammar and vocabulary, and fluency is the ability to read, speak, or write easily, smoothly, and expressively. In other word, the speaker can read, understand and respond the language clearly and concisely while relating meaning and context. Dita Indra Febriyanti (2015) with the title "the use of talking sticks to improve the speaking ability of students of SMA Negeri 1 Kesamben" demonstrated that using the talking stick approach significantly improved students' speaking skills, with an average pre-test score of 66.86 and post-test score of 74.19. Based on the preliminary study conducted by the researcher, it was found that most of the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Banyuke Hulu had difficulty in speaking. In relation to this phenomenon, the researcher proposed a teaching technique called talking stick to improve students' speaking skill.

The purpose of this study is to describe how the talking stick technique can improve the speaking skills of students in grade VII of SMP Negeri 3

Banyuke Hulu. Using a classroom action research design, the researcher applied talking sticks to solve students' problems in speaking skills. The researcher used Field note and Speaking test as instruments. This research was conducted in two cycles consisting of several meetings, the first cycle 3 meetings and second cycle 2 meetings. From the background explanation above, the researcher was conduct research with the title ‘‘The Use of Talking Sticks to Improve Students' Speaking Skill’’.

B. Research Problem

Based on the research problem, the researcher formulated the research problem: how can talking sticks improve students speaking skills of Seventh grade SMP Negeri 3 Banyuke Hulu ?

C. Research Purpose

Based on the research problem aboved. Research formulates the research purpose: To find out how can talking sticks improve students speaking skills of Seventh grade SMP Negeri 3 Banyuke Hulu.

D. Significant of The Research

The results of this study are expected to make a useful contribution to the partial development of academia:

1. For researcher it can help researchers to be able to improve speaking skills in talking stick and provide new experiences for researchers in researching this method, so it is useful for creativity in teaching.
2. For teachers, this research can help teachers and be useful as information for English teachers to implement this method, in helping students to improve their speaking skills.
3. For students, In this study students can use the talking sticks method to improve students' speaking skills.
4. For other researchers, hopefully it can be useful information to conduct the same research in different aspects and apply what researchers have not been able to apply using the latest innovations and creations owned by the next research.

E. Scope of Research

1. Research Variables

Variables are quantitative and qualitative characteristics that increase over time or take on different values in different situations. Variables are symbols or properties that assume different values taken from a set of values determined at different times or in different situations (Bandeke, 2004). It can be concluded that variables are everything that will be studied by researcher. The variables in this study have single variable, in the use of talking sticks to improve students' speaking skill.

2. Research Terminology

To avoid any misunderstanding or interpretation of terms in this study, some terms will be explained below:

a. Speaking skill

Speaking English as a foreign language is a difficult skill to teach and learn because learners must master several aspects such as vocabulary mastery. learn because learners must master several aspects such as vocabulary mastery correct pronunciation, knowing grammar, and more. When learners want to speak, they also have to think about all these aspects. (Haryudin and Jamilah, 2018:59).

Speaking is one of four skills that should be mastered in learning English. Speaking is productive language skill the same like writing. The productive language should pass the mental process or it is called as a process of thinking. When the people want to say something and transmit information they need communication.

b. Talking Stick

Widodo (2009), talking stick is a learning method that uses a stick as a turn-taking tool. Students who get the stick will be given a question and must answer it. Then the baton is relayed to the hands of other students in turn. And so on until all students get a stick and a question.