

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In learning English, there are four skills that should be mastered, they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. However, the researcher concerns about speaking skill. In Webster new world dictionary, speaking researcher utter word orally, talk, to communicate as by talking, to make a request, to make a speech. Richard (2008: 201) "Speaking ability is important in the process of language learning. They communicate through speaking to get more information. Speaking ability is an activity to produce the words or a sentence in communication. In communication activity involves two or more people".

Keith and Marrow (1981: 120) "Speaking is an activity to produce utterance to oral communication". It means that this activity involves two or more people in whom the participants are both hearers and speakers having to react to whatever they hear and make their contribution a high speed, so each participants has intention or a set of intention that he wants. Speaking skill is known as complex skill and crucial to learn since it is the basic key to communicate which includes expressing ideas, purpose, and persuade to other people. It consists of some components such as grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, and comprehension. Anyone who study English must be skillful at those components so there will be no any misunderstanding between the speakers and the listeners while they communicate. Speaking is a basic skill that should be mastered by student. But the fact speaking skill has some components that students must be skillful at all gives students difficulty in speaking English.

Based on my experiences during PPL the students' difficulty to speak English caused some factors such as: lack selfconfidence, lack vocabulary, they difficult to pronounce the words and they have not interest to learn English, they feel afraid to making mistakes, nervous, and shy to express their ideas. Teaching speaking is very important for the students to improve their knowledge and

communicative skill. There are many way to teaching speaking for example through the game, pictures, dialogues, drama role play, song, movie, etc. Basen on Kayi (2006:1), the teaching of speaking is very important part of second language learning because it clearly and efficiently contributes to the success of the learners in school as well as their life.

The researcher chose describing pictures to improve the speaking ability because pictures is real object,It is not difficult to find. Pictures can use to stimulus the student to more active, and pictures helpful for teaching activity especially in conversation class. So, they accustomed to express their ideas in English.According to the researcher experience,speaking activities in English lessons at SMPN 2 Tanarighu it is not very prominent.Therefore,why did the researcher choose this school to be used as a subject to help students learn English by using pictures to describe an object so that students do not get bored in learning English.

Describing pictures is one activity in teaching speaking. The purpose of this activity is train to students' imagination and retell story in speaking English. Munadi in Iman Jaya (2016: 7) says that pictures make it easy for people to catch ideas or information conveyed in them clearly, more than if merely expressed verbally. When the students observe pictures, they are able to speak more and build new ideas. Based on the explanation above, the researcher tried to investigate "the use of describing pictures in improving students' speaking ability at SMP N 2 Tanarighu.

1.2 ResearchProblem(s)

Based on the background above, the formulation of this research is: Can the use of describing pictures improve students' speaking ability at SMP N 2 Tanarighu?

1.3 Aim(s) of Study

Based on the problem above, the objective of the research is: To find out whether the use of describing pictures can improve students speaking ability at SMP N 2 Tanarighu.

1.4 Significance of Study

This research was expected to provide significant contribution both implication and application.

1.4.1 Implication

This research was hopeful to be able to contribute and provide empirical evidence to support Munadi in Iman Jaya (2016: 7) the effectiveness of using describing pictures method in the teaching and learning process, especially to speaking ability.

1.4.2 Application

1 For the students

The result of this research is expected to improve the students' interest in learning process, especially in learning speaking.

2 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.

3 For the next researcher

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