CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Speaking is a complex skill which involves an interaction between a speaker and a listener. It involves an active process. A speaker has to think more of the idea to be expressed, and he or she should consider some aspects related to the speaking such as mastering vocabulary, using correct grammar, and having appropriate situation. Surely, in daily interaction, we use speaking as a means of communication although we cannot ignore the significance of writing as another form of communication, which is still popular to people.

Wendy (1990: 33) says, speaking is perhaps the most demanding skill for the teacher to teach. In their own language, children are able to express emotions, communicate intention and reaction, explore the language and make fun of it. It means that the speakers should be able to express the information well. Language learners who are lack of confidence in their ability to participate successfully in oral interaction often listen in silence while others do the talking. One way to encourage such learners to begin to participate is to help them build up a stock of minimal responses that they can use in different types of exchanges.

Putting all these points together, a simple definition of speaking ability in communication as the process of uttering word by which information can be transmitted between individuals or among groups so that an understanding
respond result. Speaking is the ability of expressing an idea, thought, feeling orally in a communicative ways. Speaking is one of the important ability that the students have to master because they express their idea through speaking. This can be proved by the fact that almost all speakers of language can orally use the language to carry out their daily activities and to communicate all events and experiences. They are involved with other speakers.

Based on the observation, the researcher found some difficulties in implementing the ideal strategy of speaking class. It is influenced by some factors, such as the students have low ability in speaking, they still had difficulties to communicate in English orally, they tend to use their mother tongue, and they were often reluctant and discouraged to speak in the target language because they had no confidence in speaking English for daily communication in the class. They are unmotivated to speak English, and they tend to be passive in the class and few students could speak English actively. One of the English teachers said that there were 20 students or 60 % of 33 students who got score ≥75.

Based on the explanation above, one of the way to solve this problem is by using Practice - Rehearsal Pairs as one of the alternative strategies to improve students’ speaking ability and give students an opportunity to practice speaking. Practice Rehearsal Pairs or Pair practiced is one of the strategies that comes from active learning. Practice –Rehearsal Pairs is a strategy used to practice a skills or procedure with a friend by practicing exercise repeatedly which use the information to learn it. It is hope that the teaching learning English through Practice Rehearsal- Pairs will be interesting for the students and it can be more success in the teaching learning process.
The reason of why this research focuses on the Practice –Rehearsal Pairs because According to Harmer (2007: 43) work in pairs and groups, students tend to participate more actively, and they also have more chance to experience with the language that is possible in a whole-class arrangement. So, Practice – Rehearsal Pairs give an opportunity for students to actively respond a question, but also the students can express their idea and be more confident. That is why the writer conducts a research is entitled, “Improving Students’ Speaking ability through Practice –Rehearsal Pairs”.

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background of the research, the research problems can be formulated as follow:

1. How can the use of Practice - Rehearsal Pairs improve the speaking ability of the eleventh grade at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember in the academic year 2015/2016?

2. How can the use of Practice -Rehearsal Pairs improve the students’ active participation of the eleventh grade at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember in the academic year 2015/2016?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

Based on the problem of the research above, the purpose of this research were formulate as follows:
1. To improve the students’ speaking ability through Practice –Rehearsal Pairs of eleventh grade students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember.

2. To improve the students’ active participation through Practice –Rehearsal Pairs of eleventh grade students at SMA Muhammadiyah 3 Jember.

1.4 Operational definition of the Research

1. Speaking Ability

In this research speaking ability refers to the students’ ability of interacting, expressing, delivering the idea orally that covers the aspects of fluency, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation.

2. Practice Rehearsal Pairs

Practice of rehearsal pairs or pair practice is one of the strategies that encourages the students to take part in a pair work. The students will be divided into some pairs. This strategy use to practice a speaking skill with his or her partner by practicing exercise repeatedly using the information he/she gets.

1.5 Significance of the Research

From the research conducted at SMA Muhammadiyah 3, the writer expects that it can be useful for some people, they are:

1. For the students, it assists them to solve their problems in speaking activity and it can help them to improve their speaking ability.

2. For the teacher, it gives the alternative solution in teaching speaking skill.
3. For the other researcher, the result of this research can develop her experience related to her knowledge in research on education and English teaching, especially for speaking.

1.6 Scope of the Research

The scope of the research is using Practice - Rehearsal Pairs in teaching Learning process to improve the students’ speaking ability. The research will be conducted at XI IPA 1 grade of SMA Muhammadiyah, which is located on Jl. Mastrip no 33 Jember.