

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses some aspects dealing with the topic of the research. There are the background and the Background of the research, the focus of research, the objective of research, the operational definition, the significance of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

Speaking is in the top of the grade as the most difficult skill to acquire and perform. Richard and Renandya (2001) also assume that speaking is the most urgent skill because those who are considered as the ones who understand a language is the one who can speak the language.

Speaking is one of the important skills for the students to have, and it cannot be neglected because it plays an important role in communication. Students need effort to use appropriate pronunciation orally in order that the message is able to be understood by others correctly. According to Harmer (2007:269): “The ability to speak fluently presupposes not only knowledge of language features, but also the ability to process information and language ‘on the spot’.” Therefore, teaching English speaking is important because by mastering English speaking, people can join in global communication as an international language to absorb information and knowledge.

Teaching speaking in English is very complicated. Many Junior High School

students have problems with speaking. They have difficulties in speaking English or in saying something in English. Furthermore, most student tend to be passive to use English either in asking some question to the teacher or in answering the questions given by the teacher. This class condition is necessary to be solved so that the students are active in learning English especially in speaking English in the classroom. One of the ways is to use picture as media especially narrative.

The narrative text is a type of text that retells past events that occurred (Mulyanah, 2021). Narrative text is also the type of text that is easiest for people to use to express their views on life and attitudes towards events because the topic of narrative texts is things that happened or are happening might happen. Put differently, narrative texts narrate real-life stories. Individuals frequently reverse the events that have happened to them or what they saw in the narrative. Through the author's event-based writing, readers can comprehend the author's sentiments and perspectives on life and events (Bulut & Turkozu, 2019). A narrative is a type of fictional writing in which the author presents an event or numerous events that befell a character or group of characters as though the reader were actually living among the main characters (Rosyadi et al., 2023).

Based on the information from the English teacher of SMP Al Ikhwaniyah, the speaking narrative mastery of the eighth-grade students was high. The students' average score in speaking narrative ability was 80. This condition inspired the writer to find out the implementation of this achievement. The writer believed that this condition might be influenced by the techniques used by the teacher that could arouse the students' interest and motivation by using picture

series.

Pictures as one of the media that can be used to present materials are used to develop students' interest in learning English. Wright (1989:2) says that it is important to have as wide range of resources and media, including pictures, possible in the classroom so that the students will have stimulus for the development.

Wright (1982:2) states that picture series as one of the visual aids can help not only to improve all language skills but also to promote friendly environment in the classroom and to ensure greater students' participation. In practice, the explanation using picture series will lead the students to view more curiously and meaningfully on the subject given.

Besides that, teaching speaking by using picture series is more meaningful than teaching speaking without using media because with the use of such as media student can learn and remember the teaching materials more easily.

Concerning with the problem above, the writer the implementation by using picture series in teaching speaking narrative of the eighth grade students at SMP Al-Ikhwaniyah.

1.2 Problem of the Research

Based on the background above, the problem of this research is formulated as follow :

1. How is the implementation using picture series in teaching speaking narrative of the eighth grade students at SMP Al Ikhwaniyah?

1.3 The Objective of the Research

Based on the research problem, the objective of the research can be formulated as follows:

1. To describe the implementation using picture series in teaching speaking narrative of the eighth grade students at SMP Al Ikhwaniyah.

1.4 Operational Definition

The operational definition is intended to prevent misunderstanding between the researcher and the readers about the terms use in this research. The terms that are necessary to be define operationally in this classroom action research are picture series, narrative text and speaking abilities that consist of pronunciation, structure, vocabulary, fluency and content.

1.4.1 Picture Series

Picture series in this classroom action research refer to more than one pictures that show a series of related activities done by someone. The picture series used in this research were taken from the English textbook that were copied and distributed to the students by the researcher as the media of teaching speaking.

1.4.2 Speaking Ability

The speaking ability in this research means the students' ability in expressing their thought, ideas, feelings or experiences in English

orally based on picture series. The ability covers pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency and content.

1.4.3 Narrative

Narrative text is a type of text that retells past events that occurred. Narrative text is also the type of text that is easiest for people to use to express their views on life and attitudes towards events because the topic of narrative texts is things that happened or are happening might happen.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The results of the research are expected to give some benefits to the following people.

a. English Teachers

The results can be used by English teacher as information or input the implementation of the teacher in teaching speaking and to increase the students' speaking narrative ability through picture series.

b. The Students

The actions of the research are useful to motivate the students to practice speaking English of narrative a lot in the classroom to make the students able to speak English fluently.

c. The Other Researchers

The result of this research will give some inputs as information, considerations and supports to other researchers dealing with speaking narrative ability, especially by using picture series on different research design, such as the effect on students' speaking achievement by using picture series.

1.6 Scope of the Research

This study focuses on the implementation of using picture series as a media of learning for students speaking skills. The researcher used narrative text as the material used for speaking lessons for eighth grade students at SMP Al Ikhwaniyah Gumukmas.

