

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Speaking is one of the main purposes of language learning in that it is an ability to transfer some ideas to other people clearly and correctly. In other words, he or she can communicate his or her ideas well to other people. Burkart (1998:11) says that speaking is an activity which involves the areas of knowledge, they are the mechanics (pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary); it is the use of the right words in the right order with the right pronunciation.

Nowadays, students are difficult to communicate with their friends in English. It caused by the lack of vocabulary that is not mastered by the students. So, the students should memorize some vocabularies where it can make them feel bored. It is not only the lack of vocabulary, but also sometimes they are not enough clear in pronouncing some words because the effect of language that they usually use.

In the other hand, teaching speaking is not good enough as usually happen because teacher more emphasize the students performance skill and it is not including the way how student can express their own idea. Usually, teaching speaking is done by using text that will be read loudly by students. And students more often memorize the text that is given by teacher, not their own text.

Another bad condition in teaching speaking is sometimes teacher do not do it. Students are trained to improve their writing and reading skill so that the speaking skill is low. Because teacher thinks that speaking skill will not be examined. However, speaking is needed in students' daily life. Because they can be easier to communicate with other people.

Yunus Abidin (2012: 136) stated that teaching speaking should be done in a good condition which can make student are creative in learning. The teaching itself should be interactive, so each student has a chance to speak. During the teaching and learning process, teacher should give the students some strategies that can make students speak in every context and purpose.

It can be seen in SMP Muhammadiyah 09 Ambulu where most of students there usually speak Javanese language rather than Indonesia language. So, they do not be accustomed to speak another language. Because in their age, it will be difficult for them to memorize some vocabularies. And during the teaching and learning process, the teacher just teach the students depend on the text book. So, there is no more vocabularies to learn.

However, speaking is taken as a part of daily granted. It likes any other skill such as driving and playing a music instrument; the more speaking practiced, the more you are able in mastering the speaking aspects.

Based on the problem that is explained before, there is a method to improve students speaking skill that is group investigation. Group investigation is one of the strategies in learning English that is Cooperative Learning Method. In this case, students will be accustomed to speak with their friends in group. The group is decided by themselves. Here, students will more often speak with their

friends. And speaking with their friends will make them confident in saying some words. So, it can make them easy to express their idea.

According to Robert E. Slavin (1985), *group investigation* is a strategy that integrated and related with something about authority, analysis, doing synthesis information due to solve the problem aspect. The group assignment to give some contributions, and it is not designed only for answering factual questions (what, who, when, etc). In general, teacher stake out an extensive topic, where student will read the topic into the subtopic. This subtopic is the result of development from students' interest and background, which is seemed with exchange the idea of each student.

Based on the previous research, Imam Arifin (2017) said that using Group Investigation in teaching speaking can help students to be more active and express their idea through their partner in classroom's group. Besides it, Iswardati (2016) said that Group Investigation can motivate students because they are helped in their group. However, Group Investigation is one of the strategy in Cooperative Learning Method that can be used to help students in improving their speaking. Because, it demands students to do some presentations in the class with their group. And while the students are analyzing their work, they will not be feeling difficult because they have some teammates who help them in doing those work. So, students will be more active and confident in the class while teaching and learning process.

Based on the preliminary study, English teacher said that there were some students had difficulties while speaking English. The main problems of students' speaking were lack of vocabulary and pronunciation. So, it can make

students were difficult to be active in the class such as giving and asking opinion even with the teacher or with their friends.

In this research, the researcher did not only teach the students based on the material that is explained in the class, but the researcher also gave a game which aimed to support and motivate students while learning English. In addition, from that game, the students automatically can improve their speaking skill too.

In this case, the researcher takes using of Group Investigation method as a topic of this research. That is the reason why the researcher chooses the title for this paper “Improving Eighth Grade Students Speaking Skill through Group Investigation at SMP Muhammadiyah 09 Ambulu in 2018/2019 Academic Year.

1.2 Problems of the Research

The problem of this research is “How can Group Investigation can improve the eighth grade students’ speaking skill?”

1.3 Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to know how group investigation can improve the eighth grade students’ speaking at SMP Muhammadiyah 09 Ambulu in academic year 2018/2019.

1.4 Operational Definition

In this reasearch there are some technical terms which is related with the title of this reasearch. So, to ignore the mistakes of it, there is an techncal term that is used in this reasearch, such as:

1.4.1 Speaking Skill

Speaking is the way how people express their idea to other people in saying some words or sentences. Speaking can make people are easier to communicate with others. In speaking, it is not only express how to produce specific pointd such ac vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, or grammar. But, it shows how people understand when, why, where and in what ways to produce voice as speaking action.

Skill itself is n ability to carry out a task with pre-determined results often within a given amount of time, energy, or both.

So, it can be concluded that speaking skill is the ability of how people express their idea and how people understand the way they produce it as speaking action.

1.4.2 Group Investigation

Group Investigation (GI) is one of the cooperative strategy in teaching and learning process. In using GI, the group is decided by the students which has 4-5 students, and they are free to decide what topic that they will be learned.

1.5 Significance of the Research

There are some benefits of this research, those are:

1.5.1 Students

An application of group investigation is expected can make students easy to communicate with others and improve their understanding about speaking concept.

1.5.2 Teacher

Group Investigation (GI) is expected to help teachers to have an effective, innovative and fun of teaching for students while teaching speaking.

1.5.3 Other Researcher

This research can help the researcher to add more knowledge in doing the research and can help the researcher to be a professional teacher.

1.6 Scope of the Research

This research has a purpose to improve students' speaking skill using cooperative strategy that is Group Investigation (GI). The subject (variable) of this research is students of eight grade at SMP Muhammadiyah 09 Ambulu in academic year 2018/2019.

