

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Study

Speaking is one of four skills in language that have to be mastered by the students. It can be a tool for the students to communicate. The students can get the other information from other students through speaking.

Speaking is a verbal communication of language use to communicate with others. The students can tell or convey of their information or problems from their mind ideas through speaking. Speaking helps students to make them be talk-active so that they can share what they know or what they do not know are about the case they are faced. In addition, speaking is the way to express ideas and opinion, to send expression or desire to do something, to solve some a particular problem, to increase the proficiency in speaking and to maintain the relationship or friendship. So, speaking is an important skill of language which should have improves for the students. From the definition above it can be conducted that speaking is one skill must be mastered by students to send or to receive the information or message, to communicate and so on.

In reality, there are still many students difficult to speak in English especially for Senior High School student. Based on the preliminary observation at MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran on November, 21st 2016, most of the students could not speak English well because of several reasons. When the teacher asked the students to speak or asked the students about understanding of the subjects study, the students just silent and they do not want to speak. So, there are many students

will get low score when doing test. Many reasons or factors which are made the students do not want to speak or to communicate with their friends especially in front of the class. Firstly, they fell difficult to convey their words to other because they confuse to convey or to say what. Secondly, the teacher does not give more scope enough for students to increase their speaking and lack motivation from the teacher about the lesson. Thirdly, the students are shy to speak because of mispronounce words and not confidence. Then, the students are lack of vocabularies; make grammatical mistakes and stuck in speaking pausing, so they cannot express their ideas. This is not only come from the students but also from the teacher. The teacher only asks the students to speak, but they do not know what they want to speak in English. The teacher has used some various strategies, such as speech method and grammar translation method but it is still lack enough in use of the strategies or scopes for students which can make them to express their ideas more and have prepared it before learning will begin. So, the students do not fell enjoy or comfort when speaking in English especially in front of the class.

Properly, the teacher ought to know the condition of class, the character of students and what the students need. So, the teacher can use the appropriate strategy during the learning process.

The students must involve and active in the learning process. So that, it is important to vary the activities during the lesson in order to keep them on track and maintain the students' motivation. Talking chips strategy that is as one of the strategies in cooperative learning can be applied to vary the activities during the

learning process. This strategy will help the teacher to give each student opportunity to practice their speaking ability since in this strategy, each student is required to participate and give contribution during the discussion process.

Based on the problems above, the researcher attempts to improve the students' ability in speaking English by using talking chips strategy. Talking chips strategy is a type of cooperative learning that was developed by Spencer Kagan in 1992. Kagan pointed out that talking chips strategy can be applied to improve the students' speaking during the process of teaching and learning speaking. In this activity, the students are divided into several groups. Each member of the group would receive chips and each student has to speak in English during the discussion. Every time they speak, they need to put a chip in the center of the table. The activity is done when all members of the group already used their chips. Talking chips strategy also provides opportunity for every student to talk, so there is no gap between students who are active to speak and those who are not. Furthermore, this technique will allow the students to practice their speaking and also give an equal opportunity for the students to speak during the learning process.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested to conduct a research about *“Improving the Students' Ability in Speaking English by Using Talking Chips Strategy at the Second Grade Students of MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran in 2016/2017 Academic Year”*.

1.2 The Identification of the Problems

Based on the limitation of the study, the researcher is formulated the research question as follows:

1. What is the talking chips strategy able to improve the students' ability in speaking English?
2. How could be the students' speaking ability improve through the implementation of talking chips strategy?

1.3 The Objectives of Study

In relating to the research problems above, the objectives of study are to find out:

1. To describe the implementation of using talking chips strategy in improving the students' ability in speaking English.
2. To know the improvement of students' ability in speaking English by using talking chips strategy.

1.4 The Limitation of Study

Based on the identification of study found in that background, the researcher limited the study on two factors, they are:

1. Teaching of English in speaking skill at the second grade students of MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran.
2. Improving the students' ability in speaking English by using talking chips strategy at the second grade students of MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran.

1.5 The Significances of Study

a. Practical Benefits

1. To the students, hopefully this research will improve their speaking skills in English whether in the learning process or in other occasions.
2. To the teachers of English, the results of this research are hopefully useful for teachers of English they may also find it easier to develop the materials through talking chips strategy which are interesting to the students so that teachers will be more creative in teaching and the students' speaking ability more increase again.
3. To the school, hopefully this research can be used as a conceptual contribution. So, it can improve the quality of education and innovation for learning and teaching English at MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran, especially in speaking ability.

4. To The Writer Herself

By conducting this research, the writer expects she will improve her knowledge about English teaching in Indonesia and raise her creativity in the teaching world.

b. Theoretical Benefits

The study can provide a foundation for other researchers to conduct similar research in order to improve the students' speaking ability and language skills generally that through the implementation of talking chips strategy or the others strategies.

1.6 The Definition of The Key Terms

There are some key terms consists which relates with this research such as *improving speaking ability, talking chips strategy, and grade IX students.*

Speaking is a verbal communication which produced of language by using of human. Speaking is an activity in real life that is carried out by speaker to convey his or her ideas to interact with the listeners. The activities are unplanned and the continuity of the activities is based on situations. Whereas, ability is about skill or power of someone has in themselves. English is a foreign language in Indonesia which is used as a medium instruction or as a formal situation in use. Therefore, speaking ability in English is related with students' how the students will improve their capability in speaking English by using some ways or techniques which can improve the students' speaking ability in English become well. To improve the students' speaking ability can do by using talking chips strategy while learning process occurs. This strategy will make the students more talk active even in class or outside.

Talking chips is a strategy of cooperative learning in teaching of speaking makes the students work in group. Talking chips is one of strategy can be used for discussion during the learning process. Talking chips ensures the students to have equal participation by requiring each speaker in group to surrender a token when sharing thoughts concerning topics. This strategy also allows the students in a group to speak without one student dominating the group discussion. This strategy is good if it is implicate for Senior High School, especially for second grade students. The researcher will use this strategy for second grade students at MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran in academic year of 2016/2017.

The reasons of the researcher use talking chips strategy for students of second grade students at MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran because the students in speaking English are still low. There are some factors that is made the students' speaking English still low is come from inside and outside factor. Some factors from inside such as not confidence, felling in doubt and they do not know what they want to say because lack of vocabulary, etc. Then, some factors from outside such as uninterested of learning process in speaking English that can see from the strategy used or lack of motivation from teacher to improve their speaking ability in English.

Besides talking chips strategy gives an equal opportunity for each student to turn talking during the talking chips activity implemented. So, there is no student dominant to speak when speaking activity continues.

1.7 The Previous Studies

Many students are difficult to speak in English. Some students do not know how to speak English well which include the pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary, accuracy/grammar and interaction of speaking. They are difficult to speak in English because some factors influence them such as not confidence, shy, they do not understand about the words, they do not know what they want to say, lack of vocabulary, lack of motivation from teacher, uninteresting of learning strategy and there is no interaction enough between teacher and students well while English learning process happen in class.

Then, some factors or problems happen in speaking English like above are also happen with second grade students at MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran. The researcher is found some problems about English especially in speaking ability in

that class. The problems are come from teachers and students. The problems are appeared because of the teacher lack in giving motivation to her students in speaking English. The teachers only use communicative method and ask students to write learning material on the whiteboard. Then, the teacher is seldom to come in class to give the English learning. So that is why the researcher intends to implicate a new strategy in learning English in the school at second grade of Senior High School, especially in speaking skill. The researcher wants the students' speaking ability is increase better than before. The strategy engages them in teammate which called as talking chips strategy. The students will do team work with their friends while learning process. This strategy would help the students to promote their speaking skill equally since the point of this technique is every student in the group should participate and give contribution to the group. They will discuss about a topic and analyze the topic by using English through talking chips strategy. So, this strategy will help the students to talk active in speaking and it will make the students be brave to speak in front of class or in front of their friends.

In other words, there is some similar research that had been conducted before. The result of the research is described as follows.

The first research was conducted by Syafryadin in 2011. The research entitled "*The Use of Talking Chips Technique in Improving Students' Speaking Achievement*". The research shows that talking chips technique can improve the students' speaking ability. The students' scores on speaking skill got improvement and the students showed progress on each cycle in speaking. For example, the students were active in speaking, high motivation, responsible to their task and so

on. Besides, the cooperative learning elements that well implemented during talking chips technique also help to improve the students' speaking ability.

Another research was conducted by Dian Estiningrum in 2015. The research was conducted as experimental research, entitled *“Using Talking Chips to Improve VII-A Students' Speaking Skill at SMPN 1 Trucuk in the Academic Year of 2013/2014.”* After conducting the research, the researcher concluded talking chips improved the teaching of speaking and the students' speaking ability. Talking chips activities encourage students to participate and overcome communication or problems, such as dominating group members. It is created enjoyable learning climate that motivated them to get involved in the teaching learning process. Furthermore, the students could build their self-confidence to speak in front of the class. Some positive values are established there such as togetherness and teamwork.

Based on those previous research conducted, it can be concluded that talking chips strategy gives a good impact towards to students' speaking ability. That is the reason why the researcher tried to conduct a research on *“Improving the Students' Ability in Speaking English By Using Talking Chips Strategy at the Second Grade Students of MAS Manba'ul Hidayah Kisaran in 2016/2017 Academic Year”*.