A. Background of the Study

Extracurricular program has an important role in learning at school. Extracurricular is an activity outside the classroom, activities carried out outside the classroom have a lot of influence on the students’ personality. With extracurricular program, it is expected that students have more space to develop their potential that exists within themselves and with extracurricular activities, it can stimulate students’ ways of thinking to new things, who are more creative and the courage to speak and others. According in, extracurricular activity is a side education activity for students outside of subjects or regular classes in an education institution to support the educational process, that sometimes involves the role of teachers or instructors (Campbell, 1973). Gerlach and Ely (1980) also said that in order to acquire effective and efficient steps for learning activities, there must be a relationship between learning techniques and learning objectives. Learning strategies are methods and approaches (procedures) that ensure that students attain the learning objectives. According to (Alsagoff et al., 2012) that extracurricular is a schedule that is carried out outside of main hours to add special skills in order to support and support the main learning.

And also in classroom, Good and effective learning is able to grow students' understanding and knowledge of concept and foster students in different ways of thinking. Many models are able to foster understanding and knowledge of a concept and student's way of thinking, teaching model that uses a particular problem as a focus to develop speaking competence and students understanding as well as problem solving, material, and self-control. Based on (Noor, 2012) Main target of extracurricular activity is the maximum development of potential, talent and interests, along with that, it envisions the growth of students’ independence and happiness that benefit themselves,
family and society. According to Holt, Sehn, Spence, Newton, & Ball, (2012) argued that extracurricular activities are necessary for the appropriate growth of students and for the improvement of their self-confidence, intelligence and personality. According to (Simoncini and Caltabiano, & Lasen, 2012) extracurricular activities are unique from unorganized and unsupervised public activities such as interacting or enjoying activities with friends. Instead, they are structured structurally and contain supervision by teachers and under careful supervision, extracurricular activities could focus on group, interaction, management, and other public skill-building and beneficial growth for the members.

Today’s, the speaking skill ranks at first in giving and receiving information and advancing life in today’s civilization. At this time, students’ English skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta are at an intermediate level compared to writing skills. The ability of students to practice English in communication is caused by several factors, namely: the difference language in daily life, and students’ anxiety to speak English boldly. Therefore, the school provides a solution by introducing on of its facilities to the students to develop themselves by creating an English Club extracurricular program to facilitate and encourage students in learning speaking English orally. According to (Yildiz, 2015), in extracurricular activities are to be done in class or out of school based on the demands and convenience of extracurricular program activities. And, according to (Gardner et al., 2008), the theory and research on positive youth development emphasizes the transition of human development, and suggest that cultivating positive, supportive relationships with people and social institutions encourages healthy development.

At SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta has a facility including the English Club extracurricular program which is quite active and is carried out regularly, once a week and has its own instructor. So that, it can be an advantage for the school in general because they usually hold an extracurricular program only when they will face the competition. In addition, the instructors in
extracurricular program English Club at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta are teachers who are appropriate in their fields, both from teachers at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta themselves or in collaboration with parties outside the school. Thus, it is hoped that the English Club extracurricular program will run optimally to develop students’ English-speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta. The relationship between teacher and students are important because if the students have a strong relationship with the teachers or instructor, the more likely they will do better in school (Penner & Wallin., 2012). According to (Simoncini & Caltabiano, 2012) Extracurricular activities are usually described as activities that do not belong to academic curriculum, but are offered by an academic institution. Extracurricular activities are used today to improve students’ communicative, social and artistic skills. They are usually conducted under supervision of educators to guide students towards a particular behaviour or a skill, with an English Club program that can carried out at outside school hours or during school holidays, the students’ free time will be filled with useful activities that can develop their potential so that students will grow into more active and independent people. The extracurricular program provided in schools differ from one school to another. This is in accordance with the vision and mission of each school and will become the hallmark of the school itself.

There are some activities in English Club at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta, namely: Debating, Speech Conversation, and Story Telling related on speaking skills. According to the responsible person of English Club at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta, before they start practicing in English Club at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta, the students have introduced first with the material theoretically and then process with the division of groups according to the choice of each student then in the last session the students are guided to practice with their group mates. English Club at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta held on Friday at 13:30 wib. The members of English Club extracurricular program consist of 15 students. There are consist of the tenth and eleventh grade students. Based on the preliminary above. The researcher tries to
analyse the improvement of students' speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta and then made the research with the title Improving Students’ Speaking Skills Through English Club Program at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta.

B. Limitation of the Study

   Based on the background of the study, the researcher limits his research as a follow:

   1. Subject limitation
      The subject limitation of this research is An English Club extracurricular program activities at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta.

   2. Object limitation
      The object limitation of this research is the students at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta who join in the English Club extracurricular program.

C. Problem Statements

   What is the students’ difficulty in speaking English so that a non-academic school creates program which is commonly called as an English Club extracurricular program for the students at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta?

   Based on this research problem the researcher raised some research questions as a follow:

   1. How is the implementation of learning English as an English club program to improve students’ speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta?

   2. How are the students’ strategies in learning English as an English club program to improve students’ speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta?

D. Objectives of the Study

   Based on the research questions above, the researcher will explain the following objectives such as:
1. The researcher can explain about how the implementation of learning English through English club program to improve students’ speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta.

2. The researcher can explain about how the students’ strategies in learning English through English club program to improve students’ speaking skills at SMA Al Islam 1 Surakarta.

E. Benefits of the Study

This research is expected to be useful for:

1. Theoretical Benefit

   The results of this research can be used as a reference for learning English and also a way to improve understanding in speaking English by implementing an English extracurricular program in senior high school.

2. Practical Benefit

   a. For the readers, it can be a motivation to learning English more and more, to increase the readers’ knowledge about improving speaking skills.

   b. For the students, it can improve their speaking English skills and change their method to learn about the English.

   c. And for the researcher, the result of this research can develop his experiences related to his knowledge and his understanding about what he gets in the research.