IMPROVING STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING COMPETENCE THROUGH THINK-PAIR-SHARE STRATEGY

(A Classroom Action Research on the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Jaten Karanganyar Academic Year 2010/2011)

Thesis

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PRONOUNCEMENT

By this pronouncement, I state that I myself write the thesis entitled **IMPROVING STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING COMPETENCE THROUGH THINK-PAIR-SHARE STRATEGY (A Classroom Action Research of the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Jaten Academic Year 2010/2011).** I absolutely state that this thesis is not a plagiarism nor made by someone else. Other works related to this thesis have been written in the form of quotations. The sources of the thesis have been listed in Bibliography. If this thesis can be proved as a plagiarism the certificate and the academic degree can be cancelled to be given.

Jaten, May 2011

Fatimah

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With the completion of the research, **f**irstly, the writer would like to thank to Allah, the Almighty God, who has made everything possible under His holy providence. Her special thanks goes to the Director of Graduate Program of Muhammadiyah University, Prof. Dr. H. Khudzaifah Dimyati, SH, M.Hum and Prof. Dr. Markhamah, M.Hum, the Head of Graduate Program of the English Department.

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It is hard for the writer to finish the thesis without the support of her beloved husband who has given her the spirit, care, love, and prayer, and for the big family of Post Graduate Program of Language Studies Department 2007 for the encouragement and the motivation to finish the thesis.

However, the thesis is still far from being perfect. The writer will accept every comment and suggestion. Hopefully, he hopes that this research is useful for the readers, especially English teachers to increase the technique to improve speaking competence.

Jaten, May 2011

Fatimah

MOTTO

"Verily, along with every hardship is a relief"

(Al Insyirah:5)

DEDICATION

I wholeheartedly dedicate this thesis to:

My beloved husband

"Thank you for everything!"

and my children

"Without you all, I'm nothing. Thank you for loving!"

ABSTRACT

Fatimah. S200070028. **IMPROVING STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING COMPETENCE THROUGH THINK-PAIR-SHARE STRATEGY (A Classroom Action Research on the Seventh Grade Students of SMP Negeri 1 Jaten Academic Year 2010/2011).** Thesis. Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. Surakarta. 2011**.**

The problem of seventh grade students in SMPN 1 Jaten was lack of speaking competence. It was caused by the lack of English speaking practice and less motivation of speaking. The objectives of the research were: 1) to find out whether the use of Think-Pair-Share in teaching English improve the students' English speaking competence at the seventh grade in SMPN 1 Jaten, 2) to find out the effectiveness of using Think-Pair-Share in teaching English speaking, and 3) to find out the problems that may appear during the application of Think-Pair-Share in speaking class.

The data were collected through observation and tests. They were collected through the students' participation in speaking class. The observation was done in the students' ability to do the exercises, join the group discussion and presentation. The data were supported by the informal interview after speaking class had finished.

The findings show that: 1) the use of TPS in speaking class can improve the students' English speaking competence at the seventh grade in SMPN 1 Jaten. 2) The use of TPS is effective in teaching speaking in terms of improving the students' affective factors such as motivation and self confidence, arousing the students' active participation during the speaking class, improving the students' speaking competence, especially the speaking score. 3) The problems appeared during the application of TPS were a few students who still passive in speaking and those who still did not fulfill the Minimum Passing Grade *or Kriteria Ketuntasan Minimal (KKM*).

The research findings implied that TPS can be an alternative strategy to promote the students' speaking competence. Therefore, it is recommended that the English teacher apply it. It is also recommended that the institution socialize the findings since it is useful for English subject. The last is for other researchers to develop the aspect of speaking competence which has not been developed in the research.

Keywords: improving, speaking competence, Think-Pair-Share strategy

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE …….. i

APPROVAL …… ii

LEGALIZATION …… iii

PRONOUNCEMENT…… iv

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT …… v

MOTTO …… vii

DEDICATION ……. viii

ABSTRACT ..…… ix

TABLE OF CONTENTS ……. xi

LIST OF TABLES …… xiii

LIST OF EXHIBIT xiv

LIST OF APPENDICES ……... xv

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION 1

A. Background of the Research 1

B. Problem Formulation 10

C. Objectives of the Study 10

D. Research Benefits …..... 11

CHAPTER II THEORETICAL REVIEW 13

A. Theoretical Background 13

1. Effective English Language Teaching and Learning 13

a. The Nature of Language …. ....…….. 13

b. Effective Language Teaching ……. 18

c. Effective Language Learning ..……. 23

d. Communicative Language Teaching and Learning 27

e. Communicative Competence …….. 31

2. Speaking Competence …..... 33

a. Notion of Speaking …….. 33

b. Indicators of Speaking Competence ……... 34

c. Macro and Micro Skills of Speaking 36

d. Types of Speaking Activities …….. 38

3. Cooperative Learning …….. 44

a.The Definition of Cooperative Learning …… 44

b. The Characteristics of Cooperative Learning ……... 45

c.The Benefits of Cooperative Learning …..... 46

d. Strategies of Cooperative Learning …….. 48

4. Think-Pair-Share (TPS) 50

a. The Definition of Think-Pair-Share (TPS) …… 50

b. The Purposes of Think-Pair-Share (TPS) …….. 50

c. The Benefits of Think-Pair-Share (TPS) …… 51

d. The Steps of Think-Pair-Share (TPS) …… 52

B. Review of Related Researches ……... 53

C. Rationale …… 57

D. Action Hypothesis ….……. 58

E. Indicator of Effectiveness …….. 59

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD 60

A. Setting Description …..……. 60

B. Subject of the Study ……. 61

C. Research Design ……... 61

D. Research Procedure …….. 64

1. Data and Data Source ……... 64

2. Technique of Data Collection ……... 66

3. Data Validation ……. 67

4. Technique of Data Analysis …….. 67

E. The Procedure of Action Research Technique ……. 69

CHAPTER IV RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION OF THE RESEARCH FINDINGS 72

A. Research Findings ……... 72

1. TPS Can Improve the Students' Speaking Competence in SMPN 1 Jaten Class VII-C …… 72

a. Introduction …… 73

b. Pre-test …… 78

c. Cycle I ……. 79

d. Cycle II …… 113

e. Cycle III ……... 137

2. The Effectiveness of Teaching Learning Activity in the Classroom Where TPS is Used to Teach Speaking 155

3. The Problems Occurred during the Application of TPS in

Class VII-C SMPN 1 Jaten …….. 156

B. Discussion of the Research Findings …….. 156

1. Think-Pair-Share (TPS) Can Improve the Students' Speaking Competence in SMPN 1 Jaten Class VII-C 156

2. The Effectiveness of TPS in Improving the Students' Speaking Competence …… 158

3. The Problems Occurred during the Application of TPS in Class VII-C SMPN 1 Jaten …… 159

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

A. Conclusion …… 161

B. Recommendation……. 162

BIBLIOGRAPHY …… 164

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1. Indicator of Effectiveness ……. 59

Table 4.1 The Improvement of Students' Ability during

Teaching Learning Process in Cycle 1 …….. 107

Table 4.2 The Students' Problems and Solutions ……. 112

Table 4.3 The Improvement of Students' Ability during

Teaching Learning Process in Cycle 2 ……... 134

Table 4.4 The Improvement of Students' Ability during

Teaching Learning Process in Cycle 3 …… 151

Table 4.5 The Achievement of Students' Speaking Test ……. 157

LIST OF EXHIBIT

Exhibit 2.1 The Mind Concept of the Research ……. 58

Exhibit 3.1 Classroom Action Research Concept …….. 62

Exhibit 3.2. Miles and Huberman Model the Data Analysis ……68

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : *Rencana Pelaksanaan Pembelajaran Siklus I* …… 162

Appendix 2 : *Rencana Pelaksanaan Pembelajaran Siklus II* ……168

Appendix 3 : *Rencana Pelaksanaan Pembelajaran Siklus III* …...174

Appendix 4 : Field Notes of Observation ……. 180

Appendix 5 : Interview Script with The Headmaster ……...…187

Appendix 6 : Interview Script with The Collaborator …….. 190

Appendix 7 : Interview Script with The Parents …….. 193

Appendix 8 : Interview Script with The Students …… 195

Appendix 9 : The Result of Questionnaire……. 197

Appendix 10 : *Lembar Observasi Siswa* (Speaking Pre-test) ……. 199

Appendix 11 : *Lembar Observasi Si*swa (Speaking Test Cycle I) .. 200

Appendix 12 : *Lembar Observasi Siswa* (Speaking Test Cycle II) 201

Appendix 13 : *Lembar Observasi Siswa* (Speaking Test Cycle III) 202

Appendix 14 : Pretest Interview …….. 203

Appendix 15 : Speaking Post Test …….. 204

Appendix 16 : The Scoring Scale Categories ……. 207