

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is the systematic conventional use of sound, signs or written symbol in human society for communication and self-expression (Crystal, 1992) in Srijono (2001: 2). Language is one of the dominant media for self-actualization consequently. Besides, language is also skill that is not possessed by other creatures. As an international language that is used by most of the people in the world, English is used in many parts of field such as science and technology. In mastering a language, people should be able to know and apply four language skills such as listening, reading, speaking, and writing.

English is an international language, so learning English is important in order to be able to communicate with everyone in international world. It allows people to say things to each other and express their communicative needs. Since its importance, English is taught widely at formal schools starting from elementary school up to the universities. Students are provided with opportunities to learn English. This will help them to study some scientific books, which are written in English, or to get information from television, internet, etc.

Speaking is one of the language skills that should be mastered by language learner. With speaking, people can make a good communication to the others. For most people, mastering the art of speaking is the most important aspect of learning a second or foreign language. The success of language learner is measured by their ability in carrying out a conversation in

daily life. Therefore speaking is a main part of language because the fluent speaking will be a positive impact for all people in studying language. In teaching and learning of language, speaking should be the first purpose in developing language in all levels of education whether elementary school, Junior and senior high school and even in a university.

Teaching speaking in junior high school is a big challenge for the teachers, because the teacher should grow the student's interest in order that they have motivation to speak. Besides, the teacher should create some interesting ways for their students such as role play, study club, jigsaw, guessing word, discussion, group debate, and explaining pictures. Those can reduce the student's boredom in studying language, especially speaking.

Speaking is very important skill for the junior high school students because it prepares them to face the global world. However there are three problems in identified teaching speaking for junior high school students namely; 1) limited vocabulary which will make them unable to say words during teaching-learning process. 2) limited grammar, they are also afraid in arranging the words into a sentence. The mistake of using grammar is a big problem for the students to speak well. 3) lack of confidence, it will be an obstacle produce the speaking ability to students.

Outdoor activities are activities that can be done by people to loose the feeling of boredom. It is more interesting than indoor activity, because these activities are conducted outdoor. When we are outdoor, we can get more motivation to learn something (Patmonodewo, 2003: 12). In outdoor, the

children can do many activities, such as running, jumping, climbing, and other activities. So, when the children study in real world, they can understand easily the information or materials because they can do in both study and playing in outdoor.

Based on phenomena happened in SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo the problems faced by the students are some boring classroom activities and uninteresting method to be used as classical method to give a topic and asking them to develop it by themselves. This often makes the students nervous in studying language. The writer, therefore, uses outdoor activities to increase student's speaking ability, because outdoor activities are suitable to seventh year students which there is transition from elementary school to junior high school, so they still need time to learn with games in order to make the students understand about the material easily, especially in speaking ability. Outdoor activities involve interesting methods and decrease boring. Therefore, the researcher tries to solve the problem through some interesting method in teaching speaking. One of them is using outdoor activities. So the writer conducts a research entitled INCREASING STUDENT'S SPEAKING ABILITY USING OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AT THE SEVENTH YEAR OF SMP PGRI 13 GONDANGREJO IN 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR.

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background of the study above, the writer formulates some research problems, as follows:

1. Can outdoor activities increase the students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo?
2. How is the implementation of outdoor activities in increasing students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo?
3. What the strength and weakness of outdoor activities in increasing students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo?

C. Objective of the Study

The general objective of this research is to improve speaking ability using outdoor activities.

The specific objectives of this research are:

1. to clarify whether or not outdoor activities can increase the students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo.
2. to describe the implementation of outdoor activities in increasing students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo
3. to identify the strength and weakness outdoor activity in increasing students' speaking ability at the seventh year of SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo.

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, This research has broader scope. It is impossible for the writer to handle all problems. Therefore, the writer limits the scope of the study. The writer analyzes the result in speaking class of seventh grade for SMP PGRI 13 Gondangrejo, using the different method of outdoor activities such as, describing means of transportation, describing people and describing plants.

E. Benefit of the Study

From the research, the writer hopes that this study has benefit for the readers, thus the significance of this research may include:

1. Theoretically

The writer hopes that this research can give contribution in developing knowledge, especially for increasing students' speaking ability through outdoor activities.

2. Practically.

a. Teacher.

This research can give information source to increase the quality of teacher in increasing students' speaking ability through outdoor activities to his/her students.

b. Students

The result will help them in increasing their speaking ability.

c. Other Researcher.

The result of this research can be useful for other researcher to make further analysis from other point of view.

F. Research Paper Organization

To enable the writer arranges the research paper and to make it easy to understand, the writer divides this research into five chapters as follows.

Chapter 1 is introduction. It deals with background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II is review of related literature that consists of the previous study, notion speaking ability, elements of speaking ability, problem of speaking ability, outdoor activity, theoretical framework, action hypothesis, and performance indicator.

Chapter III is research method. This chapter presents of type of the research, action procedures, subject of the study, object of the research, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV is research result and discussion. This chapter deals with the discussion and analysis of the data that consists of the how the implementation of outdoor activity, whether problem solving can increase students' speaking ability or not.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. This chapter relates to the research conclusion and completed by suggestion to make the research better. Bibliography and some appendixes are also enclosed.