

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language can be interpreted as a tool to convey something that comes to mind. In simple words, language is a tool for interacting or a means to communicate. It is for conveying thoughts, ideas, concepts, or feelings. Language is the key of human life on this earth, because people can interact with each other. For Indonesian, we must have a strategy to face globalization era especially ASEAN Economic Community. Specifically, the best quality of human resources and competences must be prepared on their field or they will be left. Competence here refers to the language which well known as English.

There are three major reasons why English is so important to the public especially in ASEAN Economic Community. First of all, English is used as a medium to seek knowledge. With good English skill, then someone can understand and gain new knowledge in any particular field easily. Second, English helps society to get a decent job. Many national and international companies require participants to be able to communicate fluently in English and have a TOEFL score at least 550. Third, English helps someone promote local products on the international scene. For instance, farmers who are able to communicate in English have more opportunity to promote their agricultural products to the international community, either through formal activities such as conferences and seminars, or through informal activities.

Language has an important role in developing learner's intellectual, social, and emotional values and it supports the success in learning all subjects matter. Confidently, studying language will help the learners to recognize themselves and other cultures. As well as, learning language can help learners to express their ideas and feeling. It also can help them to participate and communicate in society actively. As good students, they should acquire four language skills in English which are namely: listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Speaking is one of the most important language skills which students are expected to be able to speak fluently with correct grammar and good pronunciation at the end of a semester. Fraser (1983: 30) states that when people use language, they characteristically do three things: they say something, they indicate how they intend the listener to understand what they said, and they have a definite effect on the listener results.

Hadfield (1999: 7) says that speaking is a kind of bridge for learners between the classroom and the world outside. So, in order to build the bridge, we as the teachers must give them an opportunity to practice for purposeful communication in meaningful situation. But first of all, we should know what the problem that the students faced is. In reality, most of the students' problem in mastering speaking is the lack of students' speaking proficiency. Vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation are included to speaking proficiency and this can give impact towards the students who are lack of this items. In result, the students are unable to speak something during the speaking class.

Related to things that are written above, there are some indicators indicating students not to speak flawlessly. First, students rarely answer the

question that is given by teacher spontaneously in oral ways. Second, they often use pauses and filler when speak whether to answer question or just have a talk. Third, mental problem affect their confidence when they try to speak; this happens because the speaker seldom have public speaking or kind of. Fourth, they are running out of idea; this usually happens to all people. Fifth, if they speak then few points that ruin his speaking are grammatical error, mispronunciation, and poor vocabulary. The last but not least is when teacher give a question students often response it together which means they try to answer it together, but the fact is they are just trying to murmur; and the class changes to noisy situation.

Teachers are expected to be careful to choose a technique to be applied in their classroom. Being a good teacher, we also should try to improve the way of teaching English. Our government also has improved the way of teaching and learning, not only for English, but also for all subjects in school. It can be seen by looking at government's effort of changing curriculum regularly. The changing curriculum is aimed to develop the teaching process towards the learners.

One of the ways improving students' speaking skill is by giving a learning strategy which named "Think-Pair-Share". Think-Pair-Share is a strategy that is designed to differentiate instruction by providing students time and structure for thinking critically on a given topic. This enables them to think individually and then share their ideas with a peer. This learning strategy promotes classroom participation by encouraging high degree of students' response. In this strategy, a problem or topic is posed by a teacher in the beginning, and then the students will be given time to think about the problem or topic individually. After that, they have to work in pairs to solve the problem. Pairs are determined by who is sitting

next to them. Those who are in pairs should share their ideas with each other, so they can conclude the complete ideas for the problem or topic that is given by the teacher. At the end, students are expected to share their ideas in front of class or just standing on their spot if it is possible. In general, one person from each pair will have an opportunity to speak in order to share their ideas. So, if the class consists of 32 students, then there will be 16 pairs. It means that only 16 people that will share their ideas. This strategy also can be used for any varieties of daily classroom activities such as concept reviews, quiz reviews, partner in reading, topic development, and others.

Based on the background above, the writer was inspired to design and conduct a study entitled **“A Study of Think-Pair-Share Technique to Improve Speaking Skill of the Eighth Grade Students of SMPK Santa Familia Kupang in the School Year of 2017/2018”**.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

Based on the background of study, the writer states the problem statements of his research as follows:

1. How is the Think-Pair-Share technique used to improve speaking skill of the eighth grade students of SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the Think-Pair-Share technique during the research in SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018?

3. Does the use of Think-Pair-Share technique improve the speaking skill of the eighth grade students of SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the background of the study, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the how the Think-Pair-Share technique used to improve speaking skill of the eighth grade students of SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018.
2. To describe the advantages and disadvantages of Think-Pair-Share technique during the research in SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018.
3. To find out whether or not the use of Think-Pair-Share technique can improve speaking skill of the eighth grade students of SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang in the school year of 2017/2018.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

Based on the result of the study, the researcher expects that this study will give a benefit to those who have contributed during the research is doing. They are as follows:

1. The researcher

This research can be used as starting point of researcher's future life and improve speaking skill as the future of English teacher.

2. The students

This research motivates students to be brave to speak in front of class and increases students' speaking skill.

3. The teachers

This research encourages teachers to be creative in teaching and learning process and can motivate their students to be more confidence in speaking.

4. The University Catholic of Widya Mandira

This research can be applied by lecturers of Widya Mandira Catholic University in their own classrooms with their students.

5. The readers

This research gives them an additional reference in teaching and learning strategy especially focusing on Think-Pair-Share technique.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

There are at least 7 techniques or kinds of small group discussion which are used in teaching speaking. They are jigsaw, mind mapping, role playing, snowball throwing, think-pair-share, talking chips, and numbered head. In this study, the writer chooses to use one of strategies provided which is think-pair-share.

The limitation of the problem is about Improving the Speaking Skill of the Eighth Grade Students of SMPK Santa Familia Kupang in the School Year of 2017/2018 by Using the Think-Pair-Share technique. The researcher will teach the material of asking and giving information about ability. The respondents will be those who are in the eighth grade of SMPK Santa Familia Kupang. In this study,

the speaking components that will be evaluated are fluency, content, and appearance. Fluency consists of pronunciation, and intonation. Content consists of comprehension, grammar, and vocabulary. Appearance consists of gesture, and expression.

### **1.6 Definition of Terms**

To provide a clear insight about what this study is concerned with some key terms are defined as follow:

1. According to Kagan (1994), Think-Pair-Share Technique is a cooperative learning strategy that can promote and support higher level of thinking.
2. Hornby (1989), *improve* is become or make something better. So, improving in this study is kind of effort with the purpose to make something better than before.
3. According to Tarigan (1990: 3) speaking is a language skill that is developed in child life, which is produced by listening skill, and at that period speaking skill is learned.
4. Skill is technical competence without insight or understanding or the ability for further elaboration development (*Webster* 1968: 50).
5. SMPK Sta. Familia Kupang is one of junior high school in Kupang that has good grade. It is one of favorite school in Kupang which located at Jl. Oebolifo III, Sikumana.