

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The ability of speaking or communicating with others plays an important role because people should know how to express thoughts, opinions, feelings, and ideas through the language. Having a good English speaking ability means that, students should be good at pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary in expressing the ideas fluently with appropriate word choices. In addition, they should be aware of the social and cultural rules that apply in various contexts of communication as well as of the strategies employed during the process of communication.

Based on the observation by the researcher to the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang, however, some problems were still found concerning students' ability in speaking. They had difficulties in expressing ideas and opinions orally as they were afraid of making mistakes and not confident to speak English. They still had difficulties in pronouncing certain English words. The students didn't have the bravery, afraid of making errors in their pronunciation of English words. To be able to speak English, the richness of vocabulary is also important. However, most students were lacked of vocabulary mastery and only few students in the classroom consulted to a dictionary. Their competencies in grammar were also poor. Therefore, they preferred to be silent and not fully participate in the classroom activities. In addition, the classroom

activities were not really interesting so the class was monotonous and had less fun learning activities.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting a research under the topic: **“A Study On Speaking Ability of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018”**.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The main problem of this study is to know the students' speaking ability through the procedure text. The problems are formulated in some questions as follows:

1. Are the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018 able to speak English or not?
2. What is the level of the student's speaking ability of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018?
3. What are the difficulties faced by the students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the questions as stated above, the objective of study are:

1. To find out and to know whether the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018 are able to speak English or not.
2. To know and to find out the level of speaking ability of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018.

3. To find out the difficulties faced the students in their speaking of SMAK Sint Carolus in the School Year 2017/2018?

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is actually the usefulness or the benefit of a study for human beings. Thus, this study has some benefits for the following persons:

1. The Teacher

As the sources for English teachers of the researched school in evaluating the material especially in teaching speaking, so they can plan the next teaching process more effectively.

2. The Student

Based on the finding of this study, the students will be informed about their general difficulties in speaking that deals with the aspect of grammatical structure, vocabulary, and pronunciation and their know what their mistake.

3. The Writer

This study can deepen her knowledge in teaching speaking and able to help her determine and practice them and to be better prepared as a prospective English teacher.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is conducted to analyze students' speaking ability. The study will be conducted in Senior High School of SMAK Sint Carolus KUPANG in school year 2017/2018. There are four speaking skills area such as imitative, intensive, responsive, and extensive. But in this study the writer chooses extensive as the categories of the speaking skills area. Meanwhile, there are three aspects of speaking skills that will be measured such as grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To assist the readers understand the terms used in this writing, the writer would like to present some definitions of terms:

1. Ability. It lexically means "the capacity or power to do something physical or mental" (Merriam-Webster). The term "ability" in this study means the capacity of the students in oral presenting procedure text in front of the class.
2. Speaking. It is a language art, which involves the selection and organization of ideas, and the ability to communicate the ideas orally (Grolier: 1981). In this study, speaking means that when the speakers-listeners transfer the meaning of the message of each other, they always use verbal and non verbal symbol to communicate. They are body language, eye contact, writing, etc.
3. Procedure text. It is a text that explains how people make or do something step by step (Mukarto, 2004:151). In this study, procedure text means that designed to describe and explains how people perform different processes in a sequence of steps.

4. Oral presentation. It is an activity done by the students in the class to convey directly about something that is the result of their work (Z Nadia- 2013). Dealing with this study, oral presentation means an activity of the second year students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang to convey the result of their work referred to procedure text.
5. SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang
SMAK Sint Carolus is one of private Senior High Schools, located on Jln. Adisucipto, Penfui Kupang in East Nusa Tenggara Province.