

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer would like to present Background of the research, Statement of the research problem, Objective of the research, Significance of the research, Scope and Limitation of the research, and Definition of terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

English is very important to be learned because English is international language, it means by knowing English well you are able to communicate with the foreigners with different language and culture. In Indonesia, English is the first foreign language taught at school and it is considered as an important subject to acquire the knowledge, and to develop technology, art, and culture. English is one of subjectss which is taught from elementary school until university. Based on the school curriculum for English, teaching English is a subject that consists of four skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Moreover, there are some elements of language that should be taught to develop these four skills they are: grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluency.

Language learners need to master 4 skills, Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. In master speaking skill the standard competencies for speaking that should be mastered by language learners, namely: (1) expressing meaning in very simple transactional conversation and interpersonal to do interaction with surrounding environment, (2) expressing meaning in spoken functional texts and very simple monolog in the form descriptive and recount to do interaction with surrounding environment. Now days, people believe that if the goal of English

course is truly to enable students to communicate in English, then speaking skill should be taught and practiced. It is related to speaking as the activity that takes the fundamental part of human communication, in which we spend more time to speak than to read and to write. Therefore, in teaching English, speaking activities should be given more emphasis than reading and writing activities.

Based on the writer's experience during teaching practice program in SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang, the writer found out that many students are unable to speaking correctly. From this statement it can be concluded that there are some problems that perhaps found is speaking skill. In some cases they perhaps know about some vocabulary that they needs to express about some information or expression but they afraid to make mistake in pronunciation or structure or they feel shy to their friend when do mistake. In the other cases they know about structute but they have limited vocabulary so it can not increase students speaking skill. Based on this condition the writer decided to do the Classroom Action Research (CAR) by using Number Heads Together technique.

Number Heads Together is one of the techniques in cooperative learning. According to Jolliffe (2007), "cooperative learning requires pupils to work together in small groups to support each other to improve their own learning and that of others. However, it is not quite so simple, because there are variations on cooperative learning and some fierce arguments amongst academics as to the value of each. In another word, cooperative learning is a group working to help the group member to understand the mat erial about.

Then, number heads together is a teaching technique by using group that consists of four students. The rules of number heads together are teacher will

divide class into several groups that consists of four students, teacher ask a question based on the text, students in each group put their heads together and discuss the answer, and teacher calls number randomly. The student with that number gives and explains their group's answer. This activity only about practice speaking in group but also train the student to socialize and help each other.

Based on the explanation above, the writer would like to conduct the research entitle A STUDY ON THE USE OF NUMBER HEADS TOGETHER TECHNIQUE TO IMPROVE SPEAKING SKILL OF ELEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF SMA SEMINARI ST. RAFAEL KUPANG IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2017/2018.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Based on the background of the research, the research question can be formulated as follows:

1. Is the Number Heads Together technique effective to improve the speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang in the school year 2017/2018?
2. How is Number Heads Together technique used to improve the speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang in the school year 2017/2018?

1.3 Objective of the Research

Based on the research problems, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out whether or not the Number Heads Together technique effective to improve the speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang in the school year 2017/2018.
2. To find out number heads together technique used to improve the speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang in the school year 2017/2018?

1.4 Significance of the Research

The result of the study hopefully can be useful for:

1. Students

The result of this study will give many benefits to students because they are not only can improve their understanding in speaking skill, but can make them socialize and active, work together to help each other and make them unified.

2. Future Teachers, colleagues, and many others

To help them more understand about the use of number heads together technique to improve speaking skill. They will know if number heads together technique not only good for teaching speaking skill but also good for students behavior.

3. The Writer

The research can be used to enrich her knowledge of teaching especially in teaching speaking skill using number heads together techniques.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Research

The scope of the study is limited to the use of number heads together technique to improve speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang in the school year 2017/2018.

There are some techniques in teaching speaking, such as Three Steps Interview, Think-Pair-Share, Jigsaw, Round Robin, Roundtable, Inside-Outside Circle, and Number Heads Together, and others. But, in this study, the writer only foccuses on Number Heads Together. The aspects of speaking that will be assessed are: Grammar, Vocabulary, and Pronunciation. And the aspects of teaching materials are expression agreement and disagreement.

1.6 Defenition of Terms

The English study is complex, problematic, broad and difficult, in order to avoid misunderstanding on the reader, it is important to give clear definition there are shown as follows:

1. Improving speaking skill is the effort of the researcher to improve the speaking skill of the students. Brown (2003 : 140) states that Speaking skill is productive skill in the oral mode. Moreover, speaking skill, like the other skills, is more complicated that it seems at first and involves more than just pronouncing words.
2. Number heads together technique used by the teacher to improve students speaking skill. Number Heads Together technique is a group working which usually consists of four students, and each students has number 1 until 4, when teacher ask a question, they put their heads off together to discuss about the

answer. Then teacher will call number randomly to answer the question. As Stone stated that, “number heads together (NHT) is a simple four-step structure.

3. SMA Seminari St. Rafael Kupang is one of the senior high school in Kupang. It is located in Jl. Thamrin, No. 15 Oepoi - Kupang.