

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

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

English is one of the human languages in the world that has important role in communication. Entering the era of globalization, English has developed to be an international language and it can not be denied that English is very important in human lives.

Our world is facing the process of globalization in all aspects of human life such as education, economic, politic, social, culture, defence and security. Any international negotiation between two or more countries is usually conducted in English as a unifier language in order to understand each other without any misconception. As a developing country, Indonesia really needs English because Indonesian government is trying to improve the challenges in aspects of human life which are usually faced by all countries.

Because of its importance in international communication, English is learnt by millions of people. They need to communicate with other people, especially with people from other countries including for job or employment. Nowadays, as the result of the condition stated above, almost all jobs require the employees to have good skill in English. Government offices and many companies in Indonesia have started to apply this requirement. One of the jobs which needs good skill in English is Indonesian citizens who work abroad or usually known as migrant workers or Tenaga Kerja Indonesia. Migrant worker is one of the biggest contributors of

devisa for our country, but as we can see in television or newspaper, there were so many migrant workers who become the victims of torturing.

One of the factor of the problem above is the lack of communication ability. The example cases of migrant workers as reported by *Antaranews* in 2010 where Sumiarti, migrant worker from Dompu Regency, Bima, West Nusa Tenggara who worked in Saudi Arabia and as reported by *Kompas.com* in 2011 where Siti Hajar, migrant worker from Garut Regency, West Java Province who worked in Malaysia were tortured because of communication blockage. They can not worked properly considering the fact that large part of migrant workers can not master local language and English (Jalaludin, 2013). There are many labours were dispatched with lacking of comprehension of language. This matter becomes an inhibiting factor for communication between migrant workers and employer. The migrant workers who often get physical torturing and mistreating almost all of them came from uneducated background. Therefore, the important thing that must be fulfilled by the migrant workers is language because the main key of communication is language (Nadhiana, 2008).

In this year, we will face Asean Economic Community (AEC) 2015. AEC gives the impact for the countries in ASEAN included Indonesia for free trade in services, investation, migrant workers and financial capital and AEC took English as unifier language. Because of the big influence of AEC for migrant workers, the former Head of *Badan Nasional Penempatan dan Perlindungan Tenaga Kerja Indonesia*, Moh Jumhur Hidayat (2013) said “Mastering English becomes very important in work world and trade for services when we face AEC 2015, because in AEC will happen human migration freely in the countries in ASEAN. It can

happen that foreign migrant workers will take the important position in our companies because of their readiness and proficiency in speaking English. Therefore, mastering English is very important for our domestic labours and migrant workers to face AEC.” Therefore, good speaking skill in English helps migrant workers smoothen their job abroad especially for their daily conversation.

Based on the phenomena, the writer is inspired to conduct the study on this case. The study is formulated under the title **“A Study on the Speaking Ability of The Migrant Workers in PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri Kupang”**.

## **1.2 Problem Statements**

The problem statement of this study is formulated in questions. The questions are as follow.

1. Are the migrant workers in PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri able to speak English related to their jobs?
2. What is their level of speaking ability?
3. What are the areas of difficulties in speaking faced by the migrant workers in PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study in detail are stated in the following.

1. To indentify the ability of migrant workers to speak English related with their jobs.
2. To know their level of speaking ability.

3. To find the the areas of difficulties in speaking that faced by the migrant workers in PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri.

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

This study has some significances. The significances of the study are actually the benefit of the study for human being. The significances in detail follow.

1. For *Perusahaan Jasa Tenaga Kerja Indonesia* (PJTKI)

- a. The result of this study can be used as the one of scientific information for analyzing the problems of mastering English language.
- b. The result of this study can be an information for the manager of PJTKI to know the ability of the migrant workers in using English, so the manager can focus on it by giving more English course to them.

2. For Migrant Workers

The result of this study can be the reflection for the migrant workers about their speaking ability in order to prepare themselves before working abroad.

3. For The Writer

The result of this study can enrich the writer's knowledge in English especially in speaking.

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

This study focuses on the speaking ability of the migrant workers in PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri Kupang. The aspects of speaking ability are vocabulary, grammatical structure, pronunciation, fluency and accuracy. The writer especially focuses in using vocabulary, grammatical structure and pronunciation and the data

will be measured based on the theory of Hughes (1989). The data focus of this study is job related conversation.

## **1.6 Defenition of Terms**

It is necessary to explain some terms which are in this study to avoid misinterpretation:

### **1. Speaking**

Nunan (2003: 48) defines that speaking concists of producing systematic verbal utterances to convey the meaning. In this study, speaking means an activity to produce systematic verbal for expressing the opinion, feelings, idea and information of migrant workers in simple conversation related with their job.

### **2. Ability**

Ability is skill or power (Hornby: 1974). In this study, ability means skill in speaking English of migrant workers.

### **3. Migrant worker**

The term 'migrant worker' has different official meanings and connotations in different parts of the world. The United Nations' definition is broad, including any people working outside of their home country. Some of these are called expatriates. Several countries have millions of foreign workers. Some have millions of illegal immigrants, most of them being workers also.

According to the International Labour Organization, as of 2014 there were an estimated 232 million international migrants in the world (defined as persons outside their country of origin for 12 months or more) and approximately half of them were estimated to be economically active i.e. being employed or

seeking employment. The term can also be used to describe someone who migrates within a country, possibly their own, in order to pursue work such as seasonal work.

In this study, migrant workers or Tenaga Kerja Indonesia is the Indonesia Citizens who work abroad for specified period of time to get the fee. Averagely, migrant workers in research location will become house maid in destination countries and in the process of training.

#### **4. PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri**

PT. Citra Bina Tenaga Mandiri is a formal company that concerned on training and supplying the migrant workers to other countries. It is located in Manafe Street Kupang – East Nusa Tenggara Province. This is the company where the writer will conduct the study about the speaking ability of the migrant workers.