

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As a professional teacher for English as a Foreign Language, teachers mostly spend much time on appropriate teaching techniques for greater effectiveness to guarantee students' acquisition of English. Teachers of English are responsible to educate the students from little or no knowledge to sufficient English speaking environment

In Indonesia English is taught and learned as the foreign language through formal education and informal education. Although these two ways are different but they have the same goal that is to make learners be proficient in English. English is taught from kindergarten level until university level. Furthermore, English becomes a study program in university level.

Teaching English should employ right technique concerning language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing. Teaching speaking is a very important part of foreign language learning. In the teaching and learning, the four language skills are simultaneously performed and the ability to speak is an essential part. The ability to speak in a foreign language clearly and efficiently contributes to the success of the learners in the school and in the office. Therefore, it is essential that language teachers pay great attention to the way of teaching speaking. English teachers should lead students to pure memorization, provide a rich environment where meaningful communication takes place is desired.

This research focuses only on one of those four skills, namely speaking. Speaking or oral communication is an activity involving two or more people in which the participants are both speakers and listeners. However, even students have memorized too many English words, but they are not yet proficient in speaking English. Although students have been learning English for a long time, they couldn't speak English fluently with appropriate grammar, pronunciation and correct word order. So, in improving students' speaking skill there are many activities that can be used in classroom speaking activities. English teacher should apply precise activities in order to teach speaking in each level of education unit. By speaking the students can express their feelings, ideas or opinion during the learning process regarding material given in classroom speaking activities. Many of classroom speaking activities are done to improve students speaking skill. There are a number of widely used categories of speaking activities such as; discussion, role play, simulation, information gap, brainstorming, storytelling, interview, story completion, reporting, picture narrating, acting from a script, play scripts, acting out dialogues, communication games, discussion, prepared talk and questionnaires.

In teaching and learning, many students cannot speak English well to communicate their ideas or their opinion systematically. It happens because in that process, the teacher only explains the material without giving the chance to students to communicate their ideas or their opinion. It can be solved by giving the chance to students to develop their ideas about certain topics and speak it out. One of speaking activities in teaching and is prepared talk. In this activity, students are given time to speak out their ideas about certain topics. Teacher

prepares some topics and asks students to choose one of the topics that interesting for them. After choosing the topic, students prepare their ideas of the topic chosen then present it in front of the classroom. So in this study, the researcher gave the chance to students to speak out their ideas or their opinion about the certain topics given.

From all of the explanation above, the researcher conducted a study entitled **“A Study on the Use of Prepared Talk to Improve Speaking Skill of the Eleventh Grade Students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang in the School Year 2013/2014”**.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of this study, the researcher formulated the problem statement in form of the question: Is Prepared Talk effective or not in improving speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang in the school year 2013/2014?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Objective of the study is actually the aims of what a study wants to find out. Based on the problem stated above, the objective of the study is to know whether the use of Prepared Talk is effective or not in improving speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang in the school year.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study gives beneficial or contributions to the theoretical field and practical field. They are specified in the following parts:

1.4.1 For theoretical benefit

The result of this study can give theoretical concept about the technique of how to teach English speaking skill.

1.4.2 For the students

This study can give input to improve students' speaking skill at SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang.

1.4.3 For the researcher

This study can give a lot of knowledge regarding how to teach speaking and in completing this writing, the researcher is trained in how to write a scientific writing appropriately.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

There are many techniques of teaching English especially speaking skill in the classroom speaking activities during the learning process such as; acting from a script, communication games, discussion, prepared talk, questionnaires, simulation and role – play but in this study the researcher focused on prepared talk, because the researcher would like to know the effectiveness of prepared talk in improving students' speaking skill.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To help the readers understand this study, the researcher presented some definition of terms used in this study.

1.6.1 Speaking

Speaking is a language art, which involved the selection and organization of ideas and the skill to communicate the ideas orally (Grolier, 1981). In this study speaking is organization of ideas orally done by the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang through Prepared Talk to the topic chosen.

1.6.2 Speaking Skill

Speaking skill is the skill to express oneself in life situation or the skill to report acts or situations in precise word or the skill to converse or to express sequence of the ideas fluently (Byrne, 1990). Related to this study,

speaking skill is the skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang to present their ideas of a topic elaboration in front of the classroom through Prepared Talk.

1.6.3 Prepared Talk

Prepared talk is one of the classroom speaking activities that students are required to choose one of interesting topic for them and they are given time to elaborate it. In preparing their ideas of the topic chosen, students may write the idea on their note. Then teacher gives students time to present it in front of the class, (Harmer, 2000). In this study, the researcher used Prepared Talk to measure speaking skill of the eleventh grade students of SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang.

1.6.4 SMAK Sint Carolus Kupang

SMAK Sint Carolus is one of the senior high schools in Kupang city that is located in Jln. Adisucipto in which the writer uses as the location of the study.