

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, the reasons for choosing the topic, the research question, the objective of the study, hypothesis of the study, limitation of the study, and the significance of the study, definition of key terms, and outline of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

Language is a human tool to communicate with others and is always used in our daily activity. That is why language is very important for us. We can use language to express ourselves what we want to say to others. Wibowo (2001: 3) states that language is a system of symbols that are meaningful and articulate sounds that are arbitrary and conventional, used as a means of communication by a group of men to come up with feelings and thoughts.

Nowadays, the use of English as an international language has been spread to almost all countries in the world. So, it is useful for us to master English in order to communicate with foreigners and to learn about their cultures. According to Harmer (2001), “English seems to be one of the main languages of international communication, and even people who are not speakers of English often know words such as bank, chocolate, computer, hotel, piano, radio, and so forth.” When we learned English, there are four skills that we need for completing communication. When we learned our native language, we usually learned to listen

first, then to speak, then to read, and finally to write. Speaking is more complicated than the other skills. Speaking can help someone to show off confidence level while speaking to others. According to Christopher (2003), spoken language was the first form of communication between human beings. That is why, as a speaker should be able to know the rules in speaking English such as, pronunciation, intonation, fluency, stress, vocabulary, grammatical structure, coherence, and effectiveness of communication.

Most of students have problems to speak English in front of people. They do not know what they want to speak and they do not know how to speak up their mind. This is such a big problem.

Therefore, the students just need to be confident in their abilities to speak English. Actually, there are some ways that can help students to improve their speaking skills. One of them is medium in teaching. Media can make learning effective. One of the media that can improve students' speaking skills is puppet. The researcher believes that puppet can help teacher and students to improve and resolve the problem in speaking class because puppet can guide and facilitate a better atmosphere of teaching learning process. As stated in Reidmiller (2008), the use of a puppet can provide help with public speaking, especially for the shy or apprehensive student. Another reason is that teaching speaking using puppet has not been taught intensively to young learners, more specifically students of SD Islam Sultan Agung 4 Semarang.

Puppet is an alternative teaching medium for young learners and one of the best approach to build the students' interest. Thorp (2005: 21) states that the use of

puppets is well established in primary schools in subjects such as language and social education.

As what have been mentioned above, the researcher conducted a research entitled “The Use of Puppet in Teaching Speaking to Young Learners” to investigate whether the use of puppet is effective to improve the speaking skills of young learners.

1.2 Reasons for Choosing the Topic

The reason for choosing topic “The Use of Puppet in Teaching Speaking to Young Learners: Quasi Experimental Research at SD Islam Sultan Agung⁴ Semarang Academic Year 2017/2018” are:

1. English as a foreign language is difficult language to learn and know for young learners but it is important language because English is International language.
2. Speaking is one of the four language skills and is called productive skill because when we speak we produce the language.
3. Puppet is related to things that enrich our imagination which immediately can attract someone especially children. Almost all of us have seen a doll or puppet around us. It is enjoyable, interesting and colorful.
4. Teaching speaking using puppet has not been taught to young learners, more specifically students of SD Islam Sultan Agung 4 Semarang.

1.3 Research Question

Related to the background of the study above a research question can be formulated as follow: “Is the use of puppet effective to improve the speaking skills of young learners?”

1.4 Objective of the Study

Based on the explanation above, the objective of the study is to find out whether the use puppet effective to improve the speaking skills of young learners.

1.5 Hypothesis of the Study

According to Arikunto(2008), hypothesis is a temporary conclusion or opinion, which has not been prove, and which is supposed to be true after being proven by using qualified instrument. The hypotheses of this study are:

H_0 : There is no significant difference in mean score of students' speaking achievement between students of SD Islam Sultan Agung who are taught by using puppet technique and those who are taught without using puppet.

H_1 : There is a significant difference in mean score of students' speaking achievement between students of SD Islam Sultan Agung who are taught by using puppet technique and those who are taught without using puppet.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

To make the problem easy to be discussed deeply, this research focused on the problem on some points as follows:

1. The population focused on the fifth students of SD Islam Sultan Agung4 Semarang in the academic year 2017/2018.
2. The study focused on the teaching speaking using puppet at SD Islam Sultan Agung4 Semarang in the academic year 2017/2018.

1.7 Significances of the Study

The result of the study is expected to give contribution into two parts:

1. Pedagogical Significance

✓ Students

To stimulate students in learning English so that the students feel happy and comfortable in English class.

✓ Teacher

The teacher can solve the problems which the students faced in learning English.

✓ School

It is expected that the school can improve the quality of teaching learning process with various media and improve the competence of the teacher in managing learning activities.

2. Practical Significance

✓ Students

The result of this study hopefully can make students know, understand, and get the ability to speak English fluently with other people.

✓ Teacher

The teacher hopefully can develop their ability to teach and increase their quality in teaching English by using Puppet.

✓ Further Researcher

The result of this study can be used as a reference and guidance in further researches.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

Definition of the key term is very important to understand the meaning of the topic. The key term of the study are defined as follows:

1. Puppet

According to Baird in Greder (2013), a puppet is an inanimate figure that is made to move by human effort.

2. Speaking

According to Burn (1997), speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information.

3. Young Learners

According to Brumfit (1997), young learners are just beginning their schooling, so that teachers have a major opportunity to mould their expectations of life in school.

1.1 Outline of the Study

This final project consists of five chapters. They are :

Chapter I consists of background of the study, reason for choosing topic, research question, objective of the study, hypothesis, limitation of the study, significance of the study, definition of key terms, and outline of the study.

Chapter II concerns with the review of related literature which talks about the theoretical background and the review of previous study.

Chapter III contains the research design, the source of the data, the role of the researcher, the type of the data, the technique of collecting the data, and the procedure of analyzing the data.

Chapter IV contains the subject of the study, description of respondents, validity and reliability, per test analysis, treatment activities, post test analysis, t-test analysis, and discussion.

Chapter V concerns with conclusion and sugesstion.