

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter consists of the background of the study, reasons for choosing the topic, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study, and outline of the Project.

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

Today, communication is important for people to interact each other. The interaction is to exchange information among them. It needs tool to build communication. One of them is language. According to Hartmann and Strok (1973: 123) the definition of a language is the most fundamental means of human communication. Language itself consists of two kinds: spoken and written language. Both of them are also used to communicate in daily life. Sometimes, people communicate as good as using expressions with body language. Language can also be used to communicate feeling and attitudes.

Education is important to develop English language to the society. It is also happened in Indonesia. Education helps English Language as the foreign language to be introduced and understood by Indonesian. They study English because it is an international language. English helps us to communicate with many people in the world.

English becomes one of compulsory subjects from Junior High School up to University. Furthermore, the government provides a curriculum as the guidance

of English teacher in teaching-learning process. In the English curriculum 2014, the learning activities involve listening, speaking, reading and writing. The four skills are taught cohesively. Although it focuses on the four skills, pronunciation is not separately taught from the other three.

It is difficult for Indonesian students to pronounce English words precisely. The process for studying English is very difficult because English is not a mother tongue for Indonesian. Ramelan (1985:5) states that the degree of difficulty in learning is also determined by the degree of difference between the two languages. The greater similarity between them, the less difficult it will be for the students to learn the foreign language.

The basic thing for teaching English is how to make the students understand and interested at the same time. In this time, the writer had an experiment to teach writing especially in maximizing pronunciation development in ten grade of MAN 2 Semarang. The students were around fifteen to sixteen years-old. Actually, these students had studied English start from the beginning grade, kindergarten. But, most of them are still lack in pronunciation. The teacher must have a good strategies to make those students interest. The strategy had to develop the students' ability in English especially in developing the pronunciation. The teacher be creative and must able to use suitable ways to give the young learners motivation to learn English.

Teaching is a process of guiding, assisting and facilitating the learner. The teacher should find the way to make the student understand and learn the teaching method, style, approach, and classroom techniques and philosophy of education.

Sometimes, the practical theory becomes a basic for the teacher to build his character and the practical instruction in the class. The non-native speaker of English faces the similar problem to learn it. However, every year the learner increases. Even, the learners get difficulties in understanding English, but they keep learn and develop their selves by improving the grammar, pronunciation, speaking and writing ability.

In this study, the research focused on improving students' pronunciation using poem as the medium. Pronunciation is one of the most important parts of English to communicate with others since there are differences between the symbol and its sounds. Therefore, it is important to teach pronunciation. As stated by Harmer (2000: 183) that for all these people, being made aware of pronunciation issues will be of immense benefit not only to their own production but also to their own understanding of spoken English. It is based on the writer's observation in the English class in the ten grade students of MAN 2 Semarang.

There are many techniques, strategies and media that can be used in teaching learning process. Usually, media are used to teach English to adolescence learners because they will make the teaching learning process easier. Adolescence learners will be interested and enjoy the learning. Based on the background above, the writer conducted the study related to the teaching of English under the title: Poem Reciting Techniques in Improve Students' Pronunciation of the Tenth Grade of MAN 2 Semarang.

## **1.2 Reason for Choosing the Topic**

The writer chose “**Poem Reciting Techniques in Improving Students’ Pronunciation of the Tenth Grade of MAN 2 Semarang**” as the topic of this final project with the following reasons:

- (1) Reading poem is an interesting approach. It allows pupils to have something different, considering that they were in senior high school development phase that naturally need fun learning atmosphere.
- (2) High school students like to do something different from the usual to keep their attention and keep them enjoyed during study. Listening is one of difficult skills. Sometimes, it was difficult to improve and developing pronunciation instantly. This method would make the students more enjoyable. Besides, the students could develop their speaking skill.
- (3) Reading poem is great way for students to increase their ability in adding pronunciation and make them enjoyed during the. It would help the students who have bad pronunciations become have better pronunciation.

## **1.3 Statements of the Problem**

The problem that was discussed in this study is stated as follows:

Can reading poem activity improve students’ pronunciation mastery of the Tenth Grade of MAN 2 Semarang in the academic year 2015-2016?

## **1.4 Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study was to find out whether using poem reciting as

a teaching technique is improving students' pronunciation mastery of the Tenth Grade of MAN 2 Semarang in the academic year 2015-2016.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes that the final project would be something useful for the readers in the following aspects:

#### **a. Pedagogical Significance**

The finding of this study would provide useful inputs in English teaching for the English teacher at Senior High School. First, the teacher could get clear description about a particular technique to be a facilitator in teaching learning in the classes. Second, this study was believed to give detail in overview to the teachers, so they could create the fun and enjoyable learning atmosphere in teaching learning. Moreover, the teachers and the students could build good relationships during the teaching-learning process. Third, this teaching encouraged the students to be more active in the class. Besides, it would give chances to the students to improve their speaking skill. Finally, it would give valuable contribution in improving the classroom environment.

#### **b. Practical Significance**

- 1) Teacher gets method to stimulate learners in English learning that is attractive and enjoyable for them.
- 2) Students can learn English enjoyable through poem and reading method that makes it easy for them to understand what the teacher teaches them.

- 3) For writer, this study gives new experience for the writer about teaching pronunciation by using poem and motivated him to develop his knowledge more intensively.

## **1.6 Limitation of the Study**

The study focuses on the using media for tenth grade students of MAN 2 Semarang in academic year 2015/2016; in the form of reading poem used in exercise. The students had to read and practice the pronunciation especially in segmental.

## **1.7 Definition of Key Term**

Definitions of the key terms are defined as follow in order to avoid the ambiguity and misunderstanding or misinterpretation about the terms which are used in this study and also to make this study be clear for the reader.

- a. Poem is a kind of literary work that expresses ones' imaginative thought and feeling in the form of lines and stanza. It is also stated in *Teaching Literature for Secondary School* (1991: 219) that "Poem or we often call it as poetry is part of a fiction work, so it talks about something imaginary which is written to express the author's feeling and entertain readers (if it published)." There are many advantages of using poetry in the classroom. Using poems to develop productive skills like speaking and pronunciation can be done by reading the poems in front of class or playing a record. To emphasize on

pronunciation, teacher could ask the students to identify the stresses and pauses.

b. Pronunciation is defined as the way in which a language is spoken (Hornby, 1995:497). In addition, Dalton ( 1998: 3) defines pronunciation as the production of significant sound in two senses. First, sound is significant because it is used as a part of a code of a particular language. Second, sound is significant because it is used to achieve meaning in contexts of use. From the definitions, it can be concluded that pronunciation is the way to sound languages so that meaningful. When learning English we will find two kinds of speech features (Ramelan, 1985: 22). They are:

1. Segmental features, which refer to sound units, arranged in a sequential order; or it is about consonant and vowel.
2. Suprasegmental features refer to stress, pitch, length intonation and other features that always accompany the production of segmental.

## **1.8 Outline of the Report**

To make ease the reader, this study is organized as follows:

Chapter I: Introduction, It consists of Background of the Study, Reason for Choosing the Topic, Statement of the Problem, Objective of the Study, Significance of the Study, Limitation of the Study and Outline of the Report

Chapter II: Review of the related literature. It consists of Teaching English as Foreign Language, Pronunciation, Factors Affecting Pronunciation,

Pronunciation Mastery, Poem, Reading Poem, and Review of Previous Study.

Chapter III: The Method of the Investigation. It consists of Research Design, Population and Sample, Instrument, Procedure of the Research and Teaching Materials.

Chapter IV: School Description, The Subject of the Study, The Research, Finding and Discussion, and Effectiveness of the Songs to Improve the Students' Achivement in Pronunciation.

Chapter V: Conclusion and Suggestion.