

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Study

Language is a system of communication, it is one of the important ways to express our feeling and ideas either spoken or written. Keraf (2005) stated that language is a means of communication between members of the public in the form of a symbol of the sound produced by means of human. Language is a communication system that uses symbols vocal (speech sound) which are arbitrary. Someone can speak because they learn it. Language is one of the human aspect of lives that can be learned and also taught because language is a system and systematic.

Language learning is a human process of gaining the ability to capture, produce, and use words for understanding and communication. *Language learning* is also broadly defined as developing the ability to communicate in the second/ foreign language. Dakhi (2014) stated that language learning is the process by which a certain language, generally the second language or foreign language, is acquired through the practical language learning strategy. In learning and teaching a language, there are various aspects of ability, such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Language learning requires the ability to memorize vocabulary as a way to be able to master and understand the language properly.

Speaking skill is one of the productive skills to master in using a language. Cheng (2007) stated that the effective communication takes more than the ability to talk. It likewise includes the use of one's mental capacities in the choice of words and the ability to make other person understand what one is saying and vice versa. Speaking ability can be measured by how many of known vocabularies, pronunciations, and language structures are used.

Speaking is one way of communicating and interactive. It can directly or indirectly occur. Speaking also helps someone express his ideas and feelings about something. According to Rickheit and Strohner (2008, p.207) speaking is speech or utterances with the purpose of having intention to be recognized by speaker and the receiver processes the statements in order to recognize their intentions. Besides, Thornbury (2005) stated that speaking is a skill, and as such needs to be and developed practiced independently of the grammar curriculum and it also interactive and requires the ability to co-operate in the management of speaking turns.

Although speaking is very important in English, in fact, many students are not able to speak English. Many of them cannot even pronounce English words correctly. Some problems that make them weak in learning speaking is that they often feel embarrassed and unconfident when they are speaking English in the class, besides they do not pay attention and do not care when the teacher teaches speaking materials.

Speaking learning especially of second/ foreign language has taken many researchers' and linguistics' interests in relation to the use of media, especially pictures in speaking class. Karsono's (2014, p. 190) research for instance, conducted at SMP 1 Anggana, implied that picture could improve students' speaking ability. Yusbido (2011) found out that the uses of pictures were successful in improving students' speaking skill. Based on the students' speaking performance the students could achieve the criteria of success (60.00% students achieved the standard scores). Ariangingsih (2010) research to the seventh grade of SMPN 1 Tanjung Anom revealed that the picture series was more effective than translation to teach writing for the seventh-grade students of junior high school.

Based on the research findings, it is implied that speaking is highly given serious attention in language learning. Besides, the findings show that pictures are affective not only in speaking, but also in writing teaching. Asrifan (2015) stated that pictures are very useful. It is not only used as the basic material for student's composition but also it is effectively stimulates students' imaginative power. So that pictures can be very effective way of teaching and learning the English Language. Based on the background and finding described afore on the importance of speaking development and the effectiveness of picture as learning media, the researcher decided to employ a further study on two aspects. The researcher conducted the study employing experimental method to the seventh graders at SMPN 160 Jakarta.

## **B. Problem Statement**

Based on the identification of the problem and limitation mention above, the researcher stated the problem to be researched as “Is there a significant effect of using pictures to students’ speaking development at SMPN 160 Jakarta?”

## **C. Objective of the Research**

The objective of this research was to find out if there was a significant effect of using pictures to students’ speaking development at SMPN 160 Jakarta.

## **D. Significances of the Study**

A good research absolutely, should provide benefits. Hopefully the findings of this research were expected to fruit benefits to:

- a. English teachers, giving the new innovations to support their teaching focus and also teacher could have a strategy to make the students are interested in learning especially in speaking skill.
- b. Other researchers, as reference in especially in the effectiveness of pictures using in teaching to develop the students’ speaking skill.

### **E. Scope of the Study**

This research was limited only on the effect of using pictures in speaking by describing something /someone by their own word orally on the seventh grade to speaking development at SMPN 160 Jakarta. In this research the researcher used pictures of place, people, things and animate pictures to stimulate the students' ability in describing the thing orally to improve their speaking skill. The method implemented was experimental.