

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses background of the research, scope of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, and significance of the research.

A. The Background of the Research

In this current period, the entire world has become a global village where people communicate with one another in the same language, which is English. English is one of the most important languages and is used all over the world to communicate. Therefore, many people around the world learn English because they believe that it will help them greatly in the future. As an international language, English has many connections with many things in human life, such as technology, politics, business, and economics.

From elementary school to university, English is very important in Indonesia. In learning English, senior high school students must master the four English skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking, because they are the keys to communication. Among the four skills taught in senior high schools, speaking seems to naturally be the most important.

Speaking is very important, especially in daily communication. A person is recognized as educated by the way and what he or she is saying. When speaking, someone has to know what to say and understand the ideas of what he or she is talking about. Speaking skills are very important because they are closely related to

the development of vocabulary obtained by the child through listening and reading activities. To improve speaking skills, students need to master the following: Vocabulary, Grammar, Listening Comprehension, Speaking Practice, and Confidence.

The function of speaking is to convey thoughts, ideas, and information through verbal communication, facilitating understanding and interaction among individuals. Speaking is crucial for various reasons. It allows individuals to express thoughts, share information, build relationships, and collaborate effectively. Effective speaking enhances social interactions, promotes learning, and plays a vital role in professional and personal success.

However, in fact, there are still cases in which the students still barely speak English. This is also experienced by students of Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau. Based on the observation that the researcher conducted at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau, especially in the first grade, the students' quality in practice speaking is still at a low level. The students in the classroom seem unconfident and can only produce a simple conversation. They cannot deliver many ideas because their skills or abilities are poor. The students claimed speaking was difficult for them. Here are some common problems that students can face in developing their English speaking skills: limited vocabulary, fear and lack of confidence, lack of motivation, inability to understand grammar, listening comprehension limitations (listening comprehension), lack of opportunities to practice, limited time in class, and lack of communication-focused teaching.

To help the students improve their speaking skills, the researcher tried to use collaborative learning. The practice of collaborative learning means working in pairs or small groups to achieve shared learning goals. Working in small groups can encourage learners' knowledge enhancement because they are able to exchange and share ideas and opinions to find a solution to such tasks together.

When students learn to interact with other students in the classroom, they develop their social process through collaborative learning. Collaborative learning is a learning process where two or more learners work together to achieve a goal. Collaborative learning methods or techniques are claimed to have many positive impacts, including the fact that students can learn from each other, complement each other, and synergize to solve problems faster. In addition, collaborative learning is also in accordance with the latest educational trends that focus on students, known as student-centered learning.

In collaborative learning, students will carry out various activities, including small group discussions. Students will participate in group discussions to share ideas, understandings, and solutions related to the subject matter. Joint project work, Students will work together on team projects that require them to divide tasks, plan, and execute projects together. Another collaborative learning strategy is shared problem solving, in share problem solving students will collaborate in identifying, analyzing, and finding solutions to given problems. Furthermore, peer teaching, in peer teching students can be teachers to each other, explaining concepts to classmates to reinforce their understanding. Next is review and feedback, students

will provide feedback to their peers to help with improvement and better understanding. The last one is joint presentation: Students can plan and deliver group presentations to share knowledge with the class.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in raising the title 'Improving students speaking skills through collaborative learning at the first grade of Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Wailau'. Because this is a topic that combines two important concepts in education: improving students' speaking skills and collaborative learning. Speaking skills are an important aspect of language learning and communication. Collaborative learning is a method that can be very effective in improving students' speaking skills.

B. Scope of the Research

This research used collaborative learning to improve students' speaking skills in English. The purpose of this study is to improve students' accuracy, grammar, pronunciation, fluency and vocabulary.

C. Statement of The Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher formulated the problem statement by asking,

To what extend does collaborative learning improve students' speaking Skill in the first grade of Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau?

The hypothesis are:

1. Ho= Teaching speaking through collaborative learning can not improve significantly English speaking in Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau. H1=

Teaching speaking through collaborative learning can improve significantly English speaking in Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau.

D. Objective of The Research

Relating to the problem statement above, the researcher states that the objective of the study is to find out whether there is improvement in students' speaking skill by using collaborative learning or not at the first grade of Madrasah Aliyah Ma'arif Nu Wailau.

E. The Significant of the Research

This research is expected to provide benefits for teachers, researchers, and students.

1. For teachers, the results of this study provide insights on how to effectively improve students' speaking ability through collaborative learning, which can be applied in daily practice in the classroom.
2. For researchers, this study can serve as a foundation for further research in this field, opening up opportunities for the development of better learning methods.
3. For students, this research has the potential to improve their speaking ability, enabling them to be more confident and competent in communicating in various contexts. As such, this research is expected to provide concrete and sustainable benefits to all those involved in the educational process.