CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

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

A. Background of the Research

The English language is important for our needs and lives. Every student is encouraged to be able to improve the quality of their education including speaking English. It is the second most spoken language in the world and most needed for business and learning needs. Globalization made the use of the English language wider and has become a language that must be learned. To increase more intense insights into English, a place is needed for them as effective learning centers, such as schools, universities, and special training centers that focus on certain subjects.

English has four language skills. Brown in Agustina (2019) identified in learning English four skills be mastered by students, which include listening, speaking, reading, and writing. One of the skills that will be the focus of the research is speaking skill. Speaking is one of the English skills that must be specially trained and is considered the most important skill to master but also takes a long time to master it. According to Bueno et. al in Rao (2019) said that speaking is one of the most difficult skills language learners have to face. Speaking is considered the most important of the four language skills of English. In addition, not a few language learners consider speaking ability as a measure of language knowledge.

The need for the mastery of speaking in English is currently increasing due to the accelerated position of English as a language of international communication. According to Ladouse in Agustina (2019), speaking is described as the ability to express oneself in a situation, or the activity to report acts, or a situation to its words precisely, and the ability to communicate or to express a sequence of ideas fluently. Many English learners at this time want to convey ideas, feelings, and information but they have problems speaking fluent English. There are also some students do not have the enthusiasm to learn English based on books or paper. Therefore, it requires motivation from their teachers with a new technique to create a more interesting learning environment and develop their abilities.

According to Shaleha, et al. (2016), the scavenger hunt is a game that can be played as individuals or teams to find as much information as possible in a short time. Agustine in Mamahit, et al. (2022) stated that scavenger hunt games are a fun way to practice mindfulness, social awareness, and whole-body listening skills, because these games will encourage students to express feelings and memories that must be explored, acknowledged, and defined. Scavenger hunt is a technique used in learning English that focuses on describing something real. Scavenger hunt is a technique in which students are allowed to find out what is described and can motivate students to develop and make the learning environment more alive. This strategy can be applied to reduce pressure in the learning process. Scavenger Hunt is also believed to be able to make the learning environment interactive and not boring. Whatever students say will arise based on events that students obtain during the teaching and learning process and then conclude

this information and create a perception. Furthermore, this research collects the student's perceptions of using the scavenger hunt to learn English speaking skills and also finds out students' perceptions of the learning activities they will undertake. Students' perceptions can have either positive or negative values. Perception is defined as the process of receiving, selecting, organizing, interpreting, testing, and reacting to an event in which individuals interpret the sensory information they receive by sensing stimuli through sensory organs to represent and understand their environment. Perception is important because a person's assessment of behavior towards an object or another individual will not be the same. Perceptions of students represent their attitudes or conduct as observed during the learning process. In conclusion, the research study analyzed how students felt about using scavenger hunts as learning activities.

Generally, students can get English in formal education, but in formal education, students may not practice speaking in detail and adequately so they experience a bit of confusion in communicating properly. To develop students' ability to speak English more effectively, a learning environment that is specialized and believed to be effective is needed. Therefore, a training service is needed that provides learning about the English language, namely Course and Training Institute.

Kamil in Sulistiyo (2016) stated that non-formal education has the goal of fulfilling certain functional needs for present and future life, as well as providing rewards in the form of skills, goods or services. Courses and training institutions are defined as a process of learning about knowledge or skills held in a short time by an institution oriented to the needs of the community and the business/industry world.

According to Siswanto in Sulistiyo (2016), courses and training are held for people who need knowledge, skills, life skills, and attitudes to develop themselves, develop their profession, work, and be independent businesses. Generally, there are several categories of institutions, namely the International level, National Education Standards, and Minimum Service Standards.

English Training Center (ETC) is an International Standard English training center held in Ternate and uses the Cambridge curriculum. Learning English requires a strategy so that learning is more effective and efficient. The English Training Center (ETC), is the best place for students to develop their English skills in detail and effectively because there they are very consistent for students to be able to speak English and also have a supportive environment. However, the scavenger hunt strategy is still minimally used in teaching English speaking at ETC.

The main objective of the researcher is to develop students' English speaking skills through a scavenger hunt at an international standard course and training institution, the English Training Center (ETC). The researcher will conduct research entitled Students' Perceptions of Learning The English Speaking Skill Through the Scavenger Hunt At The English Training Center (ETC).

B. Scope of Research

This research focuses on students' perceptions in learning English speaking skills through the Scavenger Hunt Technique at the English Training Center (ETC).

C. Statement of the Problem

The research problem can be formulated as follows: "To investigate students' perceptions on the use of 'Scavenger hunt' technique in learning English speaking skill at the English Training Center Ternate"

D. Objectives of the Research

Based on the problem statement above, the objective of the research is to find out Students' perceptions of learning English Speaking skills improvement through the use of Scavenger Hunt at the English Training Center (ETC).

E. Significance of the Research

    1. Theoretical Significance

        Theoretically, the results of this research are expected to enrich the existing theories connecting the teaching of English speaking skills in non-formal institutions.

    2. Practically Significance

        Practically, the results of this research are expected to benefit course institutions, teachers, students, and other researchers.

    a. For Course and Training Institutions

        Course and Training Institution can improve their strategies for learning to speak English that which be applied.

    b. For Teachers

        By this research, teachers can increase their ideas and their creativity with the students in the classroom to improve their skills, and will be useful for the teachers.

c. For Students

By conducting this research, the students will be more enthusiastic about developing their ability to speak English through the scavenger hunt. Furthermore, they can get a lot of experience and more knowledge in the classroom environment.

d. For Researcher

This research is expected to provide new ideas and concepts for future researchers who try to apply matters related to the same research subject and as a reference for further research related to English speaking skills.