

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains background of the study that presents about researcher's reason of why this research must be conducted. Then, it also contains statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Basically, learning is to improve quality through training and experience. The education goal is to create good environment to make students develop their skill and ability maximally, so they can improve their personality according with their interest and hope. Hilgrad and Bower stated as quoted by Baharudin and Wahyuni that the learning process has a sense of acquiring knowledge, mastering knowledge through experience, getting and finding the information¹. Thus, the notion of learning is how students acquire knowledge and develop it, through the media or whatever strategies. School is a formal institution where teacher and students interact, discuss the learning materials, and do the other activities that support the teaching learning purposes. Nowadays, there is still learning process which tends not to be aware about

¹ Bahrudin & esa nur wahyuni, *Teori Belajar & Pembelajaran* (jogjakarta: Ar-Ruzz Media, 2010)hal 13

students' potential and students' creativity. Educations in global era are developing rapidly, so as teacher we should creatively make students' ability or skill improved too.

To create students with ability to face global era is by developing their skill in English language to make easy communication with people in other nation. The important of English language is to communicate, to share information, to improve self knowledge, and to learn from people in other nation. But nowadays, the students' ability in speaking or pronunciation does not reach the goal yet. Some students are still unconfident to try English speech in their daily life.

In learning English teacher not only has to emphasize the four skills of language, which are listening, writing, speaking, and reading, but also basic things that should be applied to students early on, namely pronunciation. Listening is activity to hear and understand the native speaker's word or someone who speaks English. Teachers have to teach students how to pronounce English words the same as the native speakers speak that language. Also, teachers drill students in listening to infer information through speaker's intonation. Writing is a part of English skill. Teachers have to teach how to arrange words into phrases, sentences, or texts. A sub skill that supports students in writing is structure or grammar so they can produce good sentences. Speaking is producing words in a certain language orally. Speaking is a process not only to say something, but also to pronounce words with acceptable intonation and stress. Teachers have to teach students how to accurately respond a statement by

pronouncing words correctly. Reading is one of language skills. Teachers have to teach reading words, phrases, sentences, or texts in English. Reading skill is taught by teachers to make students have a lot of understanding of vocabulary.

In this research, researcher used reading aloud to teach pronunciation with poem as media. Researcher makes pronunciation observation result from reading poem practice.

Teaching pronunciation is teaching about aspects that influence meanings of sentences through segmental phonemes². The pronunciation of English words or English sentences should be good and proper with the achievement indicators in the goal achievement of learning instrument. Students' pronunciations are influenced by the pronunciation of their mother tongue, in this case, the Indonesian language. It is not surprising that the influence of the mother tongue (L1) affects the mastery of a foreign language or second language (L2)³. Because of that, researcher needs to require more effective method in teaching learning which can relate the materials to the reality that is being developed at this time. On this basis, the writer tries to develop new ways to improve students' ability in pronunciation using instructional media in the form of poem. Through the experience of reading the poems in English, students can learn how to speak English pronunciation of the word and then expand it.

² Raja, Nasr T, The Essentials of Linguistic science, London : 1978 P.30

³<http://media-grafika.com/contoh-proposal-ptk-meningkatkan-kemampuan-pronunciation-bahasa-inggris-melalui-metode-direct-method>, accessed at October 04, 2011

Using poem reading is an alternative method to improve the students' pronunciation. This is an alternative way that can be implemented to students. Application of this method starts from the students' reading a poem, and then teacher or researcher analyzes mispronunciations of the student. Assessment of the researcher to analyze the success of students is to examine the ability of the students' pronunciations. Researcher assesses how students' pronunciation in English word, whether it is good or not, how the students' intonation when pronouncing English words, whether it is appropriate or not, correct spelling in reading poem by students, whether it is correct or not.

Paying attention to the language and rhythms of poem can help to build oral language skills⁴. Therefore, the researcher used poem as a media to improve students' mastery of pronunciation. Because the poem has a free grammar, students can freely say it without being fear of grammatical mistake. So, poem can be one of media to improve students' ability in pronunciation.

As the researchers' experience when doing learning practice to be a teacher (PPL 2) at school in city areas, many students use incorrect pronunciation. Researcher chooses SMA Nahdhlatul Ulama MODO as a research subject because this school is in rural areas. Most teachers and students still use the local language (Javanese language) when they are in the outside classroom as well as in the middle of lesson in the classroom. Teachers tend to use the Javanese language in the learning process. Researcher needs to know how far the students improve

⁴ www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/whatWorks.html

their pronunciation using poem as media at this school. Researcher chooses poem with topic of animal and plant, because students learning this theme at grade eleven in first semester.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher conducts research entitled; "Poem as Teaching Media to Improve Students' Ability in Pronunciation at Grade Eleven of SMA Nahdlatul Ulama MODO, Lamongan".

B. Statements of the Problem

Based on the background above, the research questions are:

1. How does the researcher use poem as teaching media to improve students' ability in pronunciation at grade eleven of SMA Nahdlatul Ulama Modo?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the statements of the problem, the objectives of this study are:

1. To identify the process of using poem as media to improve students' ability in pronunciation.
2. To know the students' improvement in pronunciation using poem as teaching media.

D. Significance of the Study

Based on the objective of the study, the significances of the study are:

a. Theoretically,

This research applies strategy or a new approach that can be used to develop the appropriate and creative learning and as a basis for further research. Researcher hopes that this research can be an alternative method to improve students' ability in pronunciation.

b. Practically, this research will be significant for these followings:

1. For students

The benefit of this research for students is to improve students' ability in learning pronunciation and vocabulary building. If the students practice their tongue in pronouncing English words or sentences continually, it can make their tongue fluent in pronunciation. And if the students like to read poems, it is make their vocabulary building has improved.

The other benefits are can motivate students more brave and confidence when performs in front of class or in front of the other peoples. Students are able to be more creative in learning. They can explore their skill, ability, and expressions.

2. for teacher

Usefulness for teachers is to increase knowledge of teachers in the process of learning English in particular to increase students'

pronunciation. The other usefulness is a learning process will be better, and gives a new variation in the method of learning English process at school. Teacher or researcher learns how to identify problem in teaching process and solve the problem, especially learning using poem as media to improve students' pronunciation.

3. For research in the future

This research can be references for the next research about learning pronunciation or using poem as media to learning English. The next researcher could use this research to make perfect research about poem as teaching media, such as to improve students' confidence when performing in front of class, improve students' creativity, or to improve students' motivation in learning.

E. Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation of this research are:

1. Assessment is limited to improve students' ability in pronunciation.
2. The researcher uses poem with topic of animal and plant.
3. In this study, the selected object is students grade eleven or class XI IPS of SMA Nahdhatul Ulama MODO, Lamongan.

F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid mistakes of interpretation in this study, the researcher needs to explain some terms used in this thesis:

1. Poem

Poem is any kind of verbal or written language that is structured rhythmically and is meant to tell a story, or express any kind of emotion, idea, or state of being⁵. Poem is one of the written literary works that has a way of reading such as intonation, words stress, and feeling (sense). In other literature sometimes writer uses poetry to named, but in this research researcher uses poem. Being appropriate with the syllabus for grade eleven researcher takes topic animal and plant.

2. Teaching media

Media is a communication tool which is used to convey information or messages from the sender to the receiver, message between teachers and students in order to stimulate the students' motivation, and learn to achieve the goal of learning⁶. It is used to support the learning process. There are many kinds of teaching media, but in this research researcher use written literature that is poem.

3. Students' ability

⁵ Bernie Ollila and Joe Jantas. *The Definition of Poetry*. December 15, 2006

⁶ Rozaq Maulana, *Pengembangan Media Berupa Alat Peraga Aliran Listrik Pada Pokok Bahasan Logika Matematika*, (Surabaya: Institut Agama Islam Negeri Sunan Ampel, 2011), page 15

Students' abilities are the capabilities of the students in participating and receiving materials in the learning process. There are many classifications that must be developed by teacher to make students' have good ability:

- a. Teacher develops students' creativity to improve their motivation and imagination
 - b. Teacher develops students' language skill to improve their ability in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.
 - c. Teacher develops students' emotion; this way can motivate the students to express their feeling.
4. Teacher develops students' moral value and attitude to create students' positive habit appropriate with religion value and *Pancasila* in their daily life.
 5. Pronunciation

Pronunciation is the production of significant sound used by a particular language as part of the code of the language, and used to achieve meaning in context⁷. Pronunciation is important to make people easy in communication. If someone communicates with the other people using wrong pronunciation, the miscommunication will be occurring.

⁷Christiane Dalton-Barbara Seidlhofer, Pronunciation (Oxford: oxford university press, 1994), page 3.