CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is the system of sound and word and language also the most important thing for people as a means of communication in this world. It holds an important role in human’s life, since the language is a media to express the thoughts, feeling, and experiences. According to the curriculum, students have to master four language skills namely: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Speaking is the most important skill in learning besides listening, reading, and writing. But speaking is the most difficult skill for English learners because speaking English is the foreign language in Indonesia.

According to Brown (2001:10), oral communication competence or speaking skill is the goal of English learning in elementary schools. Speaking skill is considered as an initial skill that leads learners to develop the other communication competences. This is saying that speaking is the first step that needs to be learned by Junior high school students before they can read and write in English. However, it is assumed that developing speaking skill to students in Indonesia is not easy because of the status of English as a foreign language in which it is not used in national or social life.

To investigate eight graders’ proficiency in spoken English, the researcher conducted a preliminary study of the seven graders at Smp Nusa Penida Medan. The researcher found many of students have weakness in English especially in speaking. Student often failed in speaking because they faced some difficulties
such as lack of vocabulary, grammar, literature and information. They don’t know how to express their selves and they are also did not confidence, because they did not mastering vocabulary. So The researcher proposed a teaching model that is effective to improve students speaking, therefore, PBL (Problem based learning to be one teaching model which might be able to solve speaking problem.

Based on the data which I got by observing and interviewing the teacher at SMP NUSA PENIDA MEDAN, shows that the students speaking in English Subject is low. It can be seen from Daftar Nilai Siswa of English SMP Nusa Penida Medan. The minimum Competence Criteria (KKM) is of 75. The students speaking scores in second semester will be shown below in table 1.1

Table 1.1. Student’s Speaking Scores of English Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>&gt;75</th>
<th>≥75</th>
<th>&lt;75</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V111-1</td>
<td>3 (14%)</td>
<td>5 (24%)</td>
<td>13 (62%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V111-11</td>
<td>6 (19%)</td>
<td>2 (9%)</td>
<td>15 (71%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data taken from Daftar Nilai Siswa of Eight Grade at Second Semester 2014-2015 SMP Nusa Penida after knowing students speaking scores, the researcher conclude that their speaking scores still low and mostly under minimum competence criteria (KKM).

One of the factor causes the problem is the teacher just give the teory without make the practice the students just listening without speak. After that students will make the conversation from text book without doing by their selves.
So, as the result, they do not able to improve their speaking and do not find the information in, but only repeated the conversation from text book without doing their critical thinking. The problem were above happened because of almost the teachers always use the lecturing method when teaching speaking. By having that background, this study will use a major strategy, Problem Based learning (PBL).

According to (Borrow, 1998) Problem Based Learning is a natural daughter product of inquiry-based instruction. Originally PBL was used in medical and dental schools to help prepare students for future patients.

Currently, PBL has been successfully used an instructional strategy in high school Savery & Duffy, (2001). PBL is a way of motivating students to integrate diverse sources of the knowledge to solve the real world problem, Bound & felitti (1997). This strategy is effective for providing information or developing step by step skills. It also works well for involving students knowledge instruction actively.

Based on the research report result about using PBL to speaking, Tarigan (2008) shows that teaching speaking one of communication learning that helps students to communicate by using English language. Rahman (2013) shows that teaching poem by using PBL improve students ability speaking in science. Explain above by using strategy PBL can superintend students problem in speaking and good problem solving skill are neccessary part of speaking skill. That is way PBL is used for the students to be easy learning.
B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of study, the problem is formulated as the following: ”Is there any significant effect of using Problem Based learning (PBL) strategy on the students speaking achievement?”

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to investigate the significant effect of using Problem Based learning (PBL) technique on the students achievement in Speaking ability.

D. The Scope of the Study

They are many methods which can be applied to effect students in speaking, this study focuses on applying PBL strategy on students speaking achievement.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of this study will be expected for:

Theoretically

1. The finding of the research can be useful to use in language learning process especially for speaking by using problem based learning

2. The Theory of the research paper can be used as the references for those who want to conduct a research in English teaching –learning process.

Practically:
1. Especially for English teacher, to be creative to apply the method in teaching speaking

2. Students, to give them the information about other methods that can help them to improve their speaking ability

3. Researcher, to improve her ability to conduct the research especially teaching learning research