

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of The Study

As a foreign language, English is taught as a compulsory subject at Junior High Schools in Indonesia. The aim of teaching and learning English is to make students able to comprehend and produce oral and written texts in the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Those skills should be taught equally without prioritizing particular skills. However, for many years (Field, 2008).

Speaking skill is crucial for junior High School. To enable the students master those language skill especially speaking skill, English teacher should explain the roles of speaking itself. For example, they should master the terms of vocabulary, choices of word, and grammar. If they have understood the roles of speaking they will be able to produce a good speaking. Dakowska was quoted by Kusnerek (2015) claims that speaking is now the most emphasized skill in the field of foreign language teaching, but unfortunately, it is also recognized as the most difficult one to develop in classroom conditions.

Speaking is symbolized as the way people express their feeling to others. Through speaking, humans are able to connect their mind in every aspect of life.

They can share their opinions, thoughts, and even their emotion. In order to do that, we have to speak appropriately and accurately to minimize misunderstanding

in our conversation with others. If there is a misunderstanding or miscommunication, it was hard to have a good quality of conversation.

Base on the observation conducted on 9th May 2017 in SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan. The English teacher said there is some information that the most difficult material which is taught to the students is speaking. The students have difficulties in English speaking. It is indicated through the following indicators: 1) the textbook didn't provide the relevant speaking learning material. 2) The topics used in textbook still irrelevance with what they needs. 3) The students have low-confidence in English speaking and are lazy to create speaking in the class. 4) They have little vocabulary in addition; the students are less like the material in the textbook because they are not interested in the material that will be presented.

Based on the observation done toward the students at SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan, it was found that their speaking didn't reach the competency; the students still get difficulties in doing conversation and presentation. It was also difficult for them to express and even to understand the transactional conversation and text in the book.

Therefore, the writer thought that it is a must for teacher to design a interactive learning book as speaking materials. The design of material is based on the students need and syllabus implemented on the first semester in the eighth grade students of junior high school that is expected to help the teaching learning process and improve students' motivation and skill in learning English.

For concerning explanation above, English teachers are demanded to create speaking materials to motivate the students to be more active during learning

activities. Also difficulties occurring in the students' speaking skill that realize in teaching learning process in SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan.

B. The Identification of Problems

Based on the background, the writer found some problems as follows; first, it is related to the materials. The English materials used in learning English for SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan are not suitable based on recent curriculum to their level. Students learn the English materials which are still general English. They need specific English learning materials related to their level. The content of students' handbook was still irrelevant to the basic competence that the students are expected to be able to express the meaning of transactional conversation and the meaning of the text in oral related to the level to be applied of their needs.

Second, students in SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan are still lack of English speaking. They were not meeting their needs in learning English because they are only prepared to face national exam whereas they have to face the oral work field. Students cannot speak English well because they got confused to express, even to understand the transactional conversation and text in the book and also fear of making mistakes in practice.

Because of incompatibility of time and lack of expenses, for this reason the writer focuses on designing interactive learning book as speaking materials for grade eighth students of SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan because students need interactive book that was enable them to communicate in English to face the work field.

C. The Problems of the Study

Based on the background above, the problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. How are the existing English speaking materials of the students at SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan?
2. How are the designing English speaking materials in an interactive book for the eighth grade students of SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan?

D. The Objectives of The Study

The objectives of the study are formulated as follows:

1. To know the existing English speaking materials used currently by the students at SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan.
2. To design an English speaking materials to be relevant for the eighth grade students of SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan.

E. The Scope of the Study

In learning English, there are four skills which need to be learned. They are listening, speaking, reading and writing. One of the language skills which are important is speaking. The scopes of study focus on designing interactive learning books especially in speaking materials. This research would take place at SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan.

F. The Significance of The Study

The findings of the study were expected to be useful for:

1. Theoretically

The research findings of this study are useful for enrichment of some information of students' interactive learning book as speaking material.

2. Practically

- ✓ To the students of SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan, the result of the research can be used as media for learning English, especially speaking.
- ✓ To the English teacher of SMP Dharma Bakti 1 Medan, the result of the research can be an example on how to design English teaching and learning material, especially for speaking.
- ✓ To other researchers, the result of the research can be a reference on how to develop the English teaching and learning material, especially speaking.