

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of The Study**

Speaking is one of the most important aspects of English that students should master, along with reading, writing, and listening. The function of speaking ability is to express an idea, someone's feeling or thought orally and spontaneously. Speaking is one of the language arts of talk as a communication interaction with someone and mastering it is extremely difficult. Speaking skill is closely related to listening skills in a speaking act the student must first listen and then speak up because speaking is more than just remembering and memorizing sentences in writing; it is also a spontaneous way for the student to express their ideas orally.

Students in junior and senior high school still have very poor oral communication skills in English. As a result, some effort is required to improve the students' ability to speak. One of the ways to improve the student's speaking ability is through the media, which is reflected in the material and the way it is taught. Based on those conditions, the researcher considered how to make the class communicative, appealing, contextual, and, finally, how to improve their speaking ability. In fact, the use of various media to aid in the teaching and learning of speaking is important. One of the media that can be use is a digital media. Learning English through digital media is interesting and give the student's freedom.

They can also be more active and creative during the teaching-learning process because they can work in groups and always must prepare an opinion or

answer a question related to the topic or answer a question from the media. When the teacher gives an instruction, the students are asked to consider the answer question from the media. When the teacher gives an instruction, they are encouraged to consider the answer and how to communicate with the media.

The weakness of students' language skills also makes it difficult to deliver material from teacher to students. To help students understand what the teacher says, the teacher uses two languages in the classroom, one of which is Indonesian and the other is English. Another difficulty that students face is how to express ideas and practice in English. This difficulty is based on a low vocabulary as well as understanding the structure of language (grammar), which is good and correct apart from those two things that students frequently complain about when pronouncing a difficult word. This has a significant impact on the process's success in achieving learning objectives. To address this issue, an update is required in every component of education, including learning methods that involve the use of technology.

At the present, no aspect of the learning process can be separated from the presence of technology as a tool, including the presence of technology for learning media. Instructional media is a tool used to help convey a message from teacher to student.

As a result, learning media should be able to attract students' interest and increase their enthusiasm for learning. Based on the evaluation results in the learning process, students appear being more enthusiastic about computer-assisted learning media than books teaching or student worksheets. This basic problem

researchers determine the choice of using an Android smartphone.

Android smartphones have many advantages, including sound and video player capabilities, which can help students improve their listening and speaking skills. Therefore, researchers want to take advantage of the presence of smartphones for practice and speaking in the learning process.

The mobile learning application for Android is a learning application that has ignited a lot of discussions, both in terms of use of time and a place that knows no bounds other than that. The researcher found that it can develop a teaching media using an application on a student's smartphone. It means that the educational system should use technological advancements as teaching and learning strategies. Teachers can use the advancement of technology, especially smartphones, to achieve goals in the teaching and learning process by applying technology to students in the classroom. English is one of the subjects that makes extensive use of technology in the teaching and learning processes.

Students require more than just a book as a tool for learning English speaking. Therefore, they require media that can assist them in improving their speaking abilities both inside and outside of the classroom. To teach English speaking, teachers can use mobile phone applications as media.

This is an opportunity for teachers to use the smartphone application as a media that can be used in the learning process to make the teaching and learning process more interesting and controlled. To improve the students' speaking skills and achieve the given learning outcomes, the students need more practice inside

and outside of the classroom by using the Speak It Right Application as a

medium in learning speaking so that the students can speak and practice English well. The researcher selects the Speak It Right application as a teaching speaking media because it meets the criteria for good teaching media. These issues are further discussed in the following statement.

This thesis aims to establish some reflections on English learning using the application speak it right. Speak it Right is a free application that can be used on tablets and all types of smartphones to translate in a variety of languages including English, German, and others. The application is used for level beginner students to obtain results, analyses, and assessments made to complete the experience. The application helps to increase vocabulary, improve pronunciation, and learn simple grammatical structures.

Speak It Right has motivated students to practice the English language daily because its aesthetic appeal is like that of smartphone games. Students benefited from this tool in ways they had not previously considered, such as being able to interact on their own, building knowledge, and becoming more familiar with the English language.

Furthermore, the media will increase students' motivation to study. The teacher who can easily present the material will be the students' idol. To help students understand the material that explains, the teacher can use some methods in the teaching-learning process. Teachers must prepare many things when using this method, such as teaching materials, classroom management, and many other aspects because using inappropriate techniques can make the students get

difficulties in understanding the teacher's explanation and it means that the

teacher may be failed in teaching them.

To make the students' interest in the teaching and learning process, particularly in learning to speak, the teacher should use the best approach, method, and strategies. The teacher can then use media in English language teaching, as well as methods to assist students in speaking to facilitate interaction between the teacher and students. Furthermore, before beginning the teaching-learning process, the teacher must prepare the relevant aids.

Review of the Literature Learners nowadays have easy access to a wide range of language learning apps, especially with existence of smartphones. Speak It Right was created in 2016 as a mobile application that is available on both Android and iOS. Its rapid growth resulted in the registration of more than 500 thousand users (Speak It Right, 2016). Several studies were conducted to evaluate the application's potential and limitations.

New practices that encourage students and teachers to seek motivating alternatives to teach and learn have emerged as a result of the various learning possibilities. Reflect on the incorporation of digital applications in the classroom and contribute to the teaching practice for language teachers to encourage their students to use cell phones and computer applications as tools for learning English vocabulary and grammatical structures, as they have been present as a great partner in learning and, particularly, they collaborate for daily contact with the language.

. Speak It Right is a cell phone or computer application. It is one of the most well-known and well-received language-learning applications on the market.

It is available for Android, iOS, and Windows Phone, and it works very simply. It is very useful for those who are studying English. It can be used for at least five minutes per day, and users can specify how they want to practice it from the start. The four skills, reading, writing, listening, and speaking, are present during the learning process in Speak It Right, through sentence and word elaboration.

It is also the students' responsibility to record their pronunciation to assess their oral performance. Indeed, teachers must orient and assist their students in guiding pedagogical practice in their classrooms by integrating creativity and new technologies. The new target audience for language schools is mostly young and familiar with the use of the internet for learning. The teacher must keep up with these new trends by integrating the use of the internet, mobile applications, and technology platforms into his classroom instruction.

According to Muiz (2014), the effectiveness of mobile learning in increasing ability is greater than that of other media. an improvement in this ability related to the learning media used, in other words, interactive media used in learning is more influential in improving student learning achievement than other media. This media is understandable because mobile learning developed can provide additional knowledge, motivate learners to learn, present information, stimulate students to discuss a discussing material presented, and students become more focused as a result of participating activities., and provide opportunities for students to conduct exercises to discuss problems in mobile learning, as well as give students the opportunity to do the simulation.

Fatmawati (2015) explained, mobile learning is based android is needed to stimulate creativity and student interest in learning which will ultimately improve learning outcomes student. Drafting which examines the effectiveness of mobile learning using android on student' English proficiency from the background described above, the researcher chose the title 'Developing's.

### **B. The Problem of The Study**

Based on the background of the study above, the problem of the study is formulated as follows "How should "Speak It Right" will develop for teaching speaking skill to eight grade students at SMPN 27 Medan?

### **C. The Objectives of The Study**

Based on the study's problem, the study's objectives are to develop appropriate English-speaking skills. skills using mobile application "Speak It Right" at SMP Negeri 27 Medan and to analyze the benefit using mobile application in student speaking skill using "Speak It Right" application to student at SMP Negeri 27 Medan.

### **D. The Scopes of The Study**

The scope of this study is the student grade (viii) of SMP Negeri 27 Medan for first semester. This study focuses on developing speaking material based on mobile learning, this study will be concern on speaking skill in pronouncing in mobile application.

## **E. The Significances of The Study**

### **a. For the students**

This study provides new perspective to students about the use of digital media and mobile application (speak It Right) for English learning process.

### **b. For the Researcher**

This study provides the researcher more knowledge and experience on examining research about English learning by using technology (Speak It Right Application)