

**TEACHING SPEAKING THROUGH DESCRIBING PICTURE IN PAIRS AT JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL**

PAPER

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ABSTRAK

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Berbicara merupakan salah satu keterampilan yang harus dikuasai siswa. Namun, pada kenyataannya masih terdapat banyak kendala yang dihadapi siswa maupun guru dalam kegiatan berbicara di kelas. Salah satu kendala yang dihadapi guru dalam mengajarkan berbicara adalah penggunaan teknik pengajaran yang cenderung tidak menarik. Tidak menariknya teknik yang digunakan guru dalam mengajar membuat siswa merasa bosan dan malas untuk belajar. Siswa juga tidak memiliki motivasi untuk aktif dalam belajar. Salah satu cara untuk menarik minat siswa adalah guru dapat mempersiapkan teknik mendeskripsikan gambar secara berpasangan dengan memanfaatkan media yang menarik. Teknik ini dapat mengembangkan kemampuan berbicara siswa dengan cara yang lebih menyenangkan karena gambar bisa memotivasi siswa dalam belajar. Tidak hanya itu, teknik yang memberi kesempatan pada siswa untuk praktek secara berpasangan ini juga dapat meningkatkan keberanian siswa dalam berbicara karena siswa akan lebih merasa nyaman berbicara dengan temannya daripada berbicara di depan kelas atau dalam kelompok. Teknik ini juga dapat membantu mengurangi kebosanan siswa dan keadaan kelas yang kaku, sehingga potensi siswa dalam berbicara bahasa Inggris akan meningkat. Penulis mengharapkan makalah ini dapat memberikan masukan atau kontribusi kepada para pengajar bahasa Inggris untuk membuat siswa lebih menikmati pelajaran bahasa Inggris tersebut.

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The Writer

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Problem

In Indonesia, English is taught as a foreign language in each level of educational institution. It is also a primary subject which has been taught for Indonesian students. For some years, it is taught from the fourth grade of elementary school up to university level. Meanwhile, nowadays, there are several towns in Indonesia that have introduced English at kindergarten.

In learning English as mentioned above, there are four skills that should be mastered by the students, namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Speaking is one of the skills that is studied at schools. It requires the students to communicate orally. The students have to speak English inside or outside the classroom in communicating. By mastering speaking, they can express their ideas, opinions, ask someone for information or respond to others orally. The aim of teaching speaking is to enable the students to communicate in their daily life.

Moreover, based on the School Based Curriculum (2006), junior high school students are demanded to master the transactional and interpersonal conversation for speaking competence. The students are also demanded to master the short functional text and monolog text such as descriptive text. However, speaking is not an easy task. Speaking is very complex and difficult to master. Therefore, speaking becomes a big problem for the students now.

Actually, there are two sources of the problem in teaching speaking. Firstly, it might come from the teacher. For example, the way of some English teachers in teaching cause speaking becomes a big problem. The teacher only speaks English in front of the class without concerning whether the students can understand or not. As a result, many students just keep silent and only hear the sounds without understanding what their teacher say. Moreover, the teacher does not know how to create conducive situation in teaching speaking, so that the students become lazy to study.

Sometimes, the materials can also be one of the problems. The teacher tends to give uninteresting materials for the students, so that the students get bored in learning. In addition, he/ she tend to use uninterested and old media in teaching. It makes the students ignore the lesson. So, the teacher has to be active in practicing English and also has to be creative to make speaking becomes a habit for students.

The other problem is related to the students itself. The students do not understand what their teacher says and also do not know how to give feedback because they have lack of vocabulary. Consequently, they ignore the lesson and the teacher. If they have enough vocabulary, it will be easy for them to practice and express their ideas and also understand what their teacher says. Another reason is the students' pronunciation. They think that their pronunciation is not really good, so that they do not want to speak.

Besides, students sometimes still feel shy to speak in front of the class because they are not confidence and afraid to be laughed by their friends.

Moreover, they do not get many chances to speak in the classroom because the time is limited. The limitation of time is also caused by the teachers that tend to focus on written activity, so that the students cannot explore their ability in speaking. Furthermore, they have lack of motivation to study. It can be caused by media and the materials which are still old and uninterested.

Based on the problems above, there are actually several solutions to solve them. For instance, the teacher should integrate the language skills and the language components such as speaking and pronunciation or speaking and vocabulary. Then, the teacher should give the interesting materials to make students interested in studying. Also, the teacher should use the interesting media to attract students' attention to study.

Moreover, media can be used by the teacher to make the students are interested in studying speaking. However, many teachers neglect to prepare media since it takes more time to prepare. It is also difficult to prepare media in learning because media are not easy to be found. Based on this fact, the writer proposes a technique which uses pictures as media that can help teacher in teaching with simple preparation but still interesting. For example, the teacher can teach speaking through describing picture in pairs.

This technique can reduce the students' anxiety and noise in studying. Then, this technique gives the big chance to the students to speak. Using pictures as media gives the effectiveness or easiness to attract the students to speak. The writer hopes that it can be useful to increase the students' ability in speaking.

B. Limitation of the Problem

As mentioned earlier, the teachers and the students get some difficulties in teaching and learning speaking. Actually, there are several techniques and media that can be used in teaching speaking. For example, teachers can use games, drama, debate, and also pictures. However, in this paper, the writer would like to limit the discussion about “Teaching speaking through describing picture in pairs at junior high school”.

C. Formulation of the Problem

The problem in this paper is formulated as follows “How do teachers teach speaking through describing picture in pairs at junior high school?”

D. Purpose of the Paper

This paper is aimed to provide an alternative way which involves interesting media for the English teachers to teach speaking through describing picture in pairs at junior high school.