

**DEVELOPING SPEAKING SKILLS OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS THROUGH GIVING OPINION**

PAPER

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ABSTRAK

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Speaking (berbicara) merupakan salah satu *skill* (keterampilan) yang sangat penting dalam mempelajari bahasa Inggris, karena tujuan utama dari belajar bahasa Inggris adalah siswa mampu berkomunikasi dalam bahasa Inggris. Namun *speaking* merupakan salah satu dari empat keterampilan berbahasa yang sulit dikuasai siswa dalam belajar bahasa Inggris. Banyak siswa yang ditemui memiliki pengetahuan dan penguasaan tata bahasa, kosa kata dan kemampuan dalam membaca, dan menyimak serta kemampuan menulis yang baik, namun mereka tidak dapat mempergunakannya secara lisan dalam berkomunikasi. Hal ini terjadi karena teknik yang digunakan guru dalam mengajarkan *speaking* kurang memberdayakan siswa. *Giving opinion* merupakan salah satu teknik yang bisa dipakai guru dalam mengajarkan *speaking*. Dalam teknik ini, siswa diminta untuk berdiskusi dengan cara memberikan mereka sebuah topik pembicaraan yang sedang hangat atau topik pembicaraan yang dekat dengan dunia remaja seperti narkoba, merokok, kenakalan remaja, seks bebas, dan lain sebagainya, kemudian siswa diminta untuk memberikan pendapat mengenai topik tersebut.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

There are four skills that have to be mastered by junior high school students in learning English, they are: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Speaking is one of important skills in English, because the goal of learning English as stated in curriculum 2006 is that the students are able to communicate in English well. Therefore, junior high school students are demanded and motivated to practice their English with their teacher and their friends in the classroom or outside of the classroom. So, their speaking ability can increase significantly.

Although speaking is very crucial part in English, the fact shows that many students are still unable to speak in English. It can be seen in the classroom, the students prefer to be passive and looked shy or scared to speak in English. Based on the writer's experience as an English teacher at one of junior high schools in Payakumbuh, the condition above is happening in the classroom. When the students are asked to answer the questions, they tend to be shy and they will answer in their mother tongue or they just keep silent and smile.

The problems in speaking class like above can be caused by some factors, first is the students are always scared of making mistakes when they are speaking, because if they make mistake when they are speaking, their friends will laugh and it can be a joke for the class. Consequently, they are lazy to speak English and their speaking ability is low. The second factor is there is no

opportunity for students to practice their English beside learning in the classroom. The students only have a little opportunity to speak in the classroom during the process of teaching and learning, because the teacher dominates the class by giving explanation about the lesson. The last factor is many teachers are not creative enough in explaining the lesson. Most teachers always use the similar technique, method, and media in teaching speaking, such as: asking students to come in front of the class and then ask them to tell their friends about their unforgettable experience, ask students to play a short drama without prompt and other things to support drama become more real, or do drill.

The activities above can make students feel bored and the monotone in the classroom can not be avoided. They are not interested in speaking because the activities cannot attract, challenge, and motivate them. In order to solve the problems above, the teacher needs a technique that can attract, challenge, and motivate the students to speak in English.

There are many techniques that teacher can use in teaching speaking to junior high school students, they are by using : simulation technique, role play, gallery walk, giving opinion, and so on. One technique that has been mentioned before is giving opinion. Giving opinion is one of techniques that can be used by English teacher to develop students' speaking skill. In giving opinion students learn how to speak in English well, they also learn how to give their opinion based on facts and evidence related to the topic. They learn how to arrange words become a good sentence and distribute their thought about topic which is going to be discussed. Through this technique, students can be attracted and challenged to

speaking by giving hot issues which is familiar for them, for example: drugs, smoking, free sex, and etc. That is why, the choosing of topic which is going to be discussed should be considered well by the teacher.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem above, it can be concluded that junior high school students are still unable and uninterested in speaking English. This happens because of some factors, they are: first, students are scared to make mistakes when they speak in English, because their friends will laugh at them, second is there is no enough opportunity for students to practice their English because of limitation of time teaching and learning in the class, and the last factor is the activities in speaking class are not interesting, challenging, and motivating enough for students.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, this paper is limited to develop speaking skills of junior high school students through giving opinion.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The problem is formulated into the following question:
“How does the teacher use giving opinion techniques to develop junior high school students’ speaking ability?”.

1.5 Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of this paper is to explain about using giving opinion techniques to develop junior high school students' speaking ability.