Chapter I of this research contains; background of study, statement of problems, purpose of study, significance of the study, scope and limitation and definition of key terms. Each section is presented as follows:

1.1 Background of study

Language is like media that used to be instrument of communication. According to Amberg and Vause (2012:23) language is foremost a means of communication, and communication almost always takes place within some sort of social context. This is why effective communication requires an understanding and recognition between connections of a language and the people who use it. Hence, language will always be required in all conditions, for instance: in the debate, conflict, etc.

There are some more countries that used the kind of languages in this world including English. One of the countries is Indonesia that has been our beloved country. It has Indonesian language and the other countries do too. Although there are many kind of languages in this world, all of the people from over the world can communicate each other by using English because it is an international language used among them to communicate (Turk, 2003:2).

For Indonesia, English is a foreign language which has four skills in learning English that the learner should study it, they are: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The inherent of a successful language learner is their
speaking fluency. According to McDonough and Shaw (2003:133) stated that the competence of a language is judged from speaking skill rather than other language skills. Therefore, speaking is very important because it is the most effective tool for human being to express their ideas and to communicate in a civilized world.

Kayi (2006:1) stated that speaking is a crucial part of the foreign language learning and teaching. That is why it can be used for the student to express their ideas orally in foreign language. Without speaking skill they will just keep silent. In order to speak well, they must practice their skill in daily live. So, the teacher should give students opportunity to practice their speaking skill by giving activities that put them into the real practice communication.

Practically, speaking is not as easy as we think. Some students get difficulty to express their idea orally. For example, when the teacher asks some questions such as “what do you think about your school?”. Actually, the students understand what the teacher said but they just keep silent in the classroom. Therefore, if students do not want to express their thought and feelings in speaking, they will get bored easily, and be passive in the classroom activities.

There are some problems of learning English, especially learning speaking in the school. The learners felt difficult in learning speaking that was occurred by some factors. It is supported by Damayanti’s research (2003) was about “A Study on Students Problems in Learning Speaking at SMAN 1 Kejayan Pasuruan”, she found out that the students had problems in learning speaking. There was 36% having problem in vocabulary, 13% in pronunciation and grammar, the last was 12% in topic. Their ways to solve their problem were: making conversation with their friend everyday, finding the meaning from any news or book, listening to the
western music, memorizing some vocabularies, understanding what the teacher explained.

The other research conducted by Athena (2004) about *The students’ nonlinguistic problems in learning speaking at second year students on SMP III Batu* revealed that the problems of learning speaking are unattractive material, and felt a shame to express idea orally, lack of motivation was caused by the monotonous method, uninterested topic and the teacher performance. Next, the unattractive topic was caused by materials which lack of variety and materials which are too difficult. The last, being afraid of using wrong sentences and got criticized by their friends made the learners shame to express their idea orally.

From the explanation above, the researcher wants to investigate about the problems faced by students in learning speaking and also wants to know their strategies to solve the problems at SMA Islam Batu. Moreover, the researcher found a lot of speaking problems in his class after did practical teaching in that school. Thus, he tried to find more about the problems from his experience. Furthermore, the researcher also hopes to get the student’s strategies for finding the solution there in order that English becomes the interesting lesson.

**1.2 Statement of the Problem**

1. What are the problems faced by the XI grade students in mastering speaking at SMA Islam Batu?
2. What are student’s strategies to cope their problems in mastering speaking at SMA Islam Batu?
1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To know the problems faced by the XI grade students in mastering speaking at SMA Islam Batu.

2. To figure out what the student’s strategies to cope their problems in mastering speaking at SMA Islam Batu.

1.4 Significance of the study

1. Theoretically

   The result of the study can be used as input in English teaching and learning process especially about the students’ problem in learning English Speaking and the result of the study can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in the students’ problem in learning English Speaking.

2. Practically

   a. For the teachers:

      The result of this study can give the teachers knowledge about the kinds of students’ problem, especially in learning speaking. It can help the teacher to determine the most appropriate method for teaching English speaking and also can be used a reference in solving that problems.

   b. For the students:

      The result of this study can make the students understand the kind of problems in learning English speaking. Hence, they can determine the appropriate learning strategy for mastering speaking as well.
c. For the researchers:

The result of this study can be used as a reference for other researchers who want to conduct a research in the same field.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The research focused on the problems in learning English speaking and the solution to solve those problems. This research is limited at the second grade students of SMA Islam Batu. Thus, the result of this study only generalized or applied to the target population, specifically to the social class of second grade students at SMA Islam Batu.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

1. **Learning** is acquiring or getting of knowledge of a subject or a skill by study, experience, or instruction. (Brown, 2000:7).

2. **Problem** is a difficulty to understand or deal with something. (Oxford, 2010:350).

3. **Speaking** is the verbal use of language to communicate with others. (Fulcher, 2003:23).

4. **SMA Islam Batu** is the name of Islamic senior high school in Batu that would be observed in this study.