CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this chapter is to present the research background, research problems, research objectives, scope and limitation, research significance, and the definition of the key terms. Each section is presented as follows.

1.1 Research Background

People in this modern era are demanded to be able to speak more than one language. It is not only a national language but also an international language that people have to know how to communicate, to get the information and knowledge. According to Novita (2017), English is an international language as it is used by many people around the world for different purposes such as to communicate with other people from different countries and to exchange knowledge. It is important to learn English because, in Indonesia, English is also an important subject to be tasted in the National Examination subject (starting from Junior high school until Senior High School).

In Indonesia, English is a foreign language that has four skills including speaking, listening, leading, and writing. These skills must be learned by students in English subjects. According to Al Hosni (2014), using language is more important than just knowing it because “there is no point in knowing much about a language if you can’t use it”. Therefore, students of EFL are considered successful if they can communicate effectively with the language.
According to Oradee (2012), in foreign language teaching and learning, the ability to speak is the most essential skill since it is the basis for communication. However, learning to speak is not easy as we think, sometimes students feel difficult to show or express their idea orally. For example, when the teacher asks them to tell their daily activity. Students actually understand what the teacher said but they could not answer and just keep silent in the classroom. Because they do not know how to use that language to speak. It makes the class more passive.

There are some difficulties in learning speaking at school. According to Al Hosni (2014), the main speaking difficulties are linguistic, mother tongue use, and inhibition. Students are unable to speak in English because they lack vocabulary and grammar, lack sentence formation skills, which those problems result in students’ preferences in using the mother tongue than English. Students also usually feel overthinking that making mistakes in speaking in front of their classmates is very embarrassing.

The other research was conducted by Wibisono (2019) entitled “Study on difficulties in learning speaking faced by Eleven Grade Students of SMAN 1 Kedungwaru Tulungagung“. He revealed that there are internal and external factors of the difficulties in learning to speak. The internal factors were lack of vocabulary and lack of motivation. The external factors that cause difficulty were teaching strategy that used by teachers in a classroom activity.

Based on the explanation above, the researchers found that researching the students’ difficulties in learning speaking is still immensely urged. In addition, the researcher found many difficulties in learning speaking in the class after finishing
practical teaching in the school for an internship program. The researcher tried to
find more from her experience. Hopefully, the result of this research can get
students strategies to solve their problems in learning to speak and also make
students interested to learn English especially for those who have been joining
Language Program in school. Moreover, there is limited research conducted to be
focused on the Language Program in senior high school.

This research was conducted in Madrasah Aliyah Negeri Kota Batu. The
researcher chose the eleventh grade students of language program. The reason why
the researcher chose the school because the headmaster and the teachers accepted
the research activities to be carried out at the school, the students at the school could
be invited to work together, beside that there is still no research that focused on the
language program.

Hence, the researcher chose “An Analysis of the difficulties faced by the
student of XI grade Language Program in learning speaking at MAN Kota Batu as
the researcher investigated the difficulty faced by the students, the factors that cause
the difficulties and how the students solve the difficulties.

1.2. Research Problems

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

1. What are the difficulties faced by the XI grade students in learning English
   speaking at MAN Kota Batu?

2. What are the factors that cause difficulties in learning English speaking?
3. How do the students solve their problems in learning English speaking at MAN Kota Batu?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study are stated as follows:

1. To know the difficulties faced by XI grade students in learning English speaking at MAN Kota Batu.
2. To know the factors that cause the difficulties in learning English speaking at MAN Kota Batu.
3. To know how the students solve their difficulties in learning English speaking at MAN Kota Batu.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

This research is focused on the difficulties in learning English speaking and the way students solve their problems in learning speaking. In addition, the limitation of this study is the students of eleven grades at MAN Kota Batu in the academic year 2021/2022, majoring in Language Department.

1.5 Research Significance

This research is conducted with the expectation that the result will provide significant contributions for:

1. The students

The result of this study can make the students understand their problems in learning English speaking and the students can get information about the
way they solve the problems. In addition, the students can determine the appropriate learning strategy for mastering speaking as well.

2. The teachers

The teachers will get feedbacks about student problems in learning English speaking, so the teachers can use appropriate techniques, methods, or strategies in teaching English speaking based on the student problems.

3. For the researchers

The result of this study can be used as a reference for other researchers in the same field.

1.6. Definition of the Key Terms

To specify the topic of the research, the researcher provides some definitions of the key terms related to the research.

These are the definition of some terms which are related to this research:

1. The difficulty is a problem that needs actions and thought Logman in Feni, (2004)

2. Learning to speak is a process of change and the human ability to know how to speak in a language to be able to communicate well by using that language (Swary, 2014).