

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background Study

Speaking is the ability to compose and convey thoughts through spoken language. Speaking is one of the four crucial English skills to learn.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, English has four skills that students must master, namely: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These four aspects are of course related to each other one and another. Apart from that, the important thing for learning English is to understand one skill and another.<sup>2</sup>

Speaking is the capacity to produce sounds or words in order to communicate feelings, ideas, and thoughts. Speaking is a language skill apart from listening skills, reading skills, and writing skills.<sup>3</sup> Speaking skills are very important in everyday life, both formal and informal activities. In education, speaking skills are the main asset for everyone, including teachers and students.

Speaking skills are ranked second in terms of use after listening skills. Among other language skills, speaking tends to be the most challenging skill for

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<sup>1</sup> Brown, H. Douglas. 2001. *Teaching by Principles: An Interactive Approach to Language Pedagogy* (2nd ed.). White Plains, NY: Longman. P.268

<sup>2</sup> Gusviany, V., Tarihoran, Ibrahim, B., & Study Program of UIN Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin, E. (2022). An Analysis of the Factors of Students' Difficulties in Speaking English Faced by non-English Department Students Speaking as foreign learners, *Linguistic and literature Journal*, Vol 1, Issue 2, 2022

<sup>3</sup> Wijayanti Rina, "Peningkatan Keterampilan Berbicara (Pidato) Melalui Media Pemodelan Berdasarkan Pendekatan Kontekstual Pada Siswa Kelas Xii Multimedia Smk Ti Bali Global Singaraja" <https://ejournal.undiksha.ac.id/index.php/JJPBS/article/download/518/432>

second language learners student. In addition, these skills are indicators of whether second language learners should be successful in conveying messages orally using a second language.<sup>4</sup>

However, speaking skills are often underestimated. In fact, speaking skills are very important because they help students complete the assignments.<sup>5</sup> Speaking skills also allow students to connect with other students. In a classroom environment, speaking skills allow students to ask questions, provide information, and state whether they understand a lesson or not.<sup>6</sup> Therefore, teaching speaking skills in schools is very important because it helps students express their ideas and listen to other people's ideas.

From the teacher's perspective, choosing a good teaching technique is crucial in creating an effective learning experience. Teachers are required to consider various factors in teaching, including student characteristics, learning objectives, and the material being taught. Thus, the choice of good teaching technique by teachers requires a deep understanding of the various techniques available, as well as the ability to choose appropriate techniques.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Yuyu Heryatun,, Nafan. Torihoran. Understanding Speaking Anxiety In Efl Classroom. Siliwangi International English Conference Proceedings. 2016

<sup>5</sup> Malavika. R, Dr.T.Muthu Krishnan, "The Importance Of Teaching Speaking Skills", *International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT)*, Vol IX, Issue 8, August 2021

<sup>6</sup> Lyn Dawes, "Why should we teach Speaking and Listening in the classroom?", *Cambridge Oracies*, 13 November 2021, <https://oracycambridge.org/why-should-we-teach-speaking-and-listening-in-the-classroom/>

<sup>7</sup> Hasibuan Nasrudin, "Kriteria Pemilihan Metode Mengajar Dalam Kegiatan Pembelajaran", *STAIN Padang Sidempuan, Jl. Imam Bonjol Km. 4,5 Sihitang. Tapanuli Selatan*, Vol. 01, No. 1, Juni 2013: 37-48

Teaching speaking skills is crucial in the language learning process. However, many of the teaching technique currently used tend to be monotonous and do not encourage active student participation.

Learning Together (LT) exists as an alternative form suggested by the researcher to overcome this problem. Learning Together (LT) is a cooperative learning technique that emphasizes cooperation between students in the learning process. This technique allows students to work in small groups, where each individual contributes ideas to solve the problems in the assignment so that joint agreement is obtained.<sup>8</sup>

There have been several studies discussing the use of Learning Together (LT) in the classroom. One of them was mentioned in research conducted by Rina Astuti Hidayati entitled "The Effectiveness Of The Learning Together Strategy In Teaching Vocabulary At Mts Nw Pringgarata Academic Year 2023/2024". This research shows that students' test scores have increased when using Learning Together (LT) in teaching vocabulary.<sup>9</sup>

In teaching reading skills in the classroom, the use of Learning Together (LT) also has a positive impact. As stated in the journal "Meningkatkan

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<sup>8</sup> Khusnul,L,N Syanas,.Mulyani B,.Saputo S,. "Penerapan Model Learning Together (Lt) Dilengkapi Dengan Kartu Pintar Untuk Meningkatkan Interaksi Sosial Dan Prestasi Belajar Pada Pembelajaran Kimia Materi Stoikiometri Siswa Kelas X Mia-1 Sma Negeri 2 Surakarta Tahun Pelajaran 2014/2015", *Jurnal Pendidikan Kimia (JPK)*, Vol. 5 No. 1 Tahun 2016, p. 16-21

<sup>9</sup> Hidayati, R. A. 2023. "The Effectiveness Of The Learning Together Strategy In Teaching Vocabulary At Mts Arrahmah Nw Pringgarata Academic Year 2023/2024". *Skripsi*. Mataram: Faculty Of Education And Teacher Training State Islamic University Of Mataram

Keterampilan reading For Comprehension Melalui Metode Learning Together” by Dina Riamawati, it is stated that the use of Learning Together (LT) can improve student learning achievement and motivate student learning in the field of reading.<sup>10</sup>

Based on the explanation above, the use of the Learning Together (LT) technique in classroom learning shows positive results. Research by Rina Astuti Hidayati revealed this technique is effective in teaching vocabulary at Mts NW Pringgarata for the 2023/2024 academic year. Apart from that, in learning reading skills, the journal written by Dina Riamawati also shows that the Learning Together (LT) method can improve students' learning achievement and motivation in reading comprehension.

The researcher is interested in how Learning Together (LT) is used to improve speaking abilities, as this topic was not included in the two earlier studies. In fact, many students still have difficulty speaking, especially in English.

Based on Mrs.Nurajizah one of the English teachers at Madrasah Aliyah (MA) Alhidayah Bani Karim stated that Students' speaking skills remain deficient. Nurajizah said, “Students struggle to pronounce words correctly and feel less confident. Students must be required to speak in front of the class and articulate their ideas in English”.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Riamawati, n.d. 2021 “Meningkatkan Keterampilan reading For Comprehension Melalui Metode Learning Together” Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra 8(2), p. 75-82

<sup>11</sup>Nurajizah, *Personal Interview*, 2023.

Based on these reasons, the researcher are interested in conducting research with the title "Using Learning Together (LT) In Teaching Speaking (A Quasi-Experimental Research At Second Grade Of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak)"

## **B. Identification of problems**

Based on the background of the study above, the problem identification is as follows :

1. The teaching techniques that are widely used tend to be monotonous and do not encourage student participation.
2. Lack of student interest and motivation in speaking skills when using the lecture teaching model.

## **C. Limitations of the Problem**

Based on the background of the problem identification, the researcher focused on how effective the use of Learning Together (LT) in teaching speaking at Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak.

## **D. Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study above, the research questions are as follows:

1. How is students' speaking ability in the Eleventh Grade of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak?

2. How is the Learning Together (LT) applied in teaching Speaking in the Eleventh Grade of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak?
3. How effective is the use of the learning together (LT) technique in teaching speaking at Eleventh Grade Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak?

#### **E. Research Objectives**

Based on the research questions above, the research objectives are as follows:

1. To find out the students' speaking at Eleventh Grade of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak
2. To find out if Learning Together (LT) can be applied in teaching speaking at the Eleventh Grade of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak.
3. To find out how effective the use of learning together (LT) technique is in teaching speaking in Eleventh Grade of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak.

#### **F. Research Significance**

1. Theoretically

The result of the research is expected to enrich information about the progress and development of English language learning, especially about using Learning Together (LT) in the classroom and will also be useful in further studies.

2. Practically

- a. For English Teachers of Madrasah Aliyah Al Hidayah Bani Karim, Lebak

The results of this research will be useful for teachers in the English teaching and learning process. This research can also help teacher to consider using learning together (LT) technique in teaching speaking.

b. For further research

Future researchers can conduct further research to explore the influence of the Learning Together (LT) technique on other Educational level.

## **G. Writing Organization**

This study is divided into five chapters which contain several points that explain the chapters.

**Chapter I Introduction**, including Study Background, Problem Identification, Scope and Limitations of the Problem, Study Objectives, Significance and Organization of the study

**Chapter II Theoretical Framework**, including the Definition of Speaking, Types of Speaking, Teaching Speaking and the Concept of Learning Together (LT).

**Chapter III Research Methodology**, including Research Desain, Population, Sample, Research Instruments, Research Variables, Data Collection Techniques, Validity and Data Analysis.

**Chapter IV Research Findings and Discussion**

**Chapter V Conclusions and Suggestions**