

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer describes the background of the study, research question, definition of the key terms, objective of the study, significances of the study, and organization of the thesis.

A. Background of the Study

For students who have high motivation, they are usually active in learning something such as mastering English. On the other hand, there are also many students who experience difficulties in terms of speaking as defines by Ur (1996: 121) that the difficulties include students' inhibition, lack of words, low level participation of the topic to be discussed and the use of mother tongue. They are concerned about making mistakes and being criticized or losing face. However, if they are active in learning and get used to using English every day, of course they can face these obstacles. Thus, mastering the ability to speak English is very important because as technology develops at this time usually the technology uses English as an international language that is generally used to provide information with other people.

According to Chaney (1998: 13), speaking is a process of constructing and sharing meaning through the use of verbal and nonverbal symbols, in various contexts. Thus, speaking skill is carried out directly or indirectly which aims to provide and obtain information.

Speaking skill is important in this modern era due to the large number of technologies for social life because English is an international language for communicating with other countries. Learning English in terms of speaking is not easy because there are many foreign words that difficult to speak. Zhang (2009: 32) describes that speaking is still the most difficult skill for most English learners to master, and they are still not competent in communicating orally in English.

Furthermore, there are numerous factors that can influence the development of students' speaking skill, particularly in the school setting, such as the teacher and the teaching materials provided, with an interesting learning process can increase students' motivation in learning English such as using learning media. According to Gagne and Briggs (1975: 4), learning media includes tools such as books, audio recorders, cassettes, video cameras, video recorders, films, slides (pictures), photos, pictures, graphics, television, and computers that are physically used to convey the contents of teaching materials. There are many types of learning media that can be applied in the learning process at school and the role of the teacher is very important in choosing the learning media that convey appropriately so that students can easily understand the material presented.

According to Hamalik (1986: 19), appropriate learning media can inspire students' motivation, desire, interest, and stimulation. Interesting learning media plays an important role in capturing students' attention and keeping them focused on the learning process. In addition, Davies (2000: 193)

says that learning media provides two primary functions which are helping teachers in managing learning efficiently and helping students in learning more efficiently. For this reason, teachers should realize that the use of learning media can facilitate their task in conveying messages or learning materials to their students. By using video in the learning process, it hopes make the students focus and not bored while learning is in progress.

The video aims to provide information usually presented in the form of a Video blog (Vlog). Video blog (Vlog) is the pictures in a video form and then sharing them on websites or social media platforms that aim to provide information and education to people who watch the video. Video blog is a type of blog that consists of a series of videos that users record themselves, then they upload the videos to the Internet environment after optional editing and users can comment and vote (Gao, Tian, Huang & Yang, 2010: 57). In short, we can easily find various vlog on the internet according to the topic that we want.

Fidan and Debbag (2018: 161-177) define that video blog is a creative video that everyone can make, then edit it as creatively as possible (add pictures, text, sound) and then upload or share it on social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook and others. Thus, a vlog can be a series of events and topics in one or more videos. The use of vlogs can make it easier for a teacher to convey the material to be taught because it is simpler and more interesting to learn. Aydin (2014: 244-259) reveals that vlogs have

some positive impact on developing interactions between students and lecturers specifically to develop target language.

The problems occur in the tenth grade of AKL class in SMK Muhammadiyah Bumiayu related with speaking skill. Commonly, they come from teacher and student problems. For teacher's problem, it might occur for the current situation. For example, the learning media is not interesting for the students to support their speaking activities in class which make the students are not motivated to practice speaking effectively. Using vlog media is one way to facilitate and attract students' attention so they can more focus on learning activity.

Next problem comes from the students. For instance, the students are not maximum and active in the practice of speaking skill in the class. They are mostly passive and difficult to involve in conversation or discussion of speaking lesson in English. So, there are only few students who can follow the speaking class material given by the teacher. Furthermore, the students do not speak fluently because lack of vocabulary mastery. It makes them feeling afraid to speak and make mistakes because their spoken language full of grammatical errors. In conclusion, these create a problem in developing the skill, particularly speaking skills.

From the explanation above, the writer is interested in conducting this research in SMK Muhammadiyah Bumiayu at tenth grade of AKL (Akuntansi & Keuangan Lembaga) class because the writer has known the speaking skill of students in this school from the experience teaching practice

in that class. Thus, the writer does the research with the title “Improving the Students’ Speaking Skill through Video Blog (Vlog) Media at the Tenth Grade AKL (Akuntansi dan Keuangan Lembaga) of SMK Muhammadiyah Bumiayu in the Academic Year of 2022/2023”.

B. Research Question

Based on the problem on the background above, this research intends to answer the following problem: how to improve the students’ speaking skill through Video Blog (Vlog) media at the tenth grade AKL (Akuntansi dan Keuangan Lembaga) of SMK Muhammadiyah Bumiayu in the Academic Year of 2022/2023?

C. Definition of Key Terms

The writer applies three definition of key terms to understanding the topic as following:

1. Speaking

Chaney (1998: 13) declares that speaking is a process of constructing and sharing meaning through the use of verbal and nonverbal symbols, in various contexts.

2. Learning Media

Davies (2000: 193) says that learning media provides two primary functions which are helping teachers in managing learning efficiently and helping students in learning more efficiently.

3. Vlog

Fidan & Debbag (2018: 161-177) defines that a vlog is a creative video that everyone can make, then edit it as creatively as possible (add pictures, text, sound) and then upload or share it on social media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook and others.

D. Objective of The Study

Based on the research question, the aim of this research is: to improve the students' speaking skill through Video Blog (Vlog) media at the tenth grade AKL (Akuntansi dan Keuangan Lembaga) of SMK Muhammadiyah Bumiayu in the Academic Year of 2022/2023.

E. Significances of the Study

This research increases the science of improving the student skills in the field especially in improving speaking skill as follows:

1. Theoretically

This research can be used as a reference for those who want to conduct a research of improving the students' speaking skill especially using descriptive qualitative research.

2. Practically

a. For the Writer

The writer aims to find out the alternative media of teaching English, especially in teaching speaking skill.

b. For the Reader

The writer hopes this research can increase the knowledge about teaching English especially how to use vlog media as the material of learning English.

c. Pedagogically

This study is expected to be useful in the world of education as it can be useful for teachers and readers in the discussion learning media using vlog.

F. Organization of the Thesis

The research divides into five chapters in order to make it easier to understand including introduction, review of related literature, investigation method, findings and interpretation, conclusion, and suggestions. Chapter I presents introduction consist of background of the study, research question, definition of the key terms, objective of the study, significances of the study, and organization of the thesis. Chapter II describes of related literature which consists of theoretical study, previous studies and theoretical framework. Chapter III discusses method of investigation which consist of research design, the source of data, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. Chapter IV is findings and interpretation. Finally, the last is Chapter V which defines conclusion and suggestions.