AN ANALYSIS OF THE EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS' SPEAKING ABILITY IN DOING DIALOGUE AT SMPN 12 PADANG

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The purpose of this research was to describe the eighth grade students' speaking ability in doing dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang. In doing the dialogue students should consider 5 aspects, they are; topic (content), grammar, pronunciation,and fluency.

The population of this research was the eighth grade students of SMPN 12 Padang. The total numbers of sample were sixty four (64) students chosen by cluster random sampling technique. The data were collected through speaking test by asking them to choose one of five alternative topics to do dialogue in front of the class. To know reliability of the test researcher used Pearson Product Moment formula in Arikunto, the result is the test was reliable (0.70 high correlation).

The result of this study showed that in general the speaking ability of the eighth grade students of SMPN 12 Padang in doing dialogue was moderate. It was proved that 82% students had moderate ability. In detail, the students' ability in expressing topic (content) was moderate (85%), students' ability in grammar was moderate (80%), students' ability in vocabulary was moderate (81%), students' ability in pronunciation was moderate (61%), students' fluency ability was moderate (62%).

The researcher give suggestion to the teachers to give more time for students to practice speaking skill. The teacher can consider the appropriate way to improve students' speaking ability. Since the students' ability was moderate, it is suggested to the students to practice more. Furthermore, the researcher suggests to the other researcher to find out the students' difficulties in doing dialogue.

Key Words: *speaking ability, doing dialogue,*

Introduction

English as a foreign language in Indonesia is taught at junior high school (SMP) as a compulsory subject. Indonesia, as one of the developing countries, has also set its educational curriculum to include English as a foreign language which is studied from junior high school up to the university level.

O'Malley and Pierce (1996) say that speaking seems to be an important skill that a learner should acquire. It is very important in order to enable students to communicate effectively through oral language because they still have a problem to speak and it may lead them to be

unable to express their ideas even in a simple form of conversation.

Communication can happen through dialogue. Dialogue has various purposes, one of them is persuasion.

Persuasion dialogue is a type of dialogue that adversarial goal of each partner is to explain something or to do something by finding arguments or cast by doing conversation. Dialogue is one of strategis to teach speaking to the students.

Based on the researcher's experience in practice teaching at SMPN 12 Padang on February to April 2014, the researcher has known that most of the students' ability in listening, reading, and writing are rather good. It can be known when the students did some exercises. The researcher found that the student's ability in speaking is low or not satisfied when the teacher ask them to do conversation for example. Most of the students cannot do it well.

Based on the fact above, the researcher was interested in doing research about students' speaking ability in doing dialogue at the eighth grade students of SMPN 12 Padang.

There are four language skills in learning English: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Speaking is one of the four skills that have to be mastered by students. Speaking is the productive skill in the oral mode. It, like the other skills, is more complicated than it seems at first and involves more than just pronouncing words. In speaking practice, there are many kind of techniques for example, dialogue, story telling, discussion, interview and role play that have to practice in English learning.

Dialogue is the conversation between two or more people to share ideas or view points. Story telling is a mean for sharing and interpreting experiences. Discussion is an extended communication (often interactive) dealing with some particular topic. Interview is a conversation between two or more people where question are asked by the interviewer to elicit facts or statements from the interviwer. Role play refers to the changing of one's

behavior to assume a role, either unconsciously to fill a social role, or unconsciously to act out an adopted role. Today dialogue is used in educational program. In fact, dialogue is one of techniques used to improve the students' speaking ability. The students have to pay attention to some components in speaking English, in order that the listener can easily understand what the speaker talk about. They are content, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and fluency. So that, in doing dialogue activity, students can master all of the language components. There are five types of dialogue. They are persuasion, inquiry, negotiation, information-seeking, and quarrel dialogue. Persuasion dialogue is a type of dialogue that adversial goal of each partner is to explain something or to do something by finding arguments or casts by doing conversation. Inquiry is cooperative in nature, as opposed to persuasion dialogue which is highly adversarial. Negotiation is to "make a deal" while bargaining over some goods or interests by conceding some things

while insisting on other things. Information-seeking is for information to be transmitted from one partner to the other. Quarrel is to verbally "hit out" at the other, and if possible, defeat and humiliate the other participants. From the types of dialogue the researcher used persuasion dialogue in this research.

The main purpose of this research was to find out the speaking ability of eighth grade students of SMPN 12 Padang in doing dialogue. Specifically, the purposes of this research were as follow:

1. To find out the eighth students' speaking ability at SMPN 12 Padang to express topic (the content) in doing dialogue.
2. To find out the eighth students' speaking ability at SMPN 12 Padang to use the grammar in doing dialogue.
3. To find out the eighth students' speaking ability at SMPN 12 Padang to choose and use vocabulary in doing dialogue.

4. To find out the eighth grade student's speaking ability at SMPN 12 Padang to pronounce the words in doing the dialogue.

5. To find out the eighth grade students' speaking ability in fluency at SMPN 12 Padang in doing dialogue.

Research method

This research was descriptive research. Gay (1987: 189) states that descriptive research involves collecting data in order to answer questions concerning current status of the subject of the study. In addition, this research described the student's speaking ability in doing dialogue.

Population is the group to which the researcher would like the result of study to be generalized (Gay: 101-102). A population is whole subject of the research, it is a set (or collection) of elements prossesing one or more attributes of interest (Arikunto, 2010: 173). The population of this research was the second grade students of SMP N 12 Padang. The population consists of

eight classes: they were classVIII.1, VIII.2, VIII.3, VIII.4, VIII.5, VIII.6, VIII.7, and VIII.8 and each class has 32 students. The reason of researcher choose the second year students of SMP N 12 Padang because the researcher assumes that they have basic knowledge in speaking skill to speak in English so they have knowledge in practicing dialogue.

Sample was selected by using cluster random sampling technique, there were VIII.2, and VIII.4, that chosen as the sample.

The instrument used to collect the data in this research was speaking test; in a kind of dialogue. The researcher asked the students to do dialogue based on the alternative topics of persuasion dialogue. For each couple, the researcher gave 2 minutes to do dialogue.

There are five alternative topics that the researcher gave to do dialogue by the students; Taking Vacation, Visiting A Friend, Ordering Breakfast, In the Restaurant, Buying A Birthday Present

The test was evaluated according to the five components; grammar,vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, and comprehension of the students to the idea/topic. After doing try out showed that the instruction was understood, the time allocation was enough to do the test and the topic was familiar for the students. Criteria of a good test are valid and reliable. The test is valid if it measures what is supposed to be measured. The researcher uses content validity in this research. Arikunto (2010: 211) states that one of the characteristics of test validity is content validity. It means that the test is valid if it fixes with the syllabus and materials that have been given to the students of SMPN 12 Padang.

To know the reliability of the test, the researcher used inter-rater technique. It means the researcher used two scorers. The test was scored by two scorers (scorer 1 and 2), in order to see a test consistency of scoring and evaluates more than one aspect in practicing dialogue. The first scorer was the researcher herself and the second scorer was her friend Etsuko Suwemi. The researcher chose Etsuko Suwemi as the second scorer because she has similar ability in speaking as the researcher. It can be known because the researcher always has the same class with her. To calculate the coefficient correlation of two scorers, the researcher used Pearson Product Moment formula in Arikunto (2010: 87) as follows:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{N \sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{\left\{ N \sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2 \right\} \left\{ N \sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2 \right\}}}$$

Arikunto (2010: 89) states that general coefficient correlation of the test is categorized as follows:

.81 – 1.00 = very high correlation

.61 - .80 = high correlation

.41 - .60 = moderate correlation

.21 - .40 = low correlation

.0 - .20   = very low correlation

The result showed that the coefficient correlation of the test was .70 (high correlation). It means that the test was reliable.

Findings

1. Students' Speaking Ability in Doing Dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang in General.

The highest possible score of the test was 20 and the lowest one was 5. Based on the data analysis the highest score that has gotten by the student was 18 and the lowest one was 10. After calculating the mean and the standard deviation, the researcher got mean was 13,37 and standard deviation was 2,07. Based on the criteria, the result of the data showed that 6 students (9%) had high ability, 52 students (82%) had moderate ability, and 6 students (9%) had low ability.

2. The Eighth Grade Students' Speaking Abillity to Express the Topic (Content) In Doing Dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang.

To find out the students' ability to express the topic (content) in doing dialogue, the researcher firstly counted the students' score. The highest possible score in this term was 4, and the lowest one was 1. The students got 4 as the highest score and 1 as the lowest one. After calculating the mean and the standard deviation, it was found that the mean was 2,8 and the standard deviation was 0.64. The result of the data analysis showed that there were 4 students (6%) who had high ability, 54 students (85%) who had moderate ability, and 6 student (9%) who had low ability. it can be known that the eighth grade students' speaking ability to express the topic (content) in doing dialogue was moderate.

3. The Eighth Students' Speaking Ability to Use Grammar In Doing Dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang.

In this component the highest possible score was 4 and the lowest one was 1. Based on the calculation of students' speaking score, the highest score was 3,5 and the lowest one was 2. Data analysis also demonstrated that the mean was 2,67 and the standard deviation was 0,45. The data analysis also showed that 3 students (5%) had high ability, 51 students (80%) had moderate ability, and 10 students (15%) had low ability. it can be known that the

students' ability to use grammar in doing dialogue was moderate.

4. The Eighth Grade Students' Speaking Ability to Choose and Use The Appropriate Vocabulary in Doing Dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang.

In term of choosing and using the appropriate vocabulary in dialogue, the highest possible score was 4 and the lowest one was 1, the result of the data analysis showed that the highest score gotten by the students was 3,5 and the lowest one was 1,5. The data analysis also demonsrated that the mean was 2,68 and the standard deviation was 0,46. The data analysis also showed that 1 student (2%) had high ability, 52 students (82%) had moderate ability, and 11 students (16%) had low ability in choosing and using the appropriate vocabulary in dialogue. It can be said that the eighth grade students' speaking ability to choose and use the appropriate vocabulary in doing dialogue was moderate.

5. The Eighth Grade Students' Speaking Ability to Pronounce the

Words in Doing Dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang.

In term of pronunciation, the highest possible score was 4 and the lowest one was 1. The highest score that is gotten by students was 4 and the lowest one was 1,5. It also showed that the mean was 2,6 and the standard deviation was 0,48. The result of the data showed that 5 students (8%) had high ability in pronouncing the words, 41 students (64%) had moderate ability, and 18 students (28%) had low ability.

It can be known that the eighth grade students' speaking ability to pronounce the word was moderate.

6. The Eighth Grade Students' Speaking Ability in Fluency in Doing Dialogue SMPN 12 Padang.

In term of students' fluency in dialogue, the highest possible score was 4 and the lowest one was 1. The researcher found that the highest score that gotten by students was 4 and the lowest one was 2. The data analysis also showed that the mean was 2,60 and the standard

deviation was 0,48. The result of data analysis showed that were 5 students (8%) who had high ability in fluency, 40 students (62%) who had moderate ability, and 19 students (30%) had low ability.

it can be known that the students' fluency in dialogue was moderate.

Discussion

Based on the findings of speaking test, the researcher found that the eighth grade students' speaking ability in doing dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang was moderate (61%). It means that they still have trouble in speaking ability since the result of their ability has not yet been high ability. These can be seen from their ability on each components:

1. In term of content, they had moderate ability because 82% students were categorized in to moderate ability. Some of them didnt express their idea clearly and didn't mention persuasion in dialogue. When they do conversation their speaking was not completely, so their ideas can not be expressed. For example in topic of buying a birthday present, they didn't persuade their partner to buy the present. Example " what are you doing in here?" the correct one is " come on! we buy a present for his birthday".

2. In the aspect of grammar, they also had moderate ability because 80% students were categorized in moderate ability. Some of them didnt understand about tenses, especially in persuasion sentence, they just speak according to Indonesian pattern. For example" can I talking with you?" the correct one " can I talk with you?" it means they still use wrong pattern in speaking.

3. In the aspect of choosing and using appropriate vocabulary, the students also got moderate ability because 82% students had moderate ability, it mean that all of the students had been clasified into moderate ability. For

example vocabulary "Love" in sentence " what she love of gift?" can be change with "Like". It means they didn't use the appropriate vocabulary in the dialogue.

4. From the term of pronunciation, the students also had moderate ability because 64% students had been clasified in moderate ability. Some of the students didnt pronounce the word corectly, such as word "sure" was pronounced as /sur/ but the correct one is / :(r)/, the word "fine" was pronounced as /fen/ but the correct one is /fain/, and there were many other mistakes.

5. In term of students' fluency, they also had moderate ability because 62% students had been clasified in to moderate ability. Most of students didnt speak fluently, they had hesitation like; a, mm, when they want to explain something.

Conclusions

Based on the finding of the research, the researcher concluded that:

1. In general the eighth students' speaking ability in doing dialogue at SMPN 12 Padang was moderate, (52 students 82%).

2. The eighth grade students' speaking ability to express the topic (content) in doing dialogue was moderate, (54 students 85%).

3. The eighth grade students' speaking ability to use grammar in doing dialogue was moderate, (51 students 80%).

4. The eighth grade students' speaking ability to choose and use the appropriate vocabulary in doing dialogue was moderate, (52 students 82%).

5. The eighth grade students' speaking ability to pronounce the words in doing dialogue was moderate, (41 students 64%).

6. The eighth grade students' fluency in doing dialogue was moderate, (40 students 62%).

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