# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the research background, research problem, research questions, scope of the research, research objectives, research benefits and definitions of terms, the researcher discusses each component in the following sections.

## 1.1. Research Background

Language is a terms to extend information. It is used to express feelings, thoughts, purposes, and opinion in the spoken or in the written way. Through language we can conduct knowledge, transmit messages from one person to another person and from one generation to another. In sum, all human activities are conducted by use of language.

English is an international language. In Indonesia, English is considered as first foreign language and thought formally from elementary school up to the university level. It is realized that studying English is not easy for Indonesian students because, in fact, English and Indonesian languages are very different in term of spelling, sound, and pronunciation, vocabulary or lexical meaning and grammar. In learning the English language, English contains four basic language skills: receptive skills, listening (understanding spoken language) and reading (understanding the written language) and the productive skills, speaking and writing.

Among those skills that have been mentioned above, speaking skill in a foreign language has often been viewed as the most demanding of the four skills (Bailey and Savage, 1994). In many contexts, speaking is often viewed as the skill upon which a person is judged "at face value". In others words, people may often make judgments about our language competence from our speaking rather than from any of the other language skills.

Many factors affect students' failure in speaking skill. One of the factors is anxiety. Brown (2006: 152) states factors influence students' achievement are self-esteem, willingness to communicate, risk taking, anxiety, empathy, and motivation. Anxiety is a basic human emotion consisting of fear and uncertainty that typically appears when an individual perceives an event as being a threat to the ego or self-esteem (Harris & Coy, 2003. Cited in Vitasari, et.al. 2010:89).

Anxiety is feeling nervous, worry when doing something related to learning and teaching process. Anxiety has negative impact to success in learning a foreign language especially in oral language. When a student speaks with anxiety, she may contribute to poor oral performance. Usually, a student with anxiety is fear evaluated by her peers or fear of losing face.

Empirical research shows that anxious foreign language students are less willing to participate in learning activities, and have lower performance than non-anxious students" (Aida 1994, MacIntyre and Gardner 1991, in Tsiplakides, 2009:39). Students' anxiety to speak English is very important to be solved because it can influence their speaking ability.

The condition where the students had anxiety in their speaking class happened in Pon-Pes Pelajar Mahasiswa (PPPM) Aswaja Nusantara at second grade. In this situation, teachers had an important role to overcome this problem. When teaching and learning process, teachers should be able to implicate the teaching method to be interesting and make the condition of classroom comfortable so the students can minimize their anxiety.

Based on the situation above, the writer thought that it was important to find way to overcome the problem. One of the ways to solve the problem was by proposing a teaching model that was suitable, easy, effective, fun, interesting, and helpful to the students.

Quantum Learning is an integrated model of teaching and learning that creates passionate teachers, engaging classroom and meaningful content resulting in accelerated student achievement. Quantum Learning is about bringing joy to teaching and learning in order to develop students' interest and motivate them to speak.

It is an effective strategy for classroom management, focusing attention, and motivating students to increase participation in learning. The situation can motivate the students concentrate and make them easier to learn. The relaxed situation and good motivation can engage the students to think the idea and present it into their speaking. It may stimulate students' imagination and creation in learning especially in speaking skill. The writer thought that teaching speaking skill by applying Quantum Learning Method will be more effective to reduce their anxiety and develop their speaking ability.

**1.2.    Research Questions**

On the problem above, the researcher formulates the research questions as follows: 1) How is the result of the students' speaking anxiety using QLM?; 2) How is the result of the students' speaking anxiety without using QLM?; 3) Is QLM able to reduce the students' speaking anxiety?

**1.3.    Scope of the Research**

Based on the problem of research above, the researcher limited the problem in investigating the students' anxiety by using Quantum Learning Method in speaking English. Based on this case, the researcher only focused on the problem of students' speaking anxiety at the second grade students of PPPM Aswaja Nusantara. The research itself focused to answer of research questions.

**1.4.    Research Objectives**

Concerning with the research questions mentioned above, the objective of the research can be stated as follows: 1) to find the data of the result of the students' speaking anxiety using QLM; 2) to find the data of the result of the students' speaking anxiety without using QLM; 3) to find the data whether QLM is able to reduce the students' speaking anxiety.

**1.5.    Research Benefit**

The result of the study are hoped to give benefits for teachers, the researcher, and the other researchers:

1.  For teachers

    Through this research, the teacher will be able to increase the strategy of teaching learning process better, especially in teaching speaking skill.

2.  For researcher

    Through this study, the writer will be able to improve his knowledge in writing good paper, and to improve his knowledge about students' speaking anxiety.

3.  For other researcher

    Through this study, it will be beneficial for the next relevant researcher to provide new findings and use the result of this research as a comparative study.

### 1.6.　Definition of Terms

In order to clarify concepts and avoid misinterpretation, in this section the researcher defines key words or phrases used in the research as the following: (1) Speaking skill is the action of conveying information or expressing one's thoughts and feelings in spoken English; (2) Quantum Learning is an integrated model of teaching and learning that creates passionate teachers, engaging classroom and meaningful content resulting in accelerated student achievement. Quantum Learning is about bringing joy to teaching and learning in order to develop students' interest and motivate them to speak;  (3) Anxiety is a basic human emotion consisting of fear and uncertainty that typically appears when an individual perceives an event as being a threat to the ego or self-esteem (Harris & Coy, 2003. Cited in Vitasari, et.al. 2010:89).