

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This research is aimed to learn about the phenomenon of the students' difficulties for improving speaking skill and Awareness on local wisdom. In this chapter, the researcher give information about research background, research questions, research objectives, Scope of the research, research benefit, and definition of term.

1.1 Research Background

Under the influence of globalization, communities from Western countries place importance on economic development and consumerism. Consequently, people in the country have become dominated mentally, intellectually and culturally by forces which are foreign to the traditional atmosphere. Many parents think that their children deserve good education with good facilities. The young generation emphasizes relative relationships, respect for seniors, and helpfulness even among strangers. Loss of these values causes problems, namely, moral, ethical, health and environment. So that, it can be said if the local wisdom is have been pressured from the foreign lifestyle.

Local wisdom is basic knowledge gain from living in balance with nature. It is related to culture in the community which is accumulate and pass on. This wisdom can be both abstract and concrete, but the important characteristics are that it comes from experiences or truth gain from life. The wisdom from real experiences integrates the body, the spirit and the environment. It emphasizes respect for elders and their life experiences. Moreover, it values morals more than material things (Nakorntap et al., 1996; Mungmachon, 2012, in Soelistijowati et all, 2016). It also can be said local wisdom not only things about the materials, but it is have a lot off moral values such as, good manners, habits, mores and rules of behavior that have become a habits for Culture forums and heritage. So that, people must be aware to save our local wisdom because they have a good culture that bring a lot off moral values.

Kulon Progo is sub district of Special region of Yogyakarta that is located on the west Yogyakarta. It has same culture with Yogyakarta. It has some local food, address, and traditional art as like Yogyakarta.

Javanese culture is the one oldest culture in Indonesia and still exist till now. This culture could found in special province of Yogyakarta. Yogyakarta has a leader named Sultan. He is the leader of Yogyakarta Palace. Yogyakarta also had some ethnic ceremonial that began in special occasion, such as *Grebeg Maulud*, ceremonial of night eve of *Siji Suro*, and other traditional ceremonial. Yogyakarta also a lot of local wisdom heritages in this province. From the art, Yogyakarta has *Wayang kulit*. From the Music, there were Gamelan and Karawitan. Then from the Architecture, there were Tample, traditional mosque, and traditional Javanese house. Those all local wisdom herritages are well maintained.

One of traditional art in Yogyakarta is *Wayang Kulit* or shadow puppet. *Wayang kulit* is traditional hand puppet that make of leather of goat or bull. It is really bring the Javanese ethnic in the *wayang kulit*. It is played by one person called *Dalang*. The *dalang* tell story while he/she play the *wayang kulit*. According to Slattery and Wilis (2013) in Linse 2005, the way of teachers teach the students must be aware to the students feeling. The teachers must make the students feel comfortable talking with their friends by using puppets. Using puppets also make the language-learning activity more fun.

Speaking skill is a fundamental part of communication. It is considered as effective communication when we make use of sentence to perform different acts, for example, to express feeling or commands, asking for and giving information, identifying people and things. In other words, we use the target language for a purpose, that is freely and meaningfully (Widdowson 2000). From the definition of speaking, it can be concluded that speaking is the oral practice where someone uses a language and expresses their ideas, feeling, and thinking in communication. It is one of the language skills that need to be acquired by the students in order to be able to communicate with others. Furthermore, speaking is an activity that has an important role in the process of language learning in the classroom. Through speaking, the students are able to subscribe to their creative thinking in sharing ideas and thoughts. It is supported by Barnes (2003), talking is essential to sharing ideas and communicating in the classroom. Besides, speaking enables the students to persuade their mind, to inform something, and to ask questions based on their own point of view.

However, the case happened at one of The State Islamic Middle School of Kulon Progo which is located at Jonggrangan, Jatimulyo, Girimulyo, Kulon Progo, D.I Yogyakarta. Dealing with the students' speaking skill, it was found that First, students speaking skill can be said still lack. It was proved from the students' pre-test score. Based on researcher pre-test, student of VIII A got mean 66.1 or under the passing grade. The passing grade was 70.00. Students' speaking skill also could be said lack because of the school the focus on preparing students competence for final exam, the final exam itself only testing writing skill, reading skill and listening skill. So that, speaking skills at that school especially VIII A class could be said still low because of the focus of school and the average of students pre-test shown that the students' speaking score still lack. Second, mostly of the students are not confidence when they have to speak in front of the class. Both problems that happen at that school was taken by interviewed the subject teacher. From the some statement that already stated, it could be concluded that the eighth graders of the school need to be improve.

Students' awareness on their own local wisdom heritages could be said normal. Researcher conducted the interview to get some information about students' understanding on their on local wisdom. Students of VIIIA didn't know well about their local wisdom. Some of the students prefer to choose another culture or lifestyle, such as: Korean Culture (Kpop, Korean lifestyle). So that, the researcher conduct the research use *wayang kulit* to make the students aware towards their local wisdom.

In this research, the researcher explore speaking skill at eight graders at State Islamic Middle School of Kulon Progo. This research use *wayang kulit* as the media in teaching speaking at the class. Researcher use *wayang kulit* because of there are some benefit for the development of the children.

Concerning the those fact, the *wayang kulit* method is used to solve student's problem. The researcher is interested in doing a reasearch that deal with using *wayang kulit* for improving students speaking skill and awareness on local wissdom. The reseacher conduct a research entitled **"Using Wayang Kulit for Improving Students' Speaking Skills and Awareness on Local Wisdom"**. The reseacher use *wayang kulit* to improve studetns speaking skill and awareness on local wisdom.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background as written, the research question can be formulated as follows:

- (1) How does the use of *wayang kulit* improve the students speaking skill?
- (2) How does the use of *wayang kulit* improve the students' awareness on local wisdom?

1.3 Research Objectives

Related to research questions, the objectives of this study are:

- (1) To describe the implementation of using *wayang kulit* as teaching media in improving students speaking skill
- (2) To describe how the use of *wayang kulit* improves the students' awareness on local wisdom

1.4 Scope of the Research

From the problem formulation, the researcher was limited the problem in improving the students' speaking skill by using *wayang kulit* and awareness on local wisdom. Based on this case, the researcher gives limitations on how to improve eight graders' speaking skill by using *wayang kulit* and improve their awareness on their local wisdom. In this research, the researcher defined *wayang kulit* as teaching media in teaching speaking. It is because in Junior High School the students is very interesting with something that not often they find in daily learning english. It is also want to make the students love their traditional *wayang kulit* as local wisdom.

1.5 Research Benefit

This research entitled "Using *Wayang Kulit* for Improving Students' Speaking Skill and Awareness on Local Wisdom", Researcher hopes this research could be benefit theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

Theoretically, the benefit for implementing the research through *wayang kulit* as media teaching is improving students' speaking skill easily than using other

media. The research believes that the method would give contribution to increase the learning process, especially in speaking skill. Another benefit for implementing *wayang kulit* as media teaching, it also improve students' awareness on their local wisdom. So that, by using wayang kulit as media teaching, it help the students to improve students' speaking skills and also awareness on their local wisdom.

Researcher hopes the result of this study can be useful for references for next research or study. The result of this study also can be references for the government to inserted local wisdom to the curriculum to improve students speaking skill and preserving local wisdoms heritages.

2. Practically

The researcher hopes that the results of this study can be useful by the teacher, students, educational institution, readers and the researcher for the following benefits:

For the teacher

- a. This study can be helpful for teachers to choose a certain new technique in teaching speaking.
- b. The teachers can choose the most appropriate activities for their student and classes to teach speaking in enjoyable ways.

For the students

- a. Help the students especially to improve their speaking skill.
- b. It can lead the students to build many ideas and imagination.

For educational institution

- a. Make a right decision to use a new method to support teaching and learning process in State Islamic Middle School in order to get better output.

For the readers

- a. The readers can get more information and knowledge from this research.
- b. The readers can use it as references.

For the researcher

- a. The researcher expects that it would be useful knowledge when she starts her profession as a real teacher in the future and improves teaching

technique of speaking skill.

- b. The researcher prepares and makes it as references for better future.

1.6 Definition of Terms

This research involves local wisdom, *wayang kulit*, and speaking.

1. Local Wisdom

Local wisdom is basic knowledge gain from living in balance with nature. It is related to culture in the community which is accumulate and pass on. This wisdom can be both abstract and concrete, but the important characteristics are that it comes from experiences or truth gain from life. The wisdom from real experiences integrates the body, the spirit and the environment.

2. *Wayang Kulit*

Wayang kulit is traditional hand puppet that make of leather of cow or bull. It is the one of Javanese heritage that should be love by the local wisdom. Nanda (2010) stated that “*Wayang* has high moral values”. So that, because of those moral values researcher conducting the research use *wayang* to preserve students’ local wisdom heritages.

3. Speaking

According Chaney (1998) in Kayi (2006), speaking as a process: “speaking is the process of building and sharing meaning through the use of verbal or non-verbal symbol in a variety of contexts”. According to Gert and Hans (2008) in Efrizal (2012), speaking is speech or utterances with the purpose of having intention to be recognized by speaker and the receiver processes the statements in order to recognize their intentions. According to Spratt (2005), speaking is a productive skill, like writing, it involves using the organ of speech to express meanings to the other people. So that, speaking is a process of transferring information between two or more people by using organ of speech.

In this research, researcher conducts his research use *wayang kulit* as teaching media. Researcher use *wayang kulit* to improve students’ speaking skills and improve students’ awareness on their local wisdom because of *wayang kulit* was productive skills that use organ of speech to tell someone about informations and it was like the functions of *wayang kulit* that use by *dalang* (puppeters) to share a story. *Wayang kulit*

also become one of local wisdoms heritages that still exist at Yogyakarta. It also have high moral values in the story. So that, researcher uses wayang kulit because it have some relationship and also can help the students to improve their speaking skills and improve their awareness on their local wisdom.