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  - b. Pengutipan tidak merugikan kepentingan yang wajar UIN Suska Riau.
2. Dilarang mengumumkan dan memperbanyak sebagian atau seluruh karya tulis ini dalam bentuk apapun tanpa izin UIN Suska Riau.

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Problem

English is widely used because it is an international language. It is used by people in the world as the first language, the second language and foreign language. As an international language, English is used to communicate with other people who come from different country. English can create the relationship among people. People tend to use English in their communication because they think that English has become their life style.

Speaking is good skill in English learning especially to English as foreign language. All of the schools like language, socials, arts, and others need to speak up. It is needed in every level of field in study. Particularly in this case when students have to speak in English materials for their own special subject. Speaking is also useful to communicate with other people to share information. Speaking is a basic in teaching English to interact with other.

According to Nunan (1994) in Hasan (2008, p.3) mastering speaking is the single of the most important aspect of learning a second or foreign language, and success is measure in term of the ability to carry out the conversation in the language. For students, the ability of English speaking is an important measurement of academic success. There are four skills in which the students should master it at the end of their learning process, they are listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Among the four skills, speaking is



one of the important skills in learning language that should be taught to the students to improve oral communication.

Islamic junior high school, Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru is one of the schools in Pekanbaru. This school use School Based Curriculum (KTSP) as guidance in teaching and learning process. The students study English in this school twice a week (2x45 minutes per meeting), and the KKM in English is 75 score. In this school, the student are interested in learning English because the students are not yet aware how important English language in daily life is. Thus, the teacher needs to motivate their students to make them interested in speaking.

Based on the researcher's observation at State Junior High School al-muttaqin Pekanbaru at the second week in February, 2016. The researcher interview with one of the English teachers who taught the eight students, the teacher's name is Feti makkiyah, S.Pd. There were some strategies have been done by the teacher such as discussing, guessing game, asking the question and giving responds. However, in reality the students couldnot speak well especially in describing thing. It can be described in the following problems:

1. Some of the students are not able to pronounce English word accurately.
2. Some of the students are not able to speak English fluently.
3. Some of the students are not able to speak English in correct grammar.
4. Some of the students do not use appropriate vocabulary in English
5. Some of the students are not able to comprehend in English accurately.

In order to improve students' speaking ability, teacher needs media that will be used to build schema for the students through Letter Game.



Garlach and Ely in Arsyah (2011, p.3) media are as any person, material or event that establishes conditions which enable learners / students to acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Media in teaching are tools that can stimulate the students' feeling, mind, intention, interest, and motivation. So, that the teaching and learning process can run optimally. One of the media is Letter Game. According to Wahyudi (2013, p.36) Letter is one game played in groups or team which uses alphabet card, A-Z. It is provided by the teacher to help the students recall possessed vocabulary and improve speaking fluency in term of spontaneity. Each participant of this game takes a turn to play the game.

Based on the problems above, it can be stated that some of the eight grade students still have problems in speaking ability in learning English. Thus, the researcher is interested in investigating the problems above into a research entitled: **“The Effect of Using Letter Game on Students' Speaking Ability at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru”**.

## **B. The Problem**

### **1. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the problems above, the researcher can identify the problems as follows:

- a. What make some of the students unable to pronounce English word accurately?
- b. What make some of the students unable to speak English fluently?
- c. What make some of the students unable to speak English in correct grammar?



- d. What make some of the students not use appropriate vocabulary in English?
- e. What make some of the students unable to comprehend in English accurately?

## 2. Limitation of the Problem

To avoid misunderstanding and to clarify the study, the making of limitation of the study should be provided. The writer limits the study on teaching english that concern on the students' speaking ability by using letter game at islamic junior high school al-muttaqin pekanbaru.

## 3. Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem stated above, thus the research questions are formulated in the following questions:

- a. How is the students' speaking ability taught by using Letter Game of students' at Islamic junior high school Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru?
- b. How is the students' speaking ability taught without using Letter Game of students' at Islamic junior high school Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru?
- c. Is there any significant effect of using letter game on student's speaking ability at Islamic junior High School Al-muttaqin Pekanbaru?

## C. The Objective and Significance of the Research

### 1. The Objective of the Research

Generally, the objective of this research is to find out the answer of the problems and purposes clearly. There are objectives to be researched in this research as focus:



- a. To find out speaking ability of students taught by using letter game.
- b. To find out speaking ability of students taught without using letter game.
- c. To know whether there is significant effect of using letter game on speaking ability of the eighth grade students at Islamic Junior High School Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.

## 2. The Significance of the Research

- a. Hopefully this research is able to benefit the researcher's as a novice researcher especially in learning how to conduct a reaserch.
- b. These research findings are also hopefully useful and valuable, especially for students and the teachers of the English of the eight Grade of State Junior High School Al- Muttaqin Pekanbaru as consideration in their learning and learning process in the future.
- c. Besides, these research finding are also expected to be meaningful, especially for those who are concerned with teaching and learning English.
- d. Finally , these research findings are also expected to be meaningful input for both practical and theoretical development of TEFL and TESL, in general.

## D. Definition of the Terms

### 1. Effect

According Richard and Schmidt (2002, p.175) effect is measure of the strength of one variable's effect on another the relationship between two or more variables. When researchers rejects the null hypothesis and



concludes that an independent variable had an effect, an effect size is calculated to determine how strong the independent variable's effect (e.g. presence or absence of a bilingual programmed) was on the dependent variable (e.g. academic performance). Effect size is often used as a common metric to make research result comparable across studies as it puts studies on the same scale. According to Hornby in Elvita (2012, p.4) effect is a change procedure by an action or cause as defined. It means that effect is an activity that can change caused by something.

Based on the statement above the effect is defined as the result of teaching speaking ability by using letter game of eighth grade at Islamic Junior High School Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.

## 2. Letter Game

According to Wahyudi (2013, p.36) Letter is one game played in groups or team which uses alphabet card, A-Z. It is provided by the teacher to help the students recall possessed vocabulary and improve speaking fluency in term of spontaneity. Each participant of this game takes a turn to play the game.

According to Hornby (1995, p.353) Game is a form of play especially with rules. Game is one of the media that build students' vocabulary by letter of alphabet. Besides, according to Erzoz in Putri (2010, p.18) games are highly motivating because they are amusing and interesting. Game is an activity that can involve all learners to active, fun, and enjoyable in learning English process.

Based on the theories above, the researcher's concludes that most of the students have chance to be able to master English communication,



like Letter game to describe something to another. The letter game can improve the speaking ability especially for eighth grade students of Islamic Junior High School Al-Muttaqin Pekanbaru.

### 3. Students' Speaking Ability

According to Hasibuan and Ansyari (2007, p.101) speaking ability is the measure of knowing a language which involves mechanics (pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary): using the right words in the right order with the correct pronunciation. Functions (transaction and interaction): knowing when clarity of message is essential (transaction/information exchange) and when precise understanding is not require (interaction/relationship building). And social, cultural rules and norms (turn- taking, rate of speech, length of pauses between speakers, relative rules of participants): understanding how to take into account who is speaking to whom, in what circumstances, about what, and for what reason.

Based on the statement above, the researcher's concludes that speaking ability is the state of being able to do something, or your level of skill at doing something. It means that the ability of the person to share the information to the other. In this study, speaking ability is the ability of students to share the materials to their friends in and out of the classroom.