

## TEACHING SPEAKING THROUGH VOICE CHAT BY USING HEADPHONE AS A MEDIA IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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### Abstrak

Keterampilan berbicara adalah salah satu keterampilan yang paling mendasar bagi semua siswa di tingkat Sekolah Menengah Pertama. Makalah ini menjelaskan tentang penerapan *voice chat* dengan menggunakan *headphone* sebagai media dalam pengajaran *speaking*. *Voice chat* merupakan salah satu media komunikasi yang dapat digunakan untuk kegiatan *speaking* selama proses belajar mengajar. Dengan menggunakan *headphone* sebagai media siswa dapat lebih aktif lagi dalam proses pembelajaran. Pada awal pembelajaran, guru menjelaskan dan memperagakan bagaimana cara menggunakan *headphone* yang baik dan benar. Guru membimbing siswa untuk bisa memahami isi dari *voice chat* dan berdiskusi tentang apa yang dibahas dalam proses pengajarannya. Setelah itu, guru menyuruh siswa untuk membuat percakapan dalam kelompok agar mereka bisa menggunakan *voice chat* dengan *headphone* dengan benar. Selain itu, guru menjelaskan tentang pengertian *voice chat* kepada murid. Setelah guru menjelaskan pengertian dari *voice chat* lalu guru memberikan pekerjaan rumah yang berkaitan dengan *voice chat*. Hal ini bertujuan untuk melihat pemahaman siswa dalam memahami sebuah media dan menunjang siswa untuk bersemangat berbicara bahasa inggris dan siswa juga akan cepat percaya diri dalam berbicara bahasa inggris di ruangan kelas dan juga dalam kehidupan sehari-harinya.

Key words: *voice chat*, *headphone*, *teaching speaking*

### A. Introduction

Language is an important skill that should be learned by children. In Indonesia, especially in Junior and Senior High School, English will be a very important language that should be mastered by students. Teaching English has a purpose to prepare students to have communicative competence by which the students are able to communicate both in oral and/or written forms. In School Based Curriculum (KTSP), the students are expected to have that communication in four basic, namely speaking, listening, reading, and writing skill.

Speaking is a crucial part of second language learning and teaching. Today's world requires that the goal of teaching speaking should improve students' communicative skills, because, only in that way, learners can express themselves

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and learn how to follow the social and cultural rules appropriate in each communicative circumstance. Speaking is important skill because someone can express his or her ideas or give information to others by speaking. Therefore students need to be able to speak English appropriately.

Brown as quoted by Sarifuddin (2003), states that speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing, receiving and processing information there is a listener to receive information and there is a process in giving the information itself. To help the students improve their speaking competence, a teacher needs to give her students many opportunities to practice (Nunan, 1985). The teacher needs to use imagination in devising situations which can provoke the use of language in the expression of the students own meaning, even the students have very limited vocabulary to construct the sentences. Brown, et al (1982) said that speaking ability is the ability to say the sounds of language to express or receive idea orally.

Many learners are not able to speak English well because they seldom to practice it in their days caused of nervous. They feel afraid to make some errors in speaking English so, they decide to be quiet. They are afraid their friends will mock them whether they make errors in talking. This fact can be seen mostly at SMP N 13 Padang, although they have been studying English for more than a year, but they are still unable to use English in interacting with their teacher in the classroom. Some teachers sometimes think use some of varieties of technique will make them busy as well as it cost a lot of money. So, they only use some of students' worksheets in classroom and they also tend to teach only to reach the target of Indonesia curriculum.

To make the students have strong interested in teaching and learning process especially in learning speaking, the teacher should take the best approach, method, and strategies. Then, the teacher can use "new media" in teaching of English language, method are used to help the students for speaking to make interaction between the teacher and students, and also between students and students. Furthermore, the teacher has to prepare the interested in aids before teaching learning process done. In this case, the writer used voice chat as a media in teaching learning processes. Voice chat by using headphone is very effective to improve the learners speaking skill because of this media makes students brave to speak. Nowadays, many students are too shy to standing in front of the class to speak. They lost their self-confidence when his/her friends gives more attention. Through voice chat by using headphone, the writer hoped the students will be brave to speak, not only in the classroom but also in their daily activities.

By using voice chat with learners, the teacher is bringing current technology into the language learning process. This media needs the speaker to be active because if the speakers are passive those activities cannot be entered. Voice chat by using headphone has led to a significant increase in distant communications where two or more people can talk almost free of cost. Chat has enormous potential to link student in real time. It is a technology that many learners will often be familiar with and will use in their social lives, so it is worth exploiting in the classroom where possible. Having said that, although types of cultural

exchange describe above are hugely motivating to student, they will probably take place no more than a few times a term or semester.

This study is expected to have some contributions to the language teaching-learning process, especially for teaching speaking in Junior High School. Therefore, it serves as an alternative in teaching speaking strategies in order to improve students' speaking ability.

## **B. Discussion**

In the classroom, there are three stages of teaching speaking: pre-teaching, whilst teaching and post teaching. In pre-teaching, teacher build students background knowledge about the topic that will be learned. In whilst teaching, teacher explain about the lesson. In this stage, there are three processes; exploration, elaboration and confirmation. The last, in post teaching, teacher concludes the lesson and checks students' understanding.

### **1. Pre-Teaching Activity**

First, teacher greets and motivates the students. Greeting the students is very important to know how the students are. After that, the teacher can check the students' attendance. The teacher also checks the learning environment such as asking the students to clean up the rubbish in the class, clean up the white board, and prepare learning equipments such as marker, eraser and ink. Besides that, motivating is also useful to increase students' enthusiasm. Then, teacher has to make sure that the students are ready to study. Their readiness can be seen by their attendance in the classroom and how their condition at that time.

Then, in this stage, teacher builds student's background knowledge with the topic being discussed. Teacher invites the students to refresh their brain and talk many things and say the knowledge that has relationship with the topic. For example, the teacher asked the students' knowledge about the hottest news today. After that, the teacher tells about the objective materials that will be learned.

### **2. Whilst-Teaching Activity**

Whilst-teaching is the core of the teaching and learning process because in this part the teacher does some steps in order to explain the topic deeply. They are Exploration, Elaboration and Confirmation.

#### **1. Exploration**

Teacher choose the topic based on the recent news today and then asks the students to listen it carefully. For example, teacher chooses about "Holiday" as a topic and gives explanation why she chooses it.

Teacher chooses "Holiday" as a topic because at that time the students has finished their holiday and it is still "fresh" for them. Then, the teacher makes list of new words on the board. In making list of new words, teacher asks the students to find the meaning of those new words and say it with the right pronunciation. Through these activities, it will be easier for them to get the topic in teaching speaking process.

#### **2. Elaboration**

The second stage in whilst-teaching is elaboration. This stage is the main stage in the teaching and learning process. Giving voice chat by using headphone as a

media to the students, it is hoped that students can decipher the messages easily because they can hear the intonation, stress, rhythm, and pronunciation. Then, teacher gives some questions to the students in teaching speaking by using headphone. After then, teacher may discuss it with the students around 15 to 30 minutes. In this session, the students are asked about their comprehension in teaching speaking through voice chat by using headphone as a media. After students mention the answers, then teacher may correct the answers of the students. Here, teacher correct the grammar of the answer of the students since the grammar mastery is one of the difficulties students have in speaking.

### **3. Confirmation**

In confirmation, teacher gives feedback and conclusion to their activity to reflect students' participation in answering the questions. Teacher and students will discuss the mistakes that they have made and correct the mistakes together. Then, the teacher asks students to pay more attention to the topic.

*Teacher: Well, students. After we talked about holiday, I want to give explanation for you about what is the meaning of holiday. Holiday is a day of recreation when no work is done. Do you understand?*

*Students: Yes..*

*Teacher: Okay, student A. What are the things that you can get from this topic?*

*Student A: I can get some information about the other city from my friends' story. I also can get what are the newest today, such as movie and games.*

*Teacher: Right. When you listen about your friends' story, you may*

*know about many things that you never know before. And when you tells about your story, we also can get some new words and gives more attention to your pronunciation. Can you get it? Who can?*

*Student B: Yes, I am.*

### **Post-Teaching Activity**

In this activity, teacher checks the students understanding about the lessons by giving the students some questions that relates to the topic they have learned. Teacher also needs to make a conclusion about the materials by telling the students all of aspects that students need to understand. The students can take the information from the voice chat. After that, teacher gives students homework before close the lesson. The last, the teacher closes the class. That is the end of the lesson and also the class.

### **C. Conclusion**

In teaching how to improve speaking skill, there are many methods used in teaching learning process. It is based on the use of method is adjusted with the materials that will be taught. Every teacher should always prepare the suitable teaching method before presenting the materials in the class. Many learners are



not able to speak English well because they seldom to practice it in their days caused of nervous. They feel afraid to make some errors in speaking English so, they decide to be quiet. They are afraid their friends will mock them whether they make errors in talking.

Using voice chat is very effective to improve the learners speaking skill. But this method makes students brave to speak. This method needs the speaker to be active because if the speakers are passive those activities cannot be entered. There are six steps in learning through voice chat by using headphone as a media. First, teacher choose the topic based on the recent news. Then, teacher makes list of new words and asks the students to find the meaning of those words and say it with the right pronunciation. Next, teacher gives some questions about the topic to the students by using headphone as a media and they used some of those new words to answer it. After that, teacher checks the students understanding about the lesson by giving them some questions that relates to the topic they have learned. Then, teacher makes a conclusion about the topic by telling the students all of aspects that their needs to understand. For the last, teacher gives homework for the students before close the lesson. It is very suggested for English learners to use technologies in practicing speaking English. Speaking English must be practiced and habited. Using voice chat is also suggested for English teachers to be applied in their class if it is enable to do. This way will be very effective to improve students speaking skill. This way also will help learners to kill their nervous that has been most problem for common English learner in Indonesia.

**Note:** this article is compiled based on the writer's paper with his advisor Drs. Don Narius, M.Si

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