CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is important key when we want to show our feeling, our idea, or even receive an information. Without language we can not do communication with other people, because the function of language is communication tool. According to Keraf (1997: 1), language is a means of communication between members of the public in the form of a symbol of the sound produced by the oral instrument of human. Everybody knows that English is an international language. When we want to know the newest information in the world, we should master English well, because most of articles, newspapers, websites, international television channels are using English. Unfortunately, English becomes a foreign language in Indonesia. Most of Indonesia people do not understand English, because it is difficult to learn a new language. Moreover curriculum of Indonesia grouped English as complementary subject in elementary school. That is why there are many junior high school students do not have knowledge about English because they didn’t get English in elementary school. Recently, many researchers have done many researchs to find out innovation to learn English easily, cooperative learning be one of the effective models to learn English Easily.

Both oral and written in English are usefull, so students have to master both of them. There are 4 important skills in English such writing, listening, reading, and speaking, but in this research the writer will focus on speaking.
In my teaching experience when I did my teaching practice, most of students kept silent when I asked them questions even they know the answer. They kept silent because they did not have confidence to speak. They felt shy, and afraid if they did a mistake to answer my questions. Encouraging students to talk in a language classroom is thus a problem that most language teachers face (Tsui, 1996; White & Lightbown, 1984). In other words this problem have been faced by teachers for long time.

If students are afraid to speak, how can teachers evaluate students competence in speaking? Teacher should chose right model of teaching to encouraging students to speak.

On the other hand competition motivates students to speak. Competition makes students get the right push to encourage them to speak. Competition had a positive impact on performance goals and learning motivation in the classroom (Lam, Yim, Law, & Cheung, 2004). Through competition, students have motivation to be the best among their friends. They want to be the winner, and they won’t be the loser. According to Dettmer (2004) posited that “learning by losing” was a valuable process for students preparing for professions where working under pressure was necessary.

Meanwhile this model of teaching has weaknesses, when the competition is done in individual, it makes students selfish, they will do anything to beat their opponents. This is not fair when high-achieving students always beat low-achieving students. But if competition is well ordered, it will be effective and undangerous way to motivate students to do their best (Slavin, 2008:5). The
problem is some teacher can’t order competition well, so that the winner never help the loser to grow up. Contrarily Deutsch, Coleman, and Marcus (2006) hold that the desired constructive form of competitiveness happens when the winner tries to lend a hand to the loser. So the writers conclude that fair competition happens when the winner have desires to help the loser, which means it happens when competition does in group.

Cooperative learning combine both competition and group work. Johnson et al. (2000) cooperative learning exists when students work together to accomplish shared learning goals. There are two words goals and group indicated that to win (achieve the goals) students should work together, there is no different role between high-achieving students and low-achieving students, all of them have same role, same contributions in cooperative learning.

B. Problem of Study

The problems of the study is:

1. Does cooperative learning have effect to speaking competence?

C. The Aim of Study

This study aim to know the effect of cooperative learning to speaking competence.
D. Clarification of Terms

In order to understand the title, below are the clarifications of terms used in this study:

1. Effects
   In Cambridge Dictionaries, Effects means the result of particular influence.

2. Cooperative Learning
   Kagan (1994) Cooperative Learning is a teaching arrangement that refers to small, heterogeneous groups of students working together to achieve a common goal.

3. Speaking Competence
   Speaking is a speech production that becomes a part of our daily activities, Thornburry (2005:8). Competence is ability to do something well (Cambridge Dictionaries).