

## CHAPTER II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### A. The Definition of Speaking

Speaking is one of language skills which is very important to be learned when we want to master English. As an essential skill in language learning, there are various perceptions about speaking definition. The term of speaking have different definitions for different group of people in order to suit their different needs and purpose of speaking. Many experts have purposed the definition and explanation of speaking.

Tarigan (2008: 16) stated that speaking is an ability to produce sounds and words to express or convey thoughts, ideas, and feelings. Then, Brown (2001: 267) also cited that when someone can speak a language it means that he/she can carry on a conversation reason completely. Thus, speaking is one way to express our mind orally and the way someone speaks can be shown how far insight us.

Nurgiyantoro (2001: 275) stated that speaking is ideas, opinion and feeling from the speaker. Speaking is not only delivering ideas but also the way we presenting new information orally. According to Harmer (2007: 346) stated that speaking success will perform much better if there is a chance to think about what is going to say and how to say it.

Nunan (1991: 40) stated that speaking is the same as oral interactions which are conventional ways of presenting information, expressing our idea, and thought have in our mind. It could be said that speaking is not always

expressing our ideas but also relate to the new information to others. Moreover, speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning always involves in producing words and the meaning depends on the context.

From the explanation above, the writer concluded that speaking is what we say to what we see, feel and think. When we find something, we want someone to hear us. So, in this process we can call it is an interaction between two sides.

### **B. The Importance of Speaking**

Every student needs good speaking skill to communicate with foreigners, because the priority for many second language or foreign language learners is to master speaking skill in English (Richard, 2002: 19). Many language learners regard speaking ability as the measure of knowing a language.

Speaking is very important to be interacting with other people. To build a good communication we need have speaking competence. Related to speaking competence, Nunan (1987: 39) stated that “To most people, mastering the art of speaking is the single most important aspect of learning a second and foreign language, and success is measured in terms of the ability to carry out conversation in the language”.

From the explanation above, that could be concluded that in speaking, someone delivers information through voice / language sound. In the entire situation above, everyone must have speaking competence.

### C. Speaking Competence

Speaking competence known as oral skill that plays an important role in human daily life when people want to communicate their ideas, mind and feeling to other. According to Tarigan (2008: 16) speaking is an ability to produce sounds and words to express or convey thoughts, ideas, and feelings.

There are five aspects in measuring speaking competence. It is stated by Hughes (2003):

#### 1. Fluency

Fluency is the quality of being able to speak or write language easily and well (Hornby, 2000: 516). Fluency is the speakers' capability when using the language quickly, spontaneously and confidently (Brown: 2000: 286). Foster and Skehan in Nunan (2004: 87) propose a model in assessing speaking in which fluency is measured by considering the total number of seconds of silence and time spent saying 'um' and 'ah' by subjects as they complete a task.

#### 2. Grammar

Grammar is the system of rules governing the conventional arrangement and relationship of words in a sentence, Brown (2001: 362). Grammar conducts with someone ability to organize words into sentences grammatically correct and the ability to apply the grammatically rules appropriately. It is also stated by Mart (2012: 93) that grammar helps learners to build comprehensible sentence in speaking.

### 3. **Pronunciation**

Thornbury (2005: 128-129) stated that pronunciation refers to the students' ability to produce comprehensible utterances to fulfil the task requirements. Pronunciation becomes important because it gives meaning to what is being said. Wrong pronunciation may cause misunderstanding or people involved in a conversation are offended.

### 4. **Vocabulary**

John (2000: 16) stated that vocabulary is knowledge of knowing the meaning of words and therefore the purpose of vocabulary test is to find out whether the learners can match each word with a synonym, a dictionary tape definition, or an equivalent word in their language. In learning vocabulary automatically they have to know the meaning of the words themselves and can use it in sentences. By having bunch of vocabularies the students don't have to be worry uttering their ideas and feeling.

### 5. **Comprehension**

Hornby (2000: 263) stated that comprehension is the power of understanding an exercise aimed at improving or testing one understand of a language in written or spoken. It tackles deep role since without good comprehension it would be hard to have good speaking.

#### **D. Speaking Difficulties Faced by Students**

It is not easy mastering speaking skill for Indonesian students since as a foreign language because English is not used in their daily activities. Pratiwi (2008: 2) stated that difficulties in speaking in the target language can be caused by (1) the lack knowledge of language elements, e.g.: grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. (2) Less opportunities to practice speaking. (3) The low motivation and confident to speak that may be caused by uninteresting and unfamiliar topics.

The theory has been proven by some researchers dealing with EFL learners' difficulties in speaking English. It is revealed some difficulties faced by English learners, and most of the result show that the mechanical elements of the language is the major difficulty faced by the students. Those are inadequate vocabulary, grammar as stumbling block, and improper pronunciation that are on the top of the difficulties of speaking faced by the students.

##### **a. Inadequate Vocabulary**

Vocabulary can be defined as all the words known and used by a particular person (Helena, 2010: 6). The students who have a lot of vocabulary they can express their ideas whenever they want to express. For vocabulary really supports the student to learn the skill of the target language. It can be said that having excessive vocabulary, the students can have a perfect understanding of every points, this communication will run both ways. Hence, the students can speak effectively. Moreover,

it will also be easier for them to choose the words they want to say in expressing their mind, feeling and opinion.

b. Grammar as stumbling block

In speaking, one not only has to speak up in English yet he or she is required to make oral statements in right construction. This is equal with what Setyawan (2005: 33) said that someone has to know when he or she must use present, past, or future tense. Furthermore, Setyawan (2005: 33) added that someone has to understand where he or she should place auxiliaries, adverb, and adjective to create a good communication.

c. Improper Pronunciation

The ability of speaking English shows the correctness of pronunciation and intonation that directly affects the appropriate daily communication in conversation. Dealing with that statements, pronunciation is also one of the difficulties faced by EFL learners. Usually EFL learners especially Indonesian learners find that it is difficult to pronounce English words well. It is because they don't know how to pronounce a word properly since in English each words has to be pronounce specially. Different pronunciation means different meaning. Thus if a learner pronounce a word improperly, it change the meaning of the topic that can lead into misunderstanding of the hearer.