

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents seven topics related to this research. Those include background of the research, statement of the research problems, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

English is one of international languages which is most widely used in all over the world. It functions as a means of communication for many activities among governments over the world. In the globalization era, English plays an important role especially in international communication and in the development of education. In some countries, English is taught as foreign language and second language.

In Thailand setting, English is seen as important skill that must be owned or achieved by people. Mastering it will increase person's quality, because English has high power in both education and occupation world. So, having proficiency in English is purposed to confront the competition of life actually in the future. Based on the important of English as mentioned above, Thailand government has included English into educational curriculum in the schools. English is one of the foreign language that has been taught in formal education. Starting from pre elementary school up to university levels. Even, today we will find that students at kindergarten level have been introduced English early.

There are four skills that must be mastered in teaching learning English, there are listening, writing, reading, and speaking. The most important one of them is speaking. Ur (1991: 120) states "Of all the four skills, speaking is considered to be able to be the most important skill. Learning speaking becomes the greatest interest for foreign language learners". Besides, Richards (2002:201) states "A large percentage of the world's language learners study English in order to develop

proficiency in speaking”. In short, the ability of English is measured by its result in speaking skill or oral communication. Speaking is one of the four language skills which should be develop in teaching English in line with Hedges idea (2000:261) that suggest “learning speaking is very important for students”.

For many students learning to speak English is a priority. They may need this for a variety of reasons such as for exchanging information or for influencing people, like to persuade the other people to believe about what they said. Speaking in foreign language is very complex task because the speaker has to understand the nature of what appears to be involved. For example, learners need linguistic competence to be able to use the language appropriately to give context. It means that learners must also acquire knowledge of how the native speaker uses the language in the context of structured interpersonal exchange, in which many factors interact.

Learning speaking needs more chance to practice the target language. Teacher needs to provide good speaking activities to support the students’ speaking ability. Harmer (2003:8) states, “Good speaking can and should be highly motivating. If all the students participating fully and the teachers has set up the ctivity properly and can then give sympathy and useful feedback. They will get remendous satisfaction from it”. The speaking activities can and should motivate the students to practice speaking well. With good activities, the students are motivated to speak English well. One of goal in teaching speaking is to be communicatively efficient. Here learners should be able to make themselves understood, using their current proficiency to the fullest, and learners should try to avoid confusion in delivering and messages due to faculty pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, and to observe the social and culture rules that apply in each communication situation. Therefore, teacher needs to create communicative condition that support learner not to be shy in practicing their speaking communicatively.

There are two characteristics of communicative teaching, there are: the students and the teacher use only to learning speaking, teachers have a strategic role in shaping the character and intelligence of the students. There are some influencing the teaching learning process successful, for example the method, the media, and the technique, etc. According to Mackey (1975: 157), all teaching, whether good or bad, must include some sort of selection, some sort of gradation, some sort of presentation, and some sort of repetition. It includes selection because teachers cannot teach all of what teachers have selected at once; teachers have to put something one after others. Finally it includes repetition because teachers cannot make other people learn the language without repeating the materials they are learning; teachers have to teach language skills with practice; all skills depend on practice. Therefore, all methods should include four steps of teaching a language (Bambang, 2006: 13).

Unlike most other countries in Southeast Asia and South Asia, Thailand is the only country in ASEAN that has never been colonized by other countries, so Thailand is called a white elephant country. Other countries in the Indian subcontinent such as Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia are examples of countries that have experienced changes in the education system of previous countries, namely colonizing countries for centuries, but Thailand has never was colonized by the power of any country. In the field of education system Thailand is also not affected by the education system of any other country, including its educational system which was slowly formulated and directed by Thailand itself until it gained new impetus by re-establishing diplomacy at the end of the 19th century.

Based on the language learning area of basic education core curriculum 2008, English is a one of mandatory subjects starting from grade 1 in primary education to Grade 12 in secondary education level. Language learning is aimed at enabling learners to acquire a favourable and positive attitude towards the language,

the ability to use English for communicating in various situations, researching for knowledge, engaging in a livelihood and pursuing further education at higher levels. The main contents of English include eight standards which include four strands of study namely – communication, culture, connection and community. The focus of the strands is discussed below: 1. Communication: It mainly focuses on the use of English as it is mode of communication – interpretation mode, interpersonal mode and presentational mode. Thus, the four communicative skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are included. It is aimed at the use of language in exchanging information, expressing feelings and opinions, interpreting, presenting information, concepts and views on various matters, and creating interpersonal relationships appropriately 2. Culture: It is aimed at using of foreign languages harmonious with culture of native speakers; relationships, similarities and differences between languages and cultures of native speakers; languages and cultures of native speakers and Thai culture; and appropriate application 3. Connection or Language and relationship with other learning areas: use of foreign languages to link knowledge with other learning areas, forming the basis for further development, seeking knowledge and broadening learners' world views 4. Connection or language and relationship with community and the world: This strand aimed at the use of foreign languages in various situations, both in the classroom and the outside community and the global society, forming a basic tool for further education, livelihood and exchange of learning with the global society.

Among senior high school in Nakhon si Thammarat Thailand, Santitham foundation school has many Speaking achievements in academic and in non academic. Santitham Foundation School is one of islamic school exist in Thailand exactly at Nakhon si Thammarat province. The teacher taught speaking classroom activities to stimulate the students speaking interest when teaching English process. Since 28 years ago Santitham foundation school already shows achievement as measured by the achievement of the national education standards is exceeded.

In addition, achievements of English in Santitham foundation school some of them there are in the academic achievements are the 1st winner speech contest at Prateep sasana islamic school, finalist English quiz bee olympiad Nakhon 2019, finalist English vocal solo at province level 2019, finalist spelling bee at Prateep sasana islamic school 2019, the 1st winner story telling province level 2019, etc. The students in this school often follow English Olympiade in and outside province.

The fact above shows that Santitham foundation school at Nakhon si Thammarat Thailand has good quality in teaching and automatically the teachers in this school also have good quality especially in teaching speaking.

From the background of the study above, the writer wants to know how teaching learning process especially teaching speaking. Therefore, the writer is interested in conducting research by tittle “The Practice of Teaching Speaking of Students Eleventh Grade at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand”.

B. Statement of the Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, the problem of this study is formulated as follows:

1. How are teaching speaking strategies at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand?
2. How are activities set to stimulate students to practice in speaking at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand?

C. Objectives of the Research

This study intended to get solution and description of the problem through analysis and study that have been previously mentioned in the research problems, they are:

1. To find out teaching speaking streategies at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand

2. To find out the activities set to stimulate students' practice in speaking at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand.

D. Significance of the Research

Practically, when this study focusing on teaching speaking of student's eleventh grade it will be more aware with the student's habitual when they study in the class with their friends and teacher. Moreover, the writer hopes this study will give contribution for;

1. The English Teacher

This study helps them to improve their understanding in teaching speaking that focused on the used strategies for teaching speaking.

2. Future researcher

The finding of the study can be useful for other researchers since it can be reference to conduct further research about some aspect in teaching speaking.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Research

In this study, the writer only focuses a study on formal teaching. Formal teaching is classroom-based, provided by trained teacher. It is conducted only for Matayom 5 or eleventh grade students of Santitham Foundation School. It only discusses the teaching of speaking in regular class. It does not discuss the teaching learning process conducted outside the class such as extracurricular activities.

F. Definition of Key Terms

In this part, there is some explanation from the title mentioned in the previous items. The title is "The Practice of Teaching Speaking of Students Eleventh Grade at Santitham Foundation School Nakian Nakhon Thailand"

- a. Teaching is a process of conveying or transferring knowledge to the people.
- b. Speaking is a skill that our students in learning, compared to the other language skills. Speaking defined as an ability to express, idea, thoughts, and feelings orally (Solikin, 2013).

- c. Teaching Strategy is steps do by the teachers' in teaching learning process to implementing the overall plan and long term, in order to educate, guide, and direct students towards a better (Nanang Fatah, 2004:25).
- d. Activity is a collection of people, work items, communications, and processes that represent a collaborative effort to achieve a goal. An activity is a way for you to organize your work and collaborative with others. (Mulyono 2001:26) states activity is “activity or being active”. So everything done or activities that occur both physical and non-physical, is an activity.