

Improving Students' Speaking Ability by Using Puppet Craft

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Abstrak

The purpose of this study was to improve students' speaking skills through Puppet Craft Media. This research was conducted with the aim of overcoming the problems encountered in the classroom, namely: students are not interested in speaking English. For data collection, the writer chose a speaking test, a checklist for observation, and a questionnaire. The writer and collaborator applied it to find out the improvement of students speaking ability by introducing themselves in English in each cycle. Through a questionnaire, researchers can find out whether Puppet Craft media can overcome problems in speaking English or not. Research requires 2 cycles. The subjects of this study were 23 students in first grade at SMPN 1 JULI in the 2021/2022 academic year. In the first cycle, the average percentage value obtained is 65.2% and this is classified as the average student agreeing to use Puppet Craft as a medium to improve speaking in English. In the second cycle, the average value of the percentage of students increased, namely the average value of the percentage obtained by students was 71.9%. After analyzing the students' scores, the writer concludes that the students' speaking ability has improved using Puppet Craft as a Media.

Key Word: Speaking, Puppet Craft.

INTRODUCTION

Speaking is the transmission of language by mouth. To speak, we create sounds using many parts of our bodies, including our lungs, vocal tract, vocal cords, tongue, teeth, and lips. Speaking is also an activity that a person uses to communicate with others. When people talk, they interact and use language to express their ideas, feelings, and thoughts. They also share information with other through communication.

In this study, the researcher chose the title *Improving Students' Speaking Ability Using Puppet Craft* because the formulation of the problem found was that students did not want to speak in English. So, to solve the problem, the researcher applied *Puppet Craft as a media* to help students speak in English. The researcher hopes that students can use *Puppet Craft as a media* for students to improve their English language skills.

According to [1] the goal of teaching speaking is communicative in speaking. So, in learning English pronunciation (speaking) students must make themselves understood and must try not to be confused in pronunciation, vocabulary and also grammar to regulate the communication situation.

According to [2], teaching speaking is teaching English learner to produce English speech sounds and sound patterns;

Use word and sentence stress, intonation patterns and second language rhythms.

Choose the right words and sentences according to the social setting, audience, situation and the right subject matter.

Arrange their thoughts in a meaningful and logical order.

Use language as a means of expressing values and judgments.

Use language quickly and confidently with few unnatural pauses, which is called fluency.

According to [3] when teaching to speak, the teacher must be very competent in activities in the class and also motivate students. However, the teacher must make the speaking class more enjoyable. Teachers must make activities that are direct communication between students.

As we know that, the conclusion of speaking is that speaking can only be expressed verbally and speaking also greatly affects our personal lives and is important for our daily lives. Students' speaking ability is the ability of students to express their ideas verbally which is represented by speaking scores. Speaking is only a trace of verbal ability obtained from structure and vocabulary.

Types of Speaking

There are three types of speech. (1) speaking as interaction, (2) speaking as transaction, (3) speaking as performance.

Talk as interaction

Talk as interaction refers to what we usually mean by "conversation" and describes interactions that serve a major social function. When people meet, they exchange greetings, engage in small talk, share recent experiences, and so on, because they want to be friendly and establish a comfort zone for interacting with other people.

Talk as a transaction

Talk as a transaction refers to a situation where the focus is on what is said or done. Messages and getting yourself understood clearly and accurately is the main focus, not the participants and how they socially interact with each other. In such transactions, Jones advises, "talk in relation to other activities.

Talk as performance refers to the public talk, talk that delivers the information before the audience, such as classroom presentations, public announcements, and speeches. Though as performance tends to be in the monolog form rather than dialogue. Examples are giving a speech of welcome, giving lectures, giving a class report about a school trip, conducting a class debate making a sales presentation.

The Important of Speaking

Speaking is one of the four language skills that need to be mastered by students. This is an important skill because in speaking, a person can say what he wants to express. Also, they are symbolic words that are usually conveyed by a person through communication. Nazara (2011) stated that nowadays, the need for mastery of speaking in English has increased dramatically due to the strengthening of the position of English as an international language.

According to [4]speaking which is an oral production is certainly one of the skills that students need to learn in their language development. A language is a communication tool used to transfer or convey information, ideas, and feelings from one person to another. In language learning, speaking is an important skill. Speaking is a very important thing for students to think about. There are several reasons why speaking is important. First, by speaking we can share or express our feelings to others. For example, we can cheer someone up even though they are joking. Second, by speaking we can tell someone what we want to inform. And also someone can get our information by listening to what we talk about. Third, by speaking we can persuade or ask someone to do or not do something. Finally, by talking we can make plans or decisions.

Speaking Competence

To achieve the main goal of speaking, according to Nazara (2011, p31) learners must know about the mechanical elements of language, namely grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and the relationship with speaking itself which allows the speaker to use the right words in the language. correct order and proper pronunciation.

1. Grammar

[5]in her book Grammar for Everyone states that the understanding of grammar is the simplest. According to him, "grammar is a language to talk about language". Why is that? Because from grammar, he continued, we can learn to communicate in the language, it can't be separated from learning grammar.

In this sense, grammar is recognized as an important coordinator of the other language components. It also plays an important role in supporting the ability to speak.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary is a basic thing that must be known. English has a lot of vocabulary that EFL students must master. Everyone knows vocabulary mastery is very important for students learning English or any other language because no one can say anything without vocabulary.

Pronunciation

When students learn to speak, they also need to know what a word sounds like (pronunciation). This will help students to understand what the other person is trying to say. If a word sounded wrong, it would be difficult for someone to understand it. Therefore, it is very important for students to know the word cooperatively because it will avoid misunderstandings in oral communication.

According to [6], a learner's pronunciation has three basic levels (Gilakjani, 2012, p98).

Level 1: people often don't understand what the speaker is saying. The speaker uses word sounds when making English words

Level 2: people understand what the speaker is saying, but the speaker's pronunciation is not pleasant to hear because he has a distracting and heavy accent

Level 3: people understand the speaker, and the speaker's English is fun to listen to.

It can be said that if the speaker has very bad pronunciation, his speech will not be understood by the listener and will lead to a misunderstanding of the meaning or meaning of what he said. From the explanation above, pronunciation plays an important role in overall communicative competence, including speaking.

Spelling

When students come across a word for the first time, they need to know how to spell that word. Spelling refers to what a word looks like (that's what the spell looks like. By knowing the spelling of a word, students will know how to write the word correctly in written form. Therefore, students need to know the spelling of the word.

Definition of Puppet Craft

Puppets are parts of visual aid for teaching especially in teaching speaking. It is believed that puppets can give an element of fun to learners. By inserting humorous elements, puppets are intended to attract the student's attention.

According [7],p.4),“write that games can help the teacher to create contexts in which their language is useful and meaningful”. Games can help students to learn English practice easily and relaxed.

The kinds of Puppet Craft

As an educational tool, puppets have become very widely accepted because of their value in helping students in personal development and the opportunity afforded in activity in the building and operating of Puppets. In teaching using puppets as a medium, it will be better to take the available materials. Teaching using puppets can be used as an alternative technique in the teaching-learning process. It is good to know a number of ways to make puppets so that they can be used at different levels without repeating some kinds and methods of approaches.

Glove Puppet, puppeteers wear them on their hand and manipulate their heads and arms with fingers.

Rod puppet, are an extension of glove puppets but often much larger, these are three-dimensional moving figures that are manipulated with the help of rods.

Shadow puppet, are used in black and white or in color, lightly on a transparent screen with a strong source of light behind them.

Paper puppet, are figures cut out of paper or thin cards, with separate clothes, also made of paper.

In this study, one type of puppet chosen by the researcher is puppet crafts, because students can be motivated to become active in class. Also, it can be easier to ask students to give feedback and opinions. Besides that, puppet crafts are also easy to make speaking English can avoid misunderstanding because students see the object directly.

The Advantage of Puppet Craft

Most students, especially junior high school students like fun and colorful media that can motivate them to actively learn in class. Then Puppet as an object that is used can help them understand the learning material in class easily. The benefits of using Puppets in the classroom are many and varied. The use of Puppet provides opportunities for students to express themselves through the communication aspect of social interaction. Students working in groups preparing and presenting Puppet plays are learning to cooperate with others, where there is a mutual give and take and share ideas.

The Technique of using Puppets in Teaching Speaking

Using the puppet can increase students speaking skills and enjoying hearing the relevant conversation of puppets.

There are some steps that can be applied when the Teacher uses the puppet's performance in the following way :

Assign the three puppets to three children.

Everyone, except the children holding the witness and the whodunit puppet, hides his eyes.

The child holding whodunit hides an object in the classroom. Only the witness sees the "crime."

Whodunit then says, "whodunit has done it," which signals the completion of the "crime"

Everyone opens his eyes and the teacher says "detective Floyd" you are now on the case."

Now "Detective Floyd," Says, "something is wrong here. Something is missing. I know whodunit but I don't know what he did. I must find out.

Witness puppet says, "I saw it, Detective".

Dialog begins in which the witness tells the detective what is missing.

The detective repeats information as though he is recording it. To make this puppet a valuable language lesson, the teacher should encourage the children to move the puppet when they talk, address the puppets directly, and give detailed descriptions of what they have seen.

METHOD

This research was conducted in 2 cycles, where each cycle consisted of planning, acting, observing, and reflecting. The method used is Classroom Action Research and the qualitative descriptive method. The population in this study was conducted at SMPN 1 JULI for first-grade students with a sample acquisition of 23 students. techniques for data collection researchers used test sheets, observation sheets, and questionnaires.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The results showed that the average score of the students in the post-test of students' speaking skills in the first cycle was 65.2%, which means that the student's scores in speaking performance did not meet the passing criteria of success. The results showed that the average score of students in the post-test in cycle 1 in students' speaking skills in cycle I was 65.2%, which means that the student's scores in speaking performance did not meet the passing criteria. in cycle 2, the researcher applied the same media with the same topic, and students obtained a percentage score with an average value of 71.9%. This means that Puppet Craft as a medium can be used to improve the speaking process of students in English.

CONCLUSION

After applying Puppet Craft as a Media in the teaching and learning process of speaking, the researcher found a significant difference in the student's average test scores in cycle 1 and cycle 2. In the first cycle, the test was around 65.2 and in the second cycle. the test score is around 71.9%. The results showed that the application of Puppet Craft to improve students' speaking skills were successful in the teaching and learning process in the classroom. Students are able to improve their speaking skills by using Puppet Craft as a Media to practice and practice directly in front of the class. Not only that, students can also get every new vocabulary they get from the material provided by the researcher.

Based on the results of the observation list, it was found that the researcher's score in Learning Speaking Using Puppet Craft as a media was 70% and was a good standard.

Based on the results of field observations, it was found that the students during the two meeting sessions were more interested in the learning process because they knew and understood the procedures and topics. Researcher direct students to practice with their friends, so students are useful when they want to apply to practice it directly.

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