CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background

English as a foreign language consists of four skills namely: writing, listening, reading, and speaking. These four skills are usually considered as integrated system because they support each other. To most people, speaking is the most difficult part in learning a foreign language because it is usage sense involves the manifestation either of the phonological system or the grammatical system of the language.¹

Learner are often hesitate to speak because they are afraid of pronouncing the words correctly or the students feel really shy about talking in front of other student, although everyone knows that the best way to speak a language as knowing the language and therefore view learning the language is learning how to speak the language, because success is measured in terms of ability to carry out conversation in the ( target ) language. Therefore if the students do not learn how to speak in the language classroom they may soon get boring and lost interested in learning foreign language. On the other hand, if the right activities are taught in the right way, speaking in the class can be a lot fun, raising general motivation and making the English language classroom a fun and dynamic place to be.

One way to improve students speaking skills is the students have to be more active than the teacher and the students also have to be confidence. It can be tried through socio drama method. Socio drama is a way of simulating what happen in life in order to explore social issues, develop greater understanding between group and individuals, solve the problem and make decisions. Socio drama is concerned with social learning in a group.²

The writer assumes that students can improve their speaking skills through socio drama method. Therefore, the writer is interested in conducting the research entitled “Improving Students Speaking Skill Through Socio drama at the Eleventh Year Students of SMU PMDS Putri Palopo”.

**B. Problem Statement**

Based on the background, the writer formulates problem statement as follow:

“Can Socio drama improve the students speaking skills?”

**C. Objective of the research**

Based on the question above, the objective of this research is to improve students’ speaking ability at the eleventh year students of SMU PMDS Pi Palopo.

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D. Significant of the Research

The result of this research is expected to be useful information for the students especially to the students of SMU PMDS Putri Palopo at the eleventh year. Also to overcome the weakness of students in speaking skill, to give information for all reader, to improve their communicative ability through socio drama.

E. Definition of Term

To get general understanding about the aim of this research, the writer will clarify the following terms, namely:

a. Socio drama is a way of simulating what happens in life in order to explore social issue, develop greater understanding between group and individuals, solve problem, and make decisions.\(^3\)

b. Speaking skills is ability to speak target language to communicate with others that consist of accuracy, fluency and comprehensibility.

c. Method is the strategies in learning teaching process or the applied of teaching techniques.

F. Scope of the Research

The scope of the research covers only the implementation of socio drama method in the classroom to improve speaking skill at the eleventh year students’ of PMDS Putri Palopo.

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\(^3\) Ron Wiener, online:http://www.arts/sociodrama/brief online.html.May 01.2007.