CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Research Background

Teaching speaking is a challenging responsibility as there are many problems in the everyday teaching and learning process, so the use of tools of technology can make it easier for teachers and students to gain the learning and teaching process. Mohammed Mahmoud Ghoneim & Elsayed Abdelsalam Elghotmy, (2016)state that the goal of speaking is to encourage communicative skills. Speaking is the crucial part of second and foreign language learning and teaching. According to Kaharuddin, (2019) speaking is the most dominant skill that is learnt by many learners in studying English. It is the hardest skill taught to the students in EFL due to the complexity and micro-skills such as: pronunciation, grammar, coherency, and fluency (Rahmadana, 2022.)

Speaking skills are also used to express someone's opinion, to persuade someone about something, or to clarify something in social function. He further states that speaking skills is the essential skill that should be taught to Indonesian learners of English. In this regard, it stands to say that speaking skill is important to students, especially in EFL students. With support and implementation of ICT, the researcher thinks to use VoiceThread to help and increase speaking skill of students in EFL context because with using VoiceThread can allow students to create, edit, comment, share multimedia slideshows using uploaded images, documents, and videos to be viewed in a web browser. One of the features in VoiceThread can be used to record the presentation with our own voices. It can make it easier for students and teachers in the learning and teaching process. Burn & Brunyard,(2011) state that views of VoiceThread is one of the interactive and multimedia presentation technologies that can allow the user to make conversation through absorbing text, audio, and video comments on the slideshow

1

presentation. This tool can be used in large or small groups and one-on-one. With these features, students can encourage their speaking ability through using VoiceThread tools.

VoiceThread also gives students a chance to have student-centered learning and students can use the opportunity to use their own pictures, audio and videos that are related to the material. The researcher does the observation at SMPN 4 Singaraja about implementation of ICT especially VoiceThread. The result of the observation found that SMPN 4 Singaraja do not use VoiceThread in their learning process especially in speaking skills. The students still felt shy, nervous and lack of vocabulary when try to speak in front of class. Based on the observation that researcher found the research want to investigate the effect of VoiceThread in 8th grade of Junior High School at SMPN 4 Singaraja in effect on students ' speaking skill. This research is very important to conduct because this tool will help students and teachers during learning and to introduce this tool to the public because it is rarely known and used in Indonesia and in Bali. It can be found from several studies concerning using VoiceThread in effect on students' speaking skill.

Ebadi & Asakereh, (2018) examined about the implementation of VoiceThread in speaking skill in Iranian EFL students. The result of this study shows of using VoiceThread enhances their speaking skill. Second, study conducted by Ataeifar et al., (2019) about mobile-assisted instruction on improving Iranian EFL learners' speaking skill in Iranian EFL learners. This study shows of positive attitude towards VoiceThread. In same vein, study from Zemlyanova et al., (2021) about implementation of VoiceThread in speaking skill. The result of this study shows of positive implementation toward VoiceThread. In other hand Pagkalinawan, (2021) investigate Oral Presentation using VoiceThread for Assessment. The result of this study shows of significant improvement by students using VoiceThread. Furthermore, AlOkaily, (2021)conducted

study about using VoiceThread in online learning for IELTS preparation. This study shows of positive attitudes toward VoiceThread.

Based on previous study, VoiceThread give positive impact and attitude among EFL learners in University and High school context but, there is few researcher research about VoiceThread in speaking skills especially in English learning context in Bali on Junior High School. So, the researcher is interested to research and apply the same theory as the previous study about VoiceThread in speaking skills but, in different setting and method to show the result if there is same or not. The researcher wants to research about using VoiceThread in effect on students' speaking skill in 8th Junior High School at SMPN 4 Singaraja.

1.2 Problem Identification

Based on the background of the study, there are several problems that students face when learning speaking skills in English of Foreign Language as follows:

Speaking as a productive skill is one of the important skills that need to be mastered for students, especially in communication for learning purposes. Yet, most of the students are not feeling confident enough to express their ideas in speaking class. Many of the students felt nervous and shy to talk when learning to speak. The students also do not know how to share and express their ideas because they do not know more about English vocabulary, so the teacher should use mixed language to make students understand. Furthermore, the students also have pronunciation problems whereas, the students make wrong pronunciation when speaking.

Regarding the problem, VoiceThread as a media for learning can help students to develop their speaking skill in class through their own ideas. According to Mohammed Mohammed Mahmoud Ghoneim & Elsayed Abdelsalam Elghotmy, (2016) using

VoiceThread can increase students' participation and students have more time to establish and polish their ideas in appropriate expression. Moreover, Pallos, (2011) also stated the advantage of using VoiceThread for students. Using VoiceThread can help students to develop the confidence of students in oral skills.

Based on those benefits. The researcher's intention is to test out how VoiceThread will affect students' speaking skills. According to (R. Hughes, n.d.) speaking skill has five components namely, pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, fluency, and self-confidence. Since VoiceThread can help students to develop their confidence and students' participation in speaking, this tool can help be implemented in speaking class because it has good retention to make students confident and gain students' participation in speaking. Thus, students' difficulty in speaking can be helped by using VoiceThread as media for learning.

1.3 Research Scope

The researcher limits the problem of the study only focusing the effect on VoiceThread in two classes on 8th grade students' speaking skills. This study will be done in SMPN 4 Singaraja.

1.4 Research Question

1. Is there any effect after implementation of VoiceThread on 8th grade students' speaking skills at SMPN 4 Singaraja?

2. How does the implementation of VoiceThread affect students during speaking learning process?

1.5 Research Purpose

In relation with the problem statement above, the objective of this study is to investigate the is there any effect of implementation of VoiceThread in English language learning

activities toward students' speaking skill at SMP Negeri 4 Singaraja and to describe how does implementation of the use of VoiceThread during speaking learning process.

1.6 Research Significance

The result of this study is expected to give both theoretical and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

   The result of this study is expected to give information about Implementation of using VoiceThread 8th grade students at SMPN 4 Singaraja in effect on speaking skills during learning process. It also contributes to teaching and learning theory, especially in teaching English language learning.

2. Practical Significance

   a. For Researcher

   The result of this study is to know the implementation and effect of using VoiceThread in 8th grade students' speaking skill at SMPN 4 Singaraja. The implementation and effect of using VoiceThread toward 8th grade students only be found if the researcher conducts an experiment in the classroom.

   b. For Teacher

   The result of this study will be useful for teachers to have a variation of tools in teaching to help them teach, especially in speaking skills for EFL students during learning and to have more information and overview of technology especially using VoiceThread.

   c. For Schools

   The result of this study expected for schools to use new variations of technology especially on tools in learning which can also be used in other subjects in school.

   d. For Other Researchers

The result of this study is expected to become a reference for other researchers who want to conduct similar research that is related to Implementation of VoiceThread in Junior High School.

1.7 Junior High School Students

a) Conceptual Definition

Junior high school level (SMP) must be taken to completed studies before continuing to high school level (SMA). According to Alexander, (1995) junior high school students is a transition between elementary and high school. It is also meaning the junior high school students transition from childhood and adolescence so, the students in level have experience of the transition of themselves.

b) Operational definition

Junior high school is used as the sample of this study. The sample of the students use purposive sampling technique to choose students consists of 32 students at SMP Negeri 4 Singaraja.