

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This part presents background of the study, problem of the study, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key term.

A. The Background of the study

Education is a very important factor in human life. By means of education, people can reach adulthood until they can develop their lives, potential, competence and so on. In connection with that statement, we need to pay attention to know more about some components of education as a motivation to get purpose. The components are objective, method, material, media and evaluation.² All of those components which can be done in teaching learning process is a system pervaded kinds of components, each of that has independent relation in order to achieve the objective of teaching and learning process.

Based on the statement above, a teacher is demanded to pay close attention to choose and apply the method in teaching and learning process. Armai states that it is not successful if in that process there is no use of method, because the method places the second most important position after the groups of objective from some learning components.³

² Arif Armai, *Pengantar Ilmu dan Metodologi Pendidikan Islam* (Jakarta: Ciputat Press, 2002), 29.

³ Arif Armai, *Pengantar Ilmu*, 98.

One of the method in activity of learning and teaching is combination of teacher-centered and student-centered. It means that not only the teacher dominates the activity of learning and teaching but the student also has the important role. By combining of the teacher and student centered, the activity of learning and teaching process is some activities from the teacher and students that has feedback in the educative situation to get the specific objective.⁴

The combination of the learning and teaching method above, that is student-centered and teacher centered is learning, it is more effective if the learning and teaching method use structured assignment especially in teaching English. Teacher can give direction to her/his students and focus the students in learning and teaching process until the objective of learning and teaching process in English can be successful. The English teaching learning success is the wish in language teaching learning. To get it, teachers must be creative to manage their students' learning become nice, comfortable and not boring.

English is very important nowadays. It is one of languages, which is used around the world. English is used in many kinds of human daily activities, such as economy, culture, education, and people have various reasons to learn it. Some people believe that by learning it they will get a great chance to develop their professions or carrier, while the others learn

⁴ Arif Armai, *Pengantar Ilmu*, 39.

English because they need to understand articles and text books about those subjects written in English.⁵

Besides, English is one of the most widely spoken languages throughout the world; it is used as a means of communication among different countries. People use English in trade, technology, science and so on. In Indonesia, English is taught from elementary school to university. So, it causes that learning English is needed and important for us. Because learning English is important, the teachers must know the needs and condition in order to make their students easy to understand the material in the teaching learning process.⁶

In the teaching learning process, the best and the most appropriate method is the most important thing and always needed by everyone. Method is a set of prescription as to what teachers and learners should do in the classroom. The teacher's work is making his/her teaching style as well as the students' learning style match the method. Thus, the method is held to deny teacher effectiveness and learner uniqueness expect as circumscribed by the method of application.⁷

One of them learning style that engages students are to be active and improve study achievement is Cooperative learning method. Cooperative learning method is tally to be applied on English learning, one of the Cooperative learning method is *Numbered head together*. Because in

⁵ Frankly. The importance of the English language, (<http://ezinearticles.com/?The-Importance-of-the-English-Language&id=147211>, accessed on March 15, 2014).

⁶ Arif Armai, 39.

⁷ Sarinee Anivan, *Language Teaching Methodology for the Nineties* (Singapore: Seameo Regional Language Center, 1990), 2.

English learning is not enough to know and memorize, but then it is needed some comprehension and ability to solve discussion. *Numbered head together* method is the strategy that making a group in teaching and learning process and make the students become active with making each group that has purpose to work together in doing the assignments in order to improve their English lesson well and really.

In the method the students can do the assignment not only at their home but also in the library, laboratory, practice room, and other places which can make them enjoyable. By using this method, teachers hope that their students can study freely as long as they can be responsible for their work, and they can get new experience to know some difficulties until they can make every effort to solve their difficulties.

Based on information obtained from the English teacher at MAN Purwoasri Kediri, it was found that many students still had difficulties in reading ability, especially in monologues text. The students were less active, lazy, and noisy in the class. Moreover this method they can have spirit and motivation because they have obligation to be responsible for their work to their teacher. This method can be used all subject and level age of students.⁸

I choose this method because *numbered head together* method, the researcher believe that can help the students to understand the English

⁸Anita Lie, *cooperative learning mempraktikkan cooperative learning di ruang-ruang kelas* (Jakarta: Grasindo, 2005), 60.

monologue text. Because the method, the learning process naturally active. The students not only get knowledge from teacher but also from their friend or even from their selves. So in this case, the method and the learning process is more important than the result.

Therefore, the writer is interested to do research about "improving reading comprehension by using *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory at MAN Purwoasri Kediri." The research was conducted in MAN Purwoari because most methods used by teacher only lectures and assignment methods. So as to make students were bored and lazy to learn the impact on the achievement of education that was getting that the strengthening of researchers to use these methods.

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above the writer attempts to answer the following questions:

How can *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory improve reading comprehension at MAN Purwoasri Kediri?

C. The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are:

To find out *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory can improve reading comprehension at MAN Purwoasri Kediri.

D. Significance of Study

The result of the study is expected to give utility theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the result of the study is expected to contribute the development of English teaching, especially to raise or implement the cooperative method in teaching learning English. It is expected to get useful way of teaching method, which can be used to develop English teaching and also the students can get easier in learning English. In this case the result of the study will be reference for the further researcher. Practically, the researcher does hope that the result of this study will be useful also for the reader, researcher, teacher and students.

1. For the readers

The result of this study is expected to be useful for the readers. They will know one of improving reading comprehension by using *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory, so they can take this study as their reference for their knowledge and someday it will be useful if they want to practice it.

2. For the teachers

The result of this study is expected to be useful for the teacher. The teacher will know how far the lesson that the teacher has been taught can be got by the students. The teacher also knows the better method in the teaching process. Besides that the teacher can predict the successful of the students in their study. So the teacher will not only respect to give this method in process of teaching and learning but they

also will be able to increase students' English achievement and can produce the good human resource for our country.

3. For the students

The result of this study is expected to be useful for the students. The students will know their ability in their study, it will motivate them to study more active. The students also will know the difficult part in their study so they can take the preparation in their study immediately.

4. For the other researchers

The result of this study is expected to be useful for the other researcher. It can be a preliminary source or information for the other researchers who to conduct the similar research in different times and places.

E. The Scope and Limitation of the Study

In a research, there must be one problem or more to be looked for the answers. It will confuse the researcher if there is no limit and scope in his/her study. So, it is necessary to limit the scope of this study in order to get clear understanding of the problems and to make easier in solving the problems.

The scope of this study is improving reading comprehension by using *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory at MAN Purwoasri Kediri on the second grade IPS 2. Because of the limited of time and focus on the subject which concern to the background knowledge of the researcher that is English Department, the researcher limits the topic on

improving reading comprehension by using *numbered head together* method of Spencer Kagan theory at MAN Purwoasri Kediri.

F. The Definition of Key Terms

It is necessary to define the key term in order to avoid misunderstanding the title of the research.

1. *Reading comprehension* is sharing or helping someone to learn to do something, guiding in the study of something, providing with knowledge, causing to know or understand. Reading skills as “learning to pronounce words, learning to identify words and get their meaning and learning to bring meaning to a text and to derive a meaning from it.”
2. Active learning is a term that has several models of instructions that focus on the learners. According Daniel Bell and Jahna Kahrhoff (2006:1), active learning is a process wherein students are actively engaged in building understanding of facts, ideas, and skills through the completion of instructor directed tasks and activities. It is any type of activity that gets students involved in the learning process.
3. *Numbered head together* is one of the cooperative strategy that offers an alternative to the competitive approach of whole-class question-answer, in which the teacher asks a question and then calls on one of the students with a raised hand. In the numbered heads together approach, the teacher has students number off (e.g. 1-4), asks a question, and then tells the students to “put their heads together” to

develop a complete answer to the question. When the teacher calls out a number, the students with that number raise their hands to respond. This structure facilitates positive interdependence, while promoting individual accountability. It also gives confidence to lower achievers because they know they will have the correct answer to give to the class.⁹

⁹ Kagan, S. (1989). "The structural approach to cooperative learning." *Educational Leadership*. 47(4): p. 12-15, <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/pages/4772>, accessed on november 17th 2014.