ABSTRACT


This study is intended to know how the audio-visual aids can be used to improve students’ speaking skill of the first grade of SMP N 1 Kartasura and to find out the important aspects of using audio-visual aids in order to improve students’ speaking skill. The method used in this research is classroom action research. This classroom action research was carried out at VII G class that consisted of 34 students. In the pre-research, the researcher found that the students often mispronounced English words. Such condition might occur because they tended to pronounce English words as the result of the influence of their mother tongue. Besides, they frequently paid less attention and had low motivation to join the lesson. To overcome the problems, the researcher designed an action research and used audio-visual aids in order to improve students’ speaking skill.

In this research, the implementation of audio-visual aids to improve speaking skill was held in two cycles. Each cycle consisted of planning the action, implementing the action, observing the action, and reflecting the action. The researcher collected the data by using qualitative and quantitative techniques. The qualitative data were collected by using interview, observation, photographs, and questionnaires while the quantitative data were collected by conducting pre-test and post-test that resulted mean score of the tests. In analyzing the data, the researcher used qualitative and quantitative analysis. The qualitative analysis was done by using interactive model of data analysis that consisted of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing while the quantitative data analysis was done by calculating the mean scores as the result of pre-test and post-test. The result of the mean scores show that there is improvement of students’ speaking skill; It increases from 12.05 in pre test to 14.07 in post-test 1 and 16.55 in post-test 2.

The research findings show that audio-visual aids can be used to improve the students’ speaking skill. There are some steps for successful teaching delivered by using audio-visual aids in order to improve students speaking skill. The steps cover: 1) introducing some words by showing selected video and pictures, 2) building the students’ pronunciation by drilling practice, 3) asking students to use expressions as presented by the model in the video, and 4) showing the use of fillers dealing with fluency. Besides, there are some important aspects of audio-visual aids that contribute to the improvement of students’ speaking skill. The aspects include choosing appropriate video and pictures which are suitable with students’ need and level, reinforcing the use of audio-visual aids by combining it with the relevant techniques, and considering the time in using audio-visual aids.

The result of the research implies that it is important to consider the important aspects of the use of audio-visual aids in order to improve students’ speaking skill.