CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

English as an international language is used in many countries all over the world. It also plays an important role as a means of both oral and written communication. So many people learn about English. Nowadays, language is changing along with the changing of the world in science and technology. People, especially young learners should be able to face modern life in the global era. When the learners struggle to live in the global era, they should have many skills including mastering foreign languages. One of them is English, the international language. By mastering English, they already have a key in reaching the goals.

Besides, as stated above English is used as lingua franca, as it is an international language used in many countries throughout the world. For this reason, millions of Indonesian students want to learn English in order to be able to speak English.

In Indonesia English as a foreign language plays a very important role in education, furthermore, it is necessary to increase the ability to use foreign language to extend and to strengthen our knowledge and technology and also to increase the communication ability in international community.

From the description above, it is clear that English is very important. The learners who master English usually have bigger chance to develop their language
learning. They will be more appreciated than other learners who are not able to do that. So English is considered as the first foreign language.

The government has decided that English should be designed into a curriculum as a compulsory subject at the first grade of junior high school until the third grade of senior high school. It is also taught in some semesters at university. English is an international language that is necessary to teach for the purpose of absorbing and developing the science, technology and arts, developing the countries relationship and also for improving the education development, especially for the students’ language skills. So English becomes one of educations that should be taught in all educational institutions at all levels from elementary school up to university.

In learning English, we often find difficulties. What Ramelan says (1944) that a foreign language student will meet difficulties in his learning process may be easily understood? When someone wants to learn a new language, so they should know some components of language. Language has three major components including phonology, vocabulary, and grammar. Language is primarily spoken; therefore the sounds are very important. So in this relation, phonology takes an important role.

According to Murphey, 1992 “Songs can help young learners improve their listening skills and pronunciation, therefore potentially helping them to improve their speaking skills”. Most children enjoy singing songs, and they can often be a welcome change from the routine of learning a foreign language. For

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the teacher, using songs in the classroom can also be a nice break from following a set curriculum. Singing English songs can be taught to any number of students and even those teachers with the most limited resources can use them effectively. Probably the most obvious advantage to using singing English songs in the young learner classroom is that they are enjoyable.

Most children enjoy singing and usually respond well to using singing English songs in the classroom, but there are more significant benefits to using singing English songs other than just being fun. The greatest benefit of using singing English songs in the classroom is they could be fun in learning English. Pleasure for its own sake is an important part of learning a language, something which is often overlooked by teachers, and songs can add interest to the classroom routine and potentially improve student motivation. Practicing the different sounds by singing songs can be more interesting and enjoyable than other activities such as minimal-pair drills.

In *MI Faqih Hasyim BuduranSidoarjo* there is a problem that nowadays occurs at sixth grade students. They always experience some obstacles in learning English. One of them is in speaking skill especially on *pronunciation*. The pronunciation always has been become a classical problem. They feel hard to become motivated in studying because English learning teaching in the classroom is *boring*.

Now the writer try to share some experiences in facing this problem. Once upon, the writer tried to present a different technique in teaching English especially on pronunciation to support speaking skill by using singing English
song. And he hopes the result will be amazing. The students will become more motivated in studying English. They always repeat and repeat the lyrics in many times with the correct pronunciation. In this case writer will try to present using CD as the teaching media, it starts from Humalik (1996) theory. He said that teaching English with media of CD would be able to increase spirit of learning.

Based on Silabus KTSP 2006, *The Basic Competence* for the sixth grade at 1st semester especially on *Achievement Indicators*, students should be able to speak clearly and correctly pronounce include frase and simple sentences. But the results for this time could not reach the target. So the writer will try teaching by using song as the fun learning for this class. From here, the writer start to act to get the solution. And *The Action research* may be one alternative to improve the results. The statement from Elliot (1991), “I’m anticipating that action research will become highly recommended as a strategy for helping teachers to maximize pupils’ achievements of national curriculum targets”.

In this action research the writer will use only two cycles and be ended with post test. The evaluation of the test is based on rubric of pronunciation test and then it will be categorized to be score of pronunciation test. The scores of test results will be divided to be *class average score*. And then the average score should be above the minimal achievement score. According the result of Sidoarjo MGMP (Musyawarah Guru Mata Pelajaran) Bahasa Inggeris that held

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3 Oemar Hamalik, *Proses Belajar Mengajar* (Bandung: PT Bumi Aksara, 2007), 27
11-13 September 2013 had decided that although English subject now is as the local material (MULOK=Muatan Lokal) but it should still use the minimal score of achievement to measure achievement of learning process. The result of MGMP about the minimal achievement score is 65\(^7\). This is followed up the KTSP 2006.

In the research writer will make pre-test, oral-test and post-test. The result of test score should be able to reach above 65. If the result of test will be able to reach above 65 so it is able to be categorized the writer get success doing the research to face the problem that students experienced for this time.

So that teaching English by using *singing English song* for the sixth grade students in MI Faqih Hasyim Buduran Sidoarjo will become one of fun teaching technique that able to *build student’s motivation* in studying English and *help improving their pronunciation* that always supports speaking skill.

**B. Research Question**

1. How is the process of using song in teaching speaking?

2. How are the students speaking ability especially in *pronunciation* after using songs?

**C. Objective of the Study**

1. To describe the process of using songs in teaching speaking.

2. To find out the students speaking ability especially in *pronunciation* after using songs.

\(^{7}\) Karsidi, *MODEL KTSP 2006 SD dan MI* (Solo: PT. Tiga Serangkai Mandiri, 2007), 16.
D. Significance of the Study

1. To use the result of this research as a reference for English teachers in teaching speaking at elementary school.

2. To introduce in teaching English by singing English songs for teachers and students as a means of teaching speaking skill.

E. Scope and Limit of the Study

In this study, the writer limit the scope and the set of problem of the research, so that the problem is not so wide and the research becomes effective. The limitations of the study are:

1. The students of elementary school at the sixth grade.

2. Singing English songs that are used as the teaching technique in this study is the song that has lyrics in English.

3. The speaking activity in this study is singing English pop song. It purposes to check the students’ pronunciation accuracy through singing a song in English.

F. Definition of Key Term

1. Singing is derived from to sing that means the act to produce or articulate (sounds, words, a song, etc) with definite and usually specific musical intonation. Singing is a fun activity for the children in the classrooms especially they are in 6 until 12 years old.

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2. English Song is consist of two words, they are *english* and *song*. Song is a short piece of music which contains words, and English is the language that used in words of song. So English Song is the set of music that contains the English words as lyrics.

3. Improve is a verb that means to do something to get better.

4. Pronunciation is a part of speaking that involves how to make correct sounds of particular language, as well as how the sounds are put together in the flow of speech (not just in isolated words). Singing and pronunciation always have some parts that connecting each other especially in sounds and intonations.

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11-----------------------------------------------, 432.
12Susan Boyer, *Understanding English Pronunciation* (San Francisco: Boyer Educational Resources, 2002), 1