

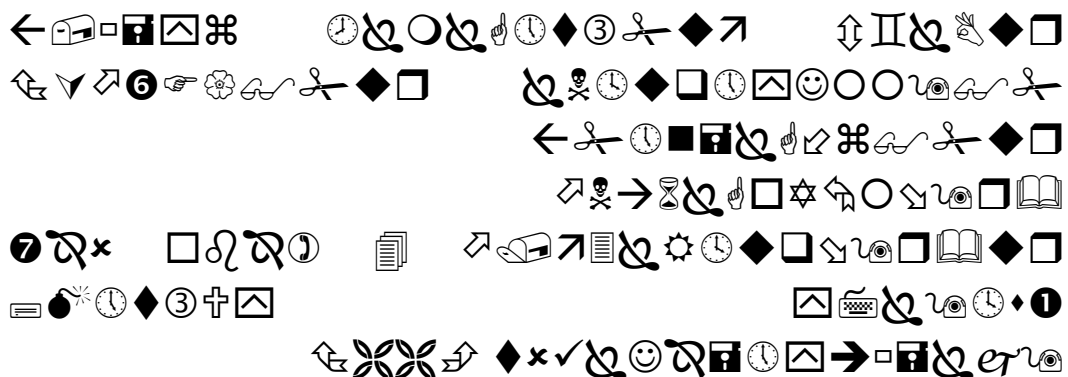
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Language is the component of communication that is used by people of the world to tell what they are thinking to the others such as opinion, ideas, information, etc. By using language, we can easily communicate with other people in getting the best interaction. According to the Concise Columbia Encyclopedia (1994, p.479) in Brown (2000, p.5), language is “systematic communication by vocal symbols.”

Language is a gift from the God for human, He created different languages, so that language is part of his power, it is written in the Holy Qur'an Surah Ar-Rum 22:



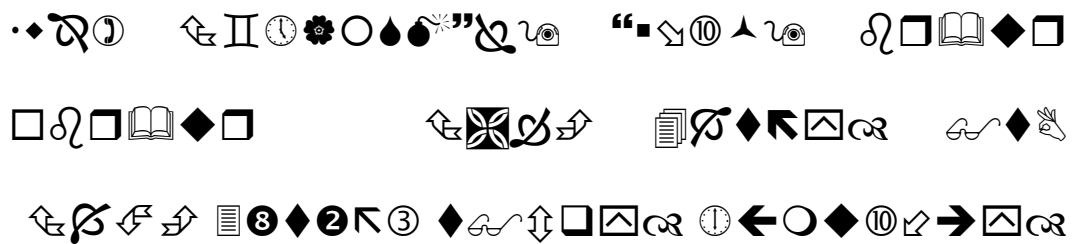
Based on the verse above, people have to know each other. The variation of languages forces people to learn languages. Nowadays, to communicate with

other countries is a must. Thus, learning a foreign language is not only a kind of obedience to Allah, but also necessity.

There are many languages in this world. One of them is English language. English is an international language and English has been called the lingua franca of the whole world. Every country has its own language. Because of that, English becomes popular and crucial for every country. In Indonesia, students have to learn English language because English is one of the lessons that have been chosen for UN, and that force teachers to work hard to give the best for their students. A teacher should know student's ability, student's interest, student's need, and student's development in learning English.

Harmer (2001, p.58-62) in his book state that teachers are the main keys in teaching learning process, they are the controller, organizer, assessor, prompter, participant, resource, tutor, and observer. Because of that, teachers have their own duty to transfer their knowledge, help students to study, and also explore their skill in learning English as a foreign language.

Indonesian students learn English as their foreign language. It is hard for them because they have to learn the language they do not recognize it before, but they still have to study it. Their difficulties in learning English become teachers' task because they have to solve that problem. Teachers have to give the best and their attention for their students. Doing something with responsibility and pure heart will give the good result as Allah said in the holy Qur'an in An-Najm 39-40:



Based on the verses above, people have to work hard to get what they want. If we want a good result we have to do the best from ourselves. Therefore teachers should love their job to teach students because pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work.

Learning English is difficult for Indonesian students. That is why English teachers try some ways to solve this problem. For instance, English teacher of seventh grade at MTs Raudhatussyubban tries to make learning English easier for students by using English 900.

English 900 book is a book that can be used to help students learn English. English 900 is a course for students of English as a second language, contains material from beginning through intermediate levels of study. The whole series consists of textbooks, workbooks, and tape recordings with a teacher's handbook. There are six series of book. In this research, the writer does not choose all of the series, because in the place where the researcher conducts the data not all of the series are used. The book that is used just English 900 book one.

In book one, there are ten study units. Each study unit contains a group of fifteen base sentences related to a meaningful situation. In Book One of the series, the typical study unit begins with the presentation of the fifteen *Base Sentences*

together with *Intonation* patterns. *Questions and Answer* follow and give the student practice in pairing and matching the base sentences into conversational form. *Substitution Drills* introduce the variation sentences, using vocabulary and grammatical substitution techniques. These early sections of the unit provide the pronunciation practice and drill material needed for the mastery of language forms. The *Conversation* section consists of short dialogues giving the student the opportunity to practice the new lesson material in informal conversation in the classroom. *Exercises* in each unit can be used as oral and written drills for all of the materials introduced in the unit.

Actually English 900 book is an old book. It was published in 1964 by Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc. English 900 book is one of the basic instructional courses in the Collier Macmillan English Program. Although it is an old book, English teacher of seventh grade at MTs Raudhatussyubban uses it in teaching English. According to him, the purposes of teaching English through English 900 book are the contents of the book is about daily life conversations, it introduces base English words or sentences, the contents of the book is from the easy words or sentences to the difficult words or sentences, and also there is substitution drill.

From the contents of English 900, it can be seen that speaking skill is the focus of this book. For instance, each unit of the book contains conversations. That is why the researcher wants to know the students speaking ability.

Based on the issue above, the researcher interested to do this study entitled **“Teaching and Learning English through English 900 (Book One) at The**

**Seventh Grade of MTs Raudhatussyubban Sungai Lulut Academic Year
2012/2013.”**

B. Statements of Problem

The problems of the study can be formulated as follow:

1. How does the teacher use English 900 (book one) in teaching and learning English?
2. How is the students' speaking ability toward English 900 (book one)?

C. Objective of Study

Based on the problem above, the purpose of the research can be set as follows:

1. To know how the teacher uses English 900 (book one) in teaching and learning English.
2. To know the students speaking ability toward English 900 (book one).

D. Significance of Study

The result of this research is expected to contribute to the field as follows:

1. Enriching the writer's knowledge and experience in this specific research.
2. Giving information and knowledge about teaching and learning English through English 900.
3. Giving valuable contribution for English teachers to improve the teaching and learning English.
4. Considerations for educational administrators as input to increase and improve quality of teaching and learning English.
5. Providing information and considerations for future researchers.
6. Enriching literary source of the IAIN Antasari library.

E. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid any misinterpretation toward the title adopted in this research, the writer feels necessary to explain terms as follows:

1. Teaching is an active process in which one person shares information with others to provide them with the information to make behavioral changes. In Longman dictionary of American English (2004, p. 939), teaching is the work that a teacher does, or the profession of being a teacher.
2. Learning is the process of assimilating information with a resultant change in behavior. In Oxford advanced learner's dictionary (1995, p. 671), learning is knowledge obtained by study.
3. Teaching-learning process is a planned interaction that promotes behavioral change that is not a result of maturation or coincidence.
4. English 900 is a course for students of English as a second language, contains material from beginning through intermediate levels of study. There are six series of book. In this research, the book that is used is English 900 (book one).