



**Improving the Eighth Level Students' Speaking Ability  
through Picture Series at SMPN 3 Tulungagung  
in the 2006/2007 Academic Year**

**THESIS**

**Composed as One of the Requirements to Obtain S1 Degree at the English  
Education Program of Language and Arts Education Department  
The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of  
Jember University**

**By**

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**MOTTO**

If we still have the breath, it means God still give us the chance.

## **DEDICATION**

1. My honourable parents, SUKANI (Alm) and SALAMAH. Thank you so much for your tremendous love and attentiveness that encourage me to study and to finish this thesis.
2. My beloved sisters, thank you for everything you have given to me especially for your support to finish this thesis. I will never forget our laugh and every moment we spent together.
3. My naughty nephews and nieces, you brought me to your honest and sweet world. Thanks for coloring my life.
4. All my friends in the 2002, nice to meet you all.
5. My almamater.

## CONSULTANT APPROVAL SHEET

### IMPROVING THE EIGHTH LEVEL STUDENTS' SPEAKING ABILITY THROUGH PICTURE SERIES AT SMPN 3 TULUNGAGUNG IN THE 2006/2007 ACADEMIC YEAR

#### THESIS

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Finally, I have done the best for this thesis; however, it is possible that this thesis is still imperfect. I expect any comment or criticism for this thesis to become better. I expect that it will be useful not only for my self but also for the readers.

Jember, February 2008

The writer

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TITTLE</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>MOTTO</b> .....	<b>ii</b>
<b>DEDICATION</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>CONSULTANT APPROVAL SHEET</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	<b>vi</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>vii</b>
<b>THE LIST OF TABLES</b> .....	<b>x</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES</b> .....	<b>xi</b>
<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>xii</b>
 <b>I. INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background of the Research .....	1
1.2 Problem of the Research .....	2
1.3 Operational Definition of the Terms .....	3
1.3.1 Picture Series .....	3
1.3.2 Speaking Ability.....	3
1.4 The Objective of the Research .....	4
1.5 The Significances of the Research .....	4
 <b>II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</b>	
2.1 Speaking Ability.....	5
2.2 The Aspects of Speaking.....	6
2.2.1 Pronunciation .....	6
2.2.2 Structure .....	7
2.2.3 Vocabulary .....	8
2.2.4 Fluency .....	8
2.2.5 Content .....	9
2.3 Pictures as Teaching Media .....	9

2.4 Kinds of Pictures .....	10
2.4.1 Individual Pictures.....	10
2.4.2 Composite Pictures.....	10
2.4.3 Picture Series.....	11
2.5 The Advantages of Using Picture Series .....	12
2.6 The Procedures of Teaching Speaking Through Picture Series .....	13
2.7 Action Hypothesis .....	15
<b>III. RESEARCH METHOD</b>	
3.1 Research Design .....	16
3.2 Research Procedures .....	18
3.2.1 General Description of the research .....	18
3.2.2 Details of Research Procedures.....	19
3.2.2.1 Planning .....	19
3.2.2.2 Implementation .....	19
3.2.2.3 Monitoring and Evaluation .....	20
3.2.2.4 Analysis and Reflection .....	20
3.3 Area Determination Method.....	21
3.4 Research Subject Determination Method.....	22
3.5 Data Collection Method .....	22
3.5.1 Test .....	22
3.5.2 Interview.....	25
3.5.3 Observation .....	25
3.5.4 Documentation .....	26
3.6 Criteria of Success.....	26
<b>IV. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION</b>	
4.1 Description of the Action in Cycle 1 .....	27
4.1.1 The Result of Observation.....	27
4.1.2 The Result of the Students' Speaking Test in Cycle 1 .....	29
4.1.3 Reflection .....	31



4.2 Description of Action Cycle 2 .....	32
4.2.1 The Result of Observation.....	32
4.2.2 The Result of the Students' Speaking Test in Cycle 2.....	35
4.2.3 Reflection .....	37
4.3 The Result of Supporting Data .....	38
4.3.1 The Result of Interview.....	38
4.3.2 The Result of Documentation .....	39
4.4 Discussion .....	39

## **V. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

5.1 Conclusion .....	41
5.2 Suggestions .....	41

## **REFERENCES**

## **APPENDIXES**

**LIST OF TABLES**

1. The Model of the Classroom Action Research .....	17
2. The Classification of the Scoring level .....	20
3. Hughes' rating scores of speaking test .....	23
4. The format of the observation checklist.....	26
5. Observation Checklist Cycle 1.....	27
6. The Table of Students' Speaking Score in the First Cycle .....	30
7. Observation Checklist Cycle 2.....	33

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

1. Research Matrix
2. Interview Guide
3. Lesson Plan 1 (Cycle 1-First Meeting)
4. Material of Lesson Plan 1 (Cycle 1-First Meeting)
5. Lesson Plan 2 (Cycle 1-Second Meeting)
6. Material of Lesson Plan 2 (Cycle 1-Second Meeting)
7. Test of Cycle 1
8. Lesson Plan 1 (Cycle 2-First Meeting)
9. Material of Lesson Plan 1 (Cycle 2-First Meeting)
10. Lesson Plan 2 (Cycle 2-Second Meeting)
11. Material of Lesson Plan 2 (Cycle 2-Second Meeting)
12. Test of Cycle 2
13. The Example of Scoring
14. The Name of the Students of VIII B in the 2006/2007 Academic Year

## SUMMARY

**Improving the Eighth Level Students' Speaking Ability through Picture Series at SMPN 3 Tulungagung in the 2006/2007 Academic Year;** Agung Nugroho, 020210401122; 2008: 41 pages; English Education Program, Language and Arts Education Department, The Faculty of Teacher Training and Education of Jember University.

Pictures are one of the most appropriate media in teaching learning process in the classroom. They are often used by teachers to increase students' interest, motivation, and attention to the material being taught. Picture series is a kind of picture which is one of the most appropriate media for presenting material in the teaching learning process in the classroom and it can provide students with a visual experience and stimulate them to talk in teaching learning process.

The purpose of this research was (1) to improve the speaking ability of the eighth level students at SMPN 3 Tulungagung in the 2006/2007 academic year, and (2) to improve the speaking ability of the eighth level students at SMPN 3 Tulungagung in the 2006/2007 academic year.

This research was conducted at SMPN 3 Tulungagung from May 21<sup>st</sup> 2007 up to June 8<sup>th</sup> 2007. The research method was classroom action research with cycle models. This classroom action research was done in collaboration with the English teacher with a sequence of steps, namely the planning of the action, implementation of the action, classroom observation and evaluation, and reflection of the action.

This research was conducted in two cycles. Each cycle was done in three meetings including test. The research subject were grade VIII C. The primary data about the students' speaking ability were collected by administering speaking test and observation by using observation checklist. The collected data were analysed by descriptive quantitative. Meanwhile, the reflection was based on the finding during

the observation and was compared to the criteria of success. The action is considered successful if 75% of the students' score of speaking test is in the good score category at least 70 or more.

The percentage of students that got scores at least 70 in speaking test in the cycle 1 were only 49 % or 21 students from 43 students. Moreover, the result of observation in cycle 1 showed that only 63 % of the students were actively involved in the teaching and learning process of speaking ability through picture series. The results above showed that cycle 1 had not achieved the target of this research. Therefore, the action was continued to cycle 2 by using colourful picture series.

The result of speaking test in cycle 2 was better. The percentage of students that got scores at least 70 in speaking test in the cycle 2 were 79 % or 34 students from 43 students. Additionally, the results of the observation in cycle 2 showed that most of the students (81 %) were active during the teaching learning process of speaking ability through picture series. In other words, the targets of this research were achieved in cycle 2.

From the results above, it can be concluded that colourful picture series can improve the students speaking ability. Therefore, it is suggested to the English teacher to use picture series as media in teaching speaking.