# CHAPTER I
# INTRODUCTION

The background of the problems, the development of research questions, purpose of the research and the scope of the research are all discussed in this chapter.

## 1.1 Background of the problems

As an international language that has been used throughout the world, English becomes very important, particularly with inside in the aspect of education. English is a communication tool to humans out of the country or network this is used to convey the specific thought and emotions in daily life.

Communication is an ability that requires a systematic and continuous process of speaking, listening, and comprehending. In communication, English undoubtedly plays a crucial role as being the primary language of several countries but spoken widely around the world. Speaking is the most critical ability among the four language skills to communicate well in this global environment. According to Thonburry (2005), speaking or oral communication is an activity that involves two or more people and requires listeners and speakers to respond and contribute at a high rate of speed. In the interaction, each participant has a goal or an aim that they want to achieve.

Although English really important to connect with the global community. In Indonesia itself, countless people do not speak English fluently. Pollard (2008) argues that As an aspect of language that complicated to be mastered, learners find speaking quite challenging to consider about their thought, how to respond, language, grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation all at the same time, as well as how to react to the person who interacts with them. Viewed from the educational perspective of teaching and learning English by students in Indonesia, it reveals that learning focuses mainly on grammar and phrase form. this triggers the students' lack of confidence in using their speaking ability as they believe that the sentence form is incorrect and embarrassed if questioned by those around them.

And in connection with the outbreak of the Corona virus or commonly known as Covid-19, the government has made various efforts to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus. One of them is the government which has implemented a Large-Scale Social Restriction System. all educational facilities both schools and lectures, and the teaching and learning process is carried out online or at home. This is a new impact on students to learn speaking, it is very difficult for students to express their speaking skills. In this instance the teacher plays an important role in providing English learning material that is interesting and fun for students. Online learning takes more time and effort to prepare than conventional. Online classes also rely heavily on internet connections and quality audio and video to convey material well. This is a challenge for English teachers, especially in terms of speaking, which must be done face-to-face even though using technology such as zoom or meet so that the ability to learn English continues to run smoothly.

Based on the problem above, writers believe that digital storytelling is an acceptable strategy that may be used to improve the learning process speaking ability.This method is an interactive activity that uses words and actions to teach students to tell stories that can develop students' ability to communicate such as building students' self-confidence, growing vocabulary, and handling students' ideas. Through this method, speaking involves interactions between the speaker with the audience. Thus, speaking skills are required to be taught. Therefore, students are expected to develop their communication skills and be more confident in communicating.

## 1.2 Formulation of Research Questions

The research questions of this research are formulated as follows, based on the research's background:

1. What are the difficulties faced by students that limiting their speaking skills?
2. Are the digital storytelling methods effectively used in improving students' speaking skills?

## 1.3 Objectives of the Research

In reference to research questions, the objectives of the researchwere:

1. To identify the aspects that limiting students' speaking ability
2. To figure out whether the digital storytelling method is effective or not in improving students' speaking skills.

## 1.4 Purpose of the Research

This research has some uses as follows:

1. Theoreticall
   The result of this research is expected to be able to widen the insight of the educator in creating effective learning strategies in improving students' speaking ability by digital storytelling.
2. Practically
   In practice the findings of this study are intended to benefit for:
   a. Teacher
      The result of this research is hopefully can be helpful to enrich the knowledge of the educator as the ways in improving students speaking ability for SMK PANCA BUDI MEDAN.
   b. Students
      The research can help second grade at SMK PANCA BUDI MEDAN improve their speaking skills and serve as a tool to help students speak english fluently and confidently.
   c. Researcher
      The finding of this research is expected can be used as a reference to other researchers that have a similar topic to support their research.

## 1.5 Scope of the Research

On collecting the data for this research, the researchers focused on identifying the aspect that limiting the students' speaking skills and improving their speaking skills at SMK PANCA BUDI MEDAN. The aspects are related to the students that lack of confidence in using their speaking skills.