

## **ABSTRACT**

**NUR KALBIA.**2016. Improving the Students' Speaking Ability through Problem Based Learning (PBL) Strategy in Performing Adjacency Pairs (An Experimental Study of SMA Somba Opu, Gowa). Under the thesis of English Education Department the Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Makassar Muhammadiyah University (guided by Erwin Akib and Awalia Azis).

This research aimed find out whether or not the application of Problem Based Learning Strategy increased and had significant effects of the students' speaking ability of SMA Somba Opu, Gowa.

The researcher applied a pre-experimental research. The population was the second grade students of SMA Somba Opu, Gowa. The sample was decided by purposive sampling technique and the total number of sample was 24. Speaking activity was given to sample to see the students' speaking before and after treatment. Treatment was implemented in four meetings.

The results of this research showed that the Problem Based Learning Strategy improved the students' speaking ability which focused on accuracy (vocabulary and pronunciation) and fluency (comprehension). It was proved by result of students' score of post-test was higher than students' score of pre-test. The result of this research also showed that the Problem Based Learning Strategy was effective. It was proved by the value of t-test (9,28) which was higher than the value of t-table (2.069). It indicated that there was significant different, this was also indicated that  $H_1$  (alternative hypothesis) was accepted and  $H_0$  (null hypothesis) was rejected. It concluded that applying Problem Based Learning Strategy can improve the students' speaking ability and it was effective for students in speaking.