

ABSTRACT

ISMAWATI. 2017. English Education Department Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Makassar. *“The Application of Self Talk Strategy in Teaching Speaking Skill (An Experimental Research at the Seventh Grade Students SMP Negeri 3 Pitumpanua, Wajo Regency)”*, Under Supervisors Syamsiarna Nappu and Muh. Arief Muhsin.

This research aimed at finding out the improvement of students' speaking skill by the application of Self Talk Strategy at the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Pitumpanua that focused on accuracy consisted of pronunciation and vocabulary and fluency which was consisted of pauses and hesitation.

The method of this research was a experimental design that consisted of one group pre-test and post-test design class. The sample of this research was the seventh grade students with the total number of subject where 21 students. The instruments of data collection for this research were pre-test and post-test.

The researcher findings indicated that the seventh grade students of SMP Negeri 3 Pitumpanua were very low in speaking skill. But after treatment, their speaking skill significant improved. It was proven by the result of the mean score obtained by the students through pre-test was 41.42 which was classified as very poor category and the mean score of the students in post-test was 68.33 which was classified as fair category. While the value of t-test was greater than the value of t-table ($10.48 > 2.080$). It was indicated that the Null Hypothesis (H_0) was rejected and the Alternative Hypothesis (H_1) was accepted. It could be concluded that the application of Self Talk Strategy is effective to improve the students' speaking skill.

Keyword: Pre-Experimental, Speaking, Accuracy, Fluency, Self-talk.