I. INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with introduction in relation to background of the problems, identification the problems, limitation of the problems, formulation of the problems, objective of the research, uses of the research, scope of the research, and definition of terms.

1.1 Background of the Problems

Speaking is an important aspect in language learning. By speaking, speaker and listener can get information or ideas. Speaking is an oral communication which maintains social relationship with others. On the other hand, most of the students in SMPN 3 Natar think that speaking is the most difficult skill when they learn English as a foreign language. There are potential problems that can hinder the students to speak. There are shyness, nervousness, feeling afraid of making mistakes, do not know how to pronounce certain words and low level of motivation. Those factors above become the reasons why the students of junior high school often get problems in speaking though they have to study English more than three years. Among the factors influencing students’ learning, motivation is taught to be a very important reason for different achievement.

However, when the researcher did the pre-observation in SMPN 3 Natar, she found that 8 of 10 students were probably not interested in learning materials from
their teacher, and they felt bored. This was also based on the researcher’s daily observation, it seems that the teacher failed to motivate the students in learning English, especially in speaking skill. In speaking class, the teacher asked the students to practice the conversation by reading the dialogues from their book. The students were asked to perform their dialogues in pair. The teacher distributed the speaking test in the final examination at the end of the semester. This is contrast to good syllabus and lesson plan of the teacher, that the teacher should distributed the speaking test at the end of the topic in every lesson plan. This technique was not effective to know the students’ speaking ability. In the process of teaching learning in the class, the teacher rarely uses the media as the facilitator in delivering the materials. Besides, material is important to make the students become more interested with the subject. It created negative impact for students’ motivation or students’ enthusiasm to learn English, especially in speaking. The students were not interested in the materials and also the subject. Those factors made students might lose their motivation in learning English in the class.

In line with the matters above, the researcher was interested in investigating the students’ motivation in learning English by finding out the correlation between students’ motivation and their speaking ability at SMPN 3 Natar and the researcher also wanted to find out how far the motivation can contribute in students’ speaking skill.
1.2 Identification of the Problems

Based on the background of the problems, the researcher identified the problems of the research as follows:
1. Students get difficulties in speaking
2. Students’ motivation in learning English is still low
3. Students’ motivation in speaking is still low
4. Students are lack of vocabulary knowledge
5. Students’ speaking ability is still low
6. Students feel shy when the teacher asks them to speak English
7. Students’ environment does not give the positive support
8. Students do not practice their English in school or outside the school
9. Students are not interested in the materials
10. Students feel allergic to English

1.3 Limitation of the Problems

Based on the identification of the problems, the researcher limited this research on the correlation between students’ motivation and their speaking ability at SMPN 3 Natar and also to find out how far motivation can contribute in students’ speaking ability.

1.4 Formulation of the Problems

Based on limitation of the problems mentioned above, the researcher formulated the research problems as follow:

1. Is there any correlation between motivation and speaking ability at the third year students of SMPN 3 Natar
2. How far does motivation contribute students’ speaking ability at the third grade year of SMPN 3 Natar?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

In relation to the research questions the objectives of this research are:

1. To investigate whether there is correlation between motivation and speaking ability at the third year of students in SMPN 3 Natar.
2. To analyze how far motivation contributes students’ speaking ability at the third grade of students in SMPN 3 Natar.

1.6 Uses of the Research

The uses of this research as follow:

1. Theoretically, the result of this research is expected to verify the previous theory and to give contribution to the theory of teaching as a reference for next researcher who will concentrate in correlating students’ motivation with students’ speaking ability.
2. Practically, the result of the research can give information to the English teacher to make the classroom to be more active. The teacher also can make maximum effort to motivate the students to speak English.