Teaching English involves four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Of the four language skills, speaking is the most difficult skill, because it is one of the abilities to carry out conversation in the language also it is required by the students when learning a language. According to School Based Curriculum (KTSP) and the objectives of Indonesian High School Curriculum in teaching English is to make students able to communicate in English orally and written form.

In the pre-observation at SMAN 10 Bandar Lampung in class XI IPS 4, the writer found that 26 out of 38 students failed in speaking test. It means that only 31.58% students who were able to pass and the rest 68.42% of the students failed to pass the Minimum Standard Score (KKM), which was 74. The researcher conducted a classroom action research (CAR) in which the Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) method was implemented to improve the students’ speaking ability. The aims of this research were to investigate whether Communicative Language Teaching can improve both students’ speaking ability and students’ involvement.

The research was conducted at SMAN 10 Bandar Lampung. The subject of the research was students of second year (class XI IPS 4) in the academic year 2010/2011. In this classroom action research, the researcher acted as the teacher, and the teacher of SMAN 10 Bandar Lampung acted as the collaborator. There were two cycles done in this research. The result of the research are 30 students (78.95%) score 74 or more in speaking test and 30 students (78.95%) who did 75% of the activities in the teaching and learning process after the second cycle was done. Referring to the result of the research above, it could be concluded that CLT is applicable to improve students’ speaking ability and students’ involvement at XI IPS 4 of SMAN 10 Bandar Lampung

Key words: speaking ability, Communicative Language Teaching.