

## ABSTRACT

### **Fadilah, Rizal (2024) :Exploring Students' Speaking Skills Through Their Storytelling Performance Using Picture Series**

Speaking is a crucial skill for English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners. This issue emphasizes the importance of using innovative techniques, such as storytelling with picture series, to provide structured and interactive learning experiences.

This study aimed to describe the process of students' storytelling performances using picture series and identify the challenges they encounter during the activity.

This study employed a qualitative case study approach and was conducted at SMPN 1 Cibiuk, Garut, West Java. The participants consisted of three ninth-grade students selected through purposive sampling. Data were collected through classroom observations and semi-structured interviews and analyzed using data reduction, data display, and verification techniques.

The results showed that the storytelling process involved three main phases, 1) preparation, 2) implementation, and 3) feedback. During preparation, students read, memorized, and practiced their stories. In delivery, they narrated the story based on picture sequences with varying fluency and confidence. The feedback phase involved teacher and peer evaluations, where students received constructive comments. Challenges included difficulty finding appropriate words, connecting the pictures smoothly, and managing nervousness.

It is suggested that teachers implement storytelling activities with picture series and create a supportive environment to help students overcome these challenges.

**Keywords:** *Speaking Skills, Storytelling, Picture Series, English as a Foreign Language (EFL).*