

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of Study

A language is one of the means of communication for human beings. This language comes from an agreement in society with its own rules, sound symbols, pronunciation, and dialect. Language is an integral aspect of our lives. Without using words, we cannot establish and sustain contact with other people as humans. Robbins said that "language is a unitary activity; people speak and write; and they understand what is said and written in their language, without having to be conscious of things like grammar and pronunciation."<sup>1</sup>

Language is a medium of interaction for people around the world. Communication is an interaction between two or more people to communicate with each other through language. This language comes from a social consensus with its laws, sound symbols, pronunciations, and different dialects. There would be no significant difficulty in mastering the first language because its characteristics are subconscious, free learning situations (spontaneous spoken conversation), automatic, and occurring in children (before puberty). English is an international language that has been studied by people all over the world. In Indonesia, even the use of the English language almost dominates the Indonesian role. At present, we cannot avoid English and dispose of our daily lives. Wherever and whenever we go, we will face the English language. The use of English active in

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<sup>1</sup> Robbins, S.L. *Pathology Basic of Disease*. 7th edition. (Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Company. 2007). P.1

Indonesia has forced the Indonesian people to participate and strive to learn. People are asked to master or know the basic concepts of English, at least. It seemed to be a phenomenon when Indonesia began to learn English.

With communication is a two-way process. First, we need to use language to express ourselves to others, and the second way, we need to understand what they are communicating to us.<sup>2</sup> One of the most critical communication points using a foreign language to be aware of is pronunciation. Sound production (Pronunciation) has an essential role in touch and grammar features.

According to Kelly, the relationship between spelling and pronunciation is more complex in English, but English spelling is not as it seems. Therefore pronunciation is essential to avoid misunderstandings when people are communicating.<sup>3</sup> It is considered a necessity for the development of speech.<sup>4</sup> It is also a primary medium for communication about ourselves as individuals and representatives of different groups.<sup>5</sup> In contrast, pronunciation refers to the description of the sound symbol phonetically depicted in alphabetical form. Alphabetically it consists of two aspects, namely

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<sup>2</sup> Katy Finch, Anna Theakston. *The Language Learning Journal*, 2018. P. 35

<sup>3</sup> Kelly, G. *How to Teaching Pronunciation*, (England:Pearson Education Limited 2000),.

<sup>4</sup> Celce-Murcia, Goodwin. *Teaching Pronunciation*, (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press). P.16

<sup>5</sup> Martha C Pennington. *Phonology in English Language Teaching an International Approach*, 1996. P.2

consonants and vowels that have different sounds and symbols. In pronunciation, vowels are more complicated than consonants because vowels are pronounced with other parts of the tongue moving in open space, it can be said. In contrast, consonants are pronounced in the language that consistently touches a place. So English learners often have problems how to pronounce vowels in English correctly.

In addition to the above statement, the source of pronunciation difficulties English is the second or third language of the Department of English Education students. The English Language Education Department students are mostly Javanese and Sundanese, who usually use their native language. At the same time, Bahasa Indonesia is the second or third language. This multi-lingual background means that participants have more than just their third language voice as permission to learn English.

The Researcher found errors in pronunciation English vowel. There is Students English Education Department. Considering that they are students of English Education Department who will become English teachers, they should be able to use English properly and correctly for their students.

Therefore, the researchers are interested in researching the analysis of the vowel errors of English Students to find out the students errors in vowel sounds, which could be used as material for evaluating teaching improvement in the future. The underlying phenomenon is what led researchers to conduct this study. In this

study, researchers will examine the phenomenon of vocal mispronunciation in students of the English Department of the Faculty of Education and Teacher Training State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasannudin Banten.

The researchers are interested in researching the analysis of vocal pronunciation errors of English Students of English Education to improve pronunciation skills. Students of the Department of English Education at state Islamic University Sultan Maulana Hasanndin Banten, especially the second semester, still lack knowledge in pronunciation science. Hopefully, and their English pronunciation is influence by their mother tongue and first language (L1) that is the Indonesian Language. The results of this study can be used as a reflection and evaluation for English Education students. Based on the above considerations and observations of the researcher, the researcher took the title "An Errors Analysis of English Vowel Pronunciation at the second semester English Education Department State Islamic University of Sultan Maulana Hasannudin Banten" to classify pronunciation errors that could fall into this category of error—focused on research problems.

**B. Research Questions**

1. What are the types of pronunciation errors that occur in second semester students of English Education Department at State Islamic University Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin Banten?
2. What causes of errors in English vowels pronunciation of the second semester Department of English Education State Islamic University Sultan Maulana Hasanudin Banten?

**C. Research Objectives**

1. To classify the errors types in pronouncing English vowel
2. To identify the causes of errors in pronouncing English vowel

**D. Significant of the Research**

The results of this study are expected to provide the following practical benefits:

1. This research will provide valuable experience for researchers and further increase awareness in teaching English as a foreign language, especially in terms of pronunciation.
2. Students, especially the English Department, will realize that there are many errors, so they have to pay more attention to the wrong parts in the pronunciation.
3. The Teacher will provide alternative solutions in teaching pronunciation. It can help teachers solve problems in improving pronunciation and help teachers

pronounce correctly.

### **E. Previous Study**

There are many previous studies of the research. The first thesis by Siti Muawanah which entitled "*An Analysis of Pronunciation Errors of the Fourth Semester Students of IAIN Surakarta in Drama Performance Nights are Longer in Samarkand*" in Academic Year 2014/2015. The study's objective is to describe what vowels are mispronounced by the students and the causes of errors. This thesis uses a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the result of the study. Data were collected and diagnosed with the guidance of phonemic transcription in the Oxford Advanced Learner's dictionary.<sup>6</sup>

The second was a study that Hepy Yudo Hartoto had done (2010) entitled "*The Errors of English Pronunciation Among the Second Grade Students of Toronto Junior High School Tersono Batang*" this previous study is intended to identify English pronunciation made by young learners and the objectives of this study are to describe the pronunciation errors on vowels and diphthong made by the students of Tersono 01 Junior High School. The instrument used to collect the data is the pronunciation errors test consisting of

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<sup>6</sup> Siti Muawanah, -*An Analysis of Pronunciation Errors of the Fourth Semester Students of IAIN Surakarta in Drama Performance Nights are Longer in Samarkand*", (Thesis degree, IAIN Surakarta, 2014/2015)

isolated word interrogatives sentences.<sup>7</sup>

The third study that had been done by Risa Umami (2016) research was conducted at the English Department of University Muhammadiyah of Tapanuli Selatan academic year 2016 entitled “*Pronunciation Errors of English Vowels by Mandailing Students: A Case Study in English Department of University Muhammadiyah of Tapanuli Selatan (UMTS)*” This study took place at the English Department of University Muhammadiyah of Tapanuli Selatan during the 2016/2017 academic year. The focus of this study was on the fourth semester. Apart from the fact that most of the students there find it difficult to talk because they are shy, nervous, frightened of making a mistake with their pronunciation, and unconfident in speaking English, the majority of them are Mandailingnese. In the second semester, they had studied pronunciation. They are now in their fourth semester. They prefer Indonesian or Mandailingnese to English in their daily lives, particularly on campus. In the fourth semester, there were 33 students in the population, with just 16 Mandailing pupils in the sample. The descriptive qualitative research design was used in this study. According to the examination of the data, there were 378 faults in pronouncing English vowels. According to the data that there are 378 errors made by the students in pronouncing English vowels. The other one

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<sup>7</sup> Hepy Yudo Hartoto, *-The Errors of English Pronunciation Among the Second Grade Students of Tersono Junior High School Tersono Batang*”, (State University of Semarang, Semarang: 2010)

is pronounced by the student correctly. So, some of them can pronounce the word correctly, but some of them still did pronunciation errors. In types of error, both interlingual and intralingual are found. Most errors occur in interlingual types. While in causes of error, all factors that cause interlingual and intralingual are also found. And the most occurs in Interference of mother tongue. Most participants still pronounce the mandailing vowels instead of English vowels.<sup>8</sup>

The fourth previous study was done by Kalaldeh entitled "*English Pronunciation Errors by Students Department of English Language and Literature Faculty of Foreign Languages, The University of Jordan Amman.*" The population in this research is students of Jordanian universities, and the researcher uses the instrument pre-test and post-test. This research consists of their English pronunciation mistakes to students at the University of Jordan Amman.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Umami Risa. *Pronunciation Errors of English Vowels by Mandailing Students: A Case Study in English Department of University Muhammadiyah of Tapanuli Selatan (Umts)*. 2016

<sup>9</sup> Kalaldeh, -*English Pronunciation Errors by Students Department of English Language and Literature Faculty of Foreign Languages, The University of Jordan Amman*", Journal (Jordanian: University Jordan Amman, 2016)