

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This introductory chapter begins with the background of a study related pronunciation error of English Education students in pronouncing English fricative sounds. This chapter discusses the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, and the significant of the study.

A. Background of the study

Pronunciation is an component of English to communicate with others since there are differences between the symbol and its sound. Pronunciation has important rule in English and also need to improve to be mastery in speaking in English completely. As argued by Zimmermann (2004), pronunciation is very important because it is the first thing to note about the persons' ability to speak. Moreover according to Mathew (1997) pronunciation is key to communicate in English communicative goals. Pronunciation defined as the phonology of the language or the meaningful perception and production of the sounds of that language and how they impact on the listeners.

Kurniawan (2016) pronunciation is one of the main aspects of language that help learners to communicate in English. Pronunciation become an important components in English because learners need clear pronunciation in communication to create conversation correctly and clearly. Hence, to increase a good communication needs to pronounce the words correctly, good pronunciation will produce good communication. The pronunciation of English words is unique.

That is the reason many people say pronunciation in English is often difficult for non native English speakers. The way people pronounce the words of English on how the words are heard in our ears. It can be important to listen to right pronunciation of English language.

Errors in pronunciation of sounds in one word can eventually lead to misunderstandings and ambiguity in communication. The different pronunciation or different sounds that we speak, it will cause different meanings. Even many language students believe that the major difficulties they experience in communicating in English is the pronunciation. In general, Derwing and Rossiter (2002) assume that pronunciation errors is a major problem in communication. It is clear that pronunciation skill require many aspect to be realize for the students especially English education students of Baturaja University.

English in general have such differences, such as different phonemic inventory, character of sounds, syllable structure and distribution of phonemes. Students of English education study program at Baturaja University who will become teachers are require to be able to pronounce English words correctly. Analyzing the errors can be benefit to learn more about the pronunciation since it can provide an insigh of what needs to be improve and in the end might result in a proper technique in learn it. Several researchers (Marpaung, et.al. (2021), Maulidiana (2020), Elvionita (2019), Kurniawan (2016)) have conducted the same research as this research but with different aims and techniques. Based on the statement above, the researcher interested to investigate the percentage error that students made in pronouncing English fricatives. Besides, the researcher also

investigate the kinds of students' errors in pronouncing English fricatives that made by students of English education study program at Baturaja University.

B. Problem of the study

1. Limitation of the study

In this study, the researcher focussed on analysis of students' errors in pronouncing English fricatives. The researcher focussed on the fourth, sixth and eighth semester students of English education study program at Baturaja University.

2. Formulation of the study

Based on the background above, the formulated as:

- a. What percentage of errors was made by the students of English Education study program in Baturaja University in pronouncing English fricatives sounds?
- b. What kinds of errors was made by the students of English Education study program in Baturaja University in pronouncing English fricatives sounds?

C. Objective of the study

Based on the problem above, the objectives of this study was:

1. To know percentage of errors made by the students of English Education study program in Baturaja University in pronouncing English fricatives sounds.
2. To know the kinds of errors made by the students of English Education study program in Baturaja University in pronouncing English fricative sounds.

D. Significant of the study

The significant of the research was expected to be useful for:

1. Students

The researcher expects the students to realize which pronunciation errors they frequently made and avoided making the errors. Moreover, students more comprehend in saying correct pronunciation because they were already known their inaccuracy.

2. Researcher

Enrich the researchers' knowledge and experience in the specific study especially about pronunciation English fricatives.

3. Other researcher

The researcher hopes that this research can be a reference for other researchers in order to make different objectives and better research than what the researcher do on this study.