

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter present background, research problem, aim of study, and the significances of study.

1.1 Background

Human beings cannot live without each other because we are social creatures. When we are in contact with others we are communicating. Communication is the very basic of our existence. Without communication we cannot interact with our peers, we cannot learn language and at a very basic level we cannot even think. One of media of communication used by human beings to communicate or interact with others is a language. Language is a system of sounds which are produced by vocal apparatus and received by auditory apparatus (Hall, 1993:4). The existence of language is very important for human life.

Language also is used by people for communicating with each other around the world, including Indonesian. Indonesian has a wide area and consists of larger ethnic groups with their own vernacular. Besides Indonesian language which is used by Indonesian people as national language and official language, there are also hundreds of vernaculars which are used regionally (Abdulhayiet. Al., 1985: 1). This condition shows that Indonesian people are formed in multilingual society (Chaer, 1994: 65). It means that Indonesian people use more than two languages for communicating with each other, one of which is Indonesian language and the other one is their vernacular language.

The ability to master two languages are unbalanced often cause irregularities. Indonesia has more than 600 different languages called mother tongue bounded by Indonesians. Mother tongue refers not only to the language one learns from one's mother but also the Students dominant and home language which is called native language.

Learning mother tongue is started from one's home. Mother tongue will be one's habitual language if it is used frequently in family and society. In fact, for some urban young generation nowadays do not recognize their mother tongue. As a millennium generation, they think globally as the effect of nowadays information which is mailed into English. English as EFL is familiar to Indonesia as first EFL taught in schools. Those whose mother tongue is their daily language, it will interference English pronunciation. Indonesians would pronounce past as /pha:st/ without aspiration as in Indonesian word 'pagi' because /p/ is not aspirated in all position.

There is possible phonemic negative transfer between languages and it can make weird. The mother tongue users will encounter some common difficulties when pronouncing the English's words. Stated that factors that cause the difficulties are phonological differences between their native language (L1) and their second language/foreign language (L2) Brown (2007). Interference is the automatic transfer, due to habit, of the surface structure of the first language onto the surface of the target language. Interference is the deviation of target language as a result of their familiarity with more than one language. They differentiate interference into two parts, the psychological and sociolinguistic. The psychological refers to the influence of old habits when new ones are being

learned, whereas sociolinguistic refers to interactions of language when two language communities are in contact According to Dulay et al (1982: 98). Sabu language is a language of south eastern Indonesia. Sabu speech communities are found in SabuIsland, Kupang region of West-Timor, and coastal region of Sumba, Ende in Flores. In using English as foreign language in Sabu communities sometimes the student get difficulty to spell the phonemes because the phonemes has sounds that do not exist in Sabunese, for example sounds : [i:] see. According to Walker (1982:1)

An EFL (English as a foreign language) learner is frequently faced a problem: what is correct pronunciation of this English word? English sounds rather confusing, since there seems to be no specific logic to decode the sequence of sounds orthographically represented in words. Every language has different sounds. A language sound tends to be influenced by its environment, different sounds make the student has problem to produce other language According to Samsuri (1978: 131-132). In the sentences “did he believe that Caesar could see the people seize the seas?” and “The silly amoeba stole the key to the machine” , the sound / i / is represented by e , y and y , and other eight combination : **ie , ae , ee ,eo , ei , ea , oe , and ey**. Fromkin and Rodman (1998)

There are many other influences at play when a Students learns a foreign language, but the influence that the mother tongue has on the language the learner produce when they use a foreign language has become a very important area of study for people interested in (SLA) second language Acquisition, language teaching, English language teaching publishing and language in general and is

usually reference to as “language interference”, “transfer” or “linguistic influence” (Cristal 1987:372).

Based on the problem above, it may happen that the students will transfer their habit of using Sabunese pronunciation or the phonemes of Sabu language to English when they speak English. The writer is interested in investigating the Sabunese sounds which interference the English pronunciation of students of Sabunese.

The writer conducts a research under the title:

“THE INTERFERENCE OF SABU LANGUAGE TOWARDS STUDENTS ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION IN EIGHT GRADE A OF SMP N 7 SABU BARAT”

1.2. Research Problem

Based on the title above, the research problem of this research is:

1. What the interference occurs in pronouncing English sounds by in Eighth grade of SMP N 7 Sabu Barat?

1.3. Aim of Study

Based on the research problems the aim of study of this research is to find out:

1. To find out the interference occurs in pronouncing English sounds by in Eighth grade of SMP N 7 Sabu Barat

1.4 Scope of writing

There are four types: phonology interference, morphological interference, syntax interference, semantic interference. The writer just focuses on phonological interference.

1.5. Significance of study

1.5.1 Implication

This study refers to the theory of Folley (1997):384 that states 'interference occurs if a language imposes itself on another language.'

1.5.2 Application

- a. To help the readers with useful information about interference of Sabunese sounds towards English pronunciation.
- b. To provide the students of Sabu language especially who want to learn to speak English by good pronunciation.