

## **CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION**

This chapter contains the general outlines of the research. Starting from the research background, statement of the problems, the research objectives, the research significance, and definition of key terms.

### **1.1 Research Background**

Sounds of speech have important role in human life. People produce thousands sounds of speech and listen many spoken words every time and every day. People produce spoken words for conveying their feeling, wishes, and intention. Humans have sound-based signaling system which makes them capable to communicate each other with the members of same species on various topics of interest in something together (McMahon, 2002:1). The structure of the vocal organs found in humans allows various kinds of sounds to be produced and then put together by a certain process.

Phonology has a significant meaning in which studies a special field in linguistics that examines the sound of a particular language in accordance with its function aims to differentiate between the lexical meanings of a language. It is strengthen by (De Lacy, 2006) defined that Phonological theory deals with the mental representation and computation of human speech sounds. Phonetics provides objective ways of describing and analyzing the range of sounds humans use in their languages. More specifically, articulatory phonetics identifies precisely which speech organs and muscles are involved in producing the different sounds of the world's languages. Those sounds are then transmitted from the speaker to the hearer, and acoustic and auditory phonetics focus on the physics of speech as it travels through the air in the form of sound waves, and the effect those waves have on a hearer's ears and brain (McMahon, 2002:1). It follows that phonetics has strong associations with anatomy, physiology, physics and neurology. Richard & Smith (2011:434) explained that phonetics is study of the speech sound and deals with how the sounds are produce and how each sound is different from one and

another. The fact is that speech's sound is different with the spelling of the letters (orthography).

Every language has its own unique. One of its unique is the vowel and consonant. The different amount of vowel and consonant will determine the different pronunciation. In Bahasa, pronounce is in spoken by its written, whether English is different. One of the difficulties of Indonesian who learn English is in its pronunciation. That's why mostly Indonesian as an English learner are missed pronunciation. Because there are several differences between vowel and consonant in English and Bahasa.

Vowel is the speech sound in which the mouth is open and the tongue is not touching the top of the mouth, the teeth, and at all. A vowel is defined as a voiced sound in forming which the air issues in a continuous stream through the pharynx and mouth, there being no obstruction and no narrowing such as would cause audible friction (McMahon, 2002:85). Consonant as a speech sound made by partly stopping the breath with the tongue, lips, and at all. whereas Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2011:235) defined that consonants are sounds that are produce with some restriction or closure in the vocal tract that impedes the flow of air from the lungs. These are the sounds that need restriction in the vocal tract to produce. the air flow can be blocked (stop), partially blocked (lateral), the opening is so narrow that the air escapes with the audible friction (fricative), or with some consonants (nasals), the airstream is blocked in the mouth but allowed to escape through the nose (Richard & Smith, 2011:120).

In English, vowel is not always spoken by its written. In English vowel is divided in three parts namely monophthong, diphthong, and triphthong. In this research, the writer will be focused on diphthong. So, what the diphthong is? Diphthong is a vowel in which there is a change in quality during a single syllable (Richard & Smith, 2011:172). It is produced with unite one vowel to another in a brief moment. There are two vowels are present in diphthong. The main characteristic of the diphthong is that the first part is much longer and stronger than the second part (Roach, 2009:17).

The researcher here focus on phonology especially in diphthongs as the theory above that English is not always spoken by its written meanwhile on the contrary of Indonesian. Indonesia has many tribes and traditional language as the mother language and Bahasa as the national language as the second language that use in Indonesia. It will be more difficult for Indonesian to learn about the other language in fact Indonesia has various languages in daily activities.

Considering the problem of pronunciation occurred on Indonesian people, makes the researcher more interested in examining the changes of sound due to the difference in the number of different vowels and consonants which will determine different pronunciations and are often not based on the written language. In particularly, the researcher wants to more examine about the sound changes in diphthongs spoken by the Indonesian people, especially the Seventh Semester of Sundanese students of English Literature of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.

However, studies in this field, specifically sound change have been conducted several times. For instances, the researcher was (Harwadi, 2019) and the main source is the pronunciation recordings of the students diphthong [ɪə], [eə], [eɪ]. This study concludes that based on the analysis there are two types of changes which are diphthong to vowel and diphthong to diphthong changes. Diphthong [eɪ] has the highest number the phonological processes, followed by [eə], and then [ɪə]. The second, (Suryatiningsih, 2015) the researcher analyzed their ability in pronouncing English diphthongs by classifying their score based on the classification of the score levels. The researcher found that the difficult diphthong was pronounce by the students is diphthong /oU/. And for the easiest diphthong was pronounced by them is diphthong /aU/. The last was (Ranny, 2018), in the result findings, researcher found the number of diphthong in English and BBK languages are different each other. The Banjarese students have difficulties dealing with diphthongs that not recognized in their native language.

Those are the previous studies that relevant with this study, but those are different from what the writer will explain about. The first study was focused on sound changes of diphthong from Javanese students and the source of research was recorded the students. The second, the researcher was focused on the difficulties of

students in pronouncing diphthong by classifying their score based on the classification of the score levels. The third, the researcher focused on differences of BBK languages and English which make the students difficult to pronounce diphthong in English. Meanwhile, the writer focus on the sound changes of English diphthong by Sundanese students of English Literature in UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.

### 1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, the problem research is to describe the sound changes of English diphthongs by seventh semester of English Department students of UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. Research Questions of this analysis are:

1. What kind of sound changing that occurred in the pronunciation of English diphthongs pronounced by English Literature student on their YouTube channel?
2. What processes that occurred in the pronunciation of English diphthongs were pronounced by English Literature student on their YouTube channel?

### 1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the research above, writer focuses on sound changes of English diphthong by seventh semester UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.

This research is proposed:

1. To analyze the kind of sound changing in the pronunciation of English diphthongs.
2. To analyze the processes that occurred in the pronunciation of English diphthongs.

### 1.4 Research Significance

The results of the research are expected to give contribution to the theoretical and practical uses of language.

1. Theoretically, the research findings are expected to enrich the comprehension and understanding of phonology learning, especially about pronunciation of English Diphthong.

2. Practically the research findings will be useful for:

a. The Students of English Literature

This research can be one of references for students who want discuss about phonology especially about English diphthongs.

b. Others Researchers

This research hopefully gives other reaserchers who wants to analyze English diphthong pronunciation especially that pronouncing by English department students.

c. Others Readers

This research hopefully gives a preview of English diphthongs pronouncing by English Department students.

## 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

In order to prevent misinterpretation of several terms used in this study, the researcher would like to define and clarify some terms.

### 1. Phonology

Phonology is one of the linguistics branches that studies about sound that used by human which is formed by *phone* means ‘sound’ and *logy* means ‘science’. Generally it said that phonology is the study of the sound that used by humans language.

### 2. Sundanese Phonology

Sundanese has written records since the second millennium, and as the third Austronesian language with the oldest written record, after Malay and Javanese. In the beginning, writings used the characters of *Pallawa*. In the *Padjadjaran* period, the script used was Sundanese script *Kaganga*. Words in Sundanese consist of at least one syllable and at most five syllables.

### 3. Pronunciation

Pronunciation is how the sounds of consonants and vowels are produced by human speech organ as the speaking skill in daily life.

### 4. Phonetics

Phonetics is one of sub that engaged with pronunciation which explain the classification of the speech sound by using symbols.

**5. Sound change**

Sound change is the changing of the language pattern including the meaning in a certain time and environment. Usually it changes to the simple one of pronunciation when people utter the sound.

**6. Diphthong**

Diphthong is sound which is consist of a movement or glide from one vowel to another. In short, when you pronounce one letter, it becomes to letter in a row. It happens in some words in English.

