

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of research background, statements of problem, research objective, research significance, and definition of key terms related to phonological interference of Indonesian speaker, Maharani while speaking English in YouTube channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

### 1.1 Research Background

Indonesian politician work and involved in politics to participate in government work. According to Roger F. Soltau in Gamurti & Siregar (34: 2021) politic is defined as the organizations that carry out the goals of the country, to research the relation between countries and relation of the country with their citizens. There are politicians in Indonesia, and they are considered to become an expert in politics. One of the Indonesian politicians is Puan Maharani.

Maharani is an Indonesian politician who currently serves as chairman of the People's Representative Council (DPR) of the Republic of Indonesia. Based on her biography accessed in kawanpuan.com Maharani has a background study in a mass communication which helps her in carrying out the political missions in government which requires a good communication skill to make the government goals can be realized properly.

In her work as a politician, Maharani sometimes engages in international events that require her to communicate with other parties in international level. In communication, she needs an international language, such as English, that

considered as becoming the main international language accepted by people from other countries. When pronouncing the English words, especially in international forum, people are expected to speak up in the correct manners. So that, his or her statements are understandable by the people from different nations. Since Indonesian people are not speaking English in their daily life, English in Indonesia is considered as foreign language.

When speaking English, Maharani has some influence of her Indonesian language. This may result in some misunderstandings for native English speakers and people who are proficient in the English language in interpreting the meaning of what is said. When the first language affects a second or foreign language, it is known as language interference. According to Karimi and Derakhshan (2015: 2113), language interference is similar to the sociological issue of bilingualism. According to Weinreich (1968: 12), there are three types of language interference: phonological, grammatical, and lexical.

Phonological interference is defined by Berthold (in Ani 2013: 899) as everything that affects the speech sounds of the second or foreign language, including things like stress, rhyming, intonation, and foreign accents. Clear communication helps people understand of what someone is saying.

The phenomena of phonological interference can happen to everyone, including those working as politician where English is the language used for communication with international people. This research focuses on phonological interference that happens in the speech of Maharani as the Indonesian Politician speaking English in International events that was held by Inter-Parliamentary Union

(IPU). The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is one of international organizations that received a great recognition from United Nations. Quoted from the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, IPU is an international organization that builds international standards and norms in advancing the democratic system of a country. The speech of Maharani is taken from one video of YouTube of IPU channel.

The video discovered phonological interference in the words being delivered. Furthermore, the official events which are attended by international politician use English as a means of communications, yet the mother tongue is still involved. This will lead to misunderstanding. Based on the reason, this research is entitled “Phonological Interference of Indonesian Politician, Puan Maharani While Speaking English in YouTube Channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)”.

Meanwhile, there are studies related to phonological interference. One of the studies about language interference is “The Korean Phonological Interference in Using Indonesian Language” written by Mohd Agung Kurniawan (2019). This research focused on phonological aspects with the aim of finding out the main factors of Korean interference in using the Indonesian language and describing how Korean phonological interference is realized in using the Indonesian language. The object of this research is the result of the test of Korean speakers. The data in this research consist of Indonesian vocabulary pronounced by Korean speakers. The result of this research finds the main factors of Korean phonological interference. There are four factors found in this research; they are gemination,

aspiration, devoicing, and insertion. Furthermore, this research also finds four types of realization of phonological interference by Korean speakers, which are under-differentiation of phonemes, over-differentiation of phonemes, reinterpretation of distinction, and actual phone substitution.

Another thesis is from Siqoyah (2020) with the title "Phonological Interference of Javanese Towards English Pronunciation". This research aims to reveal the phonological aspects that caused phonological interference and find out the strategies for avoiding interference. The subjects of this research are the students of the English Literature Department who are enrolled in English Language Teaching (ELT) that are fluent in Java, Indonesia, and English. The research used the theory of Geoffry S. Nathan in order to analyze the research. There are two phonological features in the findings. They are suprasegmental, which concentrates on words stress in syllables, and segmental, which uses three speech implementation techniques, including assimilation, insertion, and deletion. In the meantime, the researcher compared vocals, diphthong, and consonants in Java language using the Marsono theory in order to make the findings easier to understand. The results indicate that phonological interference occurs from a segmental aspect, with errors summing up to 99 and 189 in the suprasegmental factor. On the integration of a speech approach that is based on vowels, diphthong, and consonants, mistakes in English pronunciation were discovered in the segmental aspect. The second syllable of words with 2, 3, and 4 syllables causes the most errors in the suprasegmental aspect, though. As a result, phonological interference can be prevented by practicing more independently,

looking for challenging words, and utilizing English as the primary language when engaging in enjoyable activities like watching movies and listening to music.

Another research related to phonology and interference is from Tedi Supriadi, J. Julia, and Prana Dwijaya Iswara (2019) with the title "Phonological Interference in Reciting Alquran: A Critical Reflection on the Learning of Alquran Phonology Through Action Research". This research aims to analyze phonological interference in the Alquranic reciting practice in one of Indonesia's universities. Action research was the methodology employed, with 25 students — 12 female and 13 male — serving as the subject. They are a group of people with a Javanese cultural background or who speak Javanese as their mother tongue. Listening, documenting, and interviewing were the methods used to get data. In order to minimize the types of phonological interference when reciting the Alquran, this research created a number of steps, including the use of the LOVVE learning approach, which stands for Listening, Observation, Verification, Values, and Evaluation. As a result after conducting a pre-test on the subjects, 24 (96%) students made phonological interference in reading Al-Fatihah classified into Lahn Jali (major) and 1 (4%) of students classified into Lahn Kahfi (minor). From these findings, the LOVVE approach was able to improve students' fluency in reciting the Alquran. Students who are not yet proficient in reading the Al-Quran have been able to change as a result of this research activity. The LOVVE approach has been able to increase the fluency in reading Alquran by 96% or a number of 24 students from 25 students.

In contrast to the previous studies, this research aims to focus on the phonological interference of Indonesian politician, Puan Maharani while speaking English in international event on YouTube channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The Weinreich's theory of phonological interference is used in this research in order to find out the types of phonological interference and the factors of phonological interference that be found in the object.

### **1.2 Statements of Problem**

Based on the background of problem can be formulated two the research questions as follows:

1. What types of phonological interference found in Maharani's speech using English in the YouTube Channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)?
2. How the factors caused phonological interference are found in Maharani's speech using English in the YouTube Channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)?

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

Based on the research questions above, the specific objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To find out the types of phonological interference found in Maharani's speech in English in the YouTube Channel of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).
2. To analyze the factors caused phonological interference, found in Maharani's speech in English in the YouTube Channel of Inter-Parliamentary

Union (IPU).

#### **1.4 Research Significance**

The research is expected to provide benefits or an excellent contribution to society, especially for linguistics scientists who are interested in phonology fields. Both theoretical and practical applications of this research are expected. Theoretically, this research is expected to advance information relevant to phonology or sociolinguistics, concerned with researching language interference in the form of phonological interference. Practically, the researcher hopes that the findings of this research can be used to present an interference analysis model for linguistics research. This research is expected to be a resource for other researchers interested in researching linguistic interference, particularly phonological interference.

#### **1.5 Definitions of Key Terms**

Some of the key terms in this research, particularly those that are connected to the research title, will be defined in order to prevent misunderstandings, as terms that occasionally appear in research are utilized. For the ease of readers in comprehending and interpreting the research's title, these terms are also defined. The definition of these concepts are as follows:

##### **1. Language Interference**

The interference in this research refers to phenomenon when a person has

some difficulty to pronounce a foreign language because of the influence of the first language. According to Weinreich, the phenomenon known as interference occurs when bilinguals speak, revealing the familiarity of the first language system in the second language system (1968: 1). According to Karimi and Derakhshan (2015: 2113), language interference is similar to the sociological issue of bilingualism. Many experts and researchers have carried out about language interference as an interesting topic in the sociolinguistics field. Language interference generally results from two or more language interactions, which the habit of the pronunciations of first language of a speaker affects the second language.

As a result of language contact, the interference phenomenon occurs when bilinguals deliver their speech. The result shows the familiarity of the first language system in the second language system (Weinreich, 1968: 1). Several factors influence language interference, such as language structure in the first and second languages and the diversity of vocabulary that a language user has (Weinreich, 1968: 1). When a second or foreign language is spoken, these factors cause errors that cause the interference phenomenon. Furthermore, he divides linguistic interference into 3 parts: phonological interference, lexical interference, and grammatical interference. This research focuses only on phonological interference, not on the other parts.

## 2. Phonological Interference

Phonological interference refers to how a speaker recognizes or



reproduces the sounds of one language—which may be referred to as secondary—in terms of another—which is referred to as primary (Weinreich, 1968: 14). Phonological interference occurs when a bilingual or multilingual person detects a phonetic pronunciation as from secondary system in the primary system and then reproduces using the phonetic rules of the first language. Weinreich divides phonological interference into four categories, which are under-differentiation of phonemes, over-differentiation of phonemes, reinterpretation of distinction, and actual phone substitution. There are four factors causing phonological interference according to Weinreich, namely, absence of the corresponding distinction on primary language, presence of distinction (only) in primary language, different phonemic systems, different pronunciations of equivalent phonemes.

### 3. Indonesian Politician

According to Easton, politician is a person who participates in a variety of activities that affect the policy of the government accepted by the society (1981: 319). Based on Oxford Dictionary, politician is a person whose job is concerned with politic. Based on the description, politician is considered as the person who works in the government matters to carry out the goals of the country by its policy accepted by the society. Because of their work is involved in government matters, politician considered become actors who have above average potential and competence compared to citizens in general in order to convey their thoughts or ideas.

#### 4. Puan Maharani

Puan Maharani was born in Jakarta and is the daughter of the fifth former president of Indonesia and the granddaughter of the first former President of Indonesia. The political career of Maharani began in 2009 as a member of the DPR RI through the *Partai Demokrasi Indonesia (PDI) Perjuangan* party. Her career in the political world began to rise under the shadow of the *PDI Perjuangan* party, until in 2012 she was appointed as the Chief of the Fraction of *PDI Perjuangan*.

A few years later, she was re-elected as a member of the DPR RI, and served as the Head of Political Affairs and Interrelations of the *PDI Perjuangan* Institution. When Joko Widodo and Jusuf Kalla were elected as presidents and vice presidents of Indonesia in 2014, Maharani was later appointed as Minister Coordinator for Human Development and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia. Then in 2019, Mrs. again took the position of DPR RI and was elected as the President of the DPR RI. In its history, she was the first female head of the DPR RI in Indonesia.