

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the most fundamental aspects of human behaviour and the development of language into a refined instrument of expression and communication is probably man's greatest achievement. Linguistics is the study of language in all its forms, and is thus of direct relevance to all users of language. Every human being is born into a speech community and uses language throughout his whole life: in this sense everyone is a linguist.

The linguistic sciences are concerned with the way speech sounds are produced and transmitted, the way speech sounds operate in a system to produce meaningful utterances, and the way in which grammatical forms and vocabulary items are used in different varieties of language. Such studies may be confined to a particular speech community at one stage in its history, or they may transcend the boundaries of geography and time to include historical and comparative studies as well as investigations into the nature of language in general.

According to an ancient linguist of India, Patanjali, language is that human expression which is uttered out by speech organs. In the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Vol. 13, language is defined as "a system of conventional, spoken or written symbols by means of which human beings, as members of a social group and participants in its culture, communicate." Some other definitions which are currently popular in linguistics "A system of communication by sound, i.e. through the organs of speech and hearing, among human beings of a certain group or community, using vocal symbols possessing arbitrary conventional meanings. {Mario A. Pei and Frank Gaynor, *Dictionary of linguistics*, 1954}."

Language is very important in daily life communication. As well as with English which is an international language that almost all the world uses it. English is the language used as communication when we are in another country. In English there are four skills that must be mastered by students, namely speaking, writing, reading and listening.

From the four skills above, this study refers to pronunciation in which statements are part of speaking. Speaking is a skill to express ideas, opinions to provide information to the recipient of the message. English language skills are very important by paying attention to statements in phonetic transcription.

Phonetics is the systematic study of human speech sounds. It provides means describing and classifying virtually all the sounds that can be produced by human vocal tract. Any person who works with language would do well to have a basic knowledge of phonetics. The teacher of languages, for example including the teacher of English as a second language must be able to diagnose the pronunciation error made by students and to devise means of correcting them, this is impossible without both theoretical and practical knowledge of phonetics.

Phonetics is also useful to those concerned with various aspect of the mother tongue: the phonetically trained teacher of reading will have a better understanding of orthographic problems and the relationship of spelling to the spoken language.

The definition of pronunciation in Dictionary is the way words are spoken. Sometimes you can tell where someone is from by their pronunciation of certain words. Pronunciation is one of the hardest parts of learning a new language. Spoken language consists of successions of sounds emitted by the organ speech, together with certain attributes. These successions of sounds are composed of speech sounds proper and glides. Speech sounds are certain acoustic effects voluntarily produced by the organ speech, they are the result of definite actions performed by these organ. A glide is the incidental transitory sounds produced when the organ speech are passing from the position for one speech sound to that another by the most direct route.

The students of spoken English or any other spoken language is faced at the outset with difficulties of five kinds in the matter of pronunciation: 1) He must learn to recognize readily and with certainty the various speech sounds occurring in the language. 2) He must learn to make the foreign sounds with his own organ of speech. 3) He must learn to use those sounds in their proper places in connected speech. 4) He must learn proper usage in the matter of the sound attributes as they are called, especially length, stress and voice pitch. 5) He must learn to catenate sounds, example to join each sound of a sequence on to the next and to pronounce the complete sequence rapidly and without stumpli.

According to Chomsky (1966), both of linguistics and psychology are in a state at the present time of what Chomsky has called flux and agitation. According to M.P Jain (1969), the conceptual framework for the study of error source and significance based on contrastive study of the contact languages is fragmentary and therefore inadequate ; it overlooks many errors that the learner seems to make not with standing his language background.

According to Peter Roach (1943) ;the words vowel and consonant are very familiar ones, but when we study the sounds of speech scientifically we find that it is not easy to define exactly what they mean. If we say that the difference between vowels and consonants is a difference in the way that they are produced, there will inevitably be some cases of uncertainty or disagreement; this is a problem that cannot be avoided.

If we look at the vowel-consonant distinction in this way, we must say that the most important difference between vowel and consonant is not the way that they are made, but their different distributions. Of course, the distribution of vowels and consonants is different for each language. (Peter Roach ; 1943, Cambridge University).

The background of this research is that we wanted each students to known how the words or sounds are pronounced. That research is focused on the error analysis of students in ability of Voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k] by first grade students of 2018/2019 in SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan tried to correct the error of voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k] and how is the right voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k] for the students in everyday life.

1.2. The Problems of Study

Based on the identification of the problem, the researcher limits the discussion of the research only on concerning errors made by the students in learning English Voiceless Consonant [p], [t], [k] at SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan. To specify this problem, the specific research questions are formulated as follow:

1. What are the most errors made by the students in using voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k]?
2. Why do the students commit errors in using voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k]?
3. How the teachers do to correct the error of using voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k]?

1.3. The Objectives Of Study

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objectives of this study mainly intend as follow:

1. To find out the errors made by students at SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan in using voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k].
2. To know the students ability in using voiceless consonant.
3. To find more the dominant errors made by students in using voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k].

1.4. The Scope Of Study

The scope of the study is to limit on error of students in pronunciation voiceless consonant. The researcher only analysis of students error in pronunciation Voiceless Consonant [P], [T], [K] at First Grade SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan.

1.5. The Significance of Study

The researcher hopes this study can be usefull, especially :

1. For the students

The students got the right treatment from their teacher in decreasing their errors in pronunciation the Voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k].

2. For the teachers

For the teachers in SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan, the researchers can help the teachers for explain the pronunciation and find the best method in speaking.

3. For the reasearchers

For the researchers, we got the data from the student's errors in their speak and we can help their from the errors voiceless consonant [p], [t], [k]. And we got the lesson too from the error analysis made by the students in SMA Swasta Dharma Pancasila Medan.