

ABSTRACT

Studyawati, Retno F. 2007. *A Study of L1 Influence on Vowel Sounds Intelligibility Produced by Native Speaker and Non-native Speaker. (A Study of D3 Students of English Department of Airlangga University)*. Submitted as the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana degree of the English Department, Airlangga University.

English is now used for international communication and it is spoken by more non-native speakers than the native themselves and that is why the focus of intelligibility has transformed in which the intelligibility also exists between non-native speakers instead of between non-native speakers and native speakers. This study examines the comparison of intelligibility on vowel sounds by D3 Students of English Department of Airlangga University which are produced by the English native speaker and non-native speaker.

There are two questions appeared in this study: is there any significant difference of intelligibility of the students of D3 in English language of Airlangga University toward native speaker and non-native speaker of English and what English vowel sounds produced by native speaker and non-native speaker of English which are less intelligible to the students of D3 in English language of Airlangga University. The writer obtained the data by giving D3 students recorded English words which consist of English vowel sounds produced by native speaker of English and Indonesian speaker. Meanwhile, the D3 students were also asked to write the words after hearing the recorded English words. Then, the writer determine the score of each student both toward the English and Indonesian speakers and count the data using a parametric statistical test, t- test. Beside that in this study the writer also analyze the mistakes based on the comparison between the vowel systems of English and Indonesian.

The result shows that there is a significant difference of the D3 students' intelligibility of vowel sounds produced by native and non-native speaker and there are nine vowel sounds produced by English native speaker that recognized by the students incorrectly : [ɔə], [ɪə], [ɑ:], [ɪ], [æ], [ɒ], [u:], [ʊə], and [ʌ]. Meanwhile, there are only five vowel sounds produced by non-native speaker that consider the most difficult to comprehend: [ɔə], [ɒ], [æ], [u:], and [ɑ:]. A feasible reason why the intelligibility is more apparent between the Indonesian speakers is because they share the same native language. In addition, it is also because some of the vowels do not exist in Indonesian vowel system. and there are vowels: [ɔə] and [ʊə] which are disappearing from RP.

Key Terms: Diphthong, Intelligibility, Native speaker, Speech Intelligibility, Vowels.

