CHAPTER I

I N T R O D U C T I O N

I.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Language can hardly be separated from the life of human beings since they are a child. It becomes the most common fact that a language must be possed and used by a particular speech community. And it is also able to show and even to represent the real condition of that speech community as well as its culture.

Fishman (1974) implied that the existence of language variety in any speech community is a common linguistic phenomenon. People speaks differently according to their background, and it is frequently possible to relate aspects of a person's speech to, among others his place of origin or education or educational or social group or generation and occupation. (Loveday, 1978 :63)

Since what is going to be analysed is closely relative to phonology, it is very important to understand what sounds are and what sounds are not in language. The investigation towards a certain language requires a kind of language to signify sounds and knowledge of how they fall into pattern that should be associated with meaning, when being used. In relation with sounds, study which are concerns with speech sound and their patterns are phonetic and phonology.

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Phonology tries to seek differences in sound that leads to differences in meaning. Prof.Drs.S.Wojowasito (1976 :18) stated that the differences in meaning from the differences in sound is called a functional and relevant distinctive opposition. On the other hand, the study of the speech sounds that are utilized by all human languages to represent meaning is called *Phonetics* (Fromklin and Rodman, 1983 :31).

The Javanese actually provides some linguistic phenomena that can be attested through its phonology, morphology, semantic, phonetic and syntax. As in most other languages, the Javanese language also has varities and levels in usage that are ussually used according to social status, age and educational background.

Regarding with the various communities, the unity of the Javanese language is eventually segmented into and spoken exclusively on the basis of every speaker's region. Over the island of Java actually among the dialects themselves, their speakers remain using the same vocabulary or just litle differently.

They are only different in the way the Javanese speakers pronounce. As a matter of fact, this study has a link with dialect since the analysis is a litle bit uncommon from those of standard Javanese, in this case there is no sound [m] dropping for words began by [m] except the specific phenomenon found in desa Semampir.

In desa Semampir, Kecamatan cerme, Kabupaten Gresik, it is found a unique kind of linguistic phenomenon. Almost the whole village people tend to drop a given sound regardless their age, their status, sex and so on when they intended to speak words whose first syllable begins by [m]. The following are some of them indicating such an elision.

- males ——————— pronounced as [aləs]
- melok ——————— pronounced as [ɛlɔk]
- mangan ——————— pronounced as [aŋan]
- muring ——————— pronounced as [moriŋ]

I.2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Based on the background of the study above, the writer will find possible answers for the following questions.

1. What kinds of sound elision occur in the dialect under investigation ?

2. How is such an elision phonologically described ?

I.3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

By this study the writer intends to provide a number of elaborations pertaining to particular dropping of sound occuring on some Javanese words so that the reader will achieve an understanding about such phenomenon. More precisely, this paper is aimed at revealing the

distribution of elision occuring in words within sentences. Specifically thispaper is made purposedly to describe how the nasal soundof [m] is dropped and how could the glotalization appears on the basis of phonological rules.

I.4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Since this study is concerned with phonology, it is necessary to inform the reader about the importance and the advantage of the results of the analysis. Less or more, it should be realized that this paper discusses[m] elision spoken by people of desa Semampir. Hopefully the data can be helpful to linguists who attept to explore the Javanese sound elision. At least it will provide references for other studies concerns with phonology. In addition, the data themselves may be very useful for further investigations into the sound [m] elision in Javanese.

I.5. HYPOTHESIS

This section the hypothesis are intentionally formulated into following :

1. This elision of [m] create the change in meaning. This is based on the assumption that the dropping of one sound or the substitution of one sound for the other sound will result in a word of different meaning.

2. The occurence of this elision is influenced by the element of weakness. It is due to the common fact that under circumstances sound disappear in which a phoneme may be realised as zero.

3. This sound [m] elision is restricted to particular words from particular category.

I.6. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In analysing this phenomenon of sound [m] elision, this study needs to explore some pure linguistic theories. Therefore, some theories of phonology which are most relevant and appropriate with the object researched are adopted here. As a matter of fact, the phenomenon found would be revealed under assumption that the elision of [m] only occurs at first sound of the Javanese words.

According to Hocket (1978:11) said that "one of the most noticeable features of language is that many syllables are weak". Therefore this study is very particularly concerned with the way wheter the weak syllable is able to form this elision. For that purpose, the writer considere it necessary to notice some features of the weakness in English phonology that maybe similar with those of the Javanese phonology.

Chomsky and Halle (Hyman 1973:81) suggest that there is a correlation between labials (p, b, m) and rounded vowels. Since in this study the element of glotalization

which the glottal sound is usually simbolized as (ʔ) also
has partially to play an important role, the investigation
over this elision continue to developing the relationship
between [m] and the vowels following it, and how could
the glottal sound appear if the sound [m] is dropped.
Actually this is what this study in most part will reveal.
Gleason (1961:271) said that "Nasal -- if it is followed or ⎱ kagak
precedeed by a weak sound will create a kind of ⎰ patkai
glotalization". The tendency of sounds to be dropped
(lost) at the end of words more readily than at the
beginning can be cited (Hyman, 1973:92). In other words,
from this insight we may conclude that there may be a
language or some languages in the world to have dropping
sounds at the beginning of words. More technically it is
concerned with the dropping of particular sound, namely
[m] as an initial sound of words.

I.7. SCOPE AND LIMITATION

The study limits the discussion to the dropping of
[m] which occurs in the beginning of Javanese words
spoken by village people at Desa Semampir, Cerme, Gresik.
Another sound dropping, excluding [m] is not further
considered. Similarly, the dropping of [m] in different
environment which is probably spoken in other areas or by
other given speech community will be certainly not
discussed. This study indeedly will have to limit the

analysis to [m] elision which is specifically and uniquely spoken by the village people of Desa Semampir.

I.8. METHODOLOGY

In this study, the writer uses descriptive analysis method. The corpus have been obtained through several techniques on a field research. The principle aim for the writer to get directly involved into field research is to approach the corpus objectively so the reliable data can be collected. Then the data collected are analysed phonologically.

I.8.1. WORKING DEFINITION

Phonology has been defined as the study of sound systems that is the study of how speech sounds structure and function in language. As we shall see some speech sounds can be used in language to distinguish words of different meanings whereas other sounds can not. Thus Trubetzkoy (1939 :10) stated that it was the task of phonology to study which differences in sound were related to differences in meaning in a given language, in which way the descriminative elements were related to each other, and the rules according to which they may be combined into words and sentences. (cited from Arfan's thesis, 1995).

The unit of phonetic descriptions are sound segments (phone), while the unit of phonological descriptions are phonemes. In order to characterize the phoneme of a language and its inventory of phonetic segment two level of sounds representation are distinguished phonological level and phonetic level. Phonological reprsentation consists of sequences of phoneme transcribed between slashes (/ /), and phonetic representations consists of sequences of phone transcribed between square bracket ([ ]).

Minimal pairs can be explained as when two different forms are identical in every way except for one sound segment that occurs in the same place in the string.

Phoneme, phone, and allophone, these terminology may help to clarify the situation. A phonetic unit or segment is called a phone. A phoneme is a more abstract unit, since we have to know the phonological rule of the language to know how to pronounce a phoneme. It is because in one context it may be realised as one phone and in another context as a different. A single phoneme may be phonetically realised or pronounced as two or more phone, the different phone that represent or derived from one phone are called the allophone of that phone. An allophone is therefore a predictable phonetic variant of a phoneme.

Phonological rule, there reason that phonological constrains some time differ from phonetic constrains in a

language is that there is a phonological rules which convert phonological representations into phonetic ones.

The nature of *Elision* may be stated quite simply : under certain circumstances sound disappear. One might express this in more technical language by saying that in certain circumstances a phoneme may be realised as zero, or have zero realisation. As with assimilation, elision is typical of rapid, casual speech; the process of change in phoneme realisations produced by changing the speed and casualness of speech.

Dialect is the way a language is spoken in particular region. A language is usually a collection of dialects, spoken by the members of different speech-communities, sharing the main structural features of the language, but differing to a greater or less degree in details of phonology, grammar, and vocabulary. Dialects spoken in speech-communities occupying different parts of the general teritory of a language are regional dialects.

Nasal is the airstream coming out from the lungs would be obstructed by one way, that is the oral cavity (mouth) but itescapes freely through the nasal cavity. The basic characteristuc of a nasal consonant is that the air escapes through the nose. Together eith n, ng; m is classified as a nasal sound. The way nasal sounds created is by lowering the velum so that air escapes through the nose as well as the mouth. According to Place of

Articulation, m is also characterized as bilabial sound. It is created by moving and bringing both lips together.

As noted earlier that speech sounds can be devided into two major classes - consonants and vowels. In the production of consonants the flow of air is obstructed as it travels through the mouth. Vowels are produced with no oral obstruction whatsoever.

Vowels, like consonants, can also be produced with a lowered velum permitting air to escape through the nose. Such vowels are called nasal or nasalised vowels.
Vowels are found in the center or nucleus of syllavles, always the most prominent elements in the syllables to which they belong to. Furthermore, although vowels vary greatly in lenght, a vowel always last long enough for its characteristic color or distinguishing auditory effect to be perceived.

We have already found that two qulaities distinguish vowels from the other sounds. In the first place they are formed without any stoppage of the oral cavity or any constriction so narrow as to create local sound. In the second place they are syllabic or nucleus; that is a vowel is always the most prominent sound in the syllable to which it belongs. Therefore, the presence of a vowel indicates the presence of a syllable.

Glottal is one of the ten place of articulation that is capable to produce speech sounds. We don't recognize

voiced glottal stop. The glottal stop is frequently unnoticed by all except those with phonetic training because its presence or absence does not distinguish one word from another. It may often appear at the beginning of words which at other times begin with a vowel. This is especially true when such words are given strong or contrastive stress.

I.8.2. DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

There are two kinds of technique of data collection used by the writer to get some relevant data. They are elicitation and observation. Those techniques have shown the effectiveness and were useful in both collecting and grouping the corpus according to each characteristic. In both techniques the writerwas engaged himself amid the speech community during and after the KKN Program. As soon as the phenomenon was already identified , then a few glimpse observation was immediately taken. At that time the results were not satisfied yet. That is why the further field research have to be employed after then.

I.8.3. ELICITATION

For some of the best reasons this technique is essentially determinant for this research. This technique is so specific to use since it involves a number of people in responsing the writer's questions. Beside that, the

writer also need some persons to be an informant. However, the presence of informant, in this case, is not important to play a role since this research greatly deals with linguistic phenomenon. The only thing that the informant do is assisting the writer to view the phenomenon closer and more wisely. People would be chosen as well as elicitated randomnly. They are asked with some questions in informal situations such as coffee shop, mosque, farms,etc. Then the researcher would record their responses. Theyare wished to response honestly according to their own dialect.

G.W.Allfort (in quatation by Jehoda, Research Method in Social Sciences; Basic Process : 1959) explained that "If we want to know how people feel, what their experience, and what they remember, what their emotion and motive are like, why not ask them ?

The questions to elicitate their real speech sounds, are mostly composed of the Javanese. This is due to their native language aswell as their daily communication. Beside that, the writer thinks it more effective when we are trying to socialize and they would not be hesistate to response. The following is some examples created for the purpose of elicitation :

- Aku ajange tuku cat namg pasar kecamatan, ayo rek sopo gelem ngancani aku ?

- Sak durunge lunga enten ono aku mangan dhisik, rek ?

- Sing luwih cepet carane masang poster tujuh belasan, yok
  opo yo rek ?

I.8.4. OBSERVATION

This is a technique of collecting data completed by the writer by engaging into speech community. Most observations time are taken during the progress of KKN Program. According to Samarin (1988) that observation can be done by proclaiming as a researcher and without proclaiming as a researcher. Refering to that statement, the writer think it more effective if doing observation would run in silent and selective way.

The observation also takes place in public places such as coffee shop, mosque, and so on. William Labov (1970) call it unsystematic observation. Some time the researcher is purposingly involved himself in many conversations. Without the permission from them the data required have to be recorded. Furthermore, William Labov (1970) stated that one can record a number of constant and variables features from large number of people in public places such as trains, busses, lunch counters, ticket lines, zoos wherever enough numbers of speech community are collected. Actually the main object of the observation is every person of desa Semampir who is involved in some conversations.

I.8.5. LOCATION OF THE RESEARCH

The location taken for this research is desa Semampir, Kecamatan Cerme, Gresik. It is situated about 15 kilometres south from the central government of Gresik. Actually Semampir is one of the 25 desa in kecamatan Cerme and Semampir itself consists of two dusun.

Geographically desa Semampir lies on the three metres height of plain bordered by many desa all around. Semampir is populated by 1925 people based on Data Monografi 1992/1993 per July 1994. Surprisingly they all cling to Islam with the biggest ethnic is Javanese. As a result, the language they use for daily communication is the Javanese. As long as the observation the researcher doesn't see any other languages except the Indonesian language that is mainly used for formal situation as well as formal affairs. The ultimate reason to choose desa Semampir as the location of the research is that the linguistic phenomenon is found here with unexpected intention before when the researcher is running KKN program.

I.8.6. SAMPLE AND POPULATION

As described earlier the features of data used for analysis is closely correlated to and depent upon the characteristic of sampling and populations will be taken for granted. Therefore, the writer will have to point out

the statement of Glasser and Strauss as refference. They emphasized that sampling involved seeking out people and situation which are likely to be particularly revealing or fruitful with respect to the phenomena in which one is interested. In addition, Sankoff stated that in studying of complex speech community a well chosen sample of 50 to 150 questinaries can represent the whole range of variations existing within the community.

Refering to the statement above, the writer have carefully decided to select and to observe a given number of people who are relatively due to the necessary for obtaining the related data. Some of them would be chosen to be an informant. And some of them would be asked for being response to elicitation. In this case the whole things that the writer have to do is arranging and delivering some significant questions to people who are considered to assists the reasearch in obtaining the requireddata. From this technique the writer hope the data collected will at least reprsesent the real condition of phenomenon. As in most cases, the process of elicitation would be valuable input since the response uttered remain to be true for they usually don't realize what is going on. In this occasion, the writer unintentionally shows him to be the reasearcher who is investigating their speech sounds of its community. Most time spent during the

observation is in socialize and even engaging amid the conversation as many as possible.

In order to avoid any possible biasses the people determined to be the both informants and to be elicitated is intentionally set randomnly from various criteria regardless their age, education, profession and social background. Then thosedata collected should be cross-checking. So here is the following characteristics of the people need to reveal their real response for data analysis :

- Javanese people both capable speaking Javanese and Indonesian.
- Natively borned people.
- Aged 12 - 40 years old.
- Native citizenr of Semampir.
- Educatedrange SMP to SMA/STM.