

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

A language is used to socialize with each other, get information from others or express our mind. According to Chomsky cited in Fromkin and Rodman (1972:3), when we study human language, we are approaching what some might call the “ human essence,” the distinctive qualities of mind that are, so far as we know, unique to a man.. Therefore, a language becomes a very crucial tool to connect one person to another. According to Keraf (1984:3) the function of language is to express the idea, communication tool, integration tool, social adaptation, and social control system. There are many languages used by people in various parts of the world and in Indonesia, for instance, there are thousands of languages used as means of communication. It is easy for a person to communicate each other if he/she speaks one language in a community. On the contrary, it is not easy for people to communicate each other if they speak several different languages in one community. This phenomenon may happen anywhere. In this case, the writer is interested in writing about a phenomenon of phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju Language into English made by some students in Malang, Jawa Timur.

In Indonesia, English is spoken as a foreign language. As an international language, English is considered to be a language, which should be mastered by students; that is why in Indonesia, English has been a compulsory subject in the

college curriculum; it is the language which each Dayak student should take and it also becomes one of the requirements for students who attend colleges and who need to express their thoughts, and ideas in English. This may make them learn it more seriously. If their mastery of the first language or the L_1 patterns and rules has not been acquired well, what will happen with the mastery of the second language.

The rules in each language are intended to make it easy for people to produce sentences in good order. That is why, when they learn a second language they will find that it is not easy to speak it. In learning English, one may often make some errors in pronunciation. And this may also happen to the Dayak Ngaju students. They may interfere the English language phonemic by their native language phonemic. According to Fromkin and Rodman (1987:390) it is because the interference coming from native phonology, morphology, and syntax that can create difficulties and persist it as a foreign "accent" in phonology and the use of non-native syntactic structures.

Being inspired by the theory of interference of the first language (L_1) in learning the second language (L_2) and the phenomenon of Dayak Ngaju students who often interfere the English language phonemic by their native language phonemic, the writer became interested in doing this study. Therefore, the phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju language into English made by some Dayak students becomes a very interesting case to research and it is expected to be able to give a lot of contribution for the language teachers to teach their students English better.

1.2 Statement of The Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the writer propose a problem:

What are the phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju language into the English language in Malang, Jawa Timur ?

1.3 Objective of The Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, this study is intended: to find out the phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju Language into the English language in Malang, Jawa Timur.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The writer hopes that the results of this study may be useful for linguistic researchers who may be interested in continuing this study, and for some English teachers who may teach Dayak Ngaju people to speak English correctly.

1.5 Scope And Limitation

This study is limited only on phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju language into English made by some Dayak students in Malang, Jawa Timur.

The writer does not make a study on diphthong because there is no diphtong in the Dayak Ngaju language.

1.6 Theoretical Framework

To guide the observation, the writer uses some theories and findings of related studies in phonological field. Below is the framework of those theories and related studies that are described in the second chapter.

Fries (1945:9) explained that an individual tends to transfer the forms and meaning, and the distribution of forms and the meaning of their native language into foreign language.

The errors and difficulties that occur in our learning and use of a foreign language are caused by the interference of our mother tongue (Lado, 1957:2). Further, Lado commands that if the patterns between the L₁ and the L₂ are different, interferences will occur (Lado, *ibid*).

Ellis (1986:21) explained the role of the first language in learning second language. Beginning in the post-war years and carrying on into the 1960s, there was a strong assumption that most of the difficulties facing the L₂ learners were imposed by their first language.

To be able to acquire a new language is not an easy task, since some factors make it difficult to acquire. The factors involve different elements between the L₁ and L₂. Therefore when the second language learners try to produce sentences in L₂, they sometimes bring in some native elements into L₂.

1.7 Method of The Study

The method of the study is **qualitative descriptive** since it attempts to gain description of phonemic interference made by the Dayaks students in Malang, Jawa Timur. According to Punch (1998:29) qualitative research not only

uses non-numerical and unstructured data, but also, typically, has research questions, and methods, which are more general at the start, and become more focused as the study progresses. However qualitative research is harder to characterize with these sorts of descriptions than of quantitative research, since it has more variables.

In this study, the writer uses a **case study** as the research strategy. Goode and Hatt cited in Punch (1952:150) said, that the case study technique is a way of organizing social data so as to preserve the unitary character of the social object being studied.

1.7.1 Definition of Key Term

Interference: the inappropriate use of L_1 structure in the L_2 system.

Consonant: sounds made with a narrow or complete closure in the vocal tract; the airflow is either completely blocked momentarily or restricted so much that noise is produced.

Phoneme: a minimal contrastive sound unit of a language.

Phonology: the various phenomena related to linguistic sound system; the study of the organization of sounds and sound pattern in language.

1.7.2 Population And Sampling

The population and sampling of this study are 5 students in Malang. The writer chooses this population because she lives in Malang

and she has a lot of Dayak Ngaju friends who like to study there and she is very familiar with them.

For the samples she chooses students aged 18-26. By using purposive sampling method in choosing respondents, the writer eventually found 5 respondents in this study. The respondents are selected based on the following criteria:

1. Dayak people who can speak the Dayak Ngaju language, Indonesian, and English.
2. University education.
3. Have been living in Malang for more than 1 year.

1.7.3 Instrument

The instrument used to get the data is: tape recorder.

1.7.4 Technique of Data Collection

In this study the writer used direct observational approach to collect the data. The data were collected through several steps. The first step was to choose the respondents based on purposive sampling method. Second, the writer asked the respondents to pronounce a series of words from the list provided. And third was to record their speech.

In short, the techniques of data collection are:

1. Choosing the respondents based on the criteria
2. Requesting them to pronounce a series of words from the list provided.
3. Recording their speech.

1.7.5 Technique of Data Analysis

Several procedures were required to analyze the data. First, the writer classified the data of consonant phonemic interference based on phonological error analysis (omission, addition, substitution, and disordering) to find out consonant phonemic that are pronounced incorrectly in all positions: initial, medial and final. Second, the writer transcribed the data. Third, the writer found out the interference of consonants that are pronounced incorrectly in all positions. Fourth, she presented the data into tables. At last, she drew a conclusion on what consonant phonemic which are pronounced incorrectly by the respondents.

Briefly, the techniques of data analysis are:

1. Classifying the data based on the phonemic interference of the Dayak Ngaju language into English
2. Transcribing their speech.
3. Finding out interference of consonants that are pronounced incorrectly in all positions.
4. Presenting them in tables.
5. Drawing a conclusion.

1.8 Organization of The Paper

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter I deals with the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, theoretical framework, method of the study, definition

of key terms, population and sampling, technique of data collection, technique of data analysis, and the organization of the study. Chapter II deals with the literature review. Chapter III deals with data presentation and analysis of the data. Chapter IV deals with the conclusion.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF

RELATED LITERATURE