

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Language is a means of communication in human life is very necessary to be mastered. By language, we as a human being able to interact with other people. Human has often produced some sentences for the purpose the others can understand what we said. Many research reports show that people use speaking for a variety of different purpose. For example, in the conversation, for instance, to make social contact with people, to establish rapport, or to build social relationships between two people or more. Some engage in discussion with someone, on the other hand, to seek or express opinion, to persuade someone about something, or to clarify information.¹ In the globalization era, it is very important for human to master in language especially English and Arabic as international language. Arabic is one of the major languages in the world spoken by more than 200,000 human beings.

This language is used officially by approximately 20 countries. Allah has made Arabic as the language of the Holy Qur'an because language is the best language ever and since it is the language of the holy book and the demands of the religion of the Muslim umma of the world, then, of course, it is the greatest language significant for hundreds of millions of muslim worldwide, whether Arab or not.² Just as with English, Arabic also requires eloquence in speaking through learning tajwid rules.

¹A. Kaharuddin Bahar, *Transactional Speaking* (Cet. 1; Samata Gowa: Gunandara Ilmu, 2014), p. 1.

²Azhar Arsyad, *Bahasa Arab dan Metode pembelajarannya* (Cet. II; Yogyakarta: Pustaka Belajar, 2004), p.1.

English is a very important language to learn because now we are living in the globalization era. It is an era in which we can communicate with everyone around the world that has a different tribe, culture, and language. To do this, we need a communication tool that we use to communicate with everyone around the world. That is English. In addition, most of equipment uses English as media to give instruction, such as computer, mobile phone and television. If we don't know about English, we will not be able to understand the instruction in the equipment. The benefits of English have a wide scope both in terms of education, technology, the world of work even as a medium for socializing and establishing cooperation between countries.

In education the higher the level of education the then English language is needed. But for some people, consider that the English language is the language that is difficult to understand and difficult to read because of different writing different way of reading. That is becomes a problem in education today. So an English teacher is required to provide an understanding to them that English is a language that is easy and fun to learn. In language learning, the order of skills the becomes the ultimate goal can be sorted on the priority of its usefulness, namely reading or in Arabic namely *Al-Qira'ah*, listening or *Al-Istima'*, writing or *Al-Kitaabah*, and speaking or *Al-Kalam* skills.

Especially for speaking or *Al-Kalam*, in this ability the student study about how to speak English properly, whether is very complete task, by paying attention on the element of the speaking that very essential to master. One of them is pronunciation ability. Pronunciation is important for students because the competency of pronunciation is one aspect that determines the level of someones' speaking ability. A mistake that is made in pronunciation sounds may raise misunderstanding in communication. Acquiring good pronunciation is the most difficult part of learning a new language. As student improve their articulation, student has to listen and imitate all over again. They have to learn and develop a

new skill to make a new movement with your tongue, lips, and other organs of articulation in order to make the new sounds.³

The research have choosed MTs At-Taqwa Jampue as the location of the research specially in grade VII. Based on the researcher's experience as students who have learned there, I have found that there are some problems are faced especially in Mts At-Taqwa Jampue Kec. Lanrisang Kab. Pinrang. The first problems, some of the students consider that English is difficult to learn. They feel difficult to produce some words, they felt shy to speak if the teacher asks them to produce a word or repeat after a teacher said. Because they afraid to make mistake when they produce a word in English. That is make them shy to speak English. Whereas Arabic learning at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue especially those who life in dormitory, are dominant Arabic than English. So that the ability of students to recognize or say Arabic sound is very fluent. Arabic learning is obtained since the students are learning Arabic when they are in the third grade of elementary school.

At MTs At-Taqwa Jampue, Arabic learning is more dominant than English, because there are several factors that cause this. among them, school leaders focus more on students in learning Arabic, students also prefer learning Arabic and are happy about it. Almost every time they finish their fardhu prayer, they learn Arabic, or in other words they learn Arabic 5 times a day. The method used by the teacher also makes students excited and likes Arabic lessons, such as learning with songs and games. therefore researchers will change their mindset of learning English. if they can speak Arabic well why not they will be able to speak English well too.

Based on descriptions above, the researchers took a conclusion that the problems of the English learners in producing some sounds are the sounds do not exist in the mother tongue or the first language and lack of practice and train. In Arabic, there are some sounds are similar with English sounds. Such as *ʾ* in Arabic and *d* in English, /t/ /k/ /d/ /f/ /s/ /sh/ /zh/ /z/ /r/ /θ/ /ō/ etc. since the MTs

³Gertrude F. Orion, *Pronouncing American English : Sound, Stress, and Intonation* (New York: Queensborough Community Collage, 1988), p. xxiii.

At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang is an Islamic Boarding School, its mean that all students in the school are Muslim. Therefore, they must be able to read the holy book, Al-Qur'an which is written Arabic language and they should master the pronunciation, especially for students of living in the dormitory because they had studied Arabic (tajwid) language every day. And when they can master and use Arabic well with good pronunciation, why not they can also master in English.

Related to the description above, the researches is interested in conducting a research on "The Influence of Arabic Sounds Toward English Pronunciation Skill For Young Learners of Class VII MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang".

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the problem statements into three questions as follows:

1. How is the ability of the students' Arabic sounds at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang?
2. How is the ability of the students' English pronunciation at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang?
3. Is there any influence of Arabic sounds ability toward the students' English pronunciation ability at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang?

C. Objective of the research

Based on the problem statement above, the research is aims to find out the influence of Arabic sound ability to students' English pronunciation skills as the following:

1. To know the ability of the students' Arabic sounds at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang
2. To know the ability of the students' English pronunciation at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang
3. To find out the influence of Arabic sounds ability toward English pronunciation skill at MTs At-Taqwa Jampue Kab. Pinrang

D. Significance of the research

The advantages of the research are expected as follows:

1. For teacher:

This research is expected to be an input in terms of learning Arabic pronunciation and English pronunciation.

2. For students:

The student will be easy in understand how to identifying the student and it help students to increase their pronunciation ability.

3. For researcher:

This research expected to give a new knowledge of the further of researchers to do better research of teaching pronunciation and to solve the students' pronunciation problems, and also the teachers that have the similar problem with the researcher.