

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Talking about English the most basic thing that needs to be mastered when wanting to learn it is vocabulary and then applying in speaking and being able to use it properly. Someone is said master in English when he is able to apply in daily life, to apply it we must be able to speak English well, there are many things needed but the most important thing is pronunciation. Pronunciation is the way in which a language, words and sounds are pronounced. The scope of teaching is sounds, rhythm, emphasis and intonation. So pronunciation is a way to pronounce words and sentences in English according to native speakers by paying attention to sound, rhythm, emphasis, and intonation. In every language in this world have the way their word are pronounce, it is called pronunciation. According to Richard Nordquist, pronunciation is the act or manner of speaking word.¹

The application of English by speaking in English well, to be a good speaker that is by how the interlocutor can understand what is conveyed, so that listeners understand what is conveyed and the speaker must improve his speech in accordance with the actual pronunciation of English namely by paying attention to the pronunciation of each word that is spoken must be in accordance with the pronunciation, because when pronunciation of the word is not right than it can change the meaning of the word.

Therefore, in teaching and learning English, students must be trained continuously and intensively to communicate using English in their daily life. Especially for speaking skill, most of students have a good ability in reading listening, and writing, but they cannot speak English well.² Besides, the teacher has to

¹Richard Nordquist, “*Pronunciation Glossary of Grammar and Retorical Terms*, <http://www.grammar.about.com/od/pq/g/pronunciaterm.html>(Accessed on Tuesday, February 18, 2020)

²Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice Of English Language Teaching* (New Edition, London and New York :Longman, 1998), P.16

make sure that the students must master the components of speaking. They are vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, fluency and comprehension but most of students ignore pronunciation when they are speaking.

Pronunciation as an element of language is something that is familiar. It is very important that when the voice is pronounced wrongly or incorrectly a problem such as a misunderstanding that can further lead to miscommunication will become a serious problem. That students' pronunciation is very bad now, a word can have a different meaning than it should. Student not only have difficulty speaking but also have difficulty listening. It turns out, people who can say a sound correctly will get good hearing. This is the same as students' ability to listen.

To get communication is needed a good in pronunciation. We cannot speak English well if we do not have a good pronunciation, even if we do not have a very good grammar. Pronunciation is the way how to produce or spell the word well as native speaker said. If pronunciation is bad, will effect to the meaning of the words, it will miscommunication each other, the speaker and listener.

During speaking, someone needs good pronunciation. Sometimes the students feel embarrassed if they have bad pronunciation or afraid to make mistake. Why is this happening? In fact, poor pronunciation. Poor pronunciation can hinder the purpose of communication. Although, they have much vocabularies and grammatical rules, a person who does conversation with other cannot understand what they try to convey.

Pronunciation is seen as important skill but not much time is spent on teaching³. Realize that important pronunciation must be given more attention. Make students know how to pronounce words accurately and be fluency mention it in short sentences. The goal of teaching pronunciation is not to make the student how they say it but why they say it but what they say. It means that listener who listen what they

³Elina Tergujef, "The English Pronunciation Teaching in Europe Survey: Finland" (Apples-Journal of Applied Language Studies Vol. 6, 1, 2012), p. 34. jyu.academis.edu/ElinaTergujef (Accessed on 18th, 2020)

say is able to understand and decrease possibility of miscommunication with fatal consequence. Even tough, it is not like native speaker, but communication aim reached well.

In this research discuss about mimicking technique which focuses this research on mimicking itself and its materials of long vowel sound, so this research explain about how are the students pronunciation skill especially long vowel sound and how students responses about using mimicking technique on the pronunciation skill.

Mimicking is the method that students have to imitate the native speaker by their intonation, articulation, expression, stress and emphasize. Appropriate to improve students because in this method students instantly hear native speaker and follow them either in term of intonation, articulation, or emphasis. The research applied at IAIN Parepare eighth grade students especially English program because by the eighth grade student they had learned pronunciation in fifth semester and this technique had also been applied to the lecturer at the time.

The material focus is long vowel sound, where long vowel sound is part of vowel, long vowel is long vowel because certain rules that makes it long. Where the sound of long vowel is generally found in words that usually have more than one vowel or that word has only one syllable. Researcher gave a voice record test by doing mimicking technique and questionnaire about using of mimicking technique on the students' pronunciation skill to recognize their response.

B. Research Question

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates the research question as follow:

1. How are the students' pronunciation at the eighth grade English program of IAIN parepare ?
2. How is the students' response of using mimicking technique on the pronunciation skill ?

C. Objective of the Research

Based in the research question formulated above, the research aims to find out about students pronunciation skill and the students response about using mimicking technique on pronunciation skill at the eighth grade students of English program of IAIN Parepare (Long Vowel Sound).

D. Significant of the Research

1. Teachers

The result of this study could be a consideration of methods for teachers to gain experience on teaching and learning outcomes

2. Students

The study is important for the student. It is expected that student will easy to pronounce long vowel sounds in English, words by words, and easy to speak like a native speaker.

3. Researcher

This study provides a considerable opportunity to easy pronounce long vowel sounds in English, words, so that make the student will easy to know how to pronounce the words and the researcher will easy to apply in the class than student will easy to improve student pronunciation.

