

**THE INFLUENCE OF JAVANESE ACCENT
TOWARD THE STUDENTS' ENGLISH
CONSONANT PRONUNCIATION AT
ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
OF UNIVERSITAS PERADABAN**

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Abstract

The aims of this study are to identify the Javanese students' pronunciation of English consonant, to find out the influence of Javanese accent toward English consonant pronunciation, and to describe the difficulties faced and the solutions on Javanese students' English consonant pronunciation. The writers use descriptive qualitative method. The writers start from test by collecting the data using pronunciation accent test material to find out how the Javanese students pronounce English consonant and do

it through a record player. Next, the writers conduct interview to the Javanese students and the lecturer of Pronunciation course. Finally, based on the result of pronunciation test and interview, it can be concluded that the Javanese accent used by the Javanese students of English education study program at Universitas Peradaban is Banyumas accent. There are several problems on Javanese students' English pronunciation, namely: the sound /p/ which is substituted with the sound /f/, the sound /ʒ/ which is substituted with the sound /ʃ/, the sound /ə/ which is substituted with the sound /t/, and there are five consonants which are influenced by Javanese accent, namely: consonant /b/, /d/, /g/, /dʒ/, and /ð/. In consonant /b/, there are 10% Javanese students who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be pronounced bilabial plosive, but Javanese students pronounce bilabial non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated. 60% in consonant /d/, it should be pronounced voiced alveolar plosive consonant, but it is pronounced apico-dental non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated. 90% in consonant /g/, it should be pronounced voiced velar plosive, but Javanese students pronounce dorso-velar non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated. 55% in consonant /dʒ/, it should be pronounced voiced palato-alveolar affricative, but it is pronounced medio-palatal non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated. The last 10% in consonant /ð/, it should be pronounce voiced dental fricative, but Javanese students pronounce apico-dental non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated. The difficulty faced on the students' English consonant pronunciation is that their English pronunciation is still influenced by Javanese accent. To overcome their difficulty, they practice to pronounce English consonant every day, listen to the English song and then imitate it, watch English movies, and read some English books and then try to pronounce the words that they read.

Keywords: English pronunciation, English consonant, Accent, Javanese accent

A. Introduction

As one components of the language, pronunciation has an important role in English, especially in speaking. In English pronunciation, speech sounds fall under two great classes, namely vowel and consonant. Ramelan (1999: 100) states, “The way of producing a consonant, on the other hand, is characterized mainly by some obstruction above the larynx, especially in the mouth cavity”. Consonant sounds are produced by completely or partially stopping the breath.

English consonant is characterized by an articulation with a closure or narrowing of the vocal tract such that a complete or partial blockage of the flow of air is produced. According to Ramelan (1999: 101), consonants are usually classified according to place of articulation (the location of the stricture made in the vocal tract, such as dental, bilabial, or velar) and the manner of articulation (the way in which the obstruction of the airflow is accomplished as in stops, fricatives, laterals, nasals, etc.).

In Indonesia, each region has its own local language. One of them is Javanese language. The origin of Javanese language is from the island of Java. This language mostly came from the central and eastern parts of the island of Java. Javanese language has language dialect which is integrated in the Javanese society as identity in social interaction. There are three main accents of Javanese language, such as standard Javanese accent, Banyumas accent, and East Java accent (Wedhawati et al, 2006: 13).

The kinds of accent above will be different on each accent. It can influence how the speakers pronounce their words. It is including the way Javanese people pronounce English as an international language.

Javanese people have a unique accent with their vernacular. They are easily identified because of the heavy plosive sound in almost all voice they produce. When they are speaking English, most of them will be easily recognized by the sound. This happens partially because there are some English phonemes that Javanese language does not have. It also obtains in the way Javanese people pronounce English consonant.

The research in this field has been conducted several times in Indonesia. For instance, Phopy Chandra Dewi (2013) conducts an analysis of Javanese pronunciation interference in speech and Nurul Isiqomah (2016) studies the influence of Javanese accent interference in students' English pronunciation (sound /g/). Then, this research has more specific topic covered the influence of Javanese accent toward English consonant pronunciation and there is no limitation on English consonant determination.

The differences between English and Javanese are the number of consonants which have different members from each other. English consonant is divided into twenty four consonants. Besides, there are twenty three consonants in Javanese. English and Javanese consonant, both have several same categories of place of articulation, such as *Bilabial*, *Labio Dental*, and *Glottal*.

When Javanese people speak English, it means that they have to learn to produce a new sound. They have to omit their Javanese accent. If someone speaks

in appropriate pronunciation, the listeners can understand what the speakers are talking about. While speaking English, Javanese people are usually wrong in certain consonants. For example, when they say 'together', it should be pronounced /tə'gʒðɜ/. But, Javanese people pronounce /tu'geder/. They find out difficulties, especially in certain consonants. Most of Javanese cannot pronounce it well. It is because their English pronunciation is still influenced by their regional dialect, accent, and the mother tongue language.

The writers conduct the research at Universitas Peradaban where there is English education study program as one of the majors which is developing English for creating professional English teachers. The problem of pronunciation needs to be investigated in Universitas Peradaban because based on the writers' interview to the lecturer of pronunciation the students' English pronunciation skill is not good enough. The students who speak Javanese as first language have problems in English pronunciation, especially in English consonant pronunciation. They feel difficult to remove their emphasis accent. This is due to writers' assumption that students' English consonant pronunciation is still influenced by Javanese accent. However, the students of English education study program are expected to be able to speak English with good pronunciation.

Based on the problems above, the students speak in different accents. Javanese has a wide variety of accents, namely: standard accent, Banyumas accent, and east Java accent. Javanese accent can influence the speakers' English pronunciation. In this research, the writers limit the study focusing on the influence of Javanese accent toward the students'

English consonant pronunciation at English education study program of Universitas Peradaban.

B. Literature Review

According to Kristina, et al (2006: 1), pronunciation is the act or manner of pronouncing words; utterance of speech. In other words, it can also be said that it is a way of speaking a word, especially a way that is accepted or generally understood. In the senses, pronunciation entails the production and reception of sounds of speech and the achievement of the meaning. It can be concluded that pronunciation is the particular way of speaking a word or phrase which is accepted or generally understood (intelligible).

Consonant is one class of speech sounds that are enunciated by (partly) stopping the breath with the tongue, lips, etc. According to Ramelan (1999: 100), the way of producing a consonant is characterized mainly by some obstruction above the larynx, especially in the mouth cavity. There are types of consonants based on place of obstruction and types of consonants based on manner of obstruction.

1. Types of Consonants Based on Place of Obstruction

On the basis of where the outgoing air is obstruction the following consonants are distinguished:

- a. Bilabial
- b. Labio-dental
- c. Apico-dental or just dental
- d. Alveolar
- e. Palatal
- f. Velar
- g. Glottal

2. Types Consonants Based on Manner of Obstruction

The types of consonants are also determined by the way or manner in which the outgoing air is obstructed by the articulators. On the basis of the manner of obstruction, English has the following types of consonants:

- a. Plosive or stop
- b. Affricate
- c. Fricative
- d. Nasal
- e. Lateral
- f. Rolled
- g. Semi-vowel or glide

Javanese accent is a manner peculiar of Javanese people in pronouncing words. It may identify the locality in which its speakers reside (a geographical or regional accent). According to Wedhawati, et al (2006: 13-23), there are three main accents of Javanese, namely: the standard Javanese Accent, Banyumas accent, and East Java Accent.

The phoneme's peculiar of standards Javanese accent is phoneme /b/ at the end of the word is pronounced into phoneme /p/. In Banyumas and east Java accent, phoneme /w/ at the beginning of the word is pronounced into /w^h/. In east Java accent, phoneme /h/ at the end of the word is not pronounced by the speaker.

C. Method of Investigation

In this research, the writers use descriptive qualitative method. The writers believe that using qualitative research can lead the writers to answer the research question about the students' English consonant pronunciation, the influence of Javanese accent toward English consonant pronunciation, the difficulties faced by Javanese student in pronouncing English consonant pronunciation, and the students'

solutions to overcome their difficulties on English consonant pronunciation. It occurs because the techniques of data collection (pronunciation test, interview as well as documentation) help the writers to get the information of her research.

According to Widoyoko (2012: 29), data source is the subject where the data are obtained. It means that the source of data is research subject or object in which it comes from. The writers take the data from the person and the place. The first source of data is person, comprising the Javanese students of English education study program who study at Universitas Peradaban and the lecturer of pronunciation who teach at Universitas Peradaban. The second source of data is place. The writers conduct this research at Universitas Peradaban.

There are three techniques in collecting the data in this research, namely: test, interview and documentation. In this research, the writers use pronunciation test as one of techniques of data collection, and it is done through a record player. The writers use semi structured interview commonly used in qualitative research. In this type of interview, the writers want to know the specific information which can be compared with information gained in other interview. To do this, the writers ask several questions in each interview. To complete the data, the writers take documentation through the record of pronunciation test to the Javanese students and interview with Javanese students and the lecturer of pronunciation.

The writers use three steps of technique of data analysis. Those are data display, data reduction, and conclusion. The process of technique of data analysis are: doing a test to understand how the Javanese students pronounce English consonant

through a record player; describing the result of students' pronunciation test; doing interview to the Javanese students about the students' English consonant pronunciation, the influence of Javanese accent toward the students' English consonant pronunciation, the difficulties faced on students' English consonant pronunciation and the solutions of their difficulties; describing the result of the interview; doing interview to the pronunciation lecturer about the influence of Javanese accent toward her students' English consonant pronunciation; describing the result of the interview.

D. Findings and Discussion

In this research, the writers find the Javanese students of English education study program of Universitas Peradaban come from several regencies. There are thirteen Javanese students coming from Brebes regency, which consists of Paguyangan, Bumiayu, Tonjong, and Bantarkawung district. Five students come from Ajibarang regency, which consists of Pekuncen, Karang Lewas, and Cilongok. Two students come from Tegal regency, which consists of Bumi Jawa and Marga Sari district. There are some kinds of Javanese accent namely standard Javanese accent, Banyumas Javanese accent, and east Java Javanese accent. The writers find: eighteen students use Banyumas accent and two students use Tegal *Ngapak* as their accent. Nevertheless, Tegal *Ngapak* is included in Banyumas accent, because Tegal regency is part of Pekalongan residency. Banyumas accent covers Banyumas residency, Pekalongan residency, and the west part of Kedu residency. On the southwest area, the use of Banyumas accent is limited by Cilacap regency, on the northwest area by Tegal regency, on the northeast

area by portion of Pekalongan regency, and on the southeast area is limited by Kebumen regency.

This research shows the Javanese students' English consonant pronunciation throughout English consonant pronunciation test. The writers find that there is not much problem on students' English consonant pronunciation. Most of Javanese students can pronounce English well, but there are problems, such as the sound /p/ which is substituted with the sound /f/, the sound /ð/ which is substituted with the sound /d/ and there are five consonants which are influenced by Javanese accent, namely consonant /b/, /d/, /g/, /dʒ/, and /ð/.

The Javanese students tell the writers that the influence of Javanese accent toward English consonant pronunciation is there are difficulties to remove their Javanese accent "*medhok*", sometimes it causes misunderstanding between the speakers. The writers also find the influence of Javanese accent toward English consonant through English consonant pronunciation test. There are five consonants which are influenced by their accent, namely consonant /b/, /d/, /g/, /dʒ/, and /ð/. In consonant /b/, there are two students from twenty Javanese students (10%) who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be pronounced bilabial plosive, but Javanese students pronounce bilabial non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated in consonant /b/. In consonant /d/, there are twelve students from twenty Javanese students (60%) who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be pronounced voiced alveolar plosive consonant, but Javanese students pronounce apico-dental non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated in consonant /d/. In consonant /g/, there are eighteen from twenty Javanese students (90%) who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be

pronounced voiced velar plosive, but Javanese students pronounce dorso-velar non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated in consonant /g/. In consonant /dʒ/, there are eleven students from twenty Javanese students (55%) who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be pronounced voiced palate-alveolar affricative, but Javanese students pronounce medio-palatal non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated in consonant /dʒ/. The last in consonant /ð/ there are two students from twenty students (10%) who are influenced by their Javanese accent. It should be pronounced voiced dental fricative, but Javanese students pronounce apico-dental non continuant. It is identified by (h) aspirated in consonant /ð/.

Because Javanese accent influences English consonant pronunciation, there are some difficulties faced by Javanese students of English education study program at Universitas Peradaban. For instances, there is misunderstanding in their communication because their English consonant is not good enough and when they read a text, they cannot pronounce new words never heard before properly.

To overcome Javanese students' difficulties faced on English consonant pronunciation, they always practice a lot with their friends, listen to the music and then imitate the pronunciation, watch English movies, read some English books and then try to pronounce the words what they read. Pronunciation course also gives contribution to overcome the Javanese students' difficulties in pronouncing English consonant pronunciation. Through pronunciation course, they can lean and practice more how to pronounce English well, because the pronunciation lecturer gives several methods in teaching and learning pronunciation, namely drilling, reading a

text, imitating, etc. The pronunciation lecturer expects the Javanese students can pronounce English well through those methods.

E. Conclusion

Through interview, the writers find that the kind of Javanese accent used by the Javanese students is Banyumas accent. The writers also analyse it through discussion about the activities at campus, then the writers analyse the way they speak.

Throughout a pronunciation test, the writers find that there is not much problem on students' English consonant pronunciation. Most of Javanese students can pronounce English well, but there are problems, such as the sound /p/ which is substituted with the sound /f/, the sound /ð/ which is substituted with the sound /d/ and there are five consonants which are influenced by Javanese accent, namely consonant /b/, /d/, /g/, /dʒ/, and /ð/. There are 10% of students who use their Javanese accent when pronouncing consonant /b/, 10% in consonant /ð/, 55% in consonant /dʒ/, 60% in consonant /d/, and 90% in consonant /g/.

The Javanese students tell the writers that they find difficulties to remove their Javanese accent "*medhok*", which sometimes causes misunderstanding between the speakers. The Javanese students always produce more air from their lungs when pronounce English Consonant, when they speak to the other people, sometimes there is misunderstanding between them because their English pronunciation is not good enough. When they read a text, they cannot pronounce new words never heard before. Their pronunciation is still influenced by Javanese accent.

Through the interview, the Javanese Students of English education study program at Universitas Peradaban overcome their difficulties through practicing a lot with their friends, listening to the English songs and then imitating it, watching English movies, and reading some English books and then trying to pronounce the words that they read.

Acknowledgement

The writers would like to express the deepest gratitude to Prof. Dr. Yahya A. Muhaimin as the Rector of Universitas Peradaban, Yuniar Fatmasari, S.S., M.A. as the head of English Education Study Program of Universitas Peradaban, the lecturer of Pronunciation course, and Javanese students of English Education Study Program of Universitas Peradaban.

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