#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

This study focuses on describing phonological interference on students' speaking ability by Javanese speaker in the spoken of English. This chapter presents several important points include background of the study, problems of the study, objectives, significance of the study, scope and limitation, also definition of key terms used in this study.

# A. Background of the Study

Bilingual even multilingual condition allows people to use more than one language in their communication activity. This condition happens to many students in Indonesia who have a local language as their first language and official even foreign language as their second language. For example the students of English Teacher Education Department at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, they are multilingual students by using Javanese, Madurish, or even Indonesian as their first language and English as second language.

English as the second language seems to become important to be learned since this language is used by the people around the world to communicate; it means that the students will require this language to increase their opportunity getting proper education even getting proper job later. Regarding this case, students have already tried and studied hard to master English well. As students of English Teacher Education Department, mastering English is very important for the students. They

are prepared to be future teachers by having sufficient knowledge on English which will be delivered for their students later. However, learning English is not easy as it seems. In fact, English Teacher Education Department students are occasionally encountered with those who learn this language for years; nonetheless, their skills are not well-increased especially in spoken skill. They may produce the same error production which has become habitual and established. For instance, the word *because* is often pronounce as /bɪkəs/ or /bɪkos/ while according to dictionary, the correct pronunciation is /bɪkpz/.

Language interference on acquiring second language becomes one of indicated issues result on error production which it can decrease students' English skill. This questions whether any influence of mother tongue on the process of acquiring English as second language then resulting difficulties by bilingual even multilingual learners or not. Considering to the language contact on both languages used by bilingual learners, this may play role in resulting the language interference. Weinrich's statement on contact between two languages used by bilingual person "two or more languages will be said to be In Contact if they are used alternatively by the same persons". <sup>1</sup> The condition of language contact often arises to the phenomenon of language interference. Language interference itself is defined as situation when the person (bilingual) uses norm or rule from their first languages

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Uriel Weinrich, *Languages in Contact*. (New York: Mouton publisher, 1979), 1.

involved to their second language as a result on the language contact on both languages.<sup>2</sup>

There are three kinds of language interference, they include phonological, grammatical, and lexical.<sup>3</sup> Phonological interference concerns with the matter in which bilingual learners use the phonetic system of first language to reproduce sounds in second language. While, grammatical interference concerns on the L1 system influence L2 in the level of word order, use of pronouns and determinants, tense and mood.<sup>4</sup> Last, lexical interference concerns with the phenomenon of language interference in the level of vocabulary.<sup>5</sup> Those are the kind of language interference which may play role in resulting errors for acquiring target language.

However, this study will focus on the terms of phonological interference which then resulting on producing misappropriate pronunciation in spoken of target language by bilingual learners. Consider to the challenging activity to observe this area, sometimes phonological interference becomes forgettable area to be studied. This is in line with the statement of Weinrich that "the observation of interference in the act of speech is much more precarious...this will have possibility that the observer will be faced by difficulty because dealing with the direct conversation

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Deepa Nayak, M.S. et.al. Phonological, Grammatical and Lexical Interference in Adult Multilingual Speakers. *Language in India*. Vol 9. No. 6, 2009, 11-22

result than written text result". There are few studies focused on this area yet. But, this study is important to be done to find if there is L1 phonological interference on acquiring L2 which resulting on the difficulty of bilingual even multilingual learners.

Mainly, phonological interference becomes important to be studied due to this kind of interference dealing with the speaking skill. Among four basic skills in English, speaking becomes the most noticeable skill than other skills. Nowadays, not only communicate to others who have the same language but also people like to communicate to other people who have different languages. For example, Indonesian people who do communication with native of English because of their job or their study. Sometimes, people like to judge the other people from their speaking skill; they may judge another person having less competent in English if she or he has less ability to speak in English especially producing some English word. In this case, one of the ways to improve speaking skill is having good pronunciation of English sounds. By having good pronunciation, the other people especially native of English could understand well about we are speaking to.

However, speaking to having good pronunciation in English sounds is not easy matter. The main reason is not all the English sounds are existed in other languages; this condition may result on error production. The students may reproduce English word alike their native languages, for example Javanese students may pronounce the word job as /jɔb/ not /dʒpb/. To this case, phonological

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Uriel Weinrich, Languages in Contact......12

interference could be occurred when there is different phonological rule on both languages. Javanese language system does not recognize the sounds of /dʒ/ and /p/; therefore they tend to use similar sounds in their language system which often they use to replace those sounds.

It has been a common habit if English Teacher Education Department students especially English Teacher Education Department students at UIN Sunan Ampel, they still use their local language in daily communication even in college where they have to speak English more to improve their English skill well. This condition may influence the rule of their mother tongue in acquiring English as second language. There are several local languages which are used by English Teacher Education Department students at UIN Sunan Ampel, they are Javanese, Madurish, even Indonesian. Due to language interference phenomenon could be happened on anyone and any languages, all of those local languages are possibly experienced on phonological interference.

However, this research will be limited to Javanese language specifically Surabaya dialect. This is as effort to conduct further research by Mr Bejo who has been studied The Micro linguistics Contrastive Analysis between Javanese Language of Banyumasan and English, moreover, to answer the researcher's question whether any phonological interference on students' speaking ability by Javanese Surabaya dialect speakers which decrease students' speaking skill. In the previous research, Mr Bejo has conducted contrastive analysis focusing on the microlinguistic feature of

vowel and consonant phonemes commonly used by the people in the area of Banyumas. The result is that there is difference between phonemes in Javanese language of Banyumasan and English; the Banyumasan language there is no long vowel sounds like English. This study has revealed that there is kind of different phonological system on Javanese and English, this then raise an issue if there is an existence of phonological interference on students' speaking ability in English with Javanese as their first language.<sup>7</sup>

Furthermore, the researcher has chosen to conduct the study on students of English Teacher Education department at UIN Sunan Ampel especially fourth semester students. Besides, of the researcher will find Javanese speaker in Surabaya dialect on students, it is considered as two years for learning English in college, they already have exposure to four basic skills in English (speaking, writing, listening and reading). Also, in the previous semester, they have already learned about English phonology. It is hoped that they have already mastered English well, but in fact, there is still students producing misappropriate English words. As attempt to develop preservice English teacher proficiency in English before they go to school to do PPL for having experience teaching in the real school, this study is the best steps to invite them.

For the reasons mentioned before, here the writer is eager to investigate whether there is phonological interference on students' speaking ability by

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Bejo Sutrisno, M.Pd. *The Microlinguistics Contrastive Analysis between Javanese Language of Banyumasan and English.* (http://www.Mr-Bejo.com, accessed on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016)

conducting the study entitled "Phonological Interference in the Spoken English Performed by Javanese Speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya".

## **B.** Problem of the Study

Based on the background above, the research problem is formulated as follow.

- 1. What kind of phonological interference in the spoken English performed by Javanese speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya?
- 2. What are the phonological factors which result on phonological interference in the spoken English performed by Javanese speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya?

## C. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problems above, this study is intended:

- 1. To describe kind of phonological interference in the spoken English performed by Javanese speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.
- To describe phonological factors which result on phonological interference in the spoken English performed by Javanese speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

#### D. Significance of the Study

The result of this study is able to give contribution for students and teachers.

The result regarding on phonological interference on students' speaking ability is able to be useful for students to know the importance of understanding their kind of phonological interference and factor, therefore, they can improve their speaking

ability by omitting their habitual attitude in producing English word during the time and easier to understand native speaker's speaking because they can interpret their speaking appropriate to correct pronunciation.

Moreover, the result of this study is able to be useful for teacher to as information know the common error production because of the presence phonological interference; therefore, they may add this knowledge to speaking class or phonology class.

# E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study entitled "Phonological Interference in the Spoken English Performed by Javanese Speaker at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya" is describing kind of phonological interference on Javanese first language on acquiring English as second language and factors causing phonological interference on second language.

The study will use Weinrich theory on type of phonological interference. Therefore, the writer will categorize the kind of phonological interference by referring to the theory. Additionally, this study will limit to analyze the factors causing phonological interference only on structural perspective, another factor such interlanguage will be not mentioned. The area of phonological system will be studied is only the feature of both segmental system. Furthermore, this study conducts the research on Javanese first language of fourth semester at UIN Sunan Ampel who

acquires English as second language, the other languages except Javanese and English will be not examine to this study.

#### F. Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation, the terms of this study are defined as follows:

## 1. Phonological interference

Deepa, et all defined as involvement of L1 (Javanese) phonological systems in acquiring L2 (English). <sup>8</sup> In this study, phonological interference is Javanese learner's mispronunciation of English word because they use L1 phonological system on acquiring L2 which is different.

## 2. Phonological Factor

When the sounds are viewed as a part of phonological system, certain additional factors emerge which favor or inhibit faulty sound reproduction. <sup>9</sup> In this study, phonological factor means that different structural phonological system of Javanese language which may result mispronunciation of several English sounds.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Deepa Nayak, M.S. et.al. *Phonological* 11-22 <sup>9</sup> Uriel Weinrich, *Languages in Contact* 22