

INTRODUCTION

English is known as world language. It is used by many people in this world. It is usually used as lingua franca. Lingua franca usually called a contact language, as firth (1996) has demonstrated:

There are many groups of people who use English. It is used by native speakers versus non-native speakers or native speakers versus second language speakers and also foreign language speakers, as Smit (2010, p. 50) stated:

In other Hand, Smit also said that English have unique status as world language, as Smit (2010, p. 45) stated:

English as world language means that English is not only used by native speakers but also used by many people in this world. As the proof, it is known

One of phonology branch that have important role to get a better pronunciation are phonemics. It becomes important because phoneme is smallest units of speech in a language that distinguish one word from another (Oxford 7th Edition, 2010). It means that measurement of phoneme sound is very important to help us differentiate one word with the other word and gain successful communication.

“Native speakers of English from different parts of the world have different accents, but the differences of accents are mainly the result of differences in the sound of vowels; the consonants are produced in very much the same way where English is spoken (O’connor, 1995)”.

[illegible]

and David Nichols University of Washington Phonetics Lab on 25 June 2009.

They said that Vowel quality is based (largely) on our perception of the relationship between the first and second formants (F1 & F2). Ladefoged and Johnson (2011, p. 187) also said that quality of vowel was distinguished by the difference in formant.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

1.3 Objective of Study

1.4 Significance of the Study

The research is useful for many groups of people, such as students, further researchers who want to do the same kind of research, and other readers.

For students, the research enriches their knowledge about one of three points in phonetics called acoustic phonetics. Besides, it can also be used as an example of research on phonetic especially acoustic phonetics. It also gives them new information about one of software that can be used to analyze or measure sound (acoustics). So, they can learn something new through praat software. Besides, the research also became one of example how to measure vowel quality.

Principally, for further researchers who want to measure some phonological aspect using praat Software. Besides, the research also gives information about praat software. It is very important because praat is one of tool that can be used to get the measurements or to analyze physical properties of speech and phonetics that they need and desire for their research. Ultimately, the research became useful reference for further researchers who doing the same kind of study.

The last, the research also enrich knowledge about acoustic of vowels produced by EFL students in UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. It means that the research give us new information or knowledge about vowel quality of EFL students in UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The research focuses on the English vowels /æ/ and /e/ from words that were derived by Indonesian EFL university students in English Letters, State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. The participants consisted of 16 students who were on the eight semester. It is chose because the writer considered that 16 students are enough to represent object of the research. It was in accordance to Mahsun (2013) in metode penelitian bahasa. He said that language research do not need a big sample but it needs sample that represent social group that was become data resource.

“Dalam penelitian bahasa sampel yang besar tidak diperlukan,... Namun, yang paling penting diingat ialah bahwa setiap kategori kelompok social yang dijadikan variable independen harus terwakili didalam sampel yang dijadikan sumber data (Mahsun: 2013)”

“Big sample in the linguistic research is not needed,... the most important to remember is we have to put every social group that was included in the independent variable in the data source (Mahsun: 2013)”

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Acoustic phonetics: the study of the acoustic characteristics of speech, including an analysis and description of speech in terms of its physical properties. Sometimes restricted to instrumental analysis and measurement sound waves (Clark and Yallop, 1995)

Acoustic: the scientific study of sound and how we hear it (Clark and Yallop, 1995)

EFL: English as foreign language (Smit, 2010)

