CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Chapter I of this research discusses background of the study, statement of problem, purpose of the study, significance of study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1. Background of Study

In English, there are four skills that should be learnt by the students; those are listening, speaking, writing, and reading. Among them, speaking is a very complicated skill because the students will be able to speak if they master vocabulary, grammar, etc. Besides, they have to read much information like in newspaper, listen the other peoples’ speaking, and so on.

Grammar is important to make the other people understand clearly our talking. Using correct grammar in speaking makes the listener comprehend what we mean. However, the people who master good grammar is not guarantee that they can speak fluently. In speaking, speaker should use easy and clear words to make the listener comprehend and respond effectively with our speaking.

In speaking, the students should also master the vocabulary in order that their speaking can be fluent. Besides, it is necessary for the students know how to pronounce the vocabularies to make the other people understand what they are speaking. Poor pronunciation will make misunderstanding toward listener, so that the information or message is not conveyed well. Based on the components above, the students should learn how to pronounce the words well and grammatically
correct. If the students can do all of them, they are good speaker and useful for themselves in the future.

In fact, many students are difficult to speak up because they are afraid of making mistakes in pronunciation, grammar, and so on. Some problems above should be solved by the teacher in order not continue in a future. The teacher may use methods that make the students able to overcome their problems.

Based on the researcher observation, the students of ESP Program at Muhammadiyah University of Malang have many problems in their speaking. First, they do not master vocabularies yet. They are still confused to speak because they do not have enough vocabularies. Consequently, they do not have confidence to utter and express their mind or their ideas. Their speaking has too many pauses and sometimes they are slight hesitation to speak up. The second is pronunciation. Their pronunciation is very poor and sometimes they still pronounce the words in Indonesian style. They never try to speak up because they are afraid to make mistakes. Although the students learn speaking but never try to practice. Hence, it is impossible for them to speak fluently. The students’ grammar competence is still low, many grammatical errors occur when they speak.

Pronunciation should be paid attention truly in speaking. There are some words that have similar in pronouncing but different in meaning for examples “know and now”. It is important for the speaker to be careful in speaking in order that the other people are not misunderstanding with our aims in speaking. Therefore, we should know about the pronunciation. According to Manser (1995:133) pronunciation is “a way in which a language and a word are spoken”.

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Due to the reasons stated above, the writer is interested in conducting a research entitled “Students’ Problems in Pronunciation of ESP 2 Program at the English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Malang”. The reason is because pronunciation is one of the basic skills that must be possessed when learning a language especially on speaking subject.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the research problem can be formulated as follows:

1. What errors do the students at ESP 2 Program of The English Department of University of Muhammadiyah Malang make in pronouncing English words?

2. What are the most dominant errors made by the students at ESP 2 Program of The English Department of University of Muhammadiyah Malang in pronouncing English words?

1.3 Purposes of Study

On the basis of the statement of the problems the writer states the purposes of the study as follows:

1. To find out what types of errors made by the students in pronouncing English words.

2. To find out the most dominant errors made by the students in pronouncing English words.
1.2. Scope and Limitation

This study is covering the problems on pronunciation. Therefore, the researcher is only focusing on the student’s problems in pronunciation. It is especially on ESP 2 speaking A class in English Department of Muhammadiyah University of Malang.

1.3. Significance of Study

The result of this study is hoped to give advantages for students or also for lectures. For students, it can improve their speaking skill by studying it with proper strategy. By an appropriate strategy, students will be easier in learning speaking. While for teachers, it can improve and develop their strategies in teaching speaking.

1.4. Definitions of Key Terms

In this section, ambiguity is tried to be avoided. As guidance in understanding this study, the researcher gives the definition of the key terms.

1. ESP is the particular language product and an approach to language teaching on which all decision as to content and method are based on the learners’ need for learning (Hutchinson and Waters, in Yasik 2001:12). In this study, English for Specific Purposes, an English program at Muhammadiyah University of Malang which is compulsory for every student. For English Department, the program is the ESP for tourism.

2. Speaking is uttering words or articulates sound with the ordinary voice expressing thoughts (Longman Dictionary, in Subagio 1992:37).
3. Speaking class

Speaking class is the activity for a set of communication by sound through the organ speech and learning among human beings of certain group of community (Hamid: 2003).

4. Error is the massage deviations in the receptor language which are caused by either incorrect application of lexicon and grammar.

5. Analysis is a description of its elements, which has a purpose to comprehend the relationship between are element and the other in supporting the meaning of literature (Sudjiman1984: 6)

6. Pronunciation is away in which language is spoken (Hornby, 1974 : 928). According to Longman (1987 : 820) pronunciation is the way in which English or particular English word is pronounced. Pronunciation in this study is defined as the production of speech sound for communication in the process of learning a foreign language.