CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the introduction of the study, covering background of the study, statement of the problems, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Every human being is born into the groups and spends a lifetime in patterned social relations. Everything people do like crossing the street, choosing a mate, or buying new clothing is closely bound up with what people expect from others and with what others expect and accept from them. All human beings are social. People have to interact with other people in order to survive.

One of the ways to do the social interaction is by holding a communication. Lunenburg (2006:222) explains that communication can be defined as the process of transmitting information and common understanding from one person to another. To do this process, people need a tool which is known as language. Besides, an important fact about behavior of human beings in relation to their social environment is linguistic behavior.

Man is constantly using language and man is constantly linked to others via shared norms of behavior. There are two aspects of the interaction of human behavior that cannot be separated; the use of language and the behavior of social life. Talking about language and society, Fishman, in Jaworski and Coupland, states that the sociology of language is focuses not only the language usage but also language attitudes and overt behaviors toward language and toward language users (1997:25).
Moreover, Trudgill expresses that language is not just a term which refers to the process of conveying meaning, referring to the ideas, or communicating information (1983:13). Language is an indexical of one’s social class, status, region of origin, gender, age of group and so on (Mesthrie, et.al.2000:6).

Concerning for the human communication, automatically our mind has been guided in different language used in societies. Wardhaugh, in Mesthrie, et.al. (2000:1) states that language as a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication. This definition stresses that the basic to build the language is spoken words which combine sounds with meaning. There is more to the relationship between sound and meaning than is dream of in normal linguistic theory.

All speakers of English can talk to each other and understand each other. Not only between two speakers but also more than that and they have some differences between each other; age, sex, size, speech rates, and whether English as a first language. Besides, Fromkin, et.al. has stated that word choices, the pronunciation of words, and grammatical rules are the other of differences (2003:445).

Every time people open mouth, they give to other people the important clues what kind of people they are: where they come from, what social class they belong to, even their sex and age. This information says something that consider the speaker identity; about individuality and about social, national, and ethnic groups. Language and identity can involve entirely different languages. The differences in the speech of people belonging to different social class in a community. In most communities, social classes are usually brought into relief the differences in the social status people, from highest to lowest (Trask, 1999:281).
People who come from different geographical places, from different social classes, of different ages, and different educational background can be seen from their different pronunciation which is called accent (Roach, 2009:14). The word accent is often focused on dialect. According to Roach, dialect refers to a variety of a language which is different from others not just in pronunciation but also in vocabulary, grammar, and word order (2009:14). On the other hand, it different from accent, accent is refer to a variety of pronunciation differences only. Than, regional phonological or phonetic distinctions are often referred to as different accent.

There are some linguistics’ branches, one of them is phonology. Fromkin, et.al. states that phonology is a part of English study that deals with the ways in which speech sound form system and pattern (2003:273). Besides, according to Giegerich, in Pamungkas, states that phonology investigates the regularities that govern the phonetics realizations of sounds in the words of language (2013:2). One of the important parts in phonology is phonetic symbol. Phonology is a branch of ‘humanities’ while phonetics is ‘natural science’.

In addition, Dardjowidjojo, in Pamungkas (2013:2), states that phonetics is a science that deals with the sounds of human language. Phonetic symbol is a written character used in phonetic transcription of represents a particular speech sound. Phonetic symbol has connection with pronunciation practice. Pronunciation is the way in which word spoken by sound, whereas phonetic symbol is the way pronunciation is written.

There are some previous study talked about the differences of language that use between dialect, one of them was written by Pamungkas (2013). This previous
study tried to find out the different pronunciation used by main characters in “The Holiday” movie. It deals with the study about the different pronunciation between British and American people. In this thesis, which entitled a study on the differences between British and American pronunciation used by main characters in Holiday movie, she found several differences in sounds pattern used by main characters in “The Holiday” movie. Different speech sounds are used in a language to make different word sound different, so that each meaning is connected with a different phonetic form. She added that this difference is most commonly found between British and American pronunciation. There are rhotic and non-rhotic accent, change of diphthong, and change of vowel.

Furthermore, this study is focused on analyzing different pronunciations because of the social life influence in “Freedom Writer” movie. The writer takes this area because this movie is one of the inspiring movie. It is based on the true story, when Erin Gruwell as the teacher was assigned a class full of students who were labeled “at risk,” she had no idea the challenges she would face. The students came from different geographical places; there is Little Cambodia, the Ghetto, Wonder Bread Land, and South of the Border or Little Tijuana and different educational background. Their speech are different of one student between another one. However, she never give up, she hold them to do something different, something memorable, something powerful and humane. She was done something that useful for the teacher; The Freedom Writers Diary. As explained by Bloomingdale and Satoris in www.enotes.com that many teacher implement the Freedom writer method across the country (2009).
1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study, the research problem is formulated to carry out this study in the following description;

1) What are the differences in pronunciations between the characters in “Freedom Writer” movie?

2) How does the social life influence the differences of pronunciation in “Freedom Writer” movie?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

In line with the problem of the study, the objective of this study was taken from the whole dialogues of movie related to the problem of the study and the general purpose is:

1) To describe the differences in pronunciation between the characters in “Freedom Writer” movie.

2) To describe the influence of social life on the differences of pronunciation in “Freedom Writer” movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

By conducting this study, the writer expects that the findings will be useful to enlarge our knowledge of pronunciation especially in studying features of English pronunciation. On the other hand, the result of this study has both theoretical and practical values. Theoretically, this study is important for the reader to know more about the differences pronunciation because of the social life influence in the movie.

Practically, the result of the study are expected can increase the students knowledge of features of English pronunciation and pronunciation differences.
Besides, for the teacher, this study could be used as an additional reference material in studying and teaching linguistics. Moreover, it can be useful as reference for the related study.

1.5 **Scope and Limitation**

The scope of the study is the influence of social life on the differences of pronunciation in “Freedom Writer” movie. There are some social life that influence the differences of pronunciation, like different geographical places, different social classes, and different ethnicity. The writer focused on the different ethnicity. Moreover, the limitation in this study is based on the same words spoken by the characters in the “Freedom Writer” movie.

1.6 **Definition of the Key Terms**

There are many others meaning of language terms, which are used in communication. The definition of key terms given in this study in order to avoid mistakes and misunderstanding of the contents of the study. The terms which are necessary to be defined are as follows:

1. *Social life influence* is the sum of all things that may change or have some effect on a person’s behavior, thoughts, actions, or feelings (Sands, 2015).

2. *Differences* is the plural of difference. It is the state or way in which two people or things are not the same, or in which somebody or something has changed (Oxford Advanced learner’s Dictionary, 1948:321).

3. *Pronunciation* is the way in which a language is spoken (Oxford Advanced learner’s Dictionary, 1948:928).
4. *Freedom writer* is the true story of English teacher Erin Gruwel and her first teaching assignment in Long Beach, California, working with students other teachers deemed “unteachable” (Bloomingdale and Satoris, 2009).