



**JAVANESE INTERFERENCE ON STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING
SKILL IN THE EFL CONTEXT**

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ABSTRACT

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Key words: Language interference, Javanese students, English speaking skill

Language is one of the crucial things in communication. Indonesia is one of rich countries that have various culture and ethnic group. One of the Indonesian cultures is Javanese language. Javanese language is the traditional language or first language that spoken by Javanese people (Setyowati, 2014). In other hand, Indonesian students necessary to learn English language as a global language including the Javanese students.

This study investigated the Javanese interference on students' English speaking skill in the EFL context. The data was gained by qualitative method using digital documentation and interview. The participants of this research were six of Javanese students in English Education Department at University of Islam Malang who have been selected. After analyzing the digital documentation and interview, the researcher draws two major points. 1) The Javanese students find difficulties in pronouncing θ , r , \int , $t\int$, u , δ , t , $u\text{ə}$, d , and $d\int$. It was caused by the difficulties in controlling their mother tongue in mastering English vocabulary. 2) They find difficult to remove the first language accent to the foreign language because the habit of daily communication.

To identify more, the researcher made interview section to find out their difficulties, the factor caused, the solution of difficulties, and their perception about the problem. Then, to solve that problem, the English teachers should be more innovative to develop the strategies and design the materials for the students and make them minimize the Javanese interference in their English speaking. Students also should learn and practice more to deny their Javanese interference so that could have good speaking skills and the listeners would be easier to understand what they mean. Finally, this study pointed out that Javanese interference can be solved by the English teachers and the EFL students.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter comprises the background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the crucial things in communication. It means that all of people use languages to communicate each other whether using spoken or written. Talking about language, most of people in the world speak using English in common. They speak English for business, education, science, research, and others. For this reason, English language is known as global language. According to Rao (2017), he stated that English language has been accepted as the global language even though there are thousands of speakers. Therefore, English language is very important to learn for most of people especially millennial generation. Learning English eases someone to expand the communication to people in other countries.

Some theories stated that language cannot be separated from the culture. Language is part of culture, but they are different. Some say that culture greatly influences language, so language reflects all thinks in the culture. Otherwise, some say that language influence culture and the speaker way of thinking (Rabiah, 2012). In this case, language represents each nation and has close relation to the attitude and

behavior of language of speakers. Sometimes a person is recognized where they come from by their language accent.

As we know that communication and language are inseparable. Indonesia is one of rich countries that have various culture and ethnic group. One of the Indonesian cultures is Javanese language. Javanese language is the traditional language or first language that spoken by Javanese people (Setyowati, 2014). This language has characteristics which are known by the way native speak. Setyowati (2014) also stated that they have unique accent with their own vernacular. It is has strong and unique accent, dialect, intonation, and diction that shows that Javanese language is pronounced clearly, explicitly, short intonation, and stressing in some parts, and also long pronounced whenever ended in vowel sound (Wardani and Suwartono, 2019). This is the reason why Javanese students have a separate challenge.

Since English language is one of the important things that necessary to learn, most of Indonesian students learn English including Javanese students. They learn English wherever they are, such as in the school, in the course, in the university, and others. Several problems do not prevent them to learn English. Sometimes, English as foreign language (EFL) students are difficult to master English because of they have interference on their first language which cannot be controlled. Interference is caused by the differences between native and target language (Wardani and Suwartono, 2019). Since they speak English, they have Javanese interference toward English

occurs in some ways: first, they have difficulties to pronounce some English pronounced that do not exist in Javanese language because their speech organs are hard to move. Then, they do not know how to pronounce certain word and the last, they are difficult to differentiate similar sounds in English (Andika, Sumarlam, and Abdullah, 2019).

Javanese interference is one of crucial problems faced by Javanese students in learning English. Several effects happen because of some problems such as the native speakers confuse about the phonological and the accent so the listeners cannot understand what they mean. It occurs because students get lacking of input so and lacking of knowledge in second language acquisition. Not only that, the researcher also find that some of Javanese students get difficult in producing some words because of their mother tongue assimilates to the target language (English).

Finally, according to the fact above, the researcher analyzes the affairs of the first language interference intensively. This study discusses about Javanese language as the reference especially on the phonological and accent. It helps teachers and students affect the students' motivation to speaking English whether in the classroom or outside. The last, the study also helps teachers to investigate how the English language is produced in their speaking in the learning process.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Language interference is interested issue that has become a problem for EFL students in the learning process. Based on the background study above, the statements of the problems are formulated as follows:

1. How is the Javanese phonological interference on the EFL students' pronunciation in English speaking?
2. How is the Javanese accent interference on the EFL students in English speaking?

1.3 Objectives of Research

This study discusses about some issues of Javanese interference in English students' speaking. The aspects of discussion are stated in the following:

1. To investigate how the Javanese phonological interference on the EFL students' pronunciation in English speaking.
2. To investigate how the Javanese accent interference on the EFL students in English speaking.

1.4 Significance of Research

This study discusses about learners' speaking in the classroom. Hopefully, it gives contribution for students and teachers to be more creative and innovative in the English learning process so that the Indonesian education more excellent, especially Javanese students as the EFL students.

1.4.1 Theoretically

The result of this study is aimed to affirm and compare the literature of Javanese interference in English students speaking especially on their phonological and accent to previous studies.

1.4.2 Practically

This research is expected to give more information for reader especially English teacher and students (EFL).

1.4.2.1 For the Teacher

This research is aimed to provide more information and benefits for English teachers. Apparently, they can give a big role for students to motivate and guide all of them in the learning process in the classroom. Teachers should be always motivate students to increase their improvement in speaking skill. This research also gives opportunity to the teacher as a feedback in teaching strategies and designing materials so that the students perform will be better than before and make them minimize the Javanese interference in their English speaking.

1.4.2.2 For the Students

This research is useful for English students especially in improving speaking skill. Through this study, the researcher desires that Javanese interference on speaking skill can be diminished by students. If the students be able to solve this problem they could have good speaking skills and the listeners easier to understand

what they mean. The last, it gives an amazing opportunity if they are enthusiastic and highly motivated to practice as much as possible.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Research

In this study, the researcher focuses on Javanese interference in phonological context and accent interference in students' speaking. The limitation of this research is intended to analyze Javanese which is made by six students of English Education Department of University of Islam Malang.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In this study, the researcher presents the several key terms to overcome the ambiguity or misunderstanding about variables and technical terms in this research that will be described in the following:

1. **Language interference** is the effect of language learners' first language (Javanese language) on their production of the language they are learning that caused by habit of the native of Javanese language.
2. **Javanese students** are students whose native is Javanese language.
3. **English speaking skill** is the skill that gives learners the ability to communicate effectively.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusion and the suggestions of the study. Then, the conclusion summarizes the results of this research based on the research problems.

5.1 Conclusion

This research is aimed to identify Javanese interference on students' English speaking skill in the EFL context. This research used the qualitative method and digital documentation and interview as the instruments to gain the data. Then, the researcher selected six participants by online (*WhatsApp*) in accordance with this pandemic situation. After analyzing the digital documentation and interview, the researcher draws two major points. 1) The Javanese students find difficulties in pronouncing θ , r , \int , $t\int$, u , δ , t , $o\partial$, d , and $d\int$. It was caused by the difficulties in controlling their mother tongue in mastering English vocabulary. 2) They find difficult to remove the first language accent to the foreign language because the habit of daily communication. Furthermore, the phonological and accent interference are dominated by habitual factor. It showed that the participants' habit is communicating using Javanese language. From this research, it could be concluded that the main factor of Javanese interference is the difference characteristics between Javanese and English language. Javanese language is pronounced clearly, explicitly,

and short intonation. In other hand, English language has a strongly stress, diphthong and monophthong sounds, and high pitch.

5.2 Suggestions

The researchers' suggestions are presented to the EFL students, English teachers, and the next researchers.

5.2.1 for the EFL Students

These findings are useful for all of the EFL students. Through this study, the researcher desires that the Javanese interference could be hidden by students so that they have good ability in English speaking. If the students practice more intensively, they will perform better as regards to their speaking ability.

5.2.2 for the English Teachers

It is important for teachers to know the differences between students' native language and the target language. Through knowing them, teachers will be easier to decide what the strategy, methodology, or materials that are suitable to teach English as second or foreign language (ESL/EFL).

5.2.3 for the Next Researchers

The researcher suggests the next researchers to use this research as a reference especially for those who have the same problems and interested in conducting the similar research. Hopefully, there will be further research to complete this method.

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