CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the background of the research, statement of the problem, objective of the research, limitation of the research, and operational definition.

1.1   Background of the Research

Pronunciation is how the way to utter or produce a sound from the words is. Pronunciation becomes the important element in every language utterance. Correct pronunciation is spoken by the speaker will reach the correct meaning, which create the synchronization in each sentence and catch the aim easily whereas incorrect pronunciation will makes misunderstanding and confusion for listener. Hence, a speaker must be able to pronounce correctly, fluently and clearly. It is because many words in every language have quite similar sound. For example, some words in English language that have quite similar sound are rise-rice, feet-feed, shell-sell, etc.

To avoid the situation where the listener cannot reach what the speaker means, we have to master pronunciation by practicing utter the words from the language. Nevertheless, the language learners need a help from native speaker or someone who already masters the language to teach how the words produce. They also can read phonetic transcription to utter words or sentences for make them easier to learn pronunciation. Even, some of them learn pronunciation by watching movies, listening songs and correlating one language that they learn to other language that they master. As some learners have been done, they learn English pronunciation by correlating to Arabic pronunciation in Al-Quran that they have learned since childhood as a Moslem. Thus, it can be one of the effective ways to learn pronunciation.

Yahya and Arifin (2015) revealed that English and Arabic have some similar sounds in pronouncing the letters. Some Arabic letters have similar sound in IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) with English. Lestiono and Gusdian

(2017) explain that it happens because a comparison between different languages in a point of view will appear similarities including pronunciation.

Indonesian people are Moslem majority, especially in Kudus city as religious town that has name of Kota Santri. People who lives in that area have learnt to read Al-Quran since they were child. Most of them already master how to pronounce every word of Al-Quran although they do not understand the meaning. Even, a lot of them already completely memorized the Al-Quran with good pronunciation. It means most the Moslem adult in that area already master the pronunciation of Arabic language that also known as *makhorijul hurufil arobiyah*. *Makhraj* in hijaiyah letters means the place where hijaiyah letters come out from mouth. (Putra, Atmaja & Prananto, 2011)

For that reason, some English students who also master *makhorijul hurufil arobiyah* can use some Arabic letters that have similar sound as alternative way to utter the English letters when they have difficulties to pronounce the English letters. Not only it can support the language learners to learn English pronunciation by using their *makhorijul hurufil arobiyah* mastery, but also it can be different interesting way to master English pronunciation. Syafei, Rismiyanto and Nurcahyo (2012) argued that the similarities of Arabic and English impress the students that Arabic and English are in fact close; and they get more motivated in learning English as they learn Arabic.

Based on the explanation above, the writer interested to know is there any significant correlation between Arabic pronunciation (*makhorijul hurufil arobiyah)* mastery and English pronunciation ability.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the writer determines the statement of the problem as follows:

1. To what extend is the Arabic pronunciation mastery of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019?

2. To what extend is the English pronunciation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019?

3. Is there any significant correlation between Arabic pronunciation mastery and English pronunciation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019?

1.3   Objective of the Research

Based on the statement of the problem, the main objectives of the research are as follows:

1. To find out the Arabic pronunciation mastery of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019.
2. To find out the English pronunciation ability of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019.
3. To find out significant correlation between Arabic pronunciation mastery and English pronunciation of eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019.

1.4   Significance of the Research

By doing this research, the writer expects the finding of this research will be useful for many people as below

1. Theoretically

    The writer hopes that this research can be a reference and reflection at the same time to set another way in learning English pronunciation.

2. Practically

    a. For the students

        After the students know the correlation between Arabic pronunciation mastery towards English pronunciation, the writer hopes that the students can practice more in English pronunciation by using their Arabic pronunciation mastery.

    b. For the teachers

        The teachers can enhance their teaching and learning process especially in teaching pronunciation by using useful technique and

method, moreover for the teachers who have Arabic pronunciation mastery.

c.   For another researcher

The writer hopes that the other researcher can finds out a reference in carrying the same kind of research by this research.

1.5   Limitation of the Research

The researcher has some limitation to specify the research. This research focuses to the study of students' Arabic pronunciation mastery and English pronunciation. The writer chooses /t/ and ت, /d/ and د, /θ/ and ث, / ð/ and ذ, /s/ and س, /z/ and ز, /ʃ/ and ش as a material for her research because the first one is the letters are most difficult to differentiate by the learners since one letter have quite similar sound with other letter and the second one is English letters that found most closest to Arabic letters. The subject of the researcher is eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019.

1.6   Operational Definition

To clarify the terms that are used at the title of this research, the researcher defines tem as follows:

1.   Arabic pronunciation *(Makhorijul hurufil arobiyah)* is the place where the Arabic letters come out and distinguish from one letter to another letter.

2.   Pronunciation is how we utter or produce a sound from the words.

3.   The eleventh grade students of SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in academic year 2018/2019 are the students who are studying in SMA NU Al Ma'ruf Kudus in the academic year 2018/2019 as the second grade.