

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of Study

Phonology is one of the important things in learning language. It is concerned with the properties of sounds and the ways that they are combined into words. Phonology is a science that related to other knowledge like sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is social attitudes to features of sound such as accent and intonation. In phonology, there are many phonetic symbols for examples [dʒ], [ʒ], [ʃ], [tʃ], [θ], [ð], [l], and the rules how the words produce well when people say the words such as where the word be said voice or voiceless. It is useful for people, to mastery in phonology, especially for someone who wants to learn English. It is because English is the most important language in the world. So, it is very important for people to learn phonology in order to mastery English well. Beside of that, it is also important to know and distinguish between voiced and voiceless sound to make pronunciation in speaking English do not have any accent.

God in His Holy Qur'an , Surah Al-Baqarah: 31 has also granted to our capability in pronunciation as follow:

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ كُلَّهَا ثُمَّ عَرَضَهُمْ عَلَى الْمَلَائِكَةِ فَقَالَ أَنْبِئُونِي بِأَسْمَاءِ

## هَلْؤَاءِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ (٣١)

This verse explains that Allah commanded human to say everything if they are knows. It means that people should to extend the clear word and meaning.

In other verse of Holy Koran, An-nisa verse 5, Allah commanded human to say the good word:

وَلَا تُؤْتُوا السُّفَهَاءَ أَمْوَالَكُمُ الَّتِي جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ قِيَمًا وَارْزُقُوهُمْ فِيهَا وَاكْسُوهُمْ وَقُولُوا لَهُمْ قَوْلًا مَعْرُوفًا

In the end of this verse, Allah explains that people ought to speak words of appropriate kindness. It means that people must say word that good in meaning and pronunciation. In Islamic lesson, students learn Islamic proper pronounce for correct recitation of the Koran. Whereas, in English lesson, students learn pronunciation and phonology in order to their ability in speaking and pronunciation is good. In English pron0unciation and phonology lesson, there are some terms like voice and voiceless.

Voiced and voiceless are part of phonology. It is perceptive skill of great importance when teaching and learning a foreign language. It enhances acquisition, develops student's autonomy in the language learning process. It also vital materials, student should able to distinguish different way when produce both of them. Skandera and Burleigh (2005, p.12) said that if the glottis is narrow, the vocal folds

are together, the air-stream forces its way through and causes the vocal folds to vibrate. Sounds produced in this way are called voiced. And if the glottis is open, if the vocal folds are apart, the air passes through without causing the vocal folds to vibrate. Sounds produced in this way are called voiceless.

In general, voiced and voiceless taught for university students, especially English department students. To develop student's ability in pronouncing voiced and voiceless, students should learn more about phonology and always do some exercises in pronouncing voiced and voiceless sounds.

Lecturers usually give examples or read simple words of English vocabulary for demonstrate voiced and voiceless sound. They also write down phonetic symbols of phonology.

In this study' writer wants to know about the students' ability pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonant.

For this reason the writer is interested to express more deeply a research entitle

“The Students Ability in Pronouncing Voiced and Voiceless consonants”

There are certain factors that have influenced the writer's decision to conduct this research, including:

1. Phonology can help people speak English with good accent, such as if someone is able in pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonants.
2. Voiced and voiceless are the materials that can help students to speak better
3. Voiced and voiceless are the material that often use in English department students

### **B. Statement of Problems**

Based on the background above, the writer will investigate and focus the following questions:

1. How is the students' ability in pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonants?
2. What are their difficulties in pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonants?

### **C. Objective of Study**

1. To know how is the students' ability in pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonants.
2. To know what are their difficulties in pronouncing voiced and voiceless consonants.

### **D. Significance of Research**

The result of this research is expected to give contribution as follow:

- a. For the students, it can improve their ability in pronounce voiced and voiceless consonants.
- b. Enrich the writer's knowledge and experience in the scientific research especially about voiced and voiceless consonants.
- c. This research can give information and as comparison for the next research in this subject.
- d. As information the literary source of the IAIN Antasari Library.

#### **E. Definition of Key Terms**

To avoid misinterpretation about the title, which is adopted in this study, the writer hereby feels necessary to explain some term concerning the title as follows:

1. Ability is skill or power (Oxford, 2011, p.1).
2. Students here mean are seventh semester of English Department students.
3. Pronounce is make the sound of a word or the letter
4. Voiced is that they use the voice. This is easy to test by putting finger on throat. If people feel a vibration is voiced (Beare, 2013, p.1)

5. Voiceless is percussive and use hard sounds. People can test if is voiceless by putting finger on throat. People will feel no vibration in throat, just a short explosion of air as pronounce (Beare, 2013, p.1)