

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Research

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. The point of linguistics is an understanding of the unconscious knowledge that humans have about language, how children acquire language, the structure of language in general and of particular languages, how languages vary, and how language influences the way in which people communicate with each other. If someone do not learn linguistics, surely they do not notice that the growth of a human is an important language research in linguistic.

Generally, those human are not able to communicate with the adults by using language when they were born. A baby only makes a sound crying to express a simple wanting in order to the parents get what a baby meant. But by the time, children were able to produce sentence in five or six, ask questions, and so on. This is what a linguist research for. They investigate how people acquire the knowledge about language, how the knowledge interacts with other cognitive processes, and how it varies across speakers and geographic regions. Linguists study how to represent the structure of the various aspects of language, how to explain the difference of linguistic patterns theoretically, and how the different components of language interact with each other.

Many linguists do fieldwork, collecting the evidence to help gaining insight into a specific language or languages in general. And to discover it,

they communicate with speakers of different language, find the patterns, search database of spoken and written language, and run carefully-designed experiments with children and adults in schools. That is why a linguist may be better informed if they know multiple languages cause the work of a linguist actually involves learning about language.

A language is a system of communication in speech and writing used by people. The communication contains the information that the speaker and the recipient need to be common perception of the language used. Every language has an organised sound system. Phonology is a branch of linguistics concerned with processes in the mind, determining the rules of a language and how organise, study and form sounds in speech. And it also tells about the systematic organization of sounds in languages. Linguists have devised systems such as the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) to organises all consonantal phonemes in terms of voice, place, manner, production on a chart. A phoneme is defined as a single meaningful unit. When learning to use alphabetic writing, actually it is similar to using the concept of the phoneme as the single stable sound type which is represented by a single written symbol. For example: 'cat' and 'cats' have two different meaning, this is due to one phoneme being different /s/.

Phoneme consists of consonant and vowel. A vowel basically is any open sound where there is no obstruction or blocking caused by the teeth, tongue, lips, or other articulators. As a non-native English speaker, it is normal to be confuse on vowels. It needs focusing heavily. It because vowels form the

most difficult part of perception and production of non-native speech. A vowel letter can represent different vowel sounds. So, it is important to know the right vowel sounds of a word, it will help English learner speak correctly.

There are fifteen vowels in English, it is divided into Front, Central, and Back vowels. One of the highest in general usage is vowel schwa with r colour /ə/. Vowel schwa involves into central that consist of schwa /ə/ and hedge /ʌ/. The central vowels that typically used by speakers of Standard Southern British English (SSBE) and General American English (GA). Vowel r colour is familiar sound in American English that deserve attention from learner. In fact, American English pronunciation is rhotic, that means the /r/ is pronounced in all positions of word. This is in contrast with British that only pronounce /r/ only if it is followed by a vowel.

The most noticeable difference among accents of English is in whether the words have r-coloured vowels. In many forms of American English, rhotacization occurs when vowels are followed by [r], as in *beard*, *bared*, *bard*. It becomes interested when there are two options for pronouncing the r portion, the first is the bunched method, in which the sides of the back of the tongue are raised and tip-up method, that the tip of the tongue is raised and curled back behind the tooth ridge. It should be an experiment for a non-native speaker. Ladefoged and Johnson stated on the book *A course in Phonetics* (2011: 94-96), that just like vowel features high-low, front-back, and rounded-unrounded, there is an additional feature called rhotacization. It

describes an auditory property, the r-colouring, of a vowel. There are at least two distinct ways in which the r-colouring can be produced.

The writer gives one sample of the data from the song by Meghan Trainor. Example: Dear Future Husband. There is a central vowel with “r” colour in the song of *Dear Future Husband* is / ə / in word future /'fju:tʃə/. This central vowel will explain through phonologically.

Meghan Elizabeth Trainor was born December 22, 1993. She is an American singer, songwriter and record producer. Born and raised in Nantucket, Massachusetts, Trainor wrote, recorded, performed, and produced three independently-released albums between ages 15 and 17. Trainor release her major-label debut studio album *Title* (2015). The album debuted at number one on the US Billboard 200 went on to sell over one million copies domestically.

Trainor got many achievements, she has won three ASCAP Pop Music Awards, two Billboard Music Awards, a People’s Choice Award, and received one Grammy Award. She also was named the “Breakthrough Artist of the Year” by the Music Business Association in 2014. And among her achievements, Trainor became the 21<sup>st</sup> woman to land her debut single at the top of the Billboard Hot 100, and the fifth female artist to follow up her chart-topping debut single with another top 5 release. On the Billboard Year-End Charts for 2015, Trainor was listed seventh on Top Artists and second on top Female Artists.

Therefore the writer chooses the title : *Analysis of Central Vowels with or without “r” colour in Meghan Trainor’s Songs.*

## **B. Scope of the Research**

In this research the analysis just focused on how to analyse central vowel with or without “r” colour. The data of the central vowels are taken from Meghan Trainor’s Songs *Dear Future Husband, All About That Bass, Close Your Eyes, Like I’m Gonna Lose You* and *Mr. Almost*. The writer will listen and find the central vowel in those songs.

To limit the research problem findings, the writer’s attention only focused on words which contain of central vowel with or without “r” colour in those songs at Meghan Trainor’s album that is “*Title*” by analyzing how the central vowel in those songs has made. In this research, the writer looked for central vowel with or without “r” colour; this refers to the Cambridge Dictionary. Theory from Peter Ladefoged and Keith Johnson on book *A course in Phonetic* (2011).

## **C. The Questions of the Research**

From the above explanations, the problem which will be analyzed are how to classified central vowel with or without “r” colour in Meghan Trainor’s Songs. These problem can be mentioned detail as the following questions:

1. What kinds of central vowels exist in the Meghan Trainor's Songs?
2. How are those central vowels articulated?
3. Which are those central vowels with or without "r" colour?

#### **D. The Objects of the Research**

Based on the problem of the research mentioned above, the objectives of these researches are described as the following:

1. To find the kinds of central vowels exist in the Meghan Trainor's songs.
2. To know how those central vowels articulated.
3. To know central vowels with or without "r" colour that exist in the songs.

#### **E. Significance of the Research**

The writer hopes this research paper can be useful not only for the writer but also for the readers mainly who learn or at least like to learn English Linguistics. The significance of the writing is described below :

1. For the writer

To comprehend kind of English vowels that typically difficult to find. Especially, central vowels that only consist two vowels that combine with or without consonant "r". Finally, to pronounce English language fluently & clearly.

2. For the readers

To give the readers a reference to understand English Vowel particularly for readers those have willing to be linguist or English lecturer

which have to understand well how to pronounce English vowels. In other side know how many kind of English vowels, readers can classify the vowels, in order to pronounce the words well gradually and hopefully it can improve the reader's English skill.

#### **F. Systematic of Writing**

The systematic of the paper means to present the paper in well-edited composition. These paper is divided into five chapters as follow:

Chapter I consists of explanation about the background of the research, the scope of problem, the question of the research, the significant of the research and the systematic of paper. It can be useful to add insight views and science, to prove the truth between theories and practice both in English and in the field.

Chapter II consists of explanation about the definition of analysis, the definition of Linguistic, the definition of Phonology, the definition of Phoneme, and the definition of Novel.

Chapter III consists of explanation of the setting of the research, subject of the research, method of research, instrument of the research, technique of data analysis, and procedure of the research.

Chapter IV consists of explanation about the analysis of the data, the problem and the discussion of Novel.

Chapter V consists of the summary of the scientific paper in preceding chapters and give some of this suggestion.

The chapter's arrangement above, the data have the important explanation for this assignment. There are no additions in arranging in this order.