

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Research

In South East Asian there is a big event in economic cooperation, it is a unit of 10 ASEAN countries, which are Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia and Brunei. The goal of AEC (ASEAN Economic Community) is to develop the economic stability in ASEAN area. Investors can invest anywhere in these countries. Workers can go work anywhere in these countries. All 10 countries agree to use English for business. As one of the participant, Indonesia has challenges and preparations to face the phenomenon, especially in the way to communicate with others worker in a different country by a language to make Indonesia ready for AEC.

As a common challenge facing the globalization through free trade, the Indonesian government can not underestimate the effort to improve the quality of English to students. It is not a secret anymore, even though English has been taught since elementary school through college, not all students Indonesia capable have a conversation in English with foreigners. Even graduates S1 Indonesia was not much to get a TOEFL score of 550 as an indicator that the person really master English.

The role of government to face the AEC to help people communicate has been prepared. The government began to encourage the community to

participate in the AEC Indonesia by providing counseling. In addition, the government also provides the facilities to open a free English course are expected to help the community in the face of the AEC, but many people do not know how to get more information about it.

Indonesia should be motivated to speak English well and when a chance encounter with a foreigner. It also learns English in daily habit by join the course or give full attention in English lesson. Do not be afraid of making mistakes and being laughed at when want to speak in English with foreigners. Leave grammar, and speak freely in an effort to learn as they spoke.

Learning a foreign languages consist of learning a new set of habits. The sounds of the new language involve different and unfamiliar motions of the lips, tongue, and other speech organs. Learning to make the right motions may require a good deal of time and practice. With more and more practice, the motions for the new language eventually become as automatic as those for the native language. The first way to get the habit is how to say it, and only then we can go further on what to say. Before that, we have to hearing carefully.

Listening is vitally important in learning to pronounce the sounds of new language. Yule (2010: 41) explained that every individual will pronounce sounds different, potentially millions of physically different ways of saying the simple word *me*. Each individual will not pronounce the word *me* in a physically identical manner on every occasion. Obvious differences occur when that individual is shouting, is suffering from a bad cold or is asking for

a sixth martini. Given this vast range of potential differences in the actual physical production of a speech sound, how do we manage consistently to recognize all those version of *me* as the form [mi], and not [ni] or [si] or [ma] or [mo] or something else entirely? The answer to that question is provided to a large extent by the study of phonology.

Phonology is about the underlying design, the blueprint of each sound type, which serves as the constant basis of all the variations in different physical articulations of that sound type in different contexts. When we think of the [t] sound in the words *tar*, *star*, *writer* and *eighth* as being “the same”, we actually mean that, in the phonology of English, they would be represented in the same way. In actual speech, these [t] sounds are all very different.

The differences of all these articulation in [t] sounds are less important to us than the distinction between the [t] sounds in general and the [k] sounds, or the [f] sounds, or the [b] sounds, because there are meaningful consequences related to the use of one rather than the others. These sounds must be distinct meaningful sounds, regardless of which individual vocal tract is being used to pronounce them, because they are what make the words *tar*, *car*, *far* and *bar* meaningfully distinct. Considered from this point of view, we can see that phonology is concerned with the abstract set of sounds in a language that allows us to distinguish meaning in the actual physical sounds we say and hear. Therefore, we will learn about phoneme.

Phoneme is the minimal meaningful sound / minimum significant sound unit of sound which can bring about a change of meaning, phonology studies how sounds alternate, such the /p/ in English. How phonemes function in language, the relationship among different phonemes, the abstract side of sounds of language, we are studying a related but different subject. Only by studying both the phonetics and the phonology of English, it is possible to acquire a full understanding of the use of sounds in English speech.

The sound of the English speech that we can actually produce huge numbers, and another one is actually different. During the difference was not functional, meaning not distinguish the meaning of the language. For native speakers of Indonesian difference sound of the phoneme /i/ in syllable see. Sound understanding of functional sounds in a language is very important, because it will allow us to know how much amount of functional sound and how the sound was formed larger construction in an utterance. For instance is vowel type sounds.

Vowel type sounds are those in which the sound depend mainly on variations in the position of the tongue, and are normally voiced. One of quality of vowels is tense and lax. Vowel sound produced by air coming out of the lungs without a hitch. The process of vocal influenced also by lips and tongue movements.

The lips movements produce vocals, there are two positions are rounded and unrounded. Which pertained to the position of the lips rounded vowel is [a], [i], [u], [e] and [o]. In the movement of the tongue, there are two kinds of

tongue up, down, back and forth. Motion tongue up and down, often called the vertical movement, distinguished on drums position is high [i] and [u], medium [e] [o] [ə] [ɔ] and low [a]. Forward and backward movement of the tongue called horizontal movement divided into three positions they are front [i], center [ə] and back [u],

The writer gives one sample of the data from the song by Taylor Swift. Example: Nice to meet you, where you been? (*Blank Space*) There is a kind of back vowel in the song of *Blank Space* is /u/ in you [ju]. This back vowel will explain through phonologically.

Taylor Alison Swift was born 13<sup>th</sup> December 1989, she is an American singer - songwriter. Raised in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, she moved to Nashville, Tennessee, at the age of 14 to pursue a career in country music. Swift is known for narrative songs about her personal experiences. As a songwriter, she has been honored by the Nashville Songwriters Association, the Songwriters Hall of Fame and many other achievements.

Swift's other achievements include ten Grammy Awards, one Emmy Award, 22 Billboard Music Awards, 11 Country Music Association Awards, eight Academy of Country Music Awards, and one Brit Award. She is one of the best-selling artists of all time, having sold more than 40 million albums, including 27.1 million in the U.S. and 130 million single downloads. Swift has also had supporting roles in feature films including *Valentine's Day* (2010) and *The Giver* (2014). In 2015, she became the youngest woman ever

to be included on Forbes' "100 Most Powerful Women" list, ranking at number 64.

Taylor Swift is a ten-time GRAMMY winner, the youngest recipient in history of the music industry's highest honor, the GRAMMY Award for Album of the Year and she is the only female in the history of The Grammy's to win Album of the Year, twice. Taylor is the only artist in history to have an album hit the 1 million first-week sales figure three times (2010's *Speak Now*, 2012's *RED* and 2014's *1989*).

American Music Award is an annual music awards show created by Dick Clark in 1973. Taylor Swift has received 19 awards from 25 nominations. She has received award for "1989" as "Favorite Pop/Rock Album", and "Blank Space" as "Song of the Year" in 2015.

From those above explanations, that is why the writer chooses the title of the paper: **Back Vowel in Taylor Swift's Songs.**

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

This research is observed and focused on the findings of back vowel which exist in Taylor Swift's songs. Those back vowels are taken from Taylor Swift's songs *Shake It Off*, *Blank Space*, and *Bad Blood*. The writer will listen and find the back vowel in those songs.

To limit the research problem findings, the writer's attention only focused on words which contain of back vowel in those songs at Taylor Swift's album that is "1989" by analyzing how the back vowel in those songs

has made. In this research, the writer looked for back vowel; this refers to the Cambridge Dictionary.

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

From the above explanation, the problem is to know how those back vowels explain phonologically.

To clarify the better understanding of the study, there are three questions for discussion, those are:

1. What kinds of back vowel exist in the Taylor Swift's songs?
2. How are those back vowels explained in those songs phonologically?
3. What kinds of back vowel exist most of those songs?

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

To answer the questions of the research, it will be clearer by explaining the purposes of the research below:

1. To find the kinds of back vowels exist in the Taylor Swift's song.
2. To understand how those back vowels explained in those songs phonologically.
3. To know the kinds of back vowels happen the most.

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

Hopefully paper can be useful not only for the writer herself, but also for the readers mainly who learn at least who learn about phonology. The writer

can get more knowledge in English language, especially in listening ability. In finishing this paper, the writer can increase all necessary skill and background knowledge.

For the reader, this paper gives useful benefits and provided an informative reference and knowledge who learn English, especially for phonology. Furthermore, the writer hopes that this paper can be useful as another reference for the next research.

#### **F. The Systematic of the Paper**

To get easier view in this scientific paper, the writer arranges scientific paper into five chapters which are summary of the writing which is called systematic of writing. The five chapters are as follow:

Chapter I is introduction. This chapter explains about background of the research, scope of the research, research question, the objective of the research, significance of the research, and the systematic of the 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 is theoretical description. This chapter explains about the definition of phonology, phoneme and back vowel in the song.

Chapter III is methodology of research. This chapter explains 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 is research findings and discussion. This chapter explains about analysis of back vowel in the Taylor Swift's song.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. In this chapter the writer give 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 addition in arranging in this order.