

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Research

Linguistics is the scientific study of language or languages whether from a historical and comparative or from a descriptive and structural point of view. This definition is hardly sufficient to give the reader any positive indication of fundamental principles of the subject. It may be made a little more revealing by drawing in greater detail the implications contained in the qualifications scientific. For the moment, it will be enough to say that the scientific study of language is the investigation which controlled and observe with reference to some general theory of language structure.

Linguists understand language as a system of arbitrary vocal signs. Language is ruled-governed, creative, universal, innate, and learned, at the same time. (Brinton, 2000:3) It is also distinct the human language. Linguistics is defined as the study of language system. For the purposes of study, language is divided into components. These components are conventional and, to some extent, arbitrary divisions of linguistic investigation, and although they are interrelated in complex ways in the system of language, they were separated more. Phonology is one of the components which studies of the speech sounds of a particular language.

In linguistic theories, Phonology deals with the speakers' knowledge of the sound system of a language. It is therefore exclusively concerned with language or competence. Phonology can be divided into two branches: (1) segmental phonology and (2) supra segmental phonology. (1) Segmental phonology is based on the segmentation of language into individual speech sounds provided by phonetics. Unlike phonetics, however, segmental phonology is not interested in the production, the physical properties, or the perception of these sounds, but in the function and possible combinations of sounds within the sound system. (2) Supra segmental phonology, also called prosody, is concerned with those features of pronunciation that cannot be segmented because they extend over more than one segment, or sound. Such features include stress, rhythm, and intonation (also called pitch contour or pitch movement) (Skandera, 2005: 5).

Learning phonology, vowel and diphthong are the important thing in learning a foreign language especially English. It can help us to understand more how to say a word or sentence in good and correct pronunciation. It also make us stand out and clearly to say in English. So using english song can improve our english skill especially in pronunciation. Because many benefits that can be taken by learning of the vowel and diphthong sounds in the song.

As the bases of the next phonetics analysis, phonology studies not only sound patterns in a within language, across languages, but also meanings, it can cause meaning changes and has minimal pairs with distinctive units

concepts to know the different meanings among words in the same languages. Phonetics studies the sound productions of human languages, means the connections to the sound articulators, it relates to the physical things generally, they are: mouth, lips, sinus cavity, lungs etc.

Phonetics or Phonology is level focuses on the smallest unit of structure in language, the phoneme. Linguistic rules at this level describe how sounds are pronounced in various contexts. For instance, there is a rule of voicing assimilation in English that stipulates that when a past tense marker is added to the stem of a verb, the last sound in the stem determines whether the marker is voiced or unvoiced (whether or not the vocal cords vibrate when the consonant is pronounced) (Mayer, 2009: 7)

In phonology we will find the term which called phoneme. Phoneme is the smallest unit of phonology or the abstract set of unit as the basis of our speech. In studying speech we divide this stream into small pieces that we call segments. Since phonemes are abstractions of speech sounds, not the sounds themselves, they have no direct phonetic transcription. When they are realized without much allophonic variation, a simple broad transcription is used. However, when there are complementary allophones of phoneme, so that the allophone is significant, things become more complicated. Often, if only one of the allophones is simple to transcribe, in the sense of not requiring diacritics, then that representation is chosen for the phoneme.

The phoneme is the basic unit of the phonological level of language. It is a complex of phonic features, i.e. articulatory, acoustic and an auditory

feature, which enables the users to differentiate a certain sound, on the basis of complex of features, from every other sound as an independent, non interchangeable unit capable of meaningful distinction. By means of the substitution of one phoneme for another, the meaning of a word can be changed. Thus phonemes are abstract units based on the generalization of the basic, and for the given language, characteristic qualities of certain types of sounds.

Diphthongs are created from the primary or segmental phonemes, especially for the vowels. They are from the front, central and back vowels, all the vowels are divided into two parts, they are simple vowels, unchanging vowels, or monophthong of the vowel kinds, especially for the vowels which have the short sounds of the three horizontal axis parts. The others which have the long sounds, means nuclei, the complex ones or the diphthongized vowels, of the front, central and the back ones, they can be made as the diphthong elements. Diphthongs are divided into two parts, first element is as the prominent elements, and directly to the second element is glide to be done. They are named for the end phonemes which they are created, means if they are ended by /i/ phonemes, so it is named for rising diphthong, the reason is the /i/ phoneme is the front vowel and located in the close position of the vertical axis parts, due to the highest position of the tongue, so the effect is close and rising automatically.

A diphthong is a vowel sound consisting of an intentional glide, the organs of speech starting in the position of one vowel and immediately

moving in the direction of another vowel. A diphthong, moreover, consists of a single syllable, that the vowel glide is performed in a single impulse of breath. Thus, a diphthong always occupies one syllable. If the two adjacent vowels form the nuclei of two successive syllables, they are not diphthongs. For example, boy, lay and try are diphthongs but not laying, trying, etc. because lying and trying consist of two different vowels. One end of the diphthong is generally more prominent than the other. In diphthong the first element is louder or more prominent than the second; it is termed as 'decrecendo' or 'falling'. All the English diphthongs are falling, because in them the first element is more prominent than the second one. Diphthongs are represented in phonetic transcription by a sequence of two letters, the first showing the position of organs of speech at the beginning of the glide, the second their position at the end. In the case of 'closing' diphthongs the second letter indicates the point toward which glide is made.

The diphthongs are vowels in the production of which the tongue moves from one position in the mouth towards another position. In order to indicate this glide (movement) from one position towards another, the phonetic symbols for each diphthong is a combination of the two vowels- one in which the tongue is in position initially and the towards which the tongue moves. The two symbols represent a single sound and not two sounds.

As the writer takes the diphthongs for his research, it means that he has already comprehended the vowels sounds including a wide range of diacritics such frontness or backness, closeness or openness as well as lip rounding or

un rounding, nasalization centralization. Because the diphthong is basically formed by sequencing of two vowels, and Westlife songs are as object to be analyzed where diphthong occur.

The writer gives two samples of those diphthong kinds:

1. *An empty house* (My Love: L.1)

***house* /haus/**

The diphthong of /au/ from *house* word is created from phoneme /a/. This phoneme is vowel phoneme according to its axes, this vowel of /a/ included in the Horizontal axes as the back one. There is ordinarily no lip rounding for /a/ the lowest or the openness of the back vowels. In most contexts it is simpler and more efficient to pronounce these vowels. Except the /a/, with appropriate amount of lip rounding.

And the diphthong of /au/ from *House* word is created from phoneme /u/. This phoneme is vowel phoneme according to its axes, this vowel of /u/ included in the horizontal axes as the back vowel in the high back vowel and rounded, lip rounding plays an important part in producing the back vowels. The degree of rounding is greatest for /u/.

In the word above is closing diphthong /au/. The /au/ begins at a point between the back and front open position. Slightly more fronted and moves in the direction of /u/ the lips change from a neutrally open to a weakly rounded position. They may be said to have a first element (the starting point) and a second element (the point in the direction of which

the glide is made). The first element of the diphthong is usually more prominent than the last.

2. *There's an angel standing next to me* (I Lay My Love On You : L.3)

**there** /ðeə(ɹ)s/

The diphthong of /eə/ from *there* word is created from phoneme /e/. The vowel phoneme of /e/ is called by front vowel, because their usual pronunciation and the differentiation of one from another depends in large part upon the way which the tongue is adjusted in the front part of the mouth. The extent of the mouth opening varies somewhat for each of the vowel. Then is raised progressively for /e/. actually the elevation of the tongue and the movement of the jaw go together. The front vowel /e/ is often described as simple nuclei, or pure vowels, the distinction is made because one of the characteristic of /i/ and /e/ is a kind of vowel change or diphthongization.

The vowel phoneme of /ə/ is central vowel that presents a more complex problem for analysis than do either the front or back vowel series. In the first place, the central vowels have even less fixed and well defined tongue position with they can be identified. The phoneme /ə/ has been variously called the neutral, un-stressed, indefinite, schwa, or obscure vowel, all these terms suggesting the character of the sound. And this phoneme is neutral in much as there is actually not truly standard tongue position typical for it.

In the word above is central diphthong /eə/, the [eə] begin in the half-open or half-close front position, and moves in the direction of the more open variety of [ə], especially when the diphthong is final, the lips are neutrally open throughout. And these second element are located in the central part of the vowel chart, that's why these diphthongs is called the central diphthongs.

The simple reasons why the writer takes this topic are: first, how important learning phonology concerned about study of how to produce sounds that is also related to oral speaking ability as a symbol for English students in the university. The second is far less people who are interested in learning phonology. It has been proved by the phenomenon of the writer in his college. In fact, there is a little amount of researches discussing about phonology which are available in the library. However, phonology is also a part of linguistics sciences which must be learnt by formal students in the university.

From those above explanations about phonemes and diphthongs, the writer chooses the title of the paper : *Kind Analysis And Diphthong Formations In The Two Songs By Westlife.*

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

In this scientific paper, the writer certainly has limitation of knowledge and time whose make her cannot analyze all science of phonology. Like mentioned in the previous sub-chapter, the research is focused on the analysis



of diphthongs kinds and its formations from the diphthongized vowels in two songs by Westlife.

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

From the above explanations of the question which will be analyzed are how to classify phoneme which diphthong through phonological conditions.

1. How are those diphthongs formed in the songs phonologically?
2. What kinds of diphthongs which exist in the 2 songs by Westlife?
3. What kinds of the diphthong found in the songs the most?

### **D. The objective of the research**

Base on the problem of the research mentioned above, the objectives of this research are describe as the following:

1. To know the kinds of diphthongs which exist in the 2 songs by Westlife
2. To understand the formation of those diphthongs in the songs phonologically.
3. To find out those diphthong kinds which exist the most.

### **E. The significance of the research**

From the whole of the discussion which has been analyzed, the result of this study can give educative beneficial contribution as follows:

### 1. For the Writers

During writing this study, the writer had to learn and also to comprehend the theories in order to produce the research accurately and credibly. Automatically it can enhance the writer's insight the science of phonology generally and for diphthong especially.

### 2. For the English Students

Specifically, the advantages that can be given by this study to the English learners are : (a) as an interesting discussion which can give some phonological knowledge of English in the college such writer got: (b) as a deeper description comprehended by English students regarding diphthongs and categorizing into centering or closing diphthongs : (c) as a stimulation and motivation for English students to do the research about phonological knowledge like the writer does.

### 3. For the Coilege

This research will add the number of collection of scientific paper in the library and also will be reference for the next researches who are interested in phonology.

## F. The systematic of the paper

The systematic of the writing means to present the paper in well edited composition. This paper is divided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I consists of introduction which explains about the background of the research, scope of the problem, the question of the research, the objective of the research, the significance of the research, and the systematic of the paper.

Chapter II consists of the definition of Phonology, phoneme, vowel, consonant, diphthongs, and song.

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

Chapter IV consists of the research findings and discussion which explain about the analyzes the data description, table of analysis, the analysis of the data, the data interpretation and the discussion.

Chapter V consists of Conclusion and suggestion which explain about the summary of all chapters and some suggestion through the whole of this research and also several advices concerned about making the similar research in the future to the research.