

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Research

Language is very important in daily life communication. As well as with English which is an international language that almost all the world uses it. English is the language used as communication when we are in another country. Since English is an international language, it is used to communicate among nations all over the world. People feel that English is getting more and more important. According to Harmer (2015:5), “English is taught all over the world as a school subject, with no specific purpose in mind, except that language learning is thought to be good for learners’, and English is a language that is worth learning. Such teaching has been the predominant model for a long time in schools, colleges and private language schools”.

Language components that cannot be separated in English, they are vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. Pronunciation is one of the main aspects of language that help learners to communicate in English (Kuurniawan, 2016:157). The pronunciation system of English words is unique. That is the reason many people say pronunciation in English is often very difficult for no native speaker of English. The way people pronounce English words depends on how the words are heard in our ears. Even if student’s grammar and vocabulary are strong, if their

pronunciation does not clear enough to understand, their communication will fail.

There are many learners of English as a foreign language who face difficulty in pronunciation. The difficulty of pronouncing foreign sounds is encountered by students in learning a foreign or second language. For several students, pronouncing voiceless consonants sounds difficult. It may be caused by their culture and behavior in their first language. Pronunciation means how we say words or spelling the word correctly, Most of students who learn English for their second language use the accent of the standard American English or British English. Students' may having difficulty speaking and pronouncing words properly such as "th" and "ch". Learning how to pronouncing the correct word and using the correct dialect will make students' more confident to speak in English, and can be less made a mistake or being misunderstood.

The researcher discovers the importance of this study, so the researcher wants to know how the words or sounds are pronounced, and find out the kind of error that students make that reduce errors in pronunciation which will lead to misunderstandings and different meanings in their communication.

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

This research focuses on the error analysis of students' errors in pronouncing voiceless consonants, The main purpose of this research is to find out the kinds of students' error in pronouncing words in words that

have one voiceless consonant by the third semester students of the English Language Education Study Program of Khairun University.

### **C. Statement of the Research**

Based on the background above, the research questions can be formulated as follows: What are the students' errors in pronouncing the voiceless consonant by the third semester of the English Language Study Program of Khairun University.

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

Based on the statements of the problem above, the objective of the research is to investigate students' errors pronouncing the voiceless consonant and the types of errors the students' make.

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

#### **1. Theoretical Significance**

It is hoped that from the results of this research can add the existing theories about the pronunciation of voiceless consonants.

#### **2. Practical Significance**

The results of this study are expected to be useful for English teachers and lecturers, students, and other researchers.

##### **a. Teachers and Lecturers**

It is hoped that it can help teachers / lecturers in teaching and learning activities and give solution to analyze students' pronouncing voiceless consonants in order to give good feedback for students.

b. Students

It is important for students to be more careful in pronouncing the English words because in speaking English they have to pay attention more in pronunciation, so that the students are able to pronounce well and correctly.

c. Others researchers

As a resource to others researchers may use this results of their research to find out the solution, strategies or method for the students to eliminate, or minimize error in their pronunciation.