ENHANCING PRONUNCIATION OF SUPRASEGMENTAL FEATURES THROUGH REFLECTIVE LEARNING METHOD AT VIII GRADE OF SMPN 2 KEJURUAN MUDA

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

This title of research is "enhancing pronunciation of suprasegmental features through reflective learning method at the eighth grade of SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda". Pronunciation refers to the articulation of sounds that we use to make meaning. The students have difficulties in pronouncing the words and sentence in English. Therefore, the researcher will try to use reflective learning method as a method in increasing students' pronunciation of suprasegmental features. The research was designed to figure out whether reflective learning method can increased students' pronunciation of suprasegmental features. This researcher aimed tofind out the improvement student's English pronunciation of suprasegmental features through reflective learning method at the VIII grade SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda and to describe how the learning process English pronunciation of suprasegmental features by using reflective learning method at the VIII grade SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda. The researchwas applied to elevate student's pronunciation. This research used Classroom Action research (CAR) as the method. This research involved the students of VIII-2 class. The class consist of 38 students. The instruments that used in this research were test and observation. Based on the research result, learning pronunciation of suprasegmental features through reflective learning method made students pronunciation of suprasegmental features increased. The result of pre-test showed that only 7 students (18,4%) who passed the KKM score, the result of post test 1 showed that 24 students (63,1%) who passed the KKM score. In the end of cycle 2, the result of post test 2 showed that 35 students (92,1%) who passed the KKM score. Based on these finding it can be concluded that reflective learning method can increased the students's pronunciation of suprasegmental features at SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda.

Keyword : Pronunciation of suprasegmental features, reflective learning method.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Communication is the most important thing that human needs to stay connected to another people in the world. Communication is the activity of conveying information throught the exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, as by speech, visuals, signals, writing, or behaviour. To make the communication connected, we need the component of communication. The most commonly component of communication is language

Sanggam siahaan states that "language is a unique human inheritance thay plays the very important role in human's life, such as in thinking, communicating ideas, and negotiating with others". Language is used to by people to communicate with others, when someone says or read the word especially in English needed good pronunciation to make people understand what he said and make them understand.

According to oxford dictionary pronunciation is the way in which a language or a particular word or sound spoken. English pronunciation is important component that must be connected and it was viewed as an important part of communication English. Fluency can be thought of as the ability to keep going when speaking spontaneously. There are some rules

¹Sanggam Siahaan, *Issues in Linguistics*, (Yogyakarta: Graha Ilmu, 2008), P.1

² Victory Bull, Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary Fourth Edition, (New York: University Press, 2008), P. 352

to pronounce the word in pronunciation. Consist of how the sound is produced by speaker.

Pronunciation refers to the utterances of sounds that be used to make meaning.³ Learning English pronunciation is not easy, especially for the Indonesian. In Indonesia, English is not become the primary language or the secondary language. This matter makes learners find some difficulties and problems in learning pronunciation. In this case, the learners have poor pronunciation. Poor pronunciation miscommuncation between the speakers and the listeners. But, a perfect English pronunciation becomes the difficulty thing for the foreign language learner, since known already have the first language or native language before learning the foreign language like English. Learning English as foreign language means learning the other language which has distinction in any aspects to our native language, especially in pronunciation.

According to Morley, "Learners with good pronunciation in English are more likely be understood even if they make errors in other areas, whereas learners whose pronunciation is difficult to understand will not be understood, even if their grammar is perfect". And the learners who are unable in pronunciation may be judged as inadequate and untaught though listeners are only reacting to their language.

³Amepre Research center, "What is pronunciation," public (2002): P.1

⁴Gholamreza Abbasian, and Aadel Bahmanie, "EFL Teachers and Learners Reflection on Pronunciation Factor in Teaching-Learning Process and Its Effect on Learners Motivation," Elt Voices India 2 no. 3 (Fall 2013) P.66

Based on the experience of the researcher in preliminary study, the researcher found there are some problems in teaching and learning English pronunciation. The first one isthe students do not use English as their primary language, it makes themnot enough time to learn about English pronunciation. The second one is sometimes the teacher uses some boringmethods in teaching English such us the teacher only give task, give a speech, writing some notation from the teacher and did not focused toward the students ability in pronunciation it makes them do not pay attention to the teacher. Because pronunciation is not include in curriculum so the teacher did not focus to teach English pronunciation. Pronunciation contain some elements to able pronounce the word well, that is organ of speech, speech sound like consonant and vowel. And pronunciation it includes attention to the particular sounds of a language (segmental aspect) and aspects of speech beyond the level of the individual sound, such as intonation, pitch, stress, rhythm and juncture (suprasegmental aspects) and then how the voice is projected (voice quality), attention to gestures and expressions that are closely related to the way we speak a language.

Teaching English Pronunciation as a second and foreign language

(ESL or EFL) over the last decade and has made clear meaningofsuprasegmental features. From a pedagogical point of view, the speakers who get code with accenting suprasegmental features could seemingly soul their learning to an unplanted creation much effectively

than those who received message with only segmented proportionality (vowels and consonants).⁵

The researcher offered one method that can help the students increase their English pronunciation of suprasegmental features. The method is reflective learning method, "it is an approach in which instructors collect data about teaching, examine their attitudes, beliefs, assumptions, and teaching practices, and use the information obtained as a basis for critical reflection". This method can help students increase their pronunciation of English suprasegmental features because this method was adopted by using video as a reflective tool incorporated into oral communicative language activities.

The reflective learning method is considered as a necessary for the learners. Because this method can help students reflect or memories their error in last learning. Most teachers develop their classroom skills fairly early in their teaching careers. Teachers entering the profession may find their initial teaching efforts stressful, but with experience they acquire a repertoire of teaching strategies that they draw on throughout their teaching. There are some procedure in teaching by using reflective learning method, namely: Learners need to know why something is important to learn, learners need to have the capacity to direct themselves for learning, learners needs to be related to the learners' experiences, people will not

⁵Bertha Chela Flores, *Optimizing The Teaching of English Suprasegmentals*, (venezuela: Universidad simon bolivar) p.1

⁶Gholamreza Abbasian, and Aadel Bahmanie, p.63

learn until they are ready and motivated to learn and learners need help in overcoming inhibitions, behaviors, and beliefs.

Teaching the pronunciation of English suprasegmental features, by using reflective learning method. Students will make of their existing experience for testing ideas and assumptions exploratively. They though in uncertain situations or in trouble with such features for example: intonation, stress and rhythmwhich are indisputably commonly by seeking new ideas, evaluating and reflecting on their impact and trying out new practices and ways of learning to improve their own effectiveness in the learning environment. Reflective practices have also been valued in the realms of speech production and perception. Teaching and learning pronunciation too need teachers with reflective habits. Kenworthy states that "considers providing feedback as a role of an EFL pronunciation teacher".

The reseacher expects that using reflective learning method can increase student's English pronunciation of suprasegmental features. The first is that the students have a positive response toward approaching the reflective learning method, the second is the students look enjoying and interesting with approaching the reflective learning method and the last is the students ability in pronunciation of suprasegmental features is increasing.

⁷Gholamreza Abbasian, and Aadel Bahmanie, p.63

Based on the matter above, the researcher are encouraged to do research with title "Enhancing the Pronunciation of English Suprasegmental Features through Reflective Learning Method at VIII grade of SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda".

B. Research question of study

- 1. Does reflective learning method enhance student's English pronunciation of suprasegmental features at VIII grade students of SMP Negeri 2 kejuruan muda?
- 2. How is learning process reflective learning method to improve students' English pronunciation of suprasegmental features at the VIII grade SMP Negeri 2 kejuruan muda?

C. Purpose of study

- Tofind out the improvement student's English Pronunciation of suprasegmental features through Reflective Learning Method at the VIII grade SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda.
- 2. To describe how the learning process to describe how the learning process reflective learning method to improve students' English pronunciation of suprasegmental features at the VIII grade SMP Negeri 2 kejuruan muda

D. The Scope of study

This research focused on the implementation of reflective learning method to increase student's English pronunciation of suprasegmental features are intonation, stress, and ryhthm. In tehnical, the researcher asked the students to read the text that has been awarded with a loud voice as a form of assessment.

E. The significance of study

For the teacher

 This method can be used by the teacher to develop their teaching technique. Hopefully, it can give inspiration to the teacher to make some variation in teaching English, so the students would not feel bored with the lesson.

For the student

2. The students, especially for grade VIII students of SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda are expected to practice learning English pronunciation by themselves by reflective learning method. They can learn by themself at home when they watching or listening the recorded their speech just like when they learn at the school. Hopefully it can help the students to solve their problem in learning English pronunciation.

For the reseacher

3. This study expected to enlarge the writer's knowledge about the advantages and disadvantages of using Reflective Learning method in teaching English pronunciation of suprasegmental features.

F. Hypothesis

The hypothesis is a tentative answer to the problem of research, until proven by the data collected.⁸ As we have been mentioned in of the problem, the hypothesis in this study is: "Reflective Learning Method can enhance students' English pronunciation of suprasegmental features at the VIII grade students of SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda."

G. Terminology

a. Enhancing

"Enchance is To improve or augment, especially in effectiveness, value or attractiveness." In this case, the researcher wants to extend the students' pronunciation through Reflective learning method at SMP Negeri 2 Kejuruan Muda.

b. Pronunciation

According to Charles, "Pronunciation is concerned with the way speech sounds are organized into a system, the sound system of a specific language." Students should master about pronunciation because it is the one of important elements in English. If the students practice their organ of speech by pronunciation of suprasegmental features more often they will be easy to speak in good pronunciation.

⁸Suharsimi Arikunto, *Prosedur Penelitian*, (Jakarta: Rineka Cipta, 1998).p. 67

⁹www.thefreedictionary.com/enhance.(accessed on 11 may 2015)

¹⁰Charles W. Kreidler, *The Pronunciation of English: a Course Book* (New York :Blackwell Publishing, 1989) p.5

c. Surprasegmental features

"Suprasegmental features are characterized by the fact that they must be described in relation to other items in the same utterance." In pronunciation suprasegmental features are of paramount importance in spoken English.

d. Reflective learning method

"Reflective practice is probably the most valuable tool in your box of resources and enables you to think both backwards and forwards." 12

This method is a method which is done by teacher toward the students to help the studenst learn pronunciation well with the helping tool is audio to easy students reflect their memories about the last lesson. And in this method the teacher help the students increase student's pronunciation.

¹¹Anthony fox, *Prosodic Features and Prosodic Structure The Phonology of Suprasegmentals*(New York : Oxford University press, 2000) p.2

¹²Ian Rushton, Martin Surter, *Reflective Practice For Teaching in Life Long Learning* (New York: Open University Press, 2012) p.7