Chapter 1
Introduction

This chapter presents: Research Background; Identification of the Problems; Limitation of the Problems; Research Problems; Objectives of the study; and Significances of the study.

1.1 Research Background

Linguistics is the study of language and its use as a means of communication. Phonology is a branch of linguistics that deals with sound, or the study of sound. Phonological processing is necessary for both the comprehension and production of speech and language. It is also involved in processing written word forms for reading and spelling. Thus, individuals with phonological processing disorders may present with impaired spoken as well as written language skills. Pronunciation is related to phonology, and it is one aspect that is important in learning English, especially for speaking and reading, because both of the skills involve using sound and pronunciation. In the English sound system, there are many styles of speech for each individual, which are influenced by a variety of causes such as locality, early influences, and social surroundings. The goal of pronunciation instruction is not to ask learners to pronounce like native speakers. Instead, intelligible pronunciation should be the real purpose of oral communication. Harmer (2001), cited in (Gilakjani, 2012, p. 3), expressed that the first thing that native speakers notice during a conversation is pronunciation.

Language is important in communication. Language is also used as a way to express opinions, ideas, and a statement that someone will convey to another person. Therefore, everyone needs good language skills so that people can communicate effectively with others. Language errors can occur when speakers do not properly understand the linguistics they use. The most common language errors occur due to deviations from language rules. Not only do language errors occur informally, but in formal situations, sometimes there are also language errors. As in the process of delivering a statement presented by Anies Baswedan in a video uploaded to the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta. These language errors can occur at various levels of language sounds (phonology), word form (morphology), syntax, and semantics, which can be seen in the use of language both orally and in writing.

Anies Baswedan is an Indonesian activist and politician who was Jakarta's governor from 2017 to 2022. He became a speaker about the experience of Megacity Jakarta on the NISTH YouTube channel. NISTH is an abbreviation of the NTU (Nanyang Technological University) Institute of Science and Technology for Humanity. The video was published on March 2, 2023, and had a duration of 1:48:46. We can watch the video on the NISTH YouTube channel for free and gain knowledge from what the speakers said. We can also listen to Anies Baswedan's speech in English and learn English from the video.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing the phonology in vowel pronunciation errors of Anies Baswedan's speech in a video on NISTH's YouTube channel. This problem is very interesting to study and research further. The writer would like to study more deeply about phonology and the accuracy of pronunciation. Therefore, the writer chose to set the title "An Analysis of Anies Baswedan's Speech on the NISTH YouTube Channel from Phonological Perspective". To sustain the data, the writer uses the vowels theory by Ben Crane. Crane (1981:59) stated that vowels are sounds produced with a relatively open vocal tract, so they actually do not have a point of articulation (place of constriction) or a manner of articulation (type or degree of constriction), and they are almost voiced. Different vowel sounds result from changing the shape of the mouth; each vowel is associated with a different configuration of the tongue and lips. For example, to say 'ee' represented phonetically as [i], the lips are somewhat pulled back and the tongue is archived up toward the palate. To say 'oo' as in woo and sue, represented as [u], the tongue is raised toward the back of the mouth and the lips are rounded and pushed forward. This theory was chosen because the writer believes it is a unified theory for analyzing problems in this object. Through this theory, the writer would be able to analyze Anies Baswedan's vowel pronunciation in pronouncing words in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta.

Furthermore, the writer also uses the theory of English Phonetics and Phonology by Peter Roach. According to (Roach, 2009, pp. 13-16), vowels are

classified into two categories: short vowels and long vowels. Short vowels are only relatively short, whereas long vowels tend to be longer than the short vowels in similar contexts. Therefore, based on this theory, the writer would be able to analyze the kinds of vowel pronunciation errors made by Anies Baswedan's speech in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta.

1.2 Identification of the Problems

Based on the background above, the problems of this research were identified in the following identifications: pronunciation or speech errors, vowel pronunciation errors, vowel category of vowel pronunciation errors in Anies Baswedan's speech, etc.

1.3 Limitation of the Problems

This research is focusing on phonological errors in vowel (diphthong and monophthong) pronunciations in Anies Baswedan's speech in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta using the PRAAT application. The total for Anies Baswedan's speech is 1:22:07; however, the writer takes around 35 minutes from the total duration of Anies Baswedan's speech to analyze.

1.4 Research Problems

From both of the above explanations, the writer would like to research the problems as follows:

1. What types of vowels are portrayed in the pronouncing words by Anies Baswedan in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta?

2. How was the process of PRAAT Tools to detect kinds and accuracy of vowel pronunciation errors made by Anies Baswedan's speech in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta?

1.5 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems above, the objective of the study is:

1. To discover the types of vowels portrayed in the pronouncing words by Anies Baswedan in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta

2. To discover the process of PRAAT Tools to detect kinds and accuracy of vowel pronunciation errors made by Anies Baswedan's speech in the video on the NISTH YouTube channel regarding the experience of the megacity of Jakarta

1.6 Significances of the Study

From the objectives of this study, significance can be obtained, both theoretically and practically. The significances are:

1. The Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, the result of this study is to contribute to the language development of people studying English with an accurate way of

pronouncing vowels in the fields of linguistics or phonology. And it can add concepts and theories to analyze phonological errors.

2. The Practical Significance

Practically, this study will give people important information about errors in pronunciation. So that can be used to assess their strengths and weaknesses in pronunciation and motivate them to improve their pronunciation. It is also used as a follow-up study, comparison, and refinement for other researchers who want to conduct research on the same problem.