Problems in Pronouncing the English Voiceless Palatal Fricative Consonantal Sound Encountered by the Eighth Semester Students of the English Department at a Private University in East Java

A THESIS



By Tabita Melania Mustaka Weni 1213014023

ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM

FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SURABAYA

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Presented to Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan* in Teaching English as a Foreign Language



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2018

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This thesis entitled "Problems in Pronouncing the English Voiceless Palatal Fricative Consonantal Sound Encountered by the Eighth Semester Students of the English Department at a Private University in East Java" prepared and submitted by Tabita Melania Mustaka Weni (1213014023) has been approved to be examined by the Thesis Board of Examiners.

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Surabaya, May 2018

The Writer

ABSTRACT

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Keywords: Problems, Pronunciation, Voiceless Palatal Fricative

Pronunciation, one of the language components in learning English, becomes one of the most important things students need to learn in order to master English well and become fluent in communicating in English with others. In reality, sometimes it is not easy for Indonesian learners to pronounce English words properly and tend to make mistakes since there are English sounds which do not exist in their native language. One of the English sounds that do not exist in Bahasa Indonesia is the sound [\int]] which seems to be a problem for many Indonesian learners to pronounce. This study is to find out the problems in pronouncing the voiceless palatal fricative consonant which are encountered by the eighth semester students of the English Department at a private university in East Java.

The subjects in this qualitative descriptive case study were 10 eighth semester students of the English Department at a private university in East Java. The data of this study were taken from the errors of the subjects' pronunciation of the voiceless palatal fricative consonant. The writer analyzed the errors by identifying the errors in the manner of articulation, place of articulation, and voicing for the individual words; and the errors in initial and final positions for the cluster.

The results of the data analysis show that there are several pronunciation errors which indirectly indicate that the subjects have problems in pronouncing the English voiceless palatal fricative consonant. Errors in the individual $[\]$ are related to Place of Articulation, Manner of Articulation, Place and Manner of Articulation, Voicing, and Miscellaneous errors. Errors in the cluster with $[\]$ are errors in pronouncing the sound in the initial position, final position, and miscellaneous errors.

The problems they encountered, starting from the most to the least, were the problem with (1) the place of articulation, (2) cluster with $[\int]$ at the final position, (3) cluster with $[\int]$ at the initial position, (4) manner of articulation, (5) miscellaneous error in the individual $[\int]$, (6) voicing, (7) place of articulation and manner of articulation, and (8) miscellaneous error in cluster with $[\int]$.

In conclusion, there were problems encountered by the eighth semester students of the English Department at a private university in East Java in pronouncing the English voiceless palatal fricative consonant. However, further analysis shows that the problems they encountered happen not because they could not pronounce the sound correctly, but rather because they were careless or unaware of how to pronounce the words correctly.

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