

Abstract

English words are sometimes pronounced differently by English Language Education students despite having the same IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) representations. This phenomenon wakes the researcher to find out how certain phones are pronounced by ELED students of a private university. The term phone in this research refers to individual speech sound. This research used qualitative research and employed qualitative descriptive design. Data were collected by recording the students reading words provided in this research as research instrument. The research revealed the students tended to add /ə/ between cluster consonants, and pronounced profound /r/ at the end of words. The students also omitted phones in cluster consonants and the phone /t/ at the end of words. Furthermore, the research revealed that the students replace unfamiliar phones, such as /ɪ/ → /e/ or /i/, /ʃ/ → /s/, /θ/ → /t/, /v/ → /f/ or /p/, /ð/ → /t/. The students also shorten or simplify long phones as in /oʊ/ → /ə/ or /o/ in the word “Polish”. In addition, there are three English words that are pronounced as it is in Indonesian, which are “detergent”, “pencil”, and “efficiency”.

Keywords: pronunciation, phonetic, IPA, qualitative descriptive design