Chapter One

Introduction

This chapter present an introduction part of this research. The first section is research background which discusses the researcher's reasons for choosing this topic. The second is problem statements which show the issues of the research followed by research objectives. The research questions is needed to concern the important issues related to the context of the study.

Research Background

The term native and non-native is used to refer to the speakers of language. This term is also utilized in English language speakers. The native speakers of English refer to west countries that use English as their mother tongue. As Andreou and Galantomos (2009) assumed, native speakers are the authority on the language, the only one, who can characterize sentences in grammatical terminology. On the other hand, non-native speakers are perceived as the opposite of native speakers. They are seen as new learners of language. According to Davis, Minihan, Small and Yitbarek (2007), non-native speakers are those who learn another language before they learn English. In learners' case, non-native speakers are people who speak English in school or classroom while they use their first language in other places (Davis et al., 2007).

English native speakers are believed as the best sources of language. This is defended by Cook in Ulate (2011) "it is often taken for granted that the only rightful speakers of a language are its native speakers" (p.56). This argument becomes common mindset to non-native speakers. In teaching English for

example, using native speakers of English as the teacher is assumed better than non-native speakers of English. This example is found by Akiyoshi (2010). He mentioned that most job vacancies in Japan are looking for English conversation teacher that must be a native speaker of English and is from North America. However, Akiyoshi (2010) stated that this thing indirectly became discrimination for non-native English teacher.

Other researchers believed that non-native students should be taught by non-native teachers. This statement had been supported by many researchers such as Jenkins (2000; 2002), Kirkpatrick (2007) in Sung (2010), who claimed that "native speakers pronunciations should not be the goal of the majority of non-native speakers since they are more likely to communicate with non-native speakers of English than with native speakers in this globalized world"(p.17-18). Other support to non-native teachers was from Canagarajah (1996), Phillipson (1992) in Ulate (2011), who argued that speakers of more than one language have both a sophisticated awareness of language and the ability to relate to students' needs. So they believed the teachers who are appropriate to teach non-native speaker students should be from non-native teacher which are have same background in national and culture.

This cases attract researcher's attention to discover more about the issues of native and non-native speakers in speaking and learning English. This study investigates students' perception whether to sound like native or non-native. There are two issues frequently being discussed and researched, such as the students'

sound preference in speaking English (Sung, 2013), the students' English pronunciation and accent (Lin, 2014).

This research made by the researcher anxiety to Matthew Sung journal article "'I would like to sound like Heidi Klum': What do non-native speakers say about who they want to sound like?". The researcher found this article in Internationa Language Testing class and inspired to conducted the research in English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta to find out their perspective in how they want to sound like.

This research also made based on the researcher's experience, the existence of native speakers as a role model in speaking English is so important. The accent and the way they are talking inspire the researcher in speaking English. For example the Maleficient character played by Angelina Jolie in The Maleficient movie that speaks clear enough to be understand by non-native speakers.

On the other hand, based on the informal conversation with the students of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, the researcher finds that the teachers of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta have big contribution in students' speaking progress. The teachers' pronunciation or word choices also have contribution in students' speaking.

Based on the background above, the researcher is interested in conducting the study related on how students of English at English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta want to sound like whether to sound like

native speakers of English or they are proud of having their own English pronunciation.

Problem Statement

Native speakers and non-native speakers are two interesting issues to discuss. This issue had boomed over the last decade (Pierrel, 2009). This issue is related with the researcher's interest to discover students' of English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta perception on how the students want to sound like. Furthermore, the researcher is interested in investigating the students' perception on which speaker they prefer to be the role model in pronunciation.

Problem Limitation

For this study, the researcher focuses on students' perception on what kind of English pronunciation that they want to sound like and who they role model in speaking English is. The researcher focuses on the speaking aspects such as pronunciations and accent.

Research Questions

The research questiona of the study are set as follow:

1. What are the English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' perception on how they want to sound like?

2. Which speakers do they prefer to be their role model?

Research Objectives

This research aims at investigating the English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' perception on how they want to sound like. There are two points which are being explored in this study;

1. What kinds of English pronunciation they want to sound like.

2. Which speakers they prefer to be as role model for their English pronunciation.

Research Significance

This study presents the result that will be useful to enrich English Education Department students' on their perception in pronunciation. This research is supposed to have some valuable contributions for several people such as the researcher, the students, the teachers, the Institution and future researcher.

The researcher. The result of this study will be helpful for the researcher to give knowledge on students' preferences on how they want to sound like. Another benefit is as the student-teacher, the researcher should be open minded toward the differences of accent that students use in speaking. This research will also motivate the researcher to learn more on English as the future teacher of English.

The students. This research discusses the information related to students' perceptions on pronunciation they want to sound like, so this study will be a way that students can use to help them figure out they role model in speaking English. The students also can realize there are many kind of English pronunciation so they

can apreciate and understand the language differences. So, this research will motivate the students on speaking English better.

The teachers. This study covers the report of students' perceptions in pronunciation they want to sound like. The research finding may help teachers to discover what students need in learning speaking. So the teachers can tolerate their students' different perception in speaking English, especially in pronunciation.

The Institution. This research report the English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students' perception on how they want to sound in speaking English. This research outcome may become references to understand the students' need in speaking English. The Institution is expected to invite the native speakers of English as alternative teachers to give the students more exposure in pronunciation.

Future researchers. This research is expected to be able to motivate the future researchers to conduct new research related to this study. The future researchers may use this research finding as a model to conduct the new research that concern in speaking, especially pronunciation perception.

Research Outline

This study consists of three chapters; introduction, literature review, methodology.

Chapter One. This chapter would discuss about research introduction. This chapter consists of background, statement of the problem, limitation of the

problem, research question, significance of the research, and outline of the research.

Chapter Two. In this chapter, the researcher would present a review of literature that related. This chapter consists of two sub-chapters; first, the theoritical description that will present some definitions and explanations of the terminology used in this paper. Second, it will present the theoretical framework of this research.

Chapter Three. This part would discuss about research methodology. This study will use interview as the research instrument. The researcher will interview four students in English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. Data analysis will employ qualitative approach.

Chapter Four. This section reports the finding and discussion. First is finding about what kinds of English pronunciation The English Education Department of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta students want to sound like. Second one is finding the speakers they prefer to be as role model for their English pronunciation.

Chapter Five. This chapter presents about conclusion and recommendation of this study. This chapter summarizes the research findings and proposes some recommendations emerged from the findings. The researcher proposed some recommendation for the teacher, students, the institution, and for future researcher.