

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Basic Consideration

As a communication tool, language becomes an interesting subject to be researched. The research is done to find many aspects of language. Grammar is the central component of language (Greenbaum 2002, p.1). However the other aspects of language such as Phonetic, Morphology, Pragmatic and soon, also take an important place in research of language.

In research of language, it is not only the aspects of language that become the important part. The language that is researched is also the important thing. In Indonesia, it is not only Indonesian Language as the National Language of Indonesian or English as the foreign Language that become the object of language research. According to the research in 2012 referring to the data of Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa Departemen Pendidikan, there are 564 local languages which spread from the east to the west of Indonesia. They constitute as an interesting object of language research.

One of those local languages is Buginese. This language constitutes as the mother tongue of 5 millions people of Indonesia (according to data taken in census on 2000) because the native speaker of the language which originally comes from South Sulawesi spread almost in every province of Indonesia in multitudes.

The research of this language becomes very interesting because this language actually has similarity with English. The similarity of these languages is in their Phonetic aspect. As stated by Birjandi and Nodoushan (2005) that “assimilation is when one sound is influenced

and changed by a neighboring sound” (p.131). Both of these languages have an assimilation sound.

In English, pronunciation of word “*ratbag*” becomes [ræpbæg]. This example shows that sound of “t” in this word get change. The sound “t” in this word becomes “p”. It is categorized as assimilation of place, because the changing is in the place of articulation that is from alveolar to bilabial or plosive. Another example is word “Indian”. In this word the plosive “d” combines with the approximant “j” and becomes “d ”. Because the changing is in the manner of articulation, so this assimilation is categorized as assimilation of manner. There is also an example of assimilation of voice in English the change is in the voicing of sound. The example is word “have to” where word “have” which is ended by sound “v” changed into sound “f” (Birjandi and Nodoushan 2005, p.132).

Meanwhile, in Buginese there is the similar changing process of word like in English. The word “*botting paru*”, for example, which means newlywed, pronounces “*bottimparu*”. There are also words “*cenning ladde*” which means too sweet pronounces “*cennilladde*”. Both of first word of these examples have end sound “ ” and both of the sounds are replaced by its neighboring sound.

Although in Buginese there is also assimilation but the rule of this language in assimilation is different with English. In English, the sound which gets change is more various. However, in Buginese, it is only word ending by sound “ ” that get change. So that in Buginese there are only assimilation of place and assimilation of manner which are possible.

The changing process that happens in both of these languages constitutes the phonological process. “Phonological processes are no great respecters of word boundaries,

operating between words just as well as within them” (McMahon 2002, p.124). Assimilation is the one of the phonological process. That realizes the researcher that in both of these languages have similarities especially in assimilation of manner and place. So that the research about this fact should be done in order to find a way in helping teachers and students in teaching English as a foreign language especially the subject about assimilation and therefore the researcher formulates “A Contrastive Analysis between English and Buginese Assimilation” as the title of this research.

1.2 Problem Statement

Based on the basic consideration above, so the problem statement is formulated as follows, “what are the similarities and differences between English and Buginese assimilation?”

1.3 Objective of Research

The objective of this research is to describe and to find out the similarities and differences of English and Buginese assimilation.

1.4 Significance of Study

The significance of this research is to give contributions in educational field. They are:

1. The result of this research I give information to the teacher about the difference between English and Buginese assimilation and as feedback to the teacher to improve the process in teaching the English assimilation
2. The students will be easier to learn English and Buginese assimilation because they already recognize the different in English and Buginese assimilation.

Beside that, this research may also give contribution for research of language especially for local language. It can be one of reference of Buginese so the research of local language in Indonesia especially Buginese can be improved.

1.5 Limitation of Study

In this research, the researcher focuses in English and Buginese assimilation because the researcher only wants to know, describe, explain, show, and compare the assimilation in English and Buginese especially in assimilation of manner and place.