

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters, there are background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they are described in this study generally.

1.1. Background of the Study

The existence of language in Indonesia represents the characteristics of each region. The Javanese language is one of the regional languages owned by Indonesia. This language spreads through East Java, Central Java, and West Java. It also spreads through Sumatra, Kalimantan, Nusa Tenggara, and Sulawesi because of transmigration and urbanization. These different locations of the region, livelihoods, and regional boundaries are affected by the variation of the Javanese language. Therefore, Uhlenbeck (1964, p.63-64) in *A Critical Survey of Studies on the Languages of Java and Madura* categorizes the Javanese dialect into Ngapak dialect, Standard dialect, and Jawa Timuran Dialect.

The Javanese dialect of Nganjuk regency tends to use standard dialect because it is influenced by the Mataraman dialect that is spoken by people who live in the Mataraman region such as Solo or Surakarta and the border regions of Central Java province to several in East Java including Nganjuk regency. Furthermore, it has prefix and infix formations which are included in a part of the affix.

Affixation is the process of forming words from a basic word by adding any extra meaning (Lieber, 2015). According to Fromkin (2011), affixes are divided into prefixes, suffixes, and circumfixes. Prefixes occur before other morphemes, suffixes occur following other morphemes, and circumfixes are joining prefixes and suffixes at the same morpheme (Carstairs-Mccarthy, 2002). Moreover, in the Javanese dialect, there are four types of affixes. Those are prefixes, suffixes, infixes, and circumfixes (Nurlina, Herawati, Sutono, & Suwondo, 2004).

A prefix is a morpheme that comes to the front of a base form of a word (Lieber, 2015). Subroto, Soenardji, and Sugiri (1991) stated that prefix in the Javanese dialect can be classified as {m-}, {n-}, {ŋ-}, {ŋə-}, {ɲ-}, {dɪ-}, and {pa-}. For example, {m-} *mbedhil* ‘shoot’, {n-} *nutup* ‘close’, {ŋ-} *ngundang* ‘invite’, {ŋə-} *ngedol* ‘sell’, {ɲ-} *nyawang* ‘see’, and {pa-} *pangan* ‘food’. Infix is a morpheme that is inserted into the middle of a base form of a word (Fromkin et al., 2011). According to Subroto, Soenardji, and Sugiri (1991), infix in the Javanese dialect are {-um-}, {-in-}, {-el-}, and {-er-}. For example, {-um-} *tumindak* ‘doing something’, {-in-} *tinali* ‘roped off’, {-er-} *gerandhul* ‘hanging’, and {-el-} *teliti* ‘careful’. However, due to the influence of the Mataraman dialect, there are prefix /u-/ and infix /-u-/ in Nganjuk Regency. The prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ are not recorded as the standard affixation of the Javanese language. The prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ are also owned by other regions, but native speakers in Nganjuk regency tend to use prefix /u-/ and infix /-u-/ almost every time they speak. This phenomenon shows the characteristic of the Javanese dialect of the Nganjuk regency. It also shows the identity of the Javanese residing in Nganjuk Regency.

The prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ are the former of the intensifier. They are inherent in the stem noun, verb, adverb, and adjective changes in their phonetic realization, mean the word that attaches by the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ have different phonemic transcription and the phonetic transcription, but not all phonetic realization of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ in the stem noun, verb, adverb, and adjective are different. The existence of the particular sound change into another sound as the process of the phonological process, so the sound has a similar characteristic to the sound that influences it. For example, the word *apik* which means *bagus* ‘good’ is added by the prefix [u-] becomes *uapik* and it is realized phonetically into [uwa:piʔ] that have Indonesian meaning *sangat-sangat bagus* ‘very good’. However, the infix /u-/ is also inherent in noun, verb, adverb, and adjective change in their phonetic transcription. For instance, the word *suwi* which means *lama* ‘long time’ is added by infix [u-] becomes *suuwi* and it is realized phonetically as [sɔwi] that have Indonesian meaning *sangat-sangat lama* ‘very long time’. Consequently, this is the reason why the different affixes and their phonetic realization are interesting to be investigated in the phonological processes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /u-/.

Although Muhidin (2017) has conducted a study of the affixation process entitled “*Prefix {N-} dalam Bahasa Jawa Dialek Banyumas*” (Prefix {N-} Javanese Language in the Banyumas Dialect), but his study describes Javanese prefixes in Banyumas dialect spoken in Cilacap and he does not discuss the phonological process. However, Haris (2017) and Susanti (2018) have conducted the study of phonological processes, but they have a different object of their study. The study

that has conducted by Haris (2017) entitled “The Phonological Process of the Suffix /-i/ in the Javanese Language” takes the data from Javanese students from Kendal, Semarang, and Solo. While the study that has conducted by Susanti (2018) entitled “Assimilation Process of Prefixes in the Sasak Language” focuses on the investigation of the prefix [peN] in the Sasak language.

Based on the studies that have mentioned above, the researcher tries to get different data to be investigated. Therefore, this study focuses on the phonological process of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /u-/ in the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk Regency. This study will identify the phonological processes derive from the prefix /u-/ and the infix /u-/ of the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk regency and account for the changes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ to the stem.

1.2. Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, the researcher focuses on the following problems:

1. What phonological processes derive from the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u/ in the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk regency?
2. What phonological processes account for the changes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ to the stem?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems, several objectives have to be fulfilled:

1. To identify the phonological processes derive from the prefix /u-/ and the infix /u-/ in the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk Regency.
2. To describe phonological processes account for the changes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ to the stem.

1.4. Significance of the Study

This study on phonology is significant to conduct due to the theoretical and practical function. Theoretically, the result of this study will be of great benefit for readers to enrich their knowledge in terms of phonology and Javanese dialect, particularly non-native speakers. Hopefully, readers can expand the theoretical perspective for their phonological rules understandings as the basic concept of phonology and they master the concept of a phonological rule so that they can describe the phonological process of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ in the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk regency and they can identify the phonological processes account for the changes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u-/ phenomenon in Nganjuk Regency.

Practically, the results of this study will make readers know how to pronounce well. In terms of educational learning, the findings of this study potentially help teachers in phonological teaching. Besides, the study is expected to provide aid to researchers when conducting future research in the same field.

1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study entitled “The Phonological Processes of the Prefix /u-/ and the Infix /-u/ in the Javanese Dialect Spoken in Nganjuk Regency” belongs to the study of Socio-Phonology because the researcher focuses on the phonological processes of the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u/ in the Javanese dialect spoken in Nganjuk Regency. In this study, the researcher limits the discussion of this research on the prefix /u-/ and the infix /-u/ of the Javanese dialect in Nganjuk Regency because of the former intensifier in Javanese marked by prefix /u-/ and infix /-u/. The researcher also limits the participants, they are 20 native speakers because the data collection will be easy to access and will have low costs. Besides, the researcher limits the study areas of this research. There are four sub-districts in Nganjuk regency, i.e., Patianrowo, Lengkong, Baron, and Kertosono because the researcher has limited time to conduct the study.