

ABSTRACT

Mustaqimah, D. 160511100027. *An Acoustic Analysis of English Vowels Produced by Fourth Year English Department Students of Trunojoyo University*. Thesis. English Study Program of The Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences, University of Trunojoyo Madura. Advisor: Misnadin, S.S., M.A., Ph.D.

This study focused on the English vowels [æ], [ɔ:], [ɛ], [i:], [ɪ], [ɑ], [ʊ], and [u:]. It focused on acoustic analysis to analyze the study. It aimed to find out the characteristics of the vowels and how close the vowels produced by fourth year English Department students of Trunojoyo University.

This study employed quantitative design as the research design. The research used a visual representation called Praat to identify the formant frequencies of the vowels. The data of this study were taken from recording audio of English words produced by fourth year English Department student of Trunojoyo University. There were ten participants taken from fourth year English Department students including the writer who pronounced the words in five repetitions by a carrier phrase “say.... again”.

The results showed that English Department students had a correct pronunciation in producing the vowels [æ], [ɔ:], [ɛ], [i:], [ɪ], [ɑ], [ʊ], and [u:]. All participants produced these vowels deservedly. They produced the vowel [i:] as a high front vowel, the vowel [ɪ] as mid-high front vowel, the vowel [e] as mid-low front vowel, the vowel [æ] as low front vowel, the vowel [u:] as high back vowel, the vowel [ʊ] as mid-high back vowel, the vowel [ɔ:] as mid-low back vowel, and the vowel [ɑ] as low back vowel. The closest speakers compare with native speaker were speaker SB, speaker AU, and speaker GN. The closest speakers in producing the vowel [æ], [e], [ɪ] was Speaker SB. As speaker SB did, speaker AU pronounced correctly in vowels [ɑ], [ʊ], and [u:]. On the other hand, speaker GN also produced vowels [ɪ] and [ɔ:] closest than other speaker. The results showed that English Department students produced these vowels correctly. Although it was not too close with the native, but the pronunciation did not change the characteristics of the vowels.

Keywords: speech production, English vowels, acoustic analysis, formant frequencies, spectrogram.