

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of five points. First is the background of the study that explains about the background of the study topic to be carried out. Second is research questions that explain the main questions that are focus of the study. Third is the objectives of the study that explain about the purpose of the study to be carried out. Fourth is the significance of the study that explain about theoretical and practical significance of the study. Fifth is the scope and limitation of the study that explain the particular linguistic field that is the basis of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important tool for communication and plays a pivotal role in shaping cultural identities and preserving language diversity. discussing about diversity of communication and culture, Indonesia is a country with cultural and ethnic group diversity. Moreover, Indonesia also becomes one of the most country that is rich of language in which each ethnic group has its own vernacular language to communicate easily (Rohaniyah et al., 2016).

Madura, one of the islands in Indonesia located north of Java, is renowned for its unique vernacular language, Madurese, which become as a significant marker of identity and heritage for its population. This language reflects the rich cultural tapestry of the Madurese people and plays a vital role in everyday communication, social interactions, and the preservation of local traditions. Madurese language has important roles in maintaining and developing indonesia language.

There are at least two major roles of Madurese language. The roles are; (1) the existence of Madurese language can be used as a shield of Indonesian language against the invasion of foreign languages, and (2) Madurese language can be functioned as a vocabulary donor of Indonesian language (Azhar, 2008). Therefore, the spread of Madurese language is a positive thing to maintenance Madurese language itself.

The spread of the Madurese language in various regions in Indonesia results in language variations. Consequently, Madurese language variations occur in Madurese speakers, especially those living on the Madurese Island (Misnadin & Kirby, 2020). These variations in linguistics are known as dialects or isolects, a neutral term for dialects or languages (Hudson, 1996). Dialect is a linguistic system used by a society to distinguish it from neighbouring communities, which use a different system although closely related (Sugiharti & Pariyanto, 2021). While, Yule (2017) and Meyerhoff (2006) state that dialect refers to features of grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. Dialect can be interpreted as a manifestation of differences in linguistic elements that are motivated by regional factors, therefore it is not surprising that there are unique views on dialects (Elvan Efendi, 2015). One of the dialects that can be considered unique is the Madurese dialects. The Madurese dialects have several uniqueness.

The uniqueness of Madurese dialects are typical words and reduplication words. The first is typical words. The Madurese dialect has a distinctive and unique vocabulary, some of which is not found in standard Indonesian. The second is word reduplication. In the Madurese dialect, word reduplication is often used to give emphasis or intensity to the meaning. Furthermore, Madura has several dialects (Haryas et al., 2020).

According to Sutoko (1998) in activities and implementation of the use of the Madurese language, the Madurese language has four types of dialects. These dialects are Bangkalan dialect, Pamekasan dialect, Sumenep dialect, and Sampang dialect. Each of these dialects can be characterized by lexical differences, phonological differences, and intonation differences. These four dialects reflect distinctive linguistic variations, giving their own characteristics to the use of the Madurese language in the region. Especially differences in lexical content not only describe linguistic richness, but also relate to its mutual intelligibility.

For instance, Bangkalan dialect and Sampang dialect, is a variation of the Madurese language spoken by people living in the Bangkalan and Sampang district. The Bangkalan dialect itself has several variations in mentioning something in the same context. For example, the word *you* have several variations as *Ede*, *Hédéh*,

and *Kakeh*. While, Sampang dialects also has several variations in mentioning something. For example, the word *you* have several variations as *Kakeh*, *Hédéh* and *Béen*.

This variation shows that there are lexical variations, *Hédéh*, *Béen*, and *Kakeh*, between Bangkalan and Sampang. Although there are some of lexical variations, it does not make people from both of the districts feel difficult to understand in communication context due to the geographical chain which relatively close between the two districts so that it can produce a high level of mutual intelligibility. As another example, some speakers of German (standard) can understand Dutch (standard), while speakers of other regions cannot. This is due to the differences in language that exist in dialects (Wardhaugh, 2015). Thus, it is important to understand the Madurese dialect, especially in a campus environment, because this is good for effective communication and as a form of appreciation for cultural diversity.

In university context, especially in Universitas Trunojoyo Madura, the Madurese dialects with its many lexical variations, has an important role in the daily lives. For example, understanding of using dialect to do communication (Ika Susanti, 2023). A university that has students from various regions in Indonesia, the use of dialect can help build bonds between students from the same region. Students who speak the same dialect tend to feel closer and find it easier to communicate, which can help them in forming study groups, friendships, and social networks. But, based on daily phenomenon observation, there are some Madurese students who do not understand Madurese dialect in the context of communication. Furthermore, most Madurese student prefer to use Bahasa *Indonesia* than the Madurese language. Therefore, these phenomena above need to identify in order to there is accuracy in using Madurese dialects in the context of communication especially in the campus environment.

Based on the phenomena above, this study aims to identify the lexical variations used by English study program student at universitas Trunojoyo Madura and describe the process of lexical variations related to mutual intelligibility in English study program student at universitas Trunojoyo Madura with use theory

that proposed by Wardhaugh (2015) in his book “An introduction to sociolinguistics”.

The writer is very interested to analyses Madurese dialect used by English study program student at Universitas Trunojoyo Madura because this study relates to Madurese students' responsibility to understand and represent Madurese language and culture, which can influence cross-cultural communication. In addition, this analysis also contributes to the maintenance of local culture, such as the Madurese dialect. The results of this analysis can also potentially improve the quality of Madurese language use at the university environment.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the rationale stated in the introduction of this study above, the research questions of this study are formulated as the following:

- 1) What are the lexical variations of Madurese dialects used by English study program students at universitas Trunojoyo Madura?
- 2) How do the lexical variations of Madurese dialects used by English study program students at universitas of Trunojoyo Madura relate to mutual intelligibility?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of this study are the following:

- 1) To identify what lexical variations are used by English study program student at university Trunojoyo Madura
- 2) To explain how lexical variations used by English study program student at universitas Trunojoyo Madura relate to mutual intelligibility

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected to give understanding to the readers regarding lexical variations of Madurese dialects. Through analysis of the representation of Madurese dialects in English study program student at University of Trunojoyo Madura, this study also expected can provide insight into how dialects develop in sociolinguistics.

Practically, this study is intended to help other aspiring writer who are interested in conducting similar studies, so that they can use this study as a reference. Besides that, this study expected can become a tool to increase students' understanding of Madurese dialect variations.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is Sociolinguistics, especially dialect. This study focuses on vocabulary context, namely lexical variations of Madurese dialects used by English study program student at university of Trunojoyo Madura. This study involves dialect theory in Sociolinguistics proposed by Wardhaugh (2015) in his book is entitled *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* and lexical variations theory proposed by Chambers & Trudgill (2007) in their book entitled *The Handbook of Language Variation and Change* as a theoretical framework. The aims of the study identify lexical variations and mutual intelligibility of lexical variations used by English study program students at university of Trunojoyo Madura.

There are two limitations of this study. First, Differences in dialectology include five aspects, namely phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic and lexical aspects. However, this study focuses on lexical variations. Lexical variation is one of the variations that appears in a dialect variation in a region or area of observation. Lexical variations arise due to differences in the lexicon in the dialects used in one region. The second is this study focuses on English study program students who are from native Madura. In that sense, those who have lived in Madura for a long time.