



ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION TIPS FOR INDONESIAN SPEAKERS: HOW TO FIX COMMON ERRORS

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Abstract: *This article discusses the mispronounced English words often made by Indonesian. The aim for the study is to fix the mispronounced words and find the most fit pronunciation for Indonesian. The data taken from various YouTube channels that gave examples of the mispronounced English words. The study uses the descriptive qualitative research method by analysed the content in the selected video. The data showed that some of the words "height" "steak" "hoax" have been mispronounced by Indonesians. Most of the problem have been how Indonesian pronounce the word with Indonesian spelling, for example in words "sword" Indonesian still spell the "w" in that word and the word Wi-Fi Indonesian pronounce this word as "wifi" or "waifi". The conclusion of this study is that the writer concludes that it is best to use more than one accent while speaking to make things easier to pronounce some of these English words for Indonesians, for example using the British accents in a word "chance" in order to make things less confusing for Indonesian.*

Keywords: *Indonesian, English, Mispronounce, Word*

Abstrak: Artikel ini membahas kata-kata bahasa Inggris yang salah diucapkan yang sering dibuat oleh bahasa Indonesia. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk memperbaiki kata-kata yang salah diucapkan dan menemukan pengucapan yang paling cocok untuk bahasa Indonesia. Data diambil dari berbagai saluran YouTube yang memberikan contoh kata-kata bahasa Inggris yang salah diucapkan. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif deskriptif dengan menganalisis konten dalam video yang dipilih. Data menunjukkan bahwa beberapa kata "tinggi", "steak", "hoax" telah salah diucapkan oleh orang Indonesia. Sebagian besar masalahnya adalah bagaimana bahasa Indonesia mengucapkan kata tersebut dengan ejaan bahasa Indonesia, misalnya dalam kata "pedang" bahasa Indonesia masih mengeja "w" dalam kata itu dan kata Wi-Fi bahasa Indonesia mengucapkan kata ini sebagai "wifi" atau "waifi". Kesimpulan dari penelitian ini adalah penulis menyimpulkan bahwa yang terbaik adalah menggunakan lebih dari satu aksen saat berbicara untuk mempermudah pengucapan beberapa kata bahasa Inggris ini untuk orang Indonesia, misalnya menggunakan aksen Inggris dalam kata "chance" agar tidak terlalu membingungkan bagi orang Indonesia.

Kata Kunci: Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Inggris, Salah Pengucapan, Kata

INTRODUCTION

Language is a gift from God to use as a communication tool. Language has sound and structure to it. Language is arbitrary, meaning that languages form without a system at first but overtime form a grammar or systems in them. We get to know languages by acquiring them. Language acquisition is the process by which humans acquire the ability to perceive, produce, and use language to understand and communicate. It typically starts when we were a child, involving exposure to sound and the system of a language in our environment. As a child we gradually develop language skills, progressing from babbling to forming words then forming sentences.

The process of learning a language other than person's mother tongue is

known as second language acquisition, or SLA. This is the process of becoming proficient in a language other than person's first language and can happen at any age. We can learn language from textbook, listening to audios or directly interact with the native speakers. While learning new language learner might make a mistake either it is about the grammar, pronunciation etc. One problem that writer recognized from some of Indonesians that speaks English, they sometimes pronounce the word wrong. In this paper will try to fix their pronunciation. In Sjafty (2016) discussed the problems that occur in Indonesian learner, especially from elementary school while learning English. Fika (2016) also discussed about the problem that English learner as a non-English speaker and some of the problems they are facing, the problem is carious due to the difference in student's proficiency level. Gunawan (2022) conducted research on what English topics that mostly difficult that Indonesian students face when learning English. This researcher found out that the English topics that are still difficult to understand by the students are as follows; Grammar (66%), Speaking (22%), Listening (7%), Writing (4%), and Reading (1%). Arif (2021) discussed about how to teach correct English pronunciation to Indonesian learner. Asko (2020) done the research about some of the characteristic phonetic differences between Japanese and English and points out major difficulties in pronunciation for Japanese learners of English.

METHOD

The data taken from various YouTube channels that contain words that are often pronounced wrong by Indonesian. The researcher uses the descriptive qualitative content analysis method in analysing the data. This research only focuses on the phonological side, meaning it only focuses on the pronunciation of the word that often mispronounced by Indonesian and using IPA to fix the pronunciation of the words.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

DATA

List of Words	Pronunciation by Indonesian	Correct Pronunciation
Float	flut	floʊt
Steak	stik/setik	steɪk
Hoax	hoaks	hoʊks
Chance	change	tʃɑːns
Height	heit/heig	haɪt
Literally	literali	lɪtərəli
Honest	hanes	ənəst
Honour	Hənər	ənər
Sword	Sword	sɔːd
Ask	Aks	ɑːsk
Wi-Fi	wifi	wʌɪfaɪ

List of Words	Pronunciation by Indonesian	Correct Pronunciation
Event	even	ɪvənt

ANALYSIS

Being a second language that has been taught since the early age around five or six years old for most Indonesians it is quite familiar for Indonesians to hear the English language, but one thing that might get overlooked when teaching English is about its pronunciation. Often in Indonesia teachers focus more on teaching the grammatical side of the language. That is why this study will show how to pronounce some of the words that might be mispronounced by Indonesian learners.

Float (floʊt)

First word is the word *float*. This word often used by Indonesian when we are offering a drink. But often pronounce as flut. But it is actually pronounced as floʊt. So, what have been recognized is that often Indonesian did not pronounce the "o" vowel after the "f" than followed by "u" than "t".

Steak (steɪk)

This one often confuses learners because the letter "ea" in the middle of the word. Indonesian learners often pronounced it as "stik". This syllable has the same pronunciation as in the word "great". So, the correct pronunciation is steak

Hoax (hoʊks)

The next word is hoax. This word is often pronounced by Indonesian when they are referring to misleading information. They often say it like "hoaks". This is common in Indonesia because we tend to pronounce the word based on their letters. But, actually the vowel is pronounced as "ou" so it is "hoʊks" it also applies to the word "road"

Chance (tʃɑːns)

Unlike the previous words this word is often mistakenly pronounced the same as the word "change". So, the easiest way for Indonesian to pronounce this word is to do it like a British accent, instead of "tʃæns" we can say it as "tʃɑːns". The "tʃ" pronounce the same as "c" letter in Indonesia and either use "æ" the same vowel or vowel sound in the word "day" and then the last sound which many people have mistaken pronouncing it is the final sound that is "s" sound, people have mispronounced it as "ch" or the same as in the final sound of the word "change".

Height (haɪt)

This word also has a problem with one of the previous words which is the vowel pronunciation. Many Indonesians just follow the letter and pronounce it like how we pronounce it. And they tend to pronounce the "g" before the "t" or completely replace the "t" with "g". So, the correct pronunciation for this word is "haɪt".

Literally (lɪtərəli)

This one word is very often said by Indonesians. But it is actually quite close to how Indonesian pronounces this word, like the previous words it is basically dealing with how Indonesian often pronounce the word with how we pronounce

our letter. The correct pronunciation is "lɪtərəli" the "ə" spell the same as the "e" in word "ke" in Indonesia.

Honest (ɒnɪst) & Honour (ənər)

This word is actually not that hard to pronounce, giving that most Indonesians almost pronounce it correctly, just remove the "h" sound at the beginning for both words.

Sword (sɔrd)

This word is also mispronounced by Indonesian because they tend to follow the letter to pronounce the word. What needs to do is simply remove the "w" So it is pronounce as "sɔrd".

Ask (ɑːsk)

This one is quite interesting because a lot of time Indonesian would follow the spelling, but this time they mispronounce that as "aks". If we look at the previous words it should have been easy for us to say this word if we follow the spelling.

Wi-Fi (waɪfaɪ)

This word also had the same problem with most words listed here. People often say it as "wifi" or "waifi". But it is actually pronounced as "waɪfaɪ" the letter "i" do not change into "I" sound it remains as "aɪ".

Event (ɪvnt)

The last one is the word event. Many Indonesians pronounce the word the same way as they pronounce the word "even" which is incorrect. The correct way to pronounce this word is to pronounce it as "ɪvnt". The "ɛ" pronounce the same as "e" in the Indonesian word "empang".

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study highlights the common mispronunciations of English words by Indonesians and aims to address and rectify these linguistic challenges. The analysis reveals notable mispronunciations of words such as "height," "steak," and "hoax," with a recurring issue being the pronunciation of English words based on their Indonesian spelling. Ultimately, the study concludes that employing a flexible approach to pronunciation, encompassing multiple accents, can be beneficial for Indonesians seeking to improve their English pronunciation. This adaptability can contribute to more effective communication and a better grasp of the correct pronunciation of English words, aligning with the study's objective of addressing and rectifying common mispronunciations made by Indonesian speakers.

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