CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Research

Pronunciation is the most important aspects in speaking in order to make the foreigner or native speaker able to understand what we say. Many people know many vocabularies, but they do not really know how to pronounce them. Say for example; if we speak by using English with an English native speaker, in which we speak with unclear pronunciation, it will make the English native speaker confused.

*Pronunciation plays a very important role in learning a language, as Derwing and Munro claimed that, "having good pronunciation of the language can help in normal communication, particularly intelligibility" (as cited in Nation & Newton, 2009, p. 75).*

Students often expect to be able to speak the other language like a native speaker. However, they may encounter many factors to gain their desire. **One of the common factors that they find it difficult is the pronunciation of another sound system. Learners find that their mother tongue influences their pronunciation of English.**

Avery and Ehrich in *Nguyen Tien Dung journal*, argued that the native language affects both the ability to produce English sounds and the ability to hear sounds. Nation (2009) also stated, *"When some teachers and students complain about difficulties in speaking, they are often talking about pronunciation"* (p.75).

Based on the problem, the writer is very interested in writing thesis entitled “error analysis on english diphthongs pronunciation (a descripti
B. Reason for Choosing the Topic

The reason that encourage the writer to choose the topic is that students had difficulties in learning English especially in pronouncing some English diphthongs which are commonly used by them.

C. The Problem of the Study

The problems of this study are:

1. What English diphthongs are mostly pronounced incorrectly?
2. What are the factors causing students pronunciation error on English diphthongs?

D. The Aim of the Study

This study will be conducted with some objectives such as

1. To know what English words are mostly pronounced incorrectly
2. To find out the factors causing students pronunciation error on English diphthongs

E. The Contribution of the Study

The writer hopes that this study can give contribution for:

1. English Teachers

The writer hopes that this study will be useful for teacher or lecturer because this study give information and explanation about the English diphthongs that are mostly pronounced incorrectly by the students. The teacher can anticipate some words that are
mostly pronounce wrongly by the students in order to make the students’ pronunciation better.

2. Students

The finding of this research can be used as a new reference to learn English especially when they want to pronounce some English words which contain English diphthong. They will be able to know what the English diphthongs that are mostly pronounce wrongly.

3. Readers

The writer hopes that this study will give information about the English words which contain English diphthongs that are mostly pronounced incorrectly by the students. It also gives information about the problem causing students’ pronunciation errors.
F. The Clarification of the Key Terms

In this study, the writer would like to clarify the terms to make them clear. The key terms which are clarified are proposed in the title “Error Analysis On English Diphthongs Pronunciation (A Descriptive Study on Sixth Semester Students of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto in Academic Year 2015/2016)”

1. Descriptive study

Arikunto (2006: 194-198) said that Descriptive study generally, is a study of non-hypothesis. This study can be classified as: explorative and developmental. In this study the writer wants to discuss the explorative description. It describes the certain situation or certain case to know the things that have relation with the research.

In this case, the writer would like to clarify the term descriptive study as describing the students’ pronunciation mastery on English diphthongs at sixth semester students of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto.

2. Error Analysis

Darus & Subramaniam in Ivy Kho Chiann Yiing thesis State That error analysis is another type of linguistic study that focuses on the errors learners make. Error analysis is a useful method to help teachers predict and understand the pronunciation difficulties faced by their students. Analyzing errors made by students makes it possible to determine areas that need reinforcement in teaching. Hence, the use of error analysis can aid effective learning and teaching of new language.

G. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the research is vowels. There are many kinds of vowel, pure vowels or monophthongs and diphthongs but the writer limits the scope only on English diphthongs.
The writer analyzes the sixth semester students of Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto when they were pronouncing the English diphthongs.