CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A.1 Background of the Research

In everyday life, people always communicate each other, whether spoken, written, in a kind of sign or picture or perhaps in many other possible ways. As Wardhaugh (2006:1) wrote in his book entitled Introduction to Sociolinguistics, that this kind of communication system may be called as a code which we usually recognize as language. This shows that the use of language is very important in a society. It is obviously seen that every country has its own language. Moreover, in several countries, they still consist of many different regional languages like in Indonesia. Particularly, in Purwokerto, the language used called Banyumasan which is different from other cities/towns. Solo people use Javanese while Bandung poeple use Sundanese and many more. Besides, in other cases, multilingualism, the use of more than one language in a society, also still occurs. There are many crucial reasons that supported these phenomena. Generally, a study which concerns about the society and its language is called as Sociolinguistics.

The study of sociolinguistics can be applied in the society of the modern era like what we live in today. Specifically, this research will try to focus more on the use of English speech in a certain community, especially the English Speech...
Community members at Faculty of Letters Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto. Before we come to the condition of the members of this English Speech Community, there will be some other examples of the implementation of English Speech Community that had been used in several other communities in Indonesia. One of them is the English Speech Community in Kampung Inggris Pare, Kediri. It implements that all members of Kampung Inggris need to be speak English regularly.

Meanwhile, for the English Speech Community in Faculty of Letters, the implementation will be quite similar with the one used in Kampung Inggris though there will be some differences in terms of certain regulations. Here, in Faculty of Letters, the members consist of the lecturers as the tutor to help the students improving their English skills and the students as the learners of the English language. In the dean decree letters of Faculty of Letters Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto Number: A11.II/186-S.Kep/FSastra/IX/2013 that was issued on September 1st 2013, it mentions about English Days that have to be implemented by all the academic community of Faculty of Letters which is written on the second point of the regulation. Also, the other previous dean decree letters of Faculty of Letters of Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto Number: A17.II/104-S.Kep/FS/IV/2013, issued on April 23rd 2013, stated the following rules regarding to the English Days program, such as:

1. English Days start for every Mondays until Thursdays.
2. Besides, it also explains that English Days need to be implemented in any kinds of activity held in Faculty of Letters which include any kinds of academic activities, the lecturers’ or the students’ meeting, and many others.

3. Last but not least, the regulation is closed by the statement that the essential purpose of English Days is to improve the students’ English competency. Hence, the activeness of the students speaking English may also help in increasing their score grade.

The implementation of English Days is one of the best ways to promote the English Speech Community at Faculty of Letters. As the English department members, the lecturers always use English in teaching at class. Sometimes, they use Bahasa Indonesia or Javanese but not for the entire class. Thus, they use English more dominant than Bahasa Indonesia. However, if it is not in the class, particularly when it is not in the campus area, they don’t always use English, such as in the informal conversation outside the campus area. If it is the formal one, like in the class during presentation or at a conference, they will use English along with the students who are communicating with them. Meanwhile, for the students of Faculty of Letters which are also part of the English Speech Community, they should use English much frequently than other students from different major. However, the reality shows that the students rarely use English in daily conversation. Indeed they
speak English but only when they are in the class with a lecturer or simply when they need to communicate with the lecturers. When they are not in the class or not speak to the lecturers, they use either Bahasa Indonesia or Javanese in daily conversation among other students. In this case, there are many possible reasons that cause this phenomenon exists, such as some of the students are still lack of confidence to speak though they are able to do it. Another reason is because their English vocabulary still needs to get improved, so it makes them quite difficult to communicate in English, particularly in using some kinds of words as well as in understanding their meaning. There are still lots of other reasons regarding to this problem. Thus, the choices made by the members to choose whether to speak Bahasa Indonesia, Javanese or English in daily conversation can be categorized as language attitude.

Language attitude is closely related to the sociolinguistics studies since it is one of the branches of this field of study. Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc. which from now on will be referred as SIL states that, “Attitudes are personal beliefs, but there are patterns of attitudes throughout a community. Similar people will have similar attitudes and a profile of the community can be developed.” Based on this statement, the researcher believed that there will be certain type of language attitude showed by the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto towards English language. Later, the results
of this research will be based on the theory about the types of language attitude purposed by Janet Holmes, a sociolinguist who divides the language attitude into of Overt prestige and Covert prestige. In other words, those types of language attitudes also describe the positive and negative attitudes towards certain language. Besides, the attitude analyzed will also be divided into three different kinds of aspects which are usually known as the Attitude ABC Model purposed by some popular psychologists, such as Katz & Stotland (1959), Rosenberg & Hovland (1960) and Smith (1947). It consists of Affective aspect, Behavioral aspect and Cognitive aspect. These three aspects will also be included in the questionnaire given to all of the Faculty of Letters’ students along with the interview asked to a group of students.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher tries to observe the use of English in the English Speech Community at Faculty of Letters in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto with the aims to know on how the members of the speech community use English daily based on the Attitude ABC Model and to analyze what kinds of factors that influence their language attitude. Eventually, the researcher conducts a research with a title “LANGUAGE ATTITUDE OF THE ENGLISH SPEECH COMMUNITY MEMBERS AT FACULTY OF LETTERS UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH PURWOKERTO”.
A.2 Problem of the Research

In this research, the researcher raises the following question:

1. How is the Language Attitude of the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto towards English language?

2. What factors that influence the Language Attitude showed by the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto towards English language?

A.3 Objectives of the Research

Objectives of the research are set as the answer of the problem of the research. The objectives of this research are:

1. To describe the Language Attitude of the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto towards English language.

2. To elaborate the factors that influence the Language Attitude showed by the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto towards English language.
A.4 Significance of the Research

This research purposes to know more about the language attitude used among the English Speech Community members at Faculty of Letters Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto as well to elaborate the factors behind the language attitude showed by these community members. Additionally, the researcher hopes after finishing this research, it can be used to assist and improve the English competence and performance among the Faculty of Letters speech community members in Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto. Besides, most importantly, this research is expected to be able to become a useful reference for any researchers who are willing to conduct a research similar to this topic.

A.5 Limitation of the Research

The research will be focus on 60 students of Faculty of Letters Universitas Muhammadiyah Purwokerto. These students are taken from the first to seventh semester as the active members of the English Speech Community that will be analyzed as the respondents of this research. There will be 26 male students and 34 female students. Here is the table that shows the identity of the respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>43.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>56.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 The numbers of respondents based on gender
The theory used in this research is the language attitude theory purposed by Janet Holmes (2014) who divided language attitude into two different types. Based on his sociolinguistics view, it is categorized into over prestige and cover prestige which also represent the positive and negative attitude. Besides, this research also uses the attitude model theory of attitude ABC model which was firstly introduced by several psychologists like Katz & Scotland (1959), Rosenberg & Hovland (1960) and Smith (1947). They group the attitude into three kinds of models or aspects that include the Affective component, Behavioral component and Cognitive component.

A.6 Organization of the Research

To get a better understanding as well as to ease the readers to follow the idea on this paper, the researcher organises it into three chapters, they are as follows:

A.6.1 Chapter I is the Introduction. This chapter consists of Background of the Research, Problem of the Research, Objectives of the Research, Significance of the Research, Limitation of the Research and Organisation of the Research.

A.6.2 Chapter II is the Literature Review. It covers Theoretical Framework and Review of Related Studies.
A.6.3 Chapter III is the Research Methods. The sub chapters are Types of the Research, Data and Source of the Data, Method of Collecting Data, Technique of Collecting Data and Method of Analyzing Data.

A.6.4 Chapter IV is the Analysis. It consists of Data Description, Data Analysis and Discussion.

A.6.5 Chapter V is the Conclusion and Suggestion. The sub chapters will be divided into Conclusion and Suggestion.