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**THE CORRELATION BETWEEN THE STUDENTS' COMPETENCE IN
SPELLING ALPHABET AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN PRONOUNCING
WORDS AT THE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS OF *SMPN 2 KOTA
CIREBON***

A THESIS

Submitted to the English Education Department of Faculty of *Tarbiyah* of Syekh
Nurjati

State institute for Islamic Studies In partial fulfillment of the Requirements of Islamic
Scholar Degree In English Education Department



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STUDIES
CIREBON
2012**



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ABSTRACT

Aminudin : “The Correlation between the Students’ Competence in Spelling Alphabet and their Achievement in Pronouncing words at the Seventh Grade Students of SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon”

In the process of teaching and learning there are four aspects of language skills, they are: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In the process of teaching speaking there are some materials that should be taught to the students such as, understanding the meaning of words, grammar, pronunciation and spelling as well. The students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon* have problems in speaking English; one of the problems is difficulty to pronounce and spell words. In this point, the writer focused his research on the students’ competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words as a part of language.

The aims of this research are to know the students’ competence in spelling alphabet, to know the students’ achievement in pronouncing words and to know the positive and significant correlation between the students’ competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*.

The method of the research is quantitative research. The population of the research is 330 students of the class VIII A, VII B, VII C, VII D, VII E, VII F and VIII G. and the sample of the research is 80 students by using random sample. The instrument of collecting data is test, and the technique used to obtain the quantitative data here was the formula of product moment correlation by Pearson.

After doing the research, the writer get the average score of the students’ competence in spelling alphabet as X variable is 7.58 and the average of the students’ achievement in pronouncing words as Y variable is 7.73. And after getting the data, the data was analyzed by using the formula of product moment correlation by Pearson. After being analyzed, the writer found that the correlation between X variable and Y variable was 0.72 and after consulted with the table of “r” product moment, it showed that there was strong high correlation between the variables. Beside that, the value of “t” test is based on the “t” table value in the level of significant 5 %. In the level of significant 5 %, the value is 2.0. Because the value from the result of “t” observation in the level of significant 5 % is bigger than the value from the table of “t” ($8.9 > 2.0$), it means the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected. So the alternative hypothesis (H_a) is approved or accepted.



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PREFACE

In the name of Allah SWT, the most gracious, the most merciful. All praise be to Allah who has taught (the writing) by the primary. Peace and safety may always be given to the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), his family, companion and his follower up to end of the world.

The title of my thesis is “The Correlation between the Students’ competence in Spelling alphabet and their achievement in Pronouncing words at the seventh grade



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Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*". This thesis is submitted to fulfill one of the requirements for achieving the graduate degree at the English Education Department of Faculty of Tarbiyah of The State Institute for Islamic Studies (IAIN) Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.

In composing this thesis, there are so many people who have participated, helped and advised directly or indirectly. So, in this opportunity, the writer would like to express his sincerity and profound thankfulness to:

1. Prof. Dr. H. Maksum Mukhtar, The Rector of Syekh Nurjati The State Institute for Islamic Studies.
2. Dr. Saefudin Zuhri as the dean of Faculty of Tarbiyah.
3. Dr. Hj. Huriyah Saleh, M.Pd, The Chief of English Education Department.
4. Mustopa, M.Ag as the first supervisor.
5. Tedi Rohadi, M.Pd, SE, Dipl.TEFL as the second supervisor.
6. All of lecturers and staffs of English Education Department of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.
7. Djojo Sutardjo, SE,MM a ⁱ naster of SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon, and the English teachers, staffs and students of SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon.
8. My parents, brothers, sisters who have always supported the writer in finishing this thesis.
9. Everyone that cannot be mentioned one by one who has helped the writer to finish the writing of this thesis.



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The writer realized that this thesis is still far from perfect and there are still many mistakes either in the arrangement or in the content. Therefore, the writer should welcome the comment and suggestions from the readers.

Finally, the writer hopes that this thesis will be the valuable contribution especially for the writer himself and for the readers in general.

Cirebon, October 2012

The writer



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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of The Problem

There is no communication with other people from different country without language in the world. Language is used by all of people in the world. It plays an important role in our daily life. By language people can express their idea, extend their wish and feelings and even to know one another. Thus we have to learn other languages as a means of creating better communication and interaction in order to build mutual relationship with other societies and language can be used by written language or spoken language. It is supported by Longman dictionary of contemporary English Randolph Quirk (2001: 789) that “language is a system of communication by written or spoken words which is used by people of a particular country or area”.

As a matter of fact that man cannot be separated from language in his life. Language is not only as a tool of communication among human beings in life, but also as a subject that learned in formal and informal institution such as English, Jaand Germany.

Alkhuli (1976: 10) explains that English is the foreign language taught in many countries all of the world.

Based on the statement above, it is absolutely known that English is important to be known and studied because it is an international language used for communication with the people all over the world, and gives access to



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information for example : in the area of business, politics, science , medicine and education.

In the process of teaching and learning English there are four aspects of language skills, they are listening, speaking, reading and writing. In the process of teaching speaking there are some materials that should be taught to the students such as, understanding of words, grammar, pronunciation and spelling as well.

The characteristics of word: pronunciation, spelling, and structure in English become the difficulties of the Indonesian students and the problem for the teacher in the process of teaching and learning. To be able to speak in English and more over spelling words, the students must know the pronunciation of alphabet because the English Pronunciation is hard to study, not only for junior high school but also for the student of senior high school and even the students of university.

SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon is the school to be object of doing research. Almost most of the students get the difficulties in speaking because they have problems in pronunciation and spelling. Besides the teacher is unable to make use of the time, which is given at school. In this situation, the Writer found out most of the students still made many mistakes in pronouncing and spelling, for example, the word “love” was pronounced “lov”, it must have been be pronounced “lʌv” and They spelled the word “Enough” was “I-’n-ʌ-g”, it must be spelled “I-’n-ʌ-f” and they also confused to spell H,G,V and so on.

Pronunciation is not an easy thing to learn in English language. It means that it needs the process of teaching and learning more seriously and efficiently, and



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knowledge about the sounds and language. In general, the students get difficulties when they pronounce the English words. And it can be understood because in fact, the way of pronouncing between these two languages is very different. The difficulties in pronouncing the words can cause the students have lack of interest in English so that the impact can become the students' learning achievement is low. Whereas being able to pronounce the English words correctly will have the students enhance their speaking competence and particularly their pronunciation.

That is way the writer has opinion that pronunciation is a way in which a word is pronounced. The way in which people produce their sounds in speaking. To study more deeply about pronunciation, the students must have knowledge of phonetic and phonology. In other words, they must study or take course of phonetics and phonology. Although in fact, phonetics it self is explicitly available at phonology. Hudson (1984: 174) states that phonetics the study of sounds made in speaking, especially when these are studied without reference to the way in which they are used in particular languages. in addition Fromkin (1999:247) explains that phonology is concerned with the way in which these speech sounds from systems and patterns in human language. So if the students produce their sounds in speaking, they have to have knowledge about phonology in other that they are able to speak English well. Because in phonology they will know how to pronounce of the language sounds fluently because pronunciation is a system of language.



In this case the writer interests to research about the correlation between the students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*.

B. The Identification of The Problem

From the background of the problem about can be identified the research problems as follows:

1. The Field of The Research

The field of research in this thesis is phonology.

2. The kind of the Problem

The kind of the problem in this research is about the Students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words.

3. The Main of The Problem

The main of problem of this thesis is to know the correlation between the students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words.

C. The limitation of the Problem

In order to handle the misunderstanding of the thesis, the writer will limit the problem which has correlation with the title of the thesis, that is the students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words.

D. The Questions of the Research

1. How is the Students' competence in spelling alphabet at the seventh grade

Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon* ?



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2. How is the Students' achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*?
3. Is there any positive and significant correlation between the students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*?

E. The Aims of the Research

1. To know the Students' competence in spelling alphabet at the seventh grade Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*.
2. To know the Students' achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade of Students *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*..
3. To know the positive and significant correlation between the Students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in pronouncing words at the seventh grade Students of *SMPN 2 Kota Cirebon*.

F. The Uses of the Research

The research product hoped to be able to:

1. Help the Teacher to recognize the Students' competence in spelling alphabet.
2. Help the Teacher to recognize to know the Students' achievement in Pronouncing words.
3. Help the Teacher to recognize the correlation between the Students' competence in spelling alphabet and their achievement in Pronouncing words.



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