

pronounce a word properly in order to produce sound with proper intonation, good and true anyway. According to Dan (2006 as cited in ibid, 2007:19) claims that good pronunciation may make the communication easier, more relaxed and more useful. Even required to learn every day. To be able to master it, a student can learn through a variety of ways, namely through the listening skills of a native speaker itself, from video, from the dictionary on the way pronunciation in a foreign language, or can also practice directly with their friends. Given that the ability of the pronunciation is very important and necessary.

Pronunciation is very difficult and important in learning a foreign language (English) in addition to other aspects. However, often we find many errors in pronunciation of a foreign language (English) on the learner. While good pronunciation itself indispensable. As it is known, that people in Indonesia are still many who find it difficult to pronounce a word in English is good and right. It was due to the difference in the habit of talking between the tongue of Indonesia with a native speaker's own tongue (English speakers). Most of the way pronunciation in Indonesian people are more likely to American English. Because it can cause frequent peoples like the students difficult to do in the pronunciation of English as a foreign language. Pateda (1989 : 32) he stated that the linguistic fault lines appear if the word or phrase uttered by someone, one by native speakers. Pronunciation of a sound correctly will make the listener understand the intent of the speaker. Instead, the errors of pronunciation will confuse the listener, can even lead to misinterpretation of the intent of the speaker.

In learning a foreign language pronunciation, many argue that age may affect the learning. They found a young age is much easier in terms of learning a foreign language, in this case about the pronunciation. Many also argue that young learners will be easier and superior to their foreign language skills than teenage learners and adult learners. For example in this case is elementary school students have good pronunciation than junior high school students and college students. Taylor and Schuman in Ellis (1986), they stated that empathetic child at the age of puberty or young age is much greater than the age of consent, so they do not block in learning a second language. According to the theory of language acquisition (Ellis, 1997), also explained that young students can learn the language more quickly than adults, young learners are believed to undergo a critical time acquire language, known as the critical period hypothesis. In essence, the mastery of pronunciation of English sounds properly is one of the important factors in English teaching students both junior high school students and senior high school. When viewed from a range of ages, junior high school students and senior high school students included in the category of adolescent learners. Where the junior high school students included in the category of early adolescence learners and senior high school students included in the category of mid adolescence learners. At this age the students are considered able to learn the language better than adult learners. But of course between early adolescence learners and mid adolescence learners have different levels of language proficiency, in this case the pronunciation. Therefore, researcher conducted a study between junior high school students and senior high school students to determine whether early adolescence learners have better pronunciation in the

learning process than the mid adolescence learners. While both are still the same at the level of adolescence.

In foreign language learning itself, one of the activities related to the pronunciation that we can meet is the activity of reading aloud. The activity of reading aloud often encountered in junior high school students and senior high school students. Reading aloud is the activities performed by the students, ie reading text with a loud sound or tunable to produce an intonation of the reading. According to Zainuddin (1992 : 124), he stated that reading aloud is reading the article voicing read with expression and intonation appropriate for listeners and readers can capture the information submitted by the author, either in the form of thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and experience of the author. According to Gruber (in Rahim, 2008 : 24), he stated that reading aloud is reading aloud with attention to words and sentence structure, pronunciation, intonation and pauses. Meanwhile, according to Ellis and friends (in Rahim, 2008 : 23), stated that reading aloud is the activity or activities of reading aloud with attention to pronunciation, intonation and expression with the goal of producing students who are fluent in reading.

In reading aloud, concerned with things like : fluency and correctness word pronunciation, voice clear and fluent so that the messages text easily captured the audience, the intonation is strong or weak pressure, high and low tones, how quickly the tempo and also pausing appropriately. Therefore, in the teaching of foreign languages, reading aloud activity closer or more aimed at speech than to comprehension. Because of this, the reading material should be selected that contain content and language that is relatively easy to understand

(Broughton in Henry Guntur Tarigan, 1994 : 23). Skills of reading aloud is important to be owned by a student. Of course, the students of junior and senior high school, had to be proficient in reading aloud. And of course the junior high school or senior high school students have different skills.

Of the existing problems above, the researcher tried to examine the level of proficiency in English pronunciation in reading aloud, in junior and senior high school students. From the research conducted, the researcher compared the pronunciation errors during the junior and senior high school students, the pronunciation in English. This study refers to the junior high school students and senior high school students. Because, at this stage students should be proficient in the pronunciation of the foreign language learning is on the activity of reading aloud. The purpose of this study is to determine whether junior high school students better pronunciation than senior high school students. On the other hand they are different level of school but both is still the same in the category of adolescent age. That is early adolescence for junior high school students and mid adolescence for senior high school students.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Do the early adolescence learners achieve better pronunciation result in the learning process than the mid adolescence learners ?

## **1.3 The Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to compare the ability of pronunciation between early adolescence learners and mid adolescence learners.

## 1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is very important, to be able to determine the ratio of errors in pronunciation between junior and senior high school students in learning a foreign language, English. In this case the ability of the pronunciation of the activity of reading aloud because, as it has been known that the use of intonation pronunciation is good and true, will make it easier for people to understand the meaning of spoken words.

### **a. Theoretical Significance :**

Expected by this research, we can know the comparison error in learning English pronunciation between junior and senior high school students on the activity of reading aloud. Given this research, can also be used to determine whether junior high school students better pronunciation than senior high school students. In this case is whether early adolescence learners have ability of pronunciation better than mid adolescence learners in the learning process.

### **b. Practical significance :**

- For teacher : teacher can know the pronunciation of foreign language student errors in reading aloud activity in the process of learning English. teacher can also improve and enhance the ability of students in the pronunciation of the foreign language learning in school.
- For students : can improve and enhance their skills in pronunciation on the activity of reading aloud in learning English in school.

### 1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on the study about the comparison of pronunciation error in foreign language (English) at the junior high school students and senior high school students. This research was conducted at the junior high school students and senior high school students. For junior high school students takes first grade of SMP Negeri 1 Gresik. As for senior high school students takes first grade of SMA Negeri 1 Gresik.

In this study draws on research pronunciation errors committed by students on the activity of reading aloud of some words in the English language that is contained in a reading text. In this study, more focused on students' pronunciation errors in vowel sound. For example such as :

1. / e /, / y /, which turned into a vowel sound / I / and / i: /.
2. / e /, which turned into a vowel sound / Ə / and / I /.
3. / oo /, which turned into a vowel sound / u /.
4. / oi /, which turned into sound vowel / ɔi /.
5. / ea /, which turned into a vowel sound / ei /.
6. / a /, / ou / which turned into a vowel sound / ei / and / Ə /.
7. / ei /, which turned into a vowel sound / aI /.
8. / ai / which turned into a vowel sound / eƏ /.
9. / au / which turned into a vowel sound / ɔ /.
10. / a / which turned into a vowel sound / æ /.
11. / u / which turned into a vowel sound / u: / and / Ə /.
12. / e / which turned into a vowel sound / ɜ: /.

13. / ee / which turned into a vowel sound / i: /.

14. / a / which turned into a vowel sound / ɔ: / and / α: /.

15. / o / which turned into a vowel sound / Λ /, ect.

This study was conducted to compare the pronunciation errors of the vowel sounds as above to a few words in the English language that is contained in a reading text between junior and senior high school students.

### 1.6 Hypothesis

The hypothesis of this study was the comparison of pronunciation errors between junior and senior high school students in learning a foreign language and to determine whether early adolescence learners have ability of pronunciation better than mid adolescence learners in the learning process.

### 1.7 Definition of Key Term

- ***Pronunciation error*** : Error of pronunciation to students in the pronunciation of a word in English that is contained in a text on the activity of reading aloud.
- ***Vowel sound*** : Sound system in pronunciation English divided into two, namely diphthong and single vowel.
- ***Early adolescence learners*** : First grade at junior high school students.
- ***Mid adolescence learners*** : First grade at senior high school students.
- ***Foreign language learning*** : English learning process that is only used in the context of the classroom. In this case the students of first grade at junior high school and first grade at senior high school.