CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Language is a part of sound that people use to communicate and get information. In this life, language is the most important for human to communicate and know each other. When spoken, the sound of language is produced by the human vocal organs. Sometimes, the sound is not always the same as when it is in written from, but it often produces a new sound and become similar. This happens because the sound changes into another of adjacent phoneme. In English, the sounds change because one phoneme influences to the adjacent of phoneme and become similar sounds. There are some aspects of connected speech that the native speakers of English use to speak well. One of them is assimilation. This aspect explains about the process of phoneme changing that happens in two phonemes because they are close to each other. Basically, it also happens when we speak fast.

According to Peter Roach (1983:10), *assimilation is how the phonemes of a particular word would be realized when the word was pronounced in isolation, when we find a phoneme realized differently as a result of being near some other phoneme belonging to a neighboring word.* It happens when there are two words influencing each other and becoming similar. For example, the phrase "let me" (let mi) becomes /lemmɪ/ and "ten percent" (ten pe:rsen) becomes /tem pə'sen/. In the first example, the nasal /m/ influences alveolar /t/ and becomes nasal /m/, so it is pronounced /lemmɪ/. There are three types of assimilation, i.e.; assimilation progressive, regressive assimilation, and reciprocal assimilation. Assimilation often occurs in the words that we use in an informal style. Another example, the phrase "give me" becomes /gimmi/, and "get them" becomes /gettem/.

Assimilation also occurs in singing. Singing is a form of communicating language to audience in a different way. Usually, there is an assimilation sound when a singer sings in a fast tone; one of them is a singer Meghan Trainor. She was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts on December 22, 1993. She is the one of American singer who uses fast tone. She began songwriting at age 11. She wrote, recorded, performed, and produced three independently-released albums between ages 15 and 17. She also said to her father that she wanted become a famous singer. She always practices

to singing and playing guitar with her father; MR. Gary Trainor. He helped her to explore any kind of music genre. When she was 18, Trainor signed a publishing deal with Nashville's Big Yellow Dog Music. With the deal in place, the first big piece of Trainor's dream fell into place and a realization took hold that she could make a career out of her music. Trainor soon signed with Epic Records, where her first single was the massive hit "All about That Bass," which was released in June 2014. Her lyrics mainly deal with subjects of 21st century womanhood, body image, and empowerment, though her work has been criticized as not being progressive. (Biography of Meghan Elizabeth Trainor, accessed January 26th, 2017 http://www.biography.com/people/meghan-trainor)

Meghan can sing in high and low pitch. She is different from other singers. She produces similar sounds and sometimes her fast tone makes a new sound. The more she is using fast tone, the more she will produce the assimilation. Although she is sings with fast tone, the audiences still understand the meaning of the lyrics in her song. Her careers are always shining and on the top in music chart. Her songs have many kinds of genre; about love, sad, life, and women. It makes the audience never getting bored to listen her songs. The most of her songs use a rhythm and fast tone that make her produce a sound change.

Based on the review above, I will analyze assimilation from Meghan Trainor's singing articulation. This research will focus on the types of assimilation that occur in her song. This is to find out what kinds of most types of assimilation happen in her singing. And I find out what kinds of phonemes used in the process of assimilation. I choose her singing in this research because she has unique voice. She is multitalented. Her voice is not like standard sound in the English language. That is the reason why she is different from other singers in this world. This analysis also has a purpose to give a benefit for those who want to know about the types of assimilation. The result of my research will give benefits to anyone who wants to know how to speak fast with assimilation theory and the types of assimilation.

Meghan Trainor gets many awards in 2014, she released her debut single "All about That Bass", which earned her Grammy nominations for both Record of the Year, and Song of the Year. The song also earned her an ASCAP Pop Music Award and Billboard Music Awards for both Top Hot 100 Song and Top Digital Songs. In 2015 her song "Lips are Moving" earned her nomination for Choice Break-Up Song. In 2016, her song "Like I'm Gonna Lose You" earned her a nomination

for Best Collaboration. And then, in 2016, Trainor won the Grammy Award for Best New Artist and received a nomination for Brit Award for International Female Solo Artist. In Mei 2016 she has released a new album "Thankyou", on this album there are 15 songs. I found the assimilation on 10 songs of Meghan Trainor, there are All about That Bass, Title, 3Am, My Selfish Heart, No Good for You, No, Thank you , Dear Future Husband, Walkashame, Better When I'm Dancing.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I identify the problem that; Meghan Trainor always used a fast tone. She produces a similar sound and makes a new sound when she is singing. I try to analyze through phonology approach. I also explain assimilation process from Meghan Trainor's singing articulation. So, I assume that Meghan Trainor applies assimilation in her singing.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limits the assimilation analysis in ten songs of Meghan Trainor from her albums as follow; *All about That Bass, Title, 3Am, My Selfish Heart, No Good for You, No, Thankyou , Dear Future Husband, Walkashame, Better When I'm Dancing.*

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The research problem is formulated in the form of research question, as follows:

1.4.1 How does Assimilation occur in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation?

1.4.2What are the most types of Assimilation in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation?

1.4.3 How does Assimilation work in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

In order to be able to reach the purpose of the research, the analysis steps are conducted in the following ways:

1.5.1.To know how assimilation occurs in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation

1.5.2 To find out what kind of the most types of Assimilation happen in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation

1.5.3 To know how assimilation proceeds in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation

1.6 Framework of the Theories

In this research, I use the aspect of phonology. The source is from English Phonetics and Phonology book by *Roach, Peter. 1983. English Phonetics and Phonology. New York. Cambridge University.* This research will focus to assimilation and the changes sound of the phonemes from Meghan Trainor's speech, also use phonemes explanation to relate assimilation theory.

1.7 Methods of the Research

This research use qualitative method whose sources are from books, internet and Meghan Trainor's singing. And the research will take in the form of audio and analyzed based on Phonology which refers to Peter Roach.

1.8 Benefits of the Research

This research is dedicated not only for students, but also to those who learn English and want to know about how to communicate with native speakers of English. After that, they can share to others who do not know about it. Also, they can practice and try to speak English with Assimilation theory.

1.9 Systematic organizations of the Research

Based on benefits of the research above, systematic organization of the research is structured as follows:

CHAPTER I   : INTRODUCTION

It consists of the background, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, framework of the theories, methodology of the research, benefits of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER II   : FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

It consists of theoritical of frameworks the assimilation analysis on Meghan Trainor's singing articulation through phonology approach, the source is from

the aspect of connected speech from Phonology book and I will use phonemes theory to related assimilation explanation.

CHAPTER III   **:THE ASSIMILATION ANALYSIS ON MEGHAN TRAINOR'S SINGING ASRTICULATION THROUGH PHONOLOGY APPROACH.**

It consists of the analysis; the analysis how assimilation occurs in Meghan Trainor's singing articulation, the second; what kind of the most types of assimilation happens in her singing. And the last; how does assimilation work in her singing through the aspect of phonology; vowel and consonant. This part also analysis assimilation from consonant changing. These parts will analysis from Phonology book by Peter Roach.

CHAPTER IV   **: CONCLUSION**

It consists of the conclusions that indicate of the theme of this research *"The Assimilation on Meghan Trainor's Singing Articulation through Phonology Approach.*