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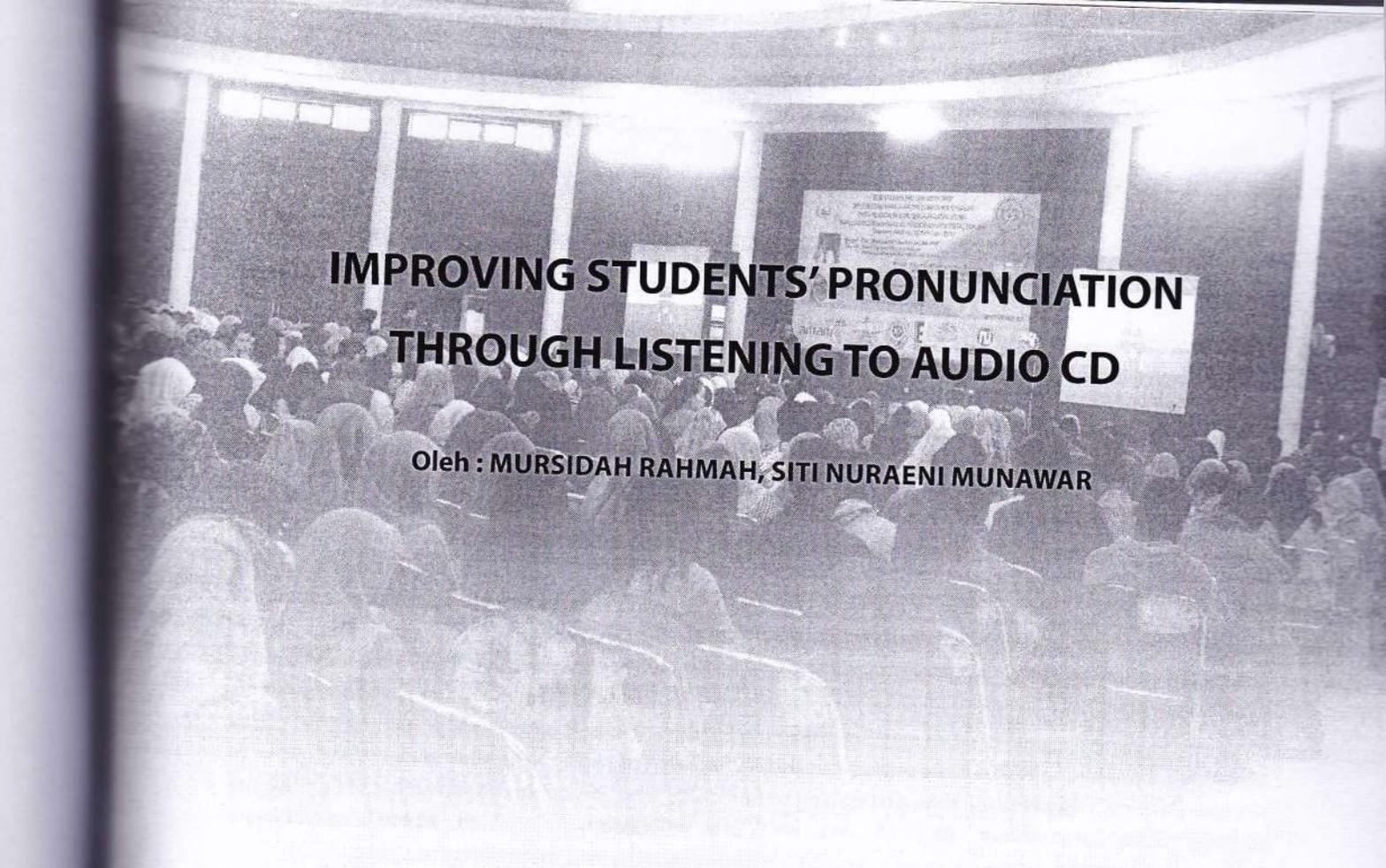
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IMPROVING STUDENTS' PRONUNCIATION THROUGH LISTENING TO AUDIO CD

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ABSTRACT

The title of this research is "Improving Students' Pronunciation through Listening to Audio CD". The purpose of this research is to improve students' pronunciation of English words through listening method on Audio CD media. This research was conducted at SMK BM Al - Ikhlas by the number of students in class XI (eleven) as many as 93 people in three departments of Accounting, Office Administration and Marketing. The researcher examines the students of class XI Administration office two which has 23 peoples. In his research, the author uses PTK (Classroom Action Research) as the method with two cycles . For data collection, the researcher conducted a pre - CAR scores and Evaluation to determine the improvement of students' pronunciation, a questionnaire to determine students' feelings about the methods applied, and observations during the learning process takes place. The results of the first cycle of evaluation shows that 10 people or 45 % of students reached the standard value is 70 and at the second cycle of evaluation the number increased to 20 students or 90 %. It shows that 90 % of students have achieved the standard value. Therefore, it can be concluded that the class action research in improving students' pronunciation of English through the method of listening to the audio CD is succeed. This method is recognized as one of the ways that can be applied effectively in the classroom, so it is advisable for teachers who want to improve English pronunciation of the students to use this method in the learning process in the classroom.

Key words: Pronunciation, Listening, Audio CD

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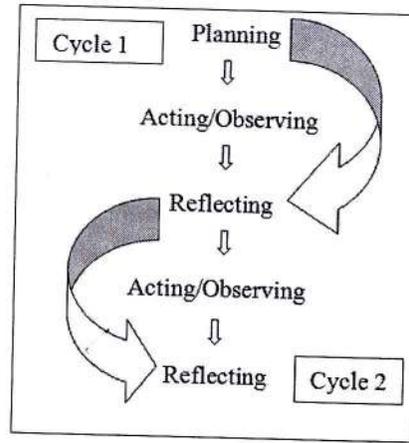
INTRODUCTION

Pronunciation is the important aspect in speaking skill. Bad pronunciation probably will make the people difficult to understand what the speakers are saying. Thus, pronunciation must be learnt by many students in their school to make them are able to speak well. Before the students say something and practice to pronounce good pronunciation, they should listen how the words are pronounced by native speaker. In learning pronunciation the learner should know about the features of pronunciation. There are phonemes and suprasegmental features. Phonemes consist of two categories: consonants and vowels. While supra segmental features consist of intonation and stress. In consonants sounds may be voiced or unvoiced. The consonants sound are p, b, t, d, k, g, ʃ, ʒ, f, v, ð, θ, s, z, ʒ, h, m, n, ŋ, l, r, j, w. It is possible to identify many pairs of consonants which are essentially the same except for the element of voicing (for example /f/, as in fan, and /v/, as in van). Teaching pronunciation to students should make the students are attractive. For make students are attractive, there is the way to make them interested in learning pronunciation through listening to Audio CD MP3. the writer wants the students focus on hearing to an audio of pronunciation in learning English and how the words are pronounced, especially in features of pronunciation to consonants of /s/ and /ʃ/ sounds. The research question of this study is "How to improve students' pronunciation through listening to Audio CD?" and The aim of this research is to improve the students' pronunciation through listening to Audio CD of MP3. By doing the research, hopefully can motivate students in learning English and they will know how to pronounce the words correctly.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research uses Classroom Action Research (CAR) method. It is used to identify a problem and to decide the right action to solve the problem. In this research, the students' lack of pronunciation is a problem needed to be solved. The writer plays the role as the teacher who teaches the students because she completely understands the condition of the class. The research is conducted to the eleventh grade students of SMK AL-IKHLAS Cisarua. This vocational school is located in Desa Jogjogan, Cisarua, Bogor. The eleventh grade students are chosen as the research participants. There are 90 students who are divided into four classes in three programs there are Accounting, Marketing, and Office Administration. In this case, the writer chooses 24 students from second office administration class which is consisting of 15 girls and 9 boys as the participants. Moreover, the second office administration class is taken because the students in this class have difficulties to master pronunciation.

The classroom action research method is used to know whether teaching pronunciation through listening to audio CD can improve students' pronunciation. This research is done in two cycle processes. Each cycle consists of pre-CAR score, action, evaluation, observation and reflection. Each cycle consists of two actions. This following figure is the design used in the research:



This research is done in two cycle aprocesses. Each cycle consists of pre-CAR score, action, evaluation, observation and reflection

a. Planning

First of all, the researcher identifies students' problem in pronunciation. Then, before doing the research (teaching-learning process), some lesson plans which contain of some steps are prepared by the writer.

b. Acting/Observing

At the first meeting, the writer gives pre-test to the students. It is given to get their scores and know their pronunciation before the treatment. Then, the students are taught based on the lesson plan. The teaching learning process consists of pre-teaching, whilst-teaching, and post-teaching activities. In pre-teaching activity, the teacher asks the students some questions that are related to the topic. Then, in whilst-teaching activity, the teacher applies sound /s/ and /ʃ /to the conversation in audio CD in teaching pronunciation. In addition, in post-teaching activity, the teacher checks the students' pronunciation for the second time by giving some questions to the students and the students answer the questions. Finally the teacher concludes the material.

c. Reflecting

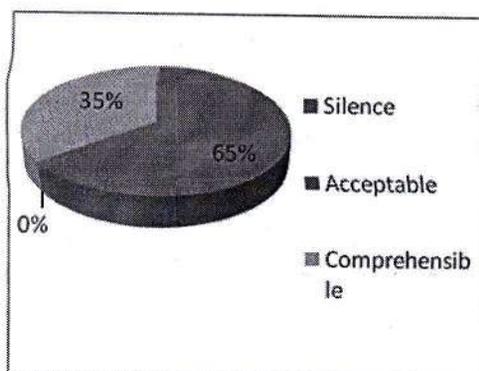
In this phase, the classroom action is reflected together by the teacher and the observer. A reflection is made based on the teaching-learning process in the classroom, and it is used to decide whether the next cycle is needed. It also is used for analyzing the weaknesses of the cycle which have been done.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

a. **The Result of pre-CAR Score**

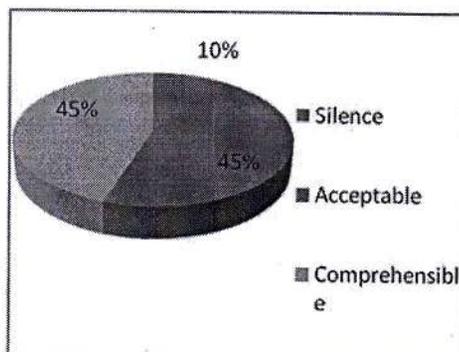
The result of pre-CAR score shows that most of the students can't pronounce the words well. No student (0%) gets in acceptable pronunciation criteria. Thirteen students (65%) get silence, seriously incorrect pronunciation criteria, and ten students (35%) get comprehensible, partially correct pronunciation criteria. Then, the action and evaluation are given in every meeting of the first cycle.

Chart 4.1
The Result of First Cycle Pre-CAR Score



b. The Result of first cycle

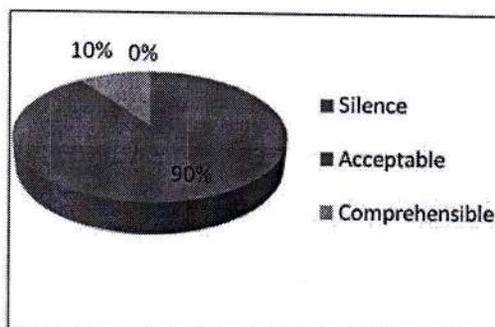
Chart 4.2
The Result of First Cycle Evaluation



Based on the first evaluation result, three students (10%) get silence, seriously incorrect pronunciation criteria, ten students (45%) get comprehensible, partially correct pronunciation criteria, and ten students (45%) get acceptable pronunciation criteria. The result of first cycle evaluation shows that there is an improvement of the students' pronunciation after the action.

c. The Result of second cycle

Chart 4.3
The Result of Second Cycle of Evaluation



The Result of evaluation from the second cycle is better than the first cycle. Twenty students (90%) get acceptable pronunciation criteria, three students (10%) get comprehensible criteria and no student (0%) gets silence criteria.

RESEARCH DISCUSSION

Based on the data that has been got from the first cycle, the researcher can draw a conclusion that there is a significant result as the improvement of students' pronunciation. There are ten (45%) students who have reached the standard score (70). The researcher found the problem in the beginning of the first cycle, the students are really hard to distinguish /s/ and /ʒ/ sounds. Thus, they can't pronounce English words correctly. At the end of the action, their ability had improved and began to pronounce English word effectively. Meanwhile, in the second cycle, there are 20 students (90%) who have reached the standard score. It indicates that almost all students can improve their pronunciation because they had known and understood how to pronounce words well. The method can make the students are attractive. After the two cycle processes, it can be concluded that learning pronunciation through listening to audio CD can improve students' pronunciation. Therefore, the cycle process is stopped.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, learning pronunciation through listening to audio CD is one of the effective ways to improve students' pronunciation and it can be a good method to be applied in teaching and learning pronunciation.

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