ABSTRACT

The study deals with the quality of pronouncing English sounds by the students of English department, FKIP-UMS. The objectives are: (1) to examine the students’ pronunciation of English sounds, and (2) to identify the shifts in articulating the English sounds. The data in the forms of words containing the sound shifts were collected by using recording technique and participant interview. After being transcribed phonetically, the data are analyzed by using techniques of comparing and contrasting to both JLE’s pronunciation and Received Pronunciation (RP). The results are that: (1) the students’ pronunciation can be described in terms of sound production mechanism and of sound description parameters; also, the quality of students’ pronouncing the English sounds used the least phonetic details; (2) the shifts made by the students in pronouncing the vowel sounds are in having a half level of the tongue height, and reduced the fortis for gliding; moreover, the shifts in pronouncing the English consonant sounds can be shown in omitting the final sounds and the glides, in moving backward or forward of points of articulation, and in reducing the aspirated sounds into unaspirated ones.

Key words: fonetik artikulatoris impresionistik, pronouncing quality, RP, dan sound shifts.