

The differences between American and British diphthong: A case study of Joe Biden and Boris Johnson

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis Perbedaan Diftong antara Joe Biden dan Boris Johnson dalam melafalkan diftong melalui ucapan. Penulis menentukan dua rumusan masalah yaitu, apa jenis diftong yang ditemukan dalam pidato Joe Biden dan Boris Johnson, dan apa perbedaan pengucapan diftong yang dibuat oleh Joe Biden dan Boris Johnson. Penulis menggunakan metode kualitatif dalam tesis ini. Akhirnya, penulis mengumpulkan 19 data dari pidato Boris Johnson dan 20 data dari pidato Joe Biden dan menemukan 2 jenis diftong yang terdiri dari diftong pemusatan dan diftong penutup. Hasilnya, penulis menemukan 15 data oleh Joe Biden di diftong [c] adalah 5 data, diftong [a] adalah 6 data, diftong [au] adalah 3 data, diftong [29] adalah 1 data. Selain itu, pidato Boris Johnson dalam diftong (el) adalah 5 data. diftong (a) adalah 2 data, diftong (au) adalah 3 data, diftong [20] adalah 3 data. Dari penelitian di atas diketahui bahwa Joe Biden dan Boris Johnson diftong penutup didominasi.

Kata kunci: *Diftong, Joe Biden dan Boris Johnson pidato, G. Kelly*

Abstract

This study aims to analyze the Differences in pronouncing Diphthong between Joe Biden and Boris Johnson in their speeches. The writer determines two problems in her formulations; what types of diphthong are found in Joe Biden's and Boris Johnson's speeches, and what differences are made in the pronunciation of diphthong by Joe Biden and Boris Johnson. The writer used qualitative method. Finally, the writer collected 19 data from Boris Johnson's speech and 20 data from Joe Biden's speech and found 2 types of diphthong consisting of centering diphthong and closing diphthong. In the result, the writer found 15 data by Joe Biden in diphthong [eɪ] 5 data, diphthong [aɪ] 6 data, diphthong [aʊ] 3 data, diphthong [əʊ] 1 data. Meanwhile, Boris Johnson's had diphthong [eɪ] 5 data, diphthong [aɪ] 2 data, diphthong [aʊ] 3 data, diphthong [əʊ] 3 data. From the study above it is known that Joe Biden and Boris Johnson used closing diphthongs the most. The difference between Joe Biden and Boris Johnson in pronouncing diphthongs is how they pronounce each type of diphthong with the position of the tongue and lips and the accent they have.

Keywords: *Diphthong, Joe Biden and Boris Johnson's speech, G. Kelly*

INTRODUCTION

Pronunciation is a way of pronouncing words. To be able to convey that messages or information humans must pronounce each word clearly. Also in the English language, the correct pronunciation will aid in developing good communication. Therefore if we mispronounce a word, it will lead to miscommunication.

It is known that pronunciation refers to how make sounds or words. Therefore to say the sound, the speaker need to push the air up through his/her lungs, then through the throat and vocal cords and finally through the mouth, past the tongue and between the teeth and lips. (Sometimes air also flows through the noses.) To change the sound made, primarily using the muscles of the mouth, tongue, and lips, the speaker will need to control the shape of the mouth and the flow of air. If the speaker can control the shape of his/her mouth and airflow well, the pronunciation will be clearer and it will be easier for other people to understand. Because different people's backgrounds sometimes there will be differences and difficulties in pronouncing English sounds. There is no two people at the same time have the exact same pronunciation.

Therefore, based on the statement above, the writer is interested in analyzing the differences between Joe Biden and Boris Johnson in pronouncing diphthong through their speeches found in YouTube. The writer is interested in knowing the differences pronouncing types of diphthong both in the word spelling, sentence pronunciation. The reason why the writer is interested in diphthongs is because English is a language that is well known to people in general, of course there are still many who do not know the correct of pronouncing diphthong. So far, most people use English just to communicate. Based on the background on the study, there are two objective of the study, for the first is to find out the types of diphthong found in the Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech, and the second is to find out the differences in the pronunciation of diphthong made by Joe Biden and Boris Johnson. The types of diphthong in this study is closing diphthong which is part of diphthong.

The same result is also obtained by Dosia et al. (2017), Ponidi et al. (2021) show that there are types of diphthong founded in 2 texts which are dominated by closing diphthong. Dosia explained that production of diphthong have types, they are centering diphthong and closing diphthong.

This study has goals to analyzing the differences between Joe Biden and Boris Johnson pronouncing diphthong. This study presents many important aspects of theories consisting of pronunciation, diphthong and types of diphthong. Those theories as the references of the writer in finding the data and the analysis of the data.

According to Kelly (2000) there are eight types of diphthong, which is divided in two types, those are centering diphthong and closing diphthong. The reason why the writer is interested in diphthongs is because English is a language that is well known to people in general, of course there are still many who do not know the correct way of pronouncing diphthong.

There were some previous studies used as the references in this study. The first, previous study was conducted by Dosia & Rido, (2017) which journal entitled "Production of English Diphthongs: A Speech Study". This research article focusing on finding out the production of diphthongs, and used conceptual framework of Roach that divides diphthong into two types; first, closing diphthong such as /eɪ/, /aɪ/, /ɔɪ/, /əʊ/, /aʊ/ and second, centering diphthong like /ɪə/, /eə/, /ʊə/. This study employed qualitative method while the data were collected through library research. This study found 71 data of English diphthong. Diphthong /eɪ/ was produced 21 times, diphthong /aɪ/ was used 15 times, diphthong /ɔɪ/ was mentioned once, diphthong /aʊ/ was stated 7 times, diphthong /əʊ/ was produced 16 times, diphthong /ɪə/ used 6 times, diphthong /eə/ was mentioned 3 times, and diphthong /ʊə/ was stated twice. In this study also found that he faced challenges in producing many diphthong sounds by frequently producing diphthongs sounds as pure vowels.

Another research to be discussed belongs to Ponidi S, Sabarudin S & Arasuli, (2021) entitled "An Analysis of English Diphthong Pronunciation by the Students of the English Education Study Program". This research was aimed to know how English students in University of Bengkulu, English Education Study Program pronounced English Diphthongs. This research used descriptive qualitative method. The population in this research was the 79 sixth semester students of English Education Study Program. The numbers of samples were 20% of the population. The Students were asked to pronounce 8 diphthongs in English. The research was doing input the audio from native speaker and data recorded by each student into Audacity. Then, comparing both of the data. The research was using Audacity as the technology to analyze and to see the pattern of the data recorded in order to check the correct and incorrect of the students' pronunciation. The data of the research consisted of 8 diphthongs and each diphthong consisted of 3 words including in the word diphthongs. The total words in this study were 24 words. The result of this research showed that most of English students pronounced English diphthongs [eɪ], [oʊ], [aʊ], [ɪə], [eə] and [ʊə] incorrectly. It showed that the students still did not know about English diphthongs. Meanwhile, the students were good at pronouncing diphthongs such as [aɪ] and [ɔɪ] with more than 58% of correct pronunciation.

Based on the previous study above, it can be concluded that the research data found types of diphthong, namely centering and closing diphthong. There are also research results that are the same as the writer's, namely closing diphthong are found and there is rare found centering diphthong.

METHOD

In this study, the writer use qualitative method in order to analyze the differences between Joe Biden and Boris Johnson pronouncing diphthong. In this case, the writer will analyze Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. According to Bogdan and Biklen (1982:27) qualitative research is descriptive which the data is collected in the

form of words or pictures rather than numbers. Data in the form of quotes from documents, field notes, and interviews or excerpts from videotapes, audiotapes, or electronic communications are used to present the findings of the study.

The Source of Data

The source of the data is will be taken form the speech by Joe Biden and Boris Johnson which uploaded data 5 January 2022. Therefore, the data source must also be original data or actual data without falsification

The Techniques of Collecting Data

The technique of data collection in this study are as follows: the writers downloaded the video of the speech Joe Biden and Boris Johnson on YouTube. Next the writers writing transcription of the speeches from YouTube.

The Techniques of Analyzing Data

The steps for analyzing the data are described in the discussion below. The purpose of this study is to classify the centering and closing diphthong used in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. First, the writers transcribed the speech orthographically and classified the English diphthong from the speech based on Kelly (2000). The writers then identified the differences pronouncing diphthong and transcribed it into phonetic transcription. Finally, writers analyzed the differences of pronunciation and types of diphthong by Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech and concluded it.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The result of this study are the answers to the formulation of the problem formulated before. The data presented is based on analyzing the speech transcription on Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. Based on the data analysis, it is found that there are two types of diphthong in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech which consist of centering diphthong and closing diphthong. The occurrence of data from each diphthong can be seen in the following table.

Types of Diphthong		Number of Occurrence
Centering Diphhtong	iə	3
	eə	2
	ʊə	0
Closing Diphthong	eɪ	5
	aɪ	6
	ɔɪ	0
	aʊ	3
	əʊ	1
Total		20

The types of diphthong in Joe Biden speech

Types of Diphthong		Number of Occurrence
Centering Diphhtong	iə	0
	eə	4
	ʊə	2
Closing Diphthong	eɪ	5
	aɪ	2

	ɔɪ	0
	aʊ	3
	əʊ	3
Total		19

The types of diphthong in Boris Johnson speech

Discussion

This section explained the discussion on the findings which had been found by the writer. The present study presented a discussion of the result of data analyze about types and the differences in the pronunciation of diphthong based on the theoretical framework by Kelly Gerald (2000). This study discusses about types of diphthong and differences pronunciation of diphthong.

Kelly Gerald divided diphthong into two of diphthong, they were centering diphthong and closing diphthong. In the present study, the writer found 35 words which included in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech transcription. After analyzing and finding the data, the writer found some results explained as follows.

Firstly, from types of diphthong, the results of the present study showed that there were 20 data that found in the Joe Biden and 19 data found in the Boris Johnson speech. In this study, the writer found two types of diphthong in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. They were centering diphthong and closing diphthong. Closing diphthong most found in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. There were 27 words that included in closing diphthong.

The present study it was found that in centering diphthong [ɪə] there is 3 words by Joe Biden, diphthong [eə] there is 2 words by Joe Biden and 3 words by Boris Johnson, diphthong [ʊə] there is 2 words by Boris Johnson. Besides, there were closing diphthong found in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech. They were diphthong [eɪ] there 5 words by Joe Biden and 5 words by Boris Johnson, diphthong [aɪ] there 6 words by Joe Biden and 1 word by Boris Johnson, diphthong [aʊ] there 3 words by Joe Biden and 2 words by Boris Johnson, diphthong [əʊ] there 1 word by Joe Biden and 2 words by Boris Johnson. The writer uses diphthongs to make it easier for the audience to understand every word spoken by someone.

From the analysis of the types of diphthong in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech transcription, in pronouncing diphthongs clear sentences, pronunciation used 2 types of diphthong. They were centering diphthong and closing diphthong. From this result, it showed some similarity and differences with previous study.

The types of diphthong in this study is closing diphthong which part of diphthong. The same result is also obtained by Dosia et al. (2017), Ponidi et al. (2021) show that there are types of diphthong founded in 2 texts which are dominated by closing diphthong. Dosia explained that production of diphthong have types, they are centering diphthong and closing diphthong. Thus, it diphthong /eɪ/ was produced 21 times, diphthong /aɪ/ was used 15 times, diphthong /ɔɪ/ was mentioned once, diphthong /aʊ/ was stated 7 times, diphthong /əʊ/ was produced 16 times.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing all the types of diphthong in the Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech transcription, the conclusion are diphthong is a sound made by combining two vowels that start as one sound and then move to another when clearly expressed. These can be achieved by using two consecutive vowels and a vowel that changes as it is pronounced. The total of data found in Joe Biden and Boris Johnson speech are 39 data of diphthong. Then the type of diphthong found in the speech is closing diphthong. The writer found the differences that Joe Biden and Boris Johnson pronounced the diphthong is in the different ways. Joe Biden pronounced diphthong with his American English, the other hand, Boris Johnson pronounced diphthong with his British English. The types of diphthong found by the writer consist of centering diphthong and closing diphthong. The type of diphthong found in the speech is closing diphthong. From Joe Biden speech, there is found diphthong [eɪ] 5 data, diphthong [aɪ] 6 data, diphthong [aʊ] 3 data and diphthong [əʊ] 1 data. Besides that, the types of diphthong found in Boris Johnson speech is closing diphthong. From his speech there is found diphthong [eɪ] 5 data, diphthong [aɪ] 2 data, diphthong [aʊ] 3 data, and diphthong [əʊ] 3 data.

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