

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Everyone in this world wants to live his or her life as simple as possible. He or she does not want to make his or her life difficult. He or she makes everything practical and quick. He or she also does it when he or she speaks or writes something. In writing, he often shortens some words into new forms so they are easy to speak and understand, such as, *NATO* which stands for *North Atlantic Treaty Organization*, *US* which stands for *United States*, *ATM* which stands for *Automatic Teller Machine*, *SCUBA* which stands for *Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus*, et cetera.

We find many ways to shorten words in our daily life especially in writing. However, not all words can be shortened. Shortening here deals with morphology. Akmajian (1984: 55) states that “morphology is the subfield of linguistics that studies the internal structure of words and the relationships among words.” That structure is called word formation. It is a process of the forming of a new word out of the existing ones. The process of word formation includes compounding, coinage, echoism, clipping, blending, borrowing, antonomasia, acronymy, reduplication, and conversion.

One of the processes of word formation is shortening such as acronym, blending, and clipping. The shortening may occur in the initial letter of the word, such as *US* for *United States* and *MD* for *Doctor of Medicine*. The shortening,

however, may occur in the syllables such as *exam* for *examination* and *temp* for *temporary*. The shortening of words in the word formation sometimes makes us confused whether it is pronounced as a word or letter by letter. The study about pronunciation here deals with phonetics. Wise (1957: 7) states that “phonetics is a study of significant speech sounds”. The word *NATO*, *SAR*, *UNICEF*, *RADAR* are always pronounced as words, namely /neɪtəʊ/, /særs/, /juːnɪsef/, and /reɪdɑː/ while *BBC*, *UN*, *WHO* are pronounced letter by letter, namely /biːbiːsiː/, /juːen/, and /dʌlbiːjuːeɪtʃəʊ/.

The word shortening is interesting to be analyzed for two reasons. Firstly, not all the words can be shortened. Secondly, the shortened words may be different in pronunciation.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In this research, the writer will analyze some problems related to the topic of discussion. The problems of the study are answering the following questions :

1. How is the formation of word shortening in the *Time*?
2. How are the words pronounced?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In this thesis, the writer has two aims. They are as the following :

1. To analyze the formation of the word shortening in the *Time*.

2. To describe the pronunciation of shortened words.

1.4 The Scope and Limitation

Word formation refers to morphology. It is the basic branch of linguistic study which concerns with the structure of words. Here, the researcher will focus on word formation through shortening, namely acronym, blending, and clipping. Besides, this research is also on how to pronounce the new words which deal with phonetics, a study about speech sounds. Thus, the scope is limited to analyze the formation of the word shortening and to describe the pronunciation of shortened words.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Hopefully this research will give new information to the readers, so they know about word formation especially the words shortening and how to pronounce the words. For other researchers, this research can be significant reference for doing further research on the word shortening.