

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

English is one of the global languages and it is increasingly important for personal, academic, and professional growth and needs. Especially for people who will study or work abroad. Improving English language can be done with a strategic and linguistic-based approach that can make a significant contribution to effective communication. It takes a process to learn English, but if you try to study it consistently, it will end in ease. Learning English can also improve communication skills, critical thinking, and creative thinking skills. English will hone the contents inside our heads, because the words or sentences that will be issued use a different language than those usually used.

English is not an easy language to learn. Therefore, there are certainly some difficulties and challenges in learning it, especially for people who are not familiar with English. The difficulties encountered can be in writing, reading, listening and even pronunciation. (Mawar, 2022) added that the difficulty in learning English is the difficulty of pronunciation in reading because of the difference in articulation between reading and pronunciation. Written words are not necessarily the same in reading and pronunciation and otherwise. Then, (Karunia, 2021) also argued that the difficulties experienced were also in the form of some people feeling they did not have the ability and time to learn English. And other people who have time, they feel that instructors or teachers do not always provide their teachings correctly to students during the learning method. Therefore, in learning English, supporters are needed. Example, support from the environment, such as family, friends, social-circles, etc. And the main one is consistency in the deepest heart to learn it.

There are various accents in English, (Ambalegin & Handayani, 2023) argue that there are many English accents produced by speakers based on their place of origin. The most familiar accents are the British and American Accent. This demonstrates the existence of language variation in English. British and American English originate from the same language system but developed separately in

different social and historical contexts. Consequently, differences between British and American English arise in pronunciation, phonology, spelling, and vocabulary. However, the focus of this study is on differences in vocabulary. These differences do not hinder communication but instead reflect the richness of English as an international language.

Vocabulary is a collection of English words and phrases used to communicate. According to Yule (2010), vocabulary is part of the lexical system of language that functions as the basic unit of meaning formation in communication. In the study of linguistics, vocabulary can undergo variations that help distinguish British and American English. Vocabulary variation is an important aspect because vocabulary is the most easily observed element of language in daily communication. Because language can be influenced by its speakers and the social environment in which it is used. Therefore, the difference in vocabulary between British English and American English can be understood as a reflection of the social and cultural identity of the speaker.

Representation of vocabulary variation in British and American English can be done in various ways. The most common way is by watching British and American films. Watching films can be used for education, entertainment, and as a source of information. In addition, films often use language that resembles real communication, making them a relevant data source for linguistic research. The film used in this study is *Love at First Sight (2023)*. The film script was written by Katie Lovejoy, featuring two main characters with different linguistic backgrounds: Hadley as an American and Oliver as a British. These background differences are consistently represented by Lovejoy through the choice of vocabulary used in their dialogue. This difference not only shows spelling variations, but also reflects the cultural factors and social identity of each character. Thus, the use of this vocabulary serves to emphasize the linguistic background of each character.

Love at First Sight (2023) is an American romantic comedy movie directed by Vanessa Caswill and written by Katie Lovejoy, based on the 2011 novel *The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight* by Jennifer E. Smith. The 91-minute film tells the story of two strangers, Hadley (Haley Lu Richardson) and Oliver (Ben

Hardy), who become close on a trip to London, only to be separated by fate. They both believe that meeting again will be impossible. But love has a way of overcoming obstacles and bringing them back together. This film is not only describing the romantic story of the couple Hadley and Oliver, but also the relationship between the two main characters with their families. Where Hadley must accept that her father chooses to remarry, and Oliver's relationship with his mother who feels that her time is running out (Marcinda, 2023).

Thus, media platforms such as films can be a source of information about how vocabulary is used differently, reflecting the cultural and national backgrounds of the characters. Therefore, this film can be used as an analysis of vocabulary differences between two varieties of English in a natural communication context, focusing on a comparative analysis of British English and American English vocabulary found in the dialogue of *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script. This study seeks to identify various forms of vocabulary differences and explain the factors that contribute to the use of vocabulary differences in the movie script.

Therefore, this research can help us analyse the comparative differences in vocabulary between Standard British English and General American English. These differences may reflect the characteristics of the language and vocabulary used by the two main characters in different sociocultural contexts. It will also provide an explanation of the factors that support these vocabulary differences. Therefore, it is important to analyse and better understand how this study provides insight into the differences in vocabulary between Standard British English and General American English and the factors that influence these differences through the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background of the problem that has been described above, the problems of this research are identified as follows:

There are differences in vocabulary between British Standard English and General American English in the script of the film *Love at First Sight (2023)*. The vocabulary used by each character reflects their different cultural backgrounds and

linguistic identities. The factors influencing the differences between the two varieties will also be explained. A comparison between Standard British English and General American English will be presented in *Love at First Sight (2023) Movie Script*.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, limitation of the problem is necessary so that the research is more focused on the problem to be solved. This study focuses on the main vocabulary differences between Standard British English and General American English found in the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script with categories in daily activities, spelling, and slang. And also, factors influencing the differences between the two varieties will be explained. Furthermore, data collection is based solely on the script and does not include other external sources or spoken dialogue.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

- 1) What are the vocabulary differences between Standard British English and General American English which found in *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script?
- 2) What factors that influence the emergence of vocabulary differences in the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script?
- 3) What language variety is more dominant that found in the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script based on comparative analysis?

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem has been written, the expected objectives of this research are as follows:

- 1) To identify the vocabulary differences between Standard British English and General American English which found in *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script.
- 2) To explain factors that influence the emergence of vocabulary differences in the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie.

- 3) To explain language variety is more dominant that found in the *Love at First Sight (2023)* movie script based on comparative analysis.

1.6 Benefits of the Research

Based on the objective of the research to be achieved, this research is expected to have benefits for everyone, both directly and indirectly. The benefits are as follows:

1) Theoretical Benefits

Theoretically, the result of this research can be useful for learning to differentiate the vocabulary between Standard British English and General American English.

2) Practical Benefits

1) For Students and EFL Learners

With this research, it is hoped that it can help students and EFL Learners understand the differences in vocabulary and improve their understanding skills, such as speaking and listening better in English.

2) For Teachers

With this research, it is hoped that this research will provide various references to teachers in teaching English, especially in vocabulary that influences communication needs and information delivery in the real world.

3) For Researchers

With this research, researchers can share their motivation and new experience of learning English. And also, it can increase insight into English vocabularies with two different accents.

1.7 Systematic Organization of the Research

Chapter 1 : INTRODUCTION

In introduction, it consists of the background of the problem which explains what is interesting about this research. Then, it continues to the other sub-chapters, which consist of identification of the problem, limitation of the problem,

formulation of the problem, objective of the research, benefit of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

Chapter 2 : THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In this chapter, the researcher presents relevant theories and previous research regarding the vocabulary differences between British and American English.

Chapter 3 : RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter discusses data collection and analysis techniques. The researcher used comparative qualitative research to analyze vocabulary differences between Standard British English and General American English. Data collection is conducted by analyzing the *Love at First Sight* movie script and reviewing several sources, books, and journals related to the film.

Chapter 4 : COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF STANDARD BRITISH ENGLISH AND GENERAL AMERICAN ENGLISH IN THE LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT (2023) MOVIE SCRIPT

This chapter consists of the answers of the problem formulation outlined in Chapter I. The data obtained is analyzed and provide final results regarding the vocabulary differences in *Love at First Sight (2023)* Movie Script, and the factors that influence the emergence of differences in vocabulary.

Chapter 5 : CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the conclusion of all chapters is explained.