

## Abstract

This study was intended to identify the perceptions of English Language Education students from a private university in Yogyakarta regarding the various accents of the English language. From the researcher's point of view, the students of English Language Education in this private university seem to rate accents from English-speaking countries higher than accents from countries that use English as a second or foreign language, despite them not being able to speak in accents from the former category. The researcher wanted to find the reason for this phenomenon, and whether or not having a preferred accent has helped them learn the English language.

To that end, the researcher has interviewed five students of English Language Education from a private university in Yogyakarta regarding their accents, their view on accents, and if having an accent has helped them learn English. The researcher used qualitative design to conduct the research for more detailed answers and used a custom interview instrument made for this research only. The results of the research indicate that while the students have a mixed view of accents and use various accents themselves, having a familiar accent to use when learning English has helped them learn the language better. Being familiar with an accent and mimicking the source of language input (for example: their lecturers) gives the participants an easier time when learning the English Language.

Keywords: English language, English language education students, world Englishes, accents, familiarity.