## **PREFACE**

This thesis entitled "Exploring the Impacts of L1 Interference on English Pronunciation Difficulties Among Pre-Service English Teacher Students in EFL Context" is submitted to fulfill one of the requirements for obtaining the Sarjana Pendidikan degree at the English Education Department, Faculty of Educational Sciences and Teachers' Training, Siliwangi University, Tasikmalaya.

This thesis consists of background information explaining the reasons for conducting this research, a literature review, methodology, research findings, discussions, conclusions, and suggestions. The first chapter outlines the background of the study, highlighting the research gap, formulation of the problems, research objectives, and significance of the study. The second chapter presents a literature review covering concepts related to EFL learners, pronunciation difficulties, L1 interference, and pronunciation learning strategies. The third chapter describes the research design, focus of the study, setting, and participants, data collection procedures, and data analysis stages employing Braun and Clarke's thematic analysis framework. The research findings are presented in the fourth chapter, including four main themes and one additional finding generated from interview data, accompanied by acoustic analysis using Praat software to compare the participants' vowel production with native speaker formants. The fifth chapter presents conclusions drawn from the research findings and offers suggestions for future studies concerning pronunciation learning among EFL students.

This thesis would not have been accomplished without the guidance, encouragement, and support of several people, which are sincerely expressed in the acknowledgment section. Finally, the writer humbly welcomes any suggestions and constructive criticism from readers to enhance this work. Hopefully, this thesis may contribute valuable insights and benefits for both the writer and readers in the field of English language learning and teaching.

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