

First Language Acquisition Analysis Of A One Year Five Month Child “Mateo”

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Abstract: *First language acquisition has an essential role in children development. This paper aimed to know the use of language acquisition by a Youtube video. Descriptive qualitative has been used to carry out this research. It used five procedures of collecting the data are taking the data from a Youtube video, transcribing the video, classifying, identifying, observing and analyzing the data. Findings revealed from a child named Mateo that the speech contained phonological, morphological, and syntactical acquisition that showing the development of children in early acquisition. There were 37 words produced with all initial /b/. /d/, /h/, /m/, /n/. /p/. /m/ and /p/ from initial sounds. Then, in syntax acquisition, the researcher found 2 commands. Thus, Mateo’s language acquisition has revealed morphological, phonological, and syntactical acquisition..*

Keyword: *language-acquisition, morphology, phonology, and syntax*

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INTRODUCTION

Language is the bridge of communication despite the boundaries that exist between human in the society. Communication happens because human have been acquisitioned the language since they were children (Ganji, Srivalli, & Dasaradhi, 2017). This acquisition happens unconditionally, unconsciously, and implicitly because it is naturally happening to the children when they know their first language (hanafi, Hasan, & Kusumaningsih, 2020). Children in age 0 to 5 years old acquire a language in their way (Castello, 2015). It is happening during their linguistic period where they were able to perform several language tasks, including negating sentence, asking questions, using pronoun,

verbs, and nouns (Meniado, 2016). They responds it orally even though they perform it with some mistakes. This first language acquisition is complex since it combine the cognitive, behavior and habit (Masykur, 2017). Naturally, children assume the language is right because the adult give positive reinforcement after they spoke (Astia, 2020). Besides, they also correct if the children make some mistakes. Moreover, children are great imitator (Arung, 2016). They imitate the phrases or sentences used by their parents (Meniado, 2016 and Astia, 2020). Yet, sometimes they used it incorrectly because they did not know the meaning of those things. So, this is the observable language process of children.

Children's language acquisition is not happening instantly (Santosa, 2021). It started with babbling, knowing first words, and connecting it into sentences. This started in 0 to 3 years old with cooing, gurgling, and crying (Meniado, 2016). Then, the language period in 1 to 5 years old happens when children present cognitive and morphological development (Meniado, 2016). Thus, at 4th and 5th year they acquire the grammatical structures. There are some factors that affects the first language acquisition, including latency, cognitive, affective, competence and performance (Hutauruk, 2015). After that, children will show their progress through language universal, communicative competence, discourse competence, style, and nonverbal communication. From those, children find it difficult in grammar and discourse because they need to put the word in a correct order and based on the situation (Noermanzah, 2015).

The unique things is that children can acquire more than one first language just because the exposure from the environment. Also works because of the use of Language Acquisition Device (LAD) in Nativist theory by Chomsky (Novalita, 2017). The first language acquisition happens unconsciously during informal activity and depending on their attitude (Ganji, Srivalli, & Dasaradhi, 2017). Also, they use feel to the grammar with the stable order. Thus, English have big number of speakers' population around the world (Ganji, Srivalli, & Dasaradhi, 2017).

In line several with previous studies, this topic has widely discussed in previous study. The first research created by Noermanzah in 2015. It observed the bilingual family in Sumatera Barat, Indonesia. The subject Akmal Mirza Ukhail (1.4 years) produced some words, including 55% of verbs, 35% noun, 55% verbs, 5% question words, 5% adjectives and adverb (Noermanzah, 2015). Then, this research

followed by the research from Bunga Astya in 2021. It analyze the speech producing of the word '*pantai*' from a child (2.5 years). The process of pronouncing the word need more time. It concluded that the production ability is lower than the perception ability. Then the last research was analyzed the phonological acquisition only. The process analyzed both on vowel and consonant. It revealed the child never pronounced /k/, /s/, and /j/. (Safitri & Hakim, 2018)

The points that described above occur to a one year five month child narrated to the present article, Mateo. He just started to learn a language especially English and his mom is always there to record every single process of his language acquisition. In daily routine, Mateo only spent his day in his house. He communicate quite active as his mother actively communicate with him.

From the discussion above, the language acquisition of children influenced in two ways, namely genetically and environmentally. But, different child used different acquisition. To sum up, the aim of this study is to discuss the language acquisition in various aspects, namely phonology, morphology, and syntax of a one-year-five-month-old child.

RESEARCH METHOD

Descriptive qualitative research design used in conducting the research since this research is only describing the data (Nassaji, 2015). The subject of the study was a baby boy named Mateo, 1.5 years old. The language used was English. The researcher used documentation and observation in obtaining the data. In collecting and analyzing the data, the researcher used several steps, including taking the data from a Youtube video, transcribing the video, classifying, identifying, observing and analysing the data (Smith-Lock, 1993). The model of the analysis was using a model from Miles and

Huberman that employs data collection, data reduction, data display and conclusion (Miles, 2014).

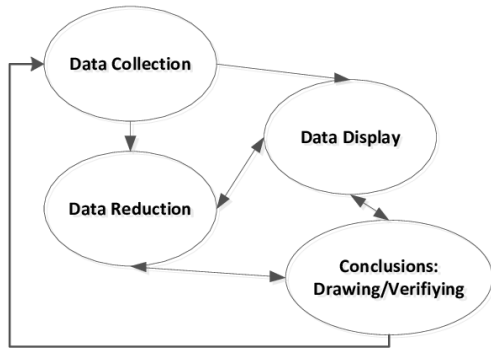


Figure 1. Data Analysis Model

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It analyzed 3 aspects of language acquisition, including phonological, morphological, and syntactic acquisition at 1.5 old year olds. The phonological acquisition aimed to know the children’s letter mastery (Septyanti & Charlina, 2018). Morphological acquisition has a relation with words (Wahida, 2019). Meanwhile, the syntactic acquisition is more complex to a sentence. (Thuresson, 2011)

The researcher would analyze phonological process in the beginning, ending, and middle in each words. In 2 year olds, a child should be mastered 11 phonetics. First, /b/, /d/, /h/, /m/, /n/, and /p/ for initial sounds. Second, /m/, /b/, /m/ for the medial sounds. Third, /m/ and /p/ for the final sounds.

Acquisition of Phonology

Table 1. Acquisition of Phonology

Age	Initial Sounds	Medial Sounds	Final Sounds
1.5 years	/m/, /d/, /t/, /k/, /n/, /f/, /p/, /w/, /g/	-	/t/, /k/, /n/

The initial sounds used by the child were moning (morning), dip – drape, don-down fillus, trak- truck, catch- catch, nos-noze, figer-fingers, pis-please, wat- white, biu-blue. geen- green, pik-pink, kak-cake, and kat ;cat. Then, some final sounds as follows, it –sit, kik- thank, geen- green, bok-book. But, Mateo could not mastered the medial sounds / f /, / g /, / k /, / ng /, / p /, / t /, / l /, / r /. It can be seen in some examples, as follows figers-fingers, geen-green, and biu-blue. From those, he have not been mastered in / f /, / h /, / k /, / r /, / v /, / x /, and / z /.

Acquisition of Morphology

Here, Mateo has already mastered the part of speech, such as noun, verb, adjective, and adverb even though he still pronounced some words in difficult way. He only produced the base word without any morphological process. The noun that produced by Mateo are 20 words. The adjective produced by him are 10 words. Those words as follows papol-purple, yeyo-yellow, ois- orange, mow- brown, wat-white, biu-blue, ey- grey, geen- green, pik-pink, and yed-red. The verb that mastered is only one and that is ‘catch’. The same case also happened in adverb with the unclear word ‘pis’ please. Based on the data above, there are 37 words that have produced by Mateo.

Acquisition of Syntax

After watching the video, we can conclude that Mateo could not make a full sentence, yet he could create some expressions. Those were expressed with 3 request central. First, at this age Mateo perform a simple requested, as follows commands, statement terbaru, and top requested statement in last 2 minutes. It consisted 2 commands, 2 request statement, and 1 statement. The words including, it doun-sit down, ofoll- don’t fall, agui- ice cream omo (no more) kikyuu-thank you, The commands are sit down ‘it doun’

and don't fall 'onfoll. This used to tell his mom to do something. Two statement are no more 'omo' as the sign oh him to refuse something and thank you 'kikyu' to say the gratitude after lots of sharing. Meanwhile, the statement's request used that is ice cream 'agui' because he wanted to request an ice cream.= Thus, this held because the researcher wanted the paper to be useful for the reader.

CONCLUSION

This phonological, morphology, and syntax are known greatly. There were 37 words produced with all initial /b/. /d/, /h/, /m/, /n/. /p/. /m/ and /p/ from initial sounds. In contrast, there is no medial sounds in this speech, yet there were only error, including figers-fingers, geen-green, and biu-blue. Then, in syntax acquisition, the researcher found 2 commands ('it doun' and don't fall 'onfoll), 2 request statement (no more 'omo' and thank you 'kikyu'). Also, Mateo used a statement request that is ice cream.

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