



INDONESIAN PHONOLOGY ACQUISITION FOR FOUR YEARS OLD GIRLS

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ABSTRACT

The Phoneme is the smallest unit of a language. In the process of adapting the sound, the children with phonological disorder will be difficult to distinguish the sounds that have the same area of articulation or type of sound. This research method is a case study with the research subject is Leticia Unna Alfatunnisa; a four years child. The results show that Una has acquired most of the phonemes in Indonesian. Una has acquired all the vowels, and most of the consonants. This occurs due to phonological disorders due to age factors which result in the speech apparatus or muscles used for speaking (speech motor) being incomplete or not fully developed; from the arrangement of the teeth, the shape of the jaw, to the tongue which may still be stiff.

Key words: Phoneme, language, case study

INTRODUCTION

Language is the sound of words that are used as a means of communication. Language is used as a means of communication among the communities, in the form of sounds, voices, signs/signals or symbols created by humans to convey what is in their hearts to other people (Markub, 2015). Each person goes through a different language acquisition process. A person's first language is the mother tongue that children learn from their environment.

Language acquisition is the initial process of language mastery carried out by children naturally when they learn their mother tongue. This process takes place in a child's brain when he acquires his first language or mother tongue. Language acquisition is usually distinguished from language learning. Language learning is always related to the processes that occur when

a child learns a second language after he has acquired his first language. Parents are asked to understand language development in children and understand that the character of social influence is very important for the child's education.

A child's phonological system can be observed through its development when the child begins to say his first words using good language rules and conveying meaning accurately. Therefore, the child's sound system is characterized by the start of communication when the child is about one year old.

METHODS

Research methods are basically scientific methods used to obtain data with specific purposes and uses (Sugiyono, 2015). The method used in this research is a qualitative method with a case study approach with documentation. This documentation functions as evidence of the observation process, and through this documentation it can also be a way of anticipating errors or mistakes in the assessment process (Amelin, Ramadan, & Gani, 2019). Through this qualitative method, the acquisition and development of phonology in a child will be described. The research object used is a case study of a girl named Leticia Unna Alfatunnisa who was born on July 15 2019. The informant in the research is the main informant. The main informant is someone who provides the main information in the research, namely Leticia Unna Alfatunnisa who is currently 4 years old. To make it easier for researchers to collect data, researchers use supporting instruments in the form of notebooks, recording equipment and cameras.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Vowels and Consonants Acquisition

a. Vowels Acquisition

The shape of a vowel sound can be seen if it meets the following criteria (1) height and low of the tongue, (2) position of the tongue, (3) tension of the tongue, and (4) shape of the lips (Dardjowidjojo, 2003); (Abdul Chaer, 2007). The position of the tongue can be vertical or horizontal. Vertically, vowels are differentiated into high vowels, for example the sounds [i] and [u]; middle vowels, for example the sounds [e] and [ə]; low vowels, for example the sound [a]. Horizontally, vowels can be distinguished by front vowels, for example the sounds [i] and [e]; central vowel, for example the sound [ə]; and back vowels, for example the sounds [u] and [o]. The acquisition of vowels according to the shape of the mouth is divided into rounded vowels and unrounded vowels. Based on the position of the tongue and the shape of the mouth, the vowels are differentiated as follows [i] is an unrounded high front

vowel, [e] is an unrounded mid front vowel, [ə] is an unrounded mid central vowel, [o] is a rounded middle back vowel, [a] is a low, unrounded central vowel (Abdul Chaer, 2007). Based on Maksan's stage of language acquisition, Una's age is included in the full proficiency stage, namely when she is 4 to 5 years old. Una's vocal acquisition is illustrated in the following table.

Table 1
Vowels Acquisition

Vowels	Spoken Vowels	Phonem Release	Phonemic Changes
a	[a]	-	-
i	[i]	-	-
u	[u]	-	-
e	[e]	-	-
ə	[ə]	-	-
o	[o]	-	-

Una's (research subject's name) vowel acquisition as illustrated in the table explains that Una had acquired all her vowels at the age of 4 years. Una can pronounce these vowels quickly and is not tied to the placement of the phoneme. All vowels can be pronounced by Una even if the letter is at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of a word. Una fluently says the words *apel*, *ikan*, *merah*, and other words without any problems. So, Una's vocal acquisition at the age of 4 years has reached a perfect stage.

b. Consonants Acquisition

Consonant sounds are differentiated based on three criteria, namely the position of the vocal cords, place of articulation, and method of articulation.

The place of articulation is nothing other than the speech tool used to produce the sound. Based on the place of articulation, we recognize consonants: Bilabial, namely the sounds [p], [m], and [b]. Labiodental, namely the sounds [f] and [v]. Laminoalveolar, namely the sounds [t] and [d]. Dorsovelar, namely the sounds [k] and [g]. Based on the way of articulation, Hambai consonants can be distinguished, namely the sounds [p, b, t, d, k, g]. Shifts, for example the sounds [f, s, and z]. Blend, namely the sounds [c] and [j]. Nasal or nasal sounds, for example the sounds [m], [n], and [ŋ]. Trill or thrill, for example the consonant [r]. Side or lateral, for example the consonant [l]. Approximations or approximations or often also called semi-vowels. For example, the consonants [w] and [y] (Abdul Chaer, 2012).

Table 3
Words Changes

Words	Spoken Words	Phonem Release	Phonemic Changes
Ikan	[itan]	/k/	/k/ to /t/
Tiga	[tida]	/g/	/g/ to /d/
Nemo	[yemo]	/n/	/n/ to /y/
Empat	[epat]	/m/	-
Stroberi	[stobeyi]	/r/	/r/ to /y/
Hewan	[hewa]	/n/	-
Ekor	[etol]	/k/, /r/	/k/ to /t/, /r/ to /l/
Dolpin	[dolpin]	-	-
Burung	[bulung]	/r/	/r/ to /l/

Jerapah	[ceyapah]	/j/, /r/	/j/ to /c/ /r/ to /y/
Dinosaurus	[dino]	/s/, /a/, /u/, /r/, /u/, /s/	-
Gajah	[dajah]	/g/	/g/ to /d/
Ayam	[ayam]	-	-
Kepiting	[tepiting]	/k/	/k/ to /t/
Kudaniil	[tudaniil]	/k/	/k/ to /t/
Kucing	[tucing]	/k/	/k/ to /t/
Octopus	[optopus]	/c/	/c/ to /p/
Singa	[sina]	/g/	-
Kura-kura	[kuya- kuya]	/y/	/r/ to /y/
Merah	[meyah]	/r/	/r/ to /y/
Kelinci	[kenci]	/l/, /i/	-

Una tends to change the phoneme /r/ to /y/, /g/ to /d/, /k/ to /t/, /r/ to /l/, which on average occurs in every word that has these phonemes. and phoneme deletion as in table 3 above.

CONCLUSION

At the age of 4 years, Una has acquired most of the phonemes in Indonesian. Una has acquired all the vowels, and most of the consonants. It cannot be denied that there are some consonants that are still a bit difficult to pronounce.

This occurs because phonological disorders can be caused by age factors which result in the speech apparatus or muscles used for speaking (speech motor) being incomplete or not fully developed; from the arrangement of the teeth, the shape of the jaw, to the tongue which may still be stiff. This is in line with what says that apart from using language structures that are still chaotic, children also tend to still master limitations in vocabulary and correct pronunciation of phonemes.

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