

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of study, identification of the problem, formulation of the problem, objectives of the study, contribution of the study, limitation of the study and previous research.

A. Background of the Study

Language is a tool that used by human to communicate with each other.¹ The role of language as a medium of conveying messages, ideas, interacting and communicating, so that language can be used to explain meanings and thoughts. Language is used to communicate between people in the form of symbols that are generated from speech. Therefore, language can be said to be a symbol of sound and can be used to interact, communicate and identify oneself. Language is very important, because if someone learns language, in essence that person is studying the human essence that makes humans unique.² So, language is a communication tool

¹Sitti Rabiah, language as a tool for communication and cultural reality discloser, Faculty of Letter Universitas Muslim Indonesia, Makassar. 3

²Elsa Rakhmanita, Kajian Psikolinguistik Terhadap Gangguan Berbahasa Autisme, 2020, 2. <https://doi.org/10.31227/osf.io/s8mu5>.

used by humans to convey messages, ideas and meanings from speech.

Language is the object of linguistics, linguistics formulates explanations which are designed to account for the phenomenon of language. The central goal of linguistics is the development of various aspects of language and theories of general linguistic theory.³ The process of language originating from the human brain, both speaker and listener. Psycholinguistics describes in detail the psychological processes that take place when a person speaks the languages he listens to when communicating and how language skills are acquired by humans. Psycholinguistics is defined as a combination approach between psychology and linguistics to examine language discussion material, language in its use, metamorphosis of language, as well as a combination of the two which are interconnected which are difficult to get through each science separately or independently. which language process in man reflected in his state of mind.⁴ Psycholinguistics discusses the

³ Jufrizal, *Language and Linguistic*, 1.25. Accessed on epository.ut.ac.id/4878/1/PBIS4202-M1.pdf.

⁴ Sri Suharti, Wakhilah, Ningsih, Jamaluddin et al, *Kajian Psikolinguistik* (Aceh: Yayasan Penerbit Muhammad Zaini, 2021). 165.

relationship between language and thought.⁵ So, language is the object of linguistic study and language activity is the object of psycholinguistic study. Language is the process of expressing thoughts and feelings (from the brain) orally in the form of words or sentences. It relates to psycholinguistics because Psycholinguistics deals with the relationship between the human brain and language.

Psycholinguistic work is focused on language learning and speech processing and speech understanding for children and adults. Traditional areas of research include language production, language comprehension, language acquisition, language disorders, language and thought, and neurocognition.⁶ In addition, according to Dardjowidjojo In mixghan And Antono, Psycholinguistics is a discipline that deals with language disorders. Language disorders can be divided into speech disorders, language disorders, thinking disorders, and social environment disorders. Psycholinguistic language disorder discusses a person's psychology or mentality in a situation that we have been able to get or can be found in the surrounding environment. Thus language disorders provide new

5 Titik Sudartinah, "Psycholinguistics" (Yogyakarta: English Language and Literature Study Program

Yogyakarta State University, 2012). 9.

6 Titik Sudartinah, "Psycholinguistics", 8.

knowledge about the causes that occur to a person.⁷ So, Psycholinguistics is a discipline that deals with language processes, including language disorders. Language disorders in psycholinguistics discuss the psychology or mentality of a person and the causes why it occurs.

Language disorders are closely related to language and thought, because the condition of language is the human ability to cognize. Language disorder means that there are obstacles and difficulties for a person to pronounce articulated sounds or words to express his thoughts and express feelings. Normal people are able to acquire and learn languages. However, some people also experience language difficulties, due to several reasons, for example, there is a disease or disorder that can affect a person's language skills.⁸ So, Language disorders are closely related to the mind, because language disorders have difficulty in saying what they want to convey in their minds. Language difficulties can be caused by diseases or disorders that affect the language process.

7 Mixghan Norman and Antono Nia Ifatul Mufidah, "Gangguan Berbahasa Tokoh Abang Dalam Film Rectoverso" Malaikat Juga Tahu" (Kajian Psikolinguistik)," Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra Indonesia 4, no. 2 (2017): 28.

⁸ Ajeng Illa and Lelih Maolidah, "Analisis Gangguan Berbicara : Penyakit Demensia Pada Film A Moment To Remember Dengan Pendekatan Psikolinguistik" (FKIP UNMA, 2019). 107.

Language disorders have various kinds that has been discussed in Psycholinguistics, one of which is Asperger's Syndrome which is on the autism spectrum. The autism spectrum commonly known consists of: classic autism, ADD/ADHD, PDD-NOS and Asperger's Syndrome.⁹ AS (Asperger's Syndrome) is not a designation for the name of the disease but rather a condition that affects the way the brain processes information as experienced by the sufferer other autism spectrum. AS is included in the edition 10th The International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10). Discovered by Hans Asperger in the 1940s, the peculiarity of the sufferer is excellence in processes several types of information such as facts and numbers, but difficulty understanding thoughts, feelings and ways of communicating with others.¹⁰ So, Psycholinguistics discusses various kinds of language disorders, one of which is Asperger's Syndrome. Where Asperger's syndrome belongs to the autism spectrum. This syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disorder of the brain that occurs due to a combination of psychological, physiological, and sociological factors which was discovered in 1940s by a pediatrician named Hans Asperger.

9 Rohmani Nur Indah, *Gangguan Berbahasa: Kajian Pengantar* (Malang: Uin-Maliki Press, 2017).125.

10 Rohmani Nur Indah, *Gangguan Berbahasa: Kajian Pengantar*, 132.

Asperger's syndrome is also called little professor syndrome, Asperger disorder and Asperger's syndrome. It is called the little professor syndrome because children with this syndrome often exhibit unique behaviors, ways of thinking, and communicating. This syndrome is a symptom of a brain nerve development disorder that occurs due to a combination of psychological, physiological and sociological factors. Unlike people with autism, who can be diagnosed before 2-3 years of age, people with Asperger's syndrome can usually only be detected when a child is 5-11 years old. A person with Asperger's Syndrome can exhibit a variety of characteristics and disorders. They always have difficulty reading body language and often have difficulty determining spatial orientation and shape. Having excessive sensitivity to sound, taste, smell and sight, they prefer soft clothes, certain foods. They tend to be distracted by noise or lighting that normal people cannot hear or see.¹¹

The story of a sufferer with Asperger's syndrome was later brought to the big screen by Australian director Ben Lewin. In a film called *Please Stand By*, the premise takes the theme *Star Trek* from the point of view of a sufferer of Asperger's Syndrome. There are not many Hollywood films with this theme. *The Accountant*, *My Name*

¹¹ Putri Andiny Desmaniar and Johanes Krisdianto, "Pusat Terapi Anak Autis Sindrom Asperger Di Surabaya," *Jurnal Sains dan Seni ITS* 5, no. 2 (2016): 278–282.

is Khan, and The Immitation Game are several films with the theme of autism. The researcher chooses The Please Stand By Movie, the reason why the researcher choses this movie because this movie is takes the theme of autism in a unique way where this movie tells person with Asperger's syndrome who has a high determination to achieve her dreams until she has to get out of her comfort zone and can prove that people who have limitations are able to fight to the point of success, and this movie deserves to be watched because from this film we can understand how sad it is for people who are separated from their families, always considered unable to be alone and do not get the trust to achieve their dreams.

The Please Stand By Movie was released theatrically on May 1, 2018 in Indonesia.¹² This movie tells the story of a girl who has mental retardation or autistic Asperger's Syndrome named Wendy, played by Dakota Fanning. Even so, in fact Wendy has intelligence above average than girls her age. The condition that Wendy has experienced since childhood is complemented by her lack of flexibility in socializing with the human world around her. Including the weak ability to absorb and cultivate knowledge related to daily routines.

¹² Please stand by, https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Please_Stand_By. accessed on 18 February 2022.

Based on this background, the researcher want to do a study to conduct a psycholinguistic analysis of the film please stand by, by raising a research title, namely Language Disorders In Person Asperger's Syndrome in Please Stand By Movie (A Psycholinguistics Analysis). The relation between this movie with Psycholinguistics study is this movie raises the theme of people with Asperger's syndrome, where these sufferers have communication and language disorders, the study of language disorders is in the study of psycholinguistics.

In the domain of psycholinguistic study, the research about Asperger's syndrome has gain much attention since decades. Many studies had been eager to explore and describe the mechanism of language development and cognitive in person with Asperger's syndrome.¹³ This research is important because it is useful for knowing various language disorders, especially language disorders in people with Asperger's syndrome, in addition to knowing various kinds of language disorders, this research can also examine how language processes and produces using psycholinguistics studies. In addition, the reason the researcher raised this title is that the

¹³ Michele Noterdaeme, Elke Wriedt, and Christian Höhne, "Asperger's Syndrome and High-Functioning Autism: Language, Motor and Cognitive Profiles," *European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 19, no. 6 (2009): 475–481.

researcher wants to make his research useful, namely to become a reference for all language majors studying psycholinguistics. The researcher also hopes that with this research, readers will become aware of the characteristics and language disorders of people with Asperger's syndrome, especially those in their environment, so that they can better understand and know how to behave in dealing with it.

B. Identification of the Problem

Based on the description of the background of the problem, the identification of the problems found, namely

1. Wendy experienced language disorder sufferers of Asperger's Syndrome in the Please Stand By Movie.
2. The variety of language that occurs in the communication that Wendy uses in everyday life.

C. Formulation of the Problem

Based on problem identification, the researcher formulates the following problem:

1. What are the type of language disorders of Asperger's Syndrome sufferer represented by Wendy, in the Please Stand By Movie?
2. What are the characteristic of language disorders of Asperger's Syndrome experienced by Wendy in the Please Stand By Movie?

D. Objectives of the Study

In doing activities, of course there are goals to be achieved as well as this research which has the following objective:

1. To describe the type of language disorders of Asperger's Syndrome in the Please Stand By Movie.
2. To describe the characteristic of language disorders of Asperger's Syndrome in the Please Stand By Movie.

E. Contribution of the Study

Theoretically, this research can enrich knowledge about several psycholinguistic studies regarding Asperger's syndrome disorder. On the other hand, this research can also contribute to the following parties:

1. This research shows that films can be used as a means to study the types of language disorders, especially in people with Asperger's syndrome. This is one of useful media for those who want to enrich their knowledge about language disorders. Learning the types of language disorders through films will provide experience to students, especially students of the English Department to understand more about the various language disorders that are part of the psycholinguistic studies.

2. For Readers of This Research, it is hoped that this research can provide a better understanding of the speech or language disorder of people with Asperger's syndrome.
3. For the other Researchers, it is hoped that the findings and discussion in this study can be used as a reference for conducting similar research. This can make other researchers more interested and critical in analyzing films.

F. Limitation of the Study

Researchers limit the problem in this study, namely what the characteristic of language disorders and language ability problem experienced by Asperger's Syndrome sufferers.

G. Previous Research

Research by Hastarita Dewanti entitled A Psycholinguistic Analysis On Verbal And Non-Verbal Language Problem Of An Individual With Asperger Syndrome In The Movie Adam. The results showed that there were seven of the eight types of verbal language problems with Asperger's Syndrome in what Adam said as the main star in the film. The most common phenomenon is literal interpretation, followed by a lack of pragmatics, verbal fluency, wordy language, idiosyncratic use of words, discrimination and auditory distortion and odd prosody. One kind of non-existent is

sounding thoughts. The findings then show that there are five non-verbal language problems, namely stiff stares, limited facial expressions, stiff body language, inappropriate expressions and limited use of gestures. The strange gaze is the most frequent phenomenon. This phenomenon occurs because individuals with Asperger's Syndrome do not know what to look at when speaking. They cannot do more than one thing at the same time, because it can damage their concentration.¹⁴ The study of Dewanti has relevancy with the study in the terms of topic chosen which is about language disorder of Asperger Syndrome, while the difference lies in the object of the research, Dewanti study about the movie Adam but this study focus on Please Stand By Movie.

Research by Suherman entitled Language Disorder of Main Character in the Movie My Name is Khan. The purpose of this study is to describe the types of language disorders in the main character in the film My Name is Khan. In this study, it was found that the language disorder experienced by the main character, namely expressive language disorder, tells about difficulties in speaking orally but actually understands words, cannot speak a single word or

¹⁴ H Dewanti, "A Psycholinguistic Analysis Of Verbal And Non-Verbal Language Problems Of An Individual With Asperger Syndrome In The Movie Adam" (Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta, 2013).

only a few words are spoken. But when someone gives a simple command that can be understood and even obeyed, the writer finds many types of language disorders in the film, There are six dialogues related to this language disorder so that by understanding the film the reader can really see what really happened in the film My Name is Khan. The second is receptive language disorder, this is closely related to the difficulties experienced in receiving messages or information from other people conveyed through verbal or voice even though they actually understand a little about the messages conveyed by other people. The author found that there are five dialogues related to this kind of language disorder.¹⁵ The study of Suherman has relevancy with the study in the terms of topic chosen which is about language disorder, while the difference lies in the object of the research, Suherman study about the movie My Name is Khan but this study focus on Please Stand By Movie.

Research by Octavia entitled “Expressive Language Usage of Autism Sufferer” which focused on expressive use of language by motorists in communication when they could not express it verbally and non-verbally. Verbal included phonological disorder, syntactic disorder, and pragmatic disorder. Non-verbally, this included writing.

15 Suherman, “Language Disorder of Main Character in the Movie ‘My Name Is Khan’” (Universitas Islam Negeri Alauddin Makassar, 2015).

The researcher found that autism has difficulties in communicating their feelings, needs and thoughts, especially in expressive language. Therefore, he could not express his feelings, needs, ideas to properly communicate verbally and non-verbally. Verbally, it involved a phonological disorder in which the sufferer could not clearly say a set of consonants. Syntax disorder was related to the sufferer's inability to control and combine words into sentences. Pragmatic disorder, with which the sufferer could not communicate with others, for example less communication during communication. Although non-verbal is better than verbal. He could express his feelings through writing, although he had difficulty putting words together into sentences.¹⁶ The study of Octavia has relevancy with the study in the terms of topic chosen which is about language disorder, while the difference lies in the design of the research, Octavia study is categorized as case study or field research, while this research is content analysis.

This research has various similarities with previous research. However, the researcher makes a different problem formulation from previous researchers, namely the author will discuss what the characteristic of the type of language disorders and what the

¹⁶ A Octavia, "Expressive Language Usage of Autism Sufferer" (2018), <http://digilib.uinsby.ac.id/27155/>.

language ability problem in Asperger's Syndrome in please stand by
movie