

Chapter 1

Introduction

Background

Left-hemisphere and right-hemisphere are two parts of brain that are connected each other. Both left and right-hemisphere have their own specializations. Left-hemisphere, for example, deals with language, logical and analytical operation, and mathematics. While, right hemisphere is involved in recognizing emotions, recognizing faces, and perceiving the structures of things globally without analysis. The right hemisphere also deals with music and non-linguistics sound, such as noises and animal sounds (Steinberg, Nagata, Aline, 2001, pp. 318-319).

Physicologically, this division of hemisphere's order is called lateralization.

Then, the researcher is interested to analyze deeply about the lateralization of these hemispheres.

Apparently, the researcher finds that some researchers agree to language is located in left hemisphere. Therefore, the researcher chose the topic, "*the analysis of the hemisphere's role of English students in producing figurative language,*" because the researcher wants to know how the characteristic of English students, as the language learners, by seeing what part of hemisphere is dominated the English students. It is to prove whether the English students as the language learners where language, theoretically, is in left side of brain, are really dominated by left hemisphere or in the contrary, the English students are dominated by right hemisphere, or they even have balanced domination.

Furthermore, based on the Torrance theory that metaphor is in the right side of hemisphere, therefore, the researcher wants to know do the English students use right hemisphere in writing, or they use left hemisphere dominantly in writing by seeing how often they use metaphor in writing.

Then, to support this research, English students are chosen as the participants. English students are chosen not only because this research needs data in English written, but also because English students are the language learners which they are the main target of this research. However, the problem has been founded in English students as the language learners.

However, the previous study related to this research is stated by Steinberg, et al. (2001, p. 319), who said that for most people, language is in the left hemisphere. Language is located in the right hemisphere in less than 5 person of the US population. For these persons, in addition to language, all other specific left and right hemispheric functions are also reversed. For convenience sake, we shall use the majority case (left hemisphere for language, etc) for the purpose of discussion. In addition to language, the left hemisphere is concerned with logical and analytical operations, and higher mathematics.

Hence, this research must be conducted because this research provides some information to the reader how the English students, which are the language learners, use their hemisphere and which hemisphere work dominantly in their brain. This research also can help, whether teacher or student, in deciding a good method in teaching-learning process. Besides, at the previous time, there was no a research

related to hemispheres that is conducted in English Department of State University of Gorontalo. This research is the first research related to the hemisphere. As the result, this study can be a pilot study for the next researcher who wants to conduct the same research related to neuro-linguistic.

Research question

The research questions are:

1. What hemisphere does dominate the English students' brain?
2. What hemisphere does mostly produce the figurative language?

Purpose of Research

Based on the research question of this research, the purpose of this research is to know whether the English students as the language learners are dominated by left hemisphere, or in the contrary, the English students are dominated by right hemisphere. Besides, the researcher also wants to investigate what hemisphere mostly produces the figurative language.

Significance of Research

The significance of this research refers to some aspects: for teacher, this research can help teacher to decide what method that suits for students who are dominated by right or left-hemisphere and it will help the teachers in deciding the good strategy in teaching-learning process.

For students, this research can help students to recognize what part of brain is dominating their brain. Then, it can help them in deciding their learning style. If

students know what part of brain is dominating their brain, it helps students in studying.

For English Department, this research will be useful for English Department. By understanding the typical of language learners, especially, English students, it should be useful in preparing a good method, learning style, even arranging a good curriculum or lesson plan for those students.

For the readers, this research provides some information related to the use of the hemisphere of English students. In this case, it can be shown which hemisphere is dominating the English student's brain. Moreover, this research can be a pilot study for the next researcher who wants to conduct the same research related to the hemisphere.

Limitation of Study

This research only focuses on analyzing whether the English students are dominated by left hemisphere or dominated by right hemisphere. Moreover, this research wants to investigate what hemisphere produces the figurative language mostly. In addition, the participants of this research are 15 students of English Department of UNG who have academic record 3.5.

Definition of Terms

Left hemisphere is a part of brain located at the left of brain, while right hemisphere is a part of brain located at the right of brain.

(Steinberg, et al. 2001)

According to Wijana and Rohmadi (2008), words not only have a literal meaning, but also have connotative or figurative meaning, which will be formed as metaphors.

It can be concluded that metaphor is a meaning that is not in literal meaning.

Metaphor: an implied Analogy which imaginatively identifies one subject with another and ascribes to the first object one or more of the qualities of the second or invest the first with emotional or imaginative qualities associated with the second.

(Holman, 1980, p. 264)