

## **Chapter I**

### **Introduction**

#### **Basic Consideration**

Language production is one of several branches of psycholinguistic study. According to Clark and Clark (1977) cited in Dardjowidjojo (2008, p. 7) there are three main things related to the psychology of language, they are; comprehension, production, and acquisition. Generally, every child will pass the process of acquiring the language. At the age of 12 months, children can produce one-word utterance when they acquire their first language even if the words are still unclear for some adults. According to Aitchison (1976) at the age of 12 months, children can produce the names of people, pets, and familiar things around their environment, this is for English as children's first language.

To elaborate, the research of Dardjowidjojo (2000) which is conducted to his grandchild "Echa" in producing Indonesian language. She showed that at the first month of her one-year-old, Echa did not show that she can produce one and two words utterances yet because of the neurological development. Children are still in this phase (neurological development) at first month of their one-year-old, which becomes the first requirement of language growth. Both theories of English and Indonesian first language theories have different view in first language acquisition

process especially on morphological and syntactical production. Therefore, this research focuses on morphological and syntactical production.

Virtually, in first language acquisition particularly on prior theory, one-word utterance occurred when Echa's age towards to the end month of first year, she can produce mono-morphemic utterance such as "tam" it means "jam" and "pah" it means "jerapah" (Dardjowidjojo, 2000 p. 119). However, the difference of occurrences factually happens when some children cannot produce one or two words utterances at 2 years old in their age even when they acquire their first language.

There are some children at the first year of their age who produce unclear words and still cannot be understood by the adults. Sometimes, the meaning will be known when parents try many times to give some things as the estimate of children desire.

This assumption is supported by some experts that the differences of children in producing one word or two words are not the strange or deviate case. The result of Bloom's research cited in Dardjowidjojo (2000) shows that there are some children can produce one and two words utterance earlier than others. Hence, biologically, every child has their proper time in acquiring process and producing words.

Indonesian children have difference schedule with other children in Indonesia likewise when the comparison between Indonesian children and English children.

Therefore, this research finds out the language production of English language in Indonesian children especially Gorontalo children. It aims to measure children's ability in mastering language because at 3-5 years old of ages are included as a

golden age where at these age, children can learn global languages. Additionally, English is not the first language of Indonesian children, but it is learned because it is foreign language. Nowadays, there are many children who are brought to the courses by their parents to learn foreign language, particularly children in Gorontalo. Because of those occurrences, this research is conducted to observe and analyze children whose age 3-5 years old are able to learn and produce morphological which is the morpheme of English language such as “book” and syntactical which is the phrase such as “beautiful girl” and complete sentence that consist of subject, verb, and object such as “I love my mother”. Thus, the data of this research will be obtained from one of English courses in Gorontalo at Kids 2 success English course. It is because this course provides a class for pre-school age student which is named Pre-runner classroom.

Furthermore, the reason of this research is conducted because of the golden age. Every child will past golden age, the age which determine children’s future because at these age, children can accept and grasp something is taught by parents particularly language. There are many children who can master various languages because those are taught and learned to them in early of their age. 3-6 years old includes in golden age because children’s memory is very strong to learn new things such as foreign language especially English language. Also, researcher want to observe the balance of biological and neurological growth that appropriate with the children language development. Biologically, children can speak if their organ of

speech are complete, the influence of the environment and people around them are correctly affection their language development. As well as neurology do, when the language is received, it will be processed by the brain so that become a comprehension of children to interact with interlocutors.

Hence, since the case is observed, this research is interesting to be conducted because children's process in producing language is gradually. Several kinds of morphemes or words, phrases, and sentences in English language are started to produce by 3-5 years old children. The first are words or morphological that will be uttered by children and after that they start to utter phrase and complete sentence or syntactical when they want to say or ask something to everyone. Usually, in reality life there are several children who cannot produce first language even foreign language although it was learned because of some factors. Thus the researcher finds out words, phrases and sentences which utter by children and factors that affect them in acquiring and producing English language. In addition, there is no previous researchers concern with the process of acquiring and producing English words and sentences in Gorontalo children yet. Basically, the acquiring of Indonesian language as first language for Indonesian children has been conducted by Dardjowidjojo and English language acquisition has been conducted by some experts such as Chomsky, Brown, etc. in western children because English is their first language.

## **Research Question**

1. What are the English morphological and syntactical utterances that can be produced by 3-5 years old children at Kids 2 Success English course?
2. What are the factors that influence children's ability in producing English morphology and syntax utterances?

## **Objective of Research**

Based on the research questions, this research aims to investigate the language production of English morphological and syntactical in children whose age 3-5 years old and also to find out the factors that influence children's ability in producing English morphology and syntax utterances.

## **Scope and Limitation of Study**

This research is limited to analyze the morphological and syntactical English production at 3-5 years old children in Kids 2 Success English course. Morphological and syntactical mean that one word and two words utterances which will be produced by each child. Although children can only produce one or two words utterances, they have prior comprehension of one sentence in their mind. However, they will produce the main word which is strict to the point to their desire.

## **Significance of Research**

This research gives some crucial contributions theoretically to the students and practically to the teachers who teach young learner and also parents.

Theoretically, this research contribution for students who want to know and understand deeply about the theory of children process in producing English language as their foreign language. Also this research can increase better and stronger knowledge of students in conducting psycholinguistic field on language production particularly in English language in 3-5 years old children.

Practically, the result of this research has benefit to teacher in understanding the ability of each child. Therefore, there will be a different treatment for each child based on the ability. In addition, this research can be a good reference for parents in guiding children to learn language because parents will know how to give the most appropriate treatment to children when they are in golden age period, because mother is their first teacher, and house is their first school.