



Therefore, not all people face their lucky fate in life, because Allah gives us weakness in every person. For example is what happens to those who have mental disorder. They get difficulty on social interaction of human. The deficit refers to the weakness which is categorized as language disorder. Language disorder refers to language disfluency which causes the damage of understanding and expression of language. As the result, they have disorder on language production and comprehension.

Language disorder are disorders which involve the processing linguistic information. Problem that may be experienced can involve phonology, syntax, semantics, or pragmatics (Carroll (1985), cited in Rofi, 2011: 13). People with language disorder may have problems in their daily conversation. Field (2004: 93) argues the problems of language disorder may be receptive (impaired language comprehension), expressive (language production), or combination of both. This case is usually experienced by the children who has a mental disorder, such as autism.

Autism in children may have impairments in both receptive and expressive. Because of these impairments, autistic children get failure to make social communication in their daily life. They also tend to have lack of eye contact and rarely play game with other people, yet they get difficulty to build social relationship (Dawson, 1989: 9). That is why they are usually ignored and neglected, and often misunderstood by the community. People sometimes define the term “autism” improperly because they have lack information about it. Some

people sometimes consider that autistic children are similar to idiot children who are different from normal children.

Actually, the word autism is already common in our ears. American psychiatrist Leo Kanner firstly introduces about autism that is known as autism spectrum disorder (ASD). He found eleven children (8 boys and 3 girls) who had the same characteristics of impairment, for instance they cannot communicate with others and do not care with their environment, so that they are like live in their own world. Based on his research, Kanner gives the common characteristics of autism, those are: the lateness of speech acquisition and the inability to use communicative speech, echolalia/ repeating the words, pronoun reversal, and impaired relationship with other people, repetitive and stereotyped play activities, and normal physical appearance (Kanner, 1943: 249-250).

The same core of deficits on Autistic children is also described by American Psychiatric Association (1994, cited in Filipek, 1999: 443). They explain autism as a neurodevelopment disorder which is characterized by the diagnosed autism criteria by a variety of symptoms that can occur in different combinations and range from mild to severe. The symptoms are from each of these categories: the first is impairment in social interaction, the second is impairment in communication, and the last is repetitive interests and behaviors such as failure to use facial expression, gestures and lack of eye contact and lack of ability to initiate a conversation with others. They also may not respond when someone calls their name or play with other children before age of three. Normal children at the age of 2 -3 begins to learn speaking, but autistic children do not

indicate language development as early as others, and some never indicate the language development. So, it needs to detect earlier when they are at this stage, because children will pass rapid development.

Lenneberg (1967) (cited in Kandel, 842) describes the stage of development in the acquisition of language. Children at the age of 3, they are able to use full sentences and make few errors and close to adult speech at the age of 4. Many investigators have claimed that the child has mastered the essential of language by the age of 4 or 5 years (e.g., McNeill, 1970; Slobin, 1971, cited in Foss, 1978: 241). Normally, children are able to speak fluently around five years. They will be able to say something, understand words, distinguish their meaning and discover the rules for recombining sounds into words then make it into a sentence and do a turn taking with the partner in conversation. But, children with autism may not follow the typical patterns of language phase. Although the children are at the age of 6, but their language stage might look like at the age of 3. Therefore, it becomes the problem when some children take longer time to pass those stages, especially when they have reached six years, in which they should have been able to talk, combine words into a sentence, understand and use the language in their daily communication.

Although the language of children who suffer autism is delayed, but phonologically, their articulation is clear enough in spite of making errors in mentioning something. Although some children with autism speak relatively fluently which is often accompanied by word meaning errors, but they are unable to use in conversation. The intonation also tends to flat and wrong in making

stress in speech. The syntactic ability is also delayed because they often echolalia (Indah and Abdurrahman, 2008: 127). Besides, young autistic children, even if verbal, have comprehension deficits (APA (1994), cited in Filipek, 1999: 444). Autistic children have some problems in acquiring a good speech process and comprehending the speech for their social interaction. In fact, they need to treat earlier.

The writer concerned with the phenomena above and wants to apply and improve the knowledge of linguistic for analyzing the language disorder especially to explore how language comprehension and production are impaired and what kinds of treatments are given to help them, because it is important to overcome their disabilities as early detection of the symptom of autism. Thus, it becomes one of ways to increase the knowledge of parents to help their autistic children. Besides, it may build parents love and patience how to face their disable children in daily life. Autism phenomenon which is already described above is not only happened in the real fact but also reflected in the movie. Here, the writer uses *After Thomas* Movie as the subject of the research to represent the autistic children phenomenon.

The writer chooses *After Thomas* movie as the subject of study because of some reasons; the first, this movie represents autistic phenomenon which story is taken from true story. It tells about the boy who suffers autism, Kyle, speaks like a parrot, because he sometimes repeats what his family says and uses it in many contexts. He seldom speaks and gets the difficulty to understand what people say, so that he gets difficulty to communicate. Although he sometimes speaks some









