



instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of a system of voluntary produces symbols (Sapir, 1921:18). When we use communication as the main term of language, language not only belongs to human being, but it also belongs to animal. All animals communicate, there appears to be as many system of communication as there are species. Animals are attracting to a spouse and so on.

Of course, the term of language between human being and animal itself is different. It is quite common to spell out the difference between animal and human communication in terms of how information conveyed. The general idea is that humans use symbols, while animals are signalling (Brinck, 1998: 3). Several different things are intended by the term signal. For one example, signals are not thought to have syntactic properties. It means that signals do not belong to grammatical categories and are not systematic and compositional. It may be like comparing two things as different as the Chinese language and a set of traffic lights (Aitchison, 2007: 26). Language is developing continually, that's one of the reasons why the writer wants to focus in this topic.

Humans are created with special organ, it is brain. Brain is the central of all the activities which are done by humans including speaking a language. Noam Chomsky believes that humans are genetically imprinted with knowledge about language is often referred to as 'the innate hypothesis' (Aitchison, 2007:21). On the other hands, a Harvard psychologist B.F. Skinner claims to explain language as a set of habits gradually built up over the years.

According to him, no complicated innate or mental mechanisms are needed (Aitchison, 2007:8). These two different arguments appear the nature-nurture controversy, the question whether language is partly due to nature or wholly due to learning or nurture. It controversy has been discussed for century, even now.

Noam Chomsky argued that children are born with a hard wired language acquisition device (abbreviated as LAD) in their brains. He later expanded this idea into that of Universal Grammar, a set of innate principles and adjustable parameters that are common to all human language. The study of universal grammar, so understood, is a study of the nature of human intellectual capacities (Chomsky, 2005: 24). The Innate theory itself means that every human being has capability to learn language. The processes through which humans acquire language are called as language acquisition where it refers to first language acquisition. It is the study of infants' acquisition of their native language. The writer is interested to focus on this topic since the language acquisition had been around all humans being in the world. All humans speak their language, that's why every human passes the process of language acquisition. Language is being a topic which is interesting and never lasting.

Even children are born with LAD, it is not the only reason why children are able to learn or acquire language. There is another factor which can support humans to develop their ability to talk. The factor itself is environment. Eric Lenneberg (1967), in his book entitle *The Biological*

Foundation of Language, says that the surrounding environment must be sufficiently rich for the ability to talk to develop adequately. Children who are born in normal environment will have the good progress in their language acquisition. On the contrary, children who are born in abnormal environment may have difficulty in their language acquisition. As what have been found in famous cases of Victor, Isabelle, Genie, Chelsea, and Hellen Keller, their language acquisitions are delayed because of their abnormal and inhuman environments or language deprivation.

Here, the writer finds the similar case of Isabelle, Genie and Chelsea in the character of Tarzan in the movie *Tarzan of the Apes* (1999). Even though it does not happen in the real life because it is only a movie, the writer considers it movie as the object of this research. The reason is that a movie can be a representation of a real life and this world is full of possibility. *Tarzan of the Apes* is a 1999 American animated adventure musical film produced by Walt Disney Feature Animation and released by Walt Disney Pictures. It movie is based on the story which has the same title “*Tarzan of the Apes*” by Edgar Rice Burroughs.

The movie “*Tarzan of the Apes*” has the time setting in the 19th century, the story begins when an English couple and their infant son escape from a burning ship, they end up on land near uncharted rainforest off the coast of Africa. The couple craft themselves a tree house from their ship’s wreckage, but they are killed by Sabor, a leopard, and the infant son is leaved alone. Kala, a mother gorilla who recently lost her son to Sabor, hears the

cries of the orphaned human infant and finds him in the ruined tree house. In spite Kala is attacked by Sabor, she can save the infant son. Kala brings the infant son to meet Kerchak, her mate, to raise the baby as her own. Even Kerchak disapproves the baby at the first, Kala can convince him. Then Kala gives the baby name Tarzan.

In short, Tarzan grows up among the gorilla families until he becomes a mature man. He has a female young gorilla, Terk, and a paranoid male elephant, Tantor. Tarzan finds himself unable to keep up with the gorillas, so he takes great efforts to improve himself to be the same with them. As a young man, Tarzan is able to kill Sabor with his crude spear and protects the troop, but Kerchak still does not believe him. Tarzan cannot speak human language until he meets with Jane, her father Professor Porter and her guide Clypton. They come to the jungle to have an observation about gorillas. Then, Tarzan realizes that there are others who are the same with him. Here, he tries to imitate all what they do as a humans and utter some words. Look likes it is the first time he acquires human language.

In the movie Tarzan of the Apes, Tarzan look likes understanding animal language. He understands the signal which is passed by many kinds of animal. Indeed, Tarzan can imitate some of its animal languages such as the voice of gorillas, leopards, etc. This scene is being the reason why the writer focuses on this movie as the object of the data. The writer tries to consider that Tarzan's first language acquisition is animal language rather than humans' language. Another reason is that over the past few centuries there have been a

number of reported cases of children raised by wolves, pigs, sheep, and other animals. Linnaeus, the famous Swedish scientist who gave our system of classifying animals into genus and species, discovered nine reports of children found in the wild and raised by animals (Steinberg, 2001:126). One thing which is similar to the story of Tarzan in the movie Tarzan of the Apes, he was raised by a mother gorilla.

The story of Tarzan of the Apes also reflects the language acquisition that must be passed by every human being. Here, Tarzan experiences the delays language acquisition. He does not hear the sounds of human language until he meets Jane. Indeed, he seems understanding animal language and has his own signal. The explanations above are the reasons why the writer decides to take this movie as the object of the research. She will try to analyze the language acquisition of the character of Tarzan and the application of the nature-nurture controversy in this case.

In making this thesis proposal, the writer is inspired by the famous cases of Isabelle, Genie and Chelsea. The case of Isabelle was found by Marie Mason in 1942. Isabelle (a pseudonym), because of her confinement with a mute mother, she did not begin to learn language until she gained her freedom at 61/2 years of age (Steinberg, 2001:135). Genie (a pseudonym) was discovered in the early 1970s in the Los Angeles area of the USA. She was 13 years old and had been locked in a small room in her house by her father for preceding 12 years. During her 12 years life, she heard no human voices (Steinberg, 2001:131). Another case in an entirely different context is that of a







