

**CHILDREN CONVERSATIONAL INTERRUPTION IN AMERICAN TV SERIES  
*STRANGER THINGS 2***

**THESIS**

**Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of The Requirements for The Sarjana Degree (S-1) of  
English Department Faculty Arts and Humanities State Islamic University of Sunan  
Ampel Surabaya**



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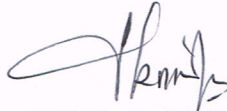
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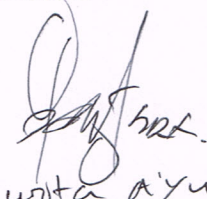
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## INTISARI

A'yunin, Q. 2019. *Children Conversational Interruption in American TV Series Stranger Things 2* English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

The State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Pembimbing: Murni Fidiyanti, M.A.

Kata kunci: *Converation Analysis, Turn-taking, Interruption, Stranger Things 2*

Tesis ini mengkaji tentang percakapan interupsi anak-anak di serial TV Amerika *Stranger Things* 2 dengan menggunakan pendekatan analisis percakapan. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi tipe-tipe dan fungsi-fungsi dari interupsi yang diucapkan oleh anak-anak di serial TV, dan untuk menganalisa perbedaan umur dalam penggunaan interupsi. Penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif sebagai metode penelitian. Data dari penelitian ini berbentuk ucapan-ucapan yang diucapkan oleh para karakter di serial TV. Dalam menganalisis data, peneliti menggunakan teori-teori interupsi dari Sacks, Schlegoff, Jefferson (1974) dan teori lain yang relevan. Sebagai hasil dari penelitian ini, peneliti menemukan empat tipe interupsi yang adalah simple, overlap, butting-in, dan silent interupsi di serial TV Amerika *Stranger Things* 2. Overlap interruption adalah tipe interupsi yang sering muncul di percakapan anak-anak. Selanjutnya, ketiga fungsi yang adalah interupsi cooperative, intrusive dan neutral muncul di serial TV ini. Anak-anak lebih sering menggunakan fungsi intrusive dibandingkan cooperative seperti menunjukkan ketidaksetujuan dan mengubah topik pembicara. Sementara itu, orang dewasa lebih sering menggunakan fungsi cooperative dibandingkan intrusive seperti menunjukkan persetujuan dan membenarkan pernyataan pembicara.

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## INTRODUCTION

Turn-taking is part of conversation analysis approach. According to Sacks, Schegloff, and Jefferson (1974, p.702-703), turn-taking is communally created behavior in communications when the human interaction involves continuous interchange between the parts of speaker and hearer which mean a person talks and another person listen. The system happen vice versa for both parties, so each person has right to talk and to listen. That system is called turn-taking. However, turn taking may not always succeed because more than one party talk at the same time when in spontaneous conversation. This violation in conversation is called interruption. Larasati (2014, p.2) states that interruption occurs when the interruptee (the existing speaker who is interrupted) is still talking when the interrupter (the person who interrupts) already receipts the floor. Usually, the interruptee stops their speech directly after the interrupter starts talking. Therefore, the researcher wants to discuss about one of turn-taking rule, that is conversational interruption.

[illegible]

[illegible]



This present study aims at filling the gaps by analyzing conversation analysis, especially in conversational interruption. The previous study analyzed conversational interruption in different gender, meanwhile, in this study, the researcher wants to analyze conversational interruption in within different ages. Therefore, children used as the subject. The researcher also calculate the interruption which occurred by children speaker and adult speaker. The similarity between the previous studies and the present study is that all of studies identify and analyze the aspects of conversation by using the same theory from Sacks, Schlegoff and Jefferson (1974).

[illegible]

## 1.2 Statement of Problems

- [illegible]

### 1.3 Research Purposes

- 1.3.1 To identify types of interruptions occur in children conversation in American TV Series *Stranger Things 2*
- 1.3.2 To identify functions of interruption occurred in children conversation in American TV Series *Stranger Things 2*
- 1.3.3 To analyze age difference in the use of interrupt functions occurred by children conversation in American TV Series *Stranger Things 2*.

## 1.4 Significance of the Research

This study is expected to give both theoretical and practical significance. Theoretically, this research provides knowledge of conversation analysis specifically in turn-taking by providing definition, types, and function of conversational interruption. The practical Significance is to fill the gaps in the area of conversation analysis research especially conversational interruption, maximizing the corpus of English Department, Faculty of arts and humanity, State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Besides, this study can contribute as additional reference for next research to invent new findings related to conversational interruption analysis.

## 1.5 Scope and Limitation

In order to get a focused explanation, The researcher focuses on conversational interruption theory by Sacks based on the conversation of

children in *American TV Series Stranger Things Season 2* (2017). The researcher uses conversation analysis approach to analyze types and functions of conversational interruption among children conversation. The researcher also analyzes age differences affect functions interruption which occurred in children and adults conversation.

## 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

**Conversation Analysis** is the study of talk-in-interaction approach which consider that daily conversations construct in social life (Litosseliti, 2010, p.121)

**Turn-Taking** is an act arrangement of conversation which speakers have control of turn to speak. The speakers exchange is the most noticeable feature in social interaction. (Liddicoat, 2007, p.51)

**Conversational Interruption** is violation of turn-taking rules of conversation when the other speaker begins to speak while the current speaker is still speaking (Coates, 2004, p,112)

*Stranger Things 2* is American Tv Series by Netflix. It is a original horror science fiction genre which published in 2017. It is a sequel from Stranger Things season 1 which published in 2016.

## CHAPTER II

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Conversation is one of ways used by society to interact each others. According to Liddicoat (2017, p.1) conversation is related with utterances which means more than structured words. Conversation does not only use the linguistic code, but also other tools, such as intonation, body language, silence, and others. In addition, conversation as a system used to connect between person and other person. However, conversation is more than preserving relationship, but also shows the way speakers to cooperate with other speaker.

Pridham (2001, p.2) states that conversation can be divided into three types, face-to-face exchanges, nonface-to-face exchanges, and broadcast materials. Face-to-face means the participants are at the same time and same place. For instance, conversation in family or in classroom which involves the speaker and listener in the same situation. Meanwhile, in non-face-to-face exchange, the participants are separately, they do not see each other, for instance in phone conversation. They do not face directly toward each other because they are in the different place. And in broadcast material, the communication is done through broadcast as the mediator, for instance, talk show on radio or television.

The study about conversation called Conversation Analysis (CA) which developed by Harvey Sacks. Wooffitt (2005, p.5) said that Sacks is interested in



From the explanations above, it can be concluded that conversation analysis is conducted by studying the interaction which society do in daily life. Whether it takes place in real-life context or through media such as speech or television program. The research using CA mainly focuses on the interactional process. There are some fields can be investigated through conversation analysis, such as adjacency pairs, preference organization, sequence organization, repair, and turn-taking.

### 2.2.1 Adjacency pairs

Adjacency pairs is conversation which built by many turns as paired utterances. Schegloff (1968, p.1083) determines the definition of adjacency pairs are paired action sequences which consist of two related utterances produced by

different speaker. In conversation, some types of conversation may signalize to the respond or next talk. Those form of talks which signalize the next talk further called as first pair parts (FPP) such as a question, an invitation, a command and more. while the next talks to respond the signal called second pair parts (SPP) such as an answer, an acceptance, a decline, a reject and more.

### 2.2.2 Preference organization

Preference organization relates to the discussion of adjacency pairs. According to Yule (1996, p.133) Adjacency pairs are composed by first pair part or first speaker's talk and second pair part or second speaker's response to the talk. Meanwhile, preference organization refers to utterances stated by second speakers as their response to their opponent in conversation. Therefore, the focus of preference organization is only second speaker's utterances.

### 2.2.3 Repair

Repair is errors correction in conversation made by the speaker. Liddicoat (2007, p.173) states that repair can be initiated by the speaker of the repairable or it may be initiated of the recipient which means repair can be made by the speaker of the repairable item or it may be made by the recipient of the item.

### 2.2.4 Turn-taking

In a conversation, the speaker and the listener always change position where the speaker will be the listener and the listener will be the speaker. It is called turn taking. According to Liddicoat (2007, p.51) The speakers talk is the clearest



found which interruptions are a violation of a current speaker's right to complete a turn.

For the explanations above, it can be concluded that interruption is a disturbance in turn taking principle. Interruption is often regarded negatively, especially when it is closely related to power and dominance. Therefore, interruption often occurs when an adult talks to a child or when a person with higher status talks to a person with lower status. However, Bousfield ( 2008, p.233) argues interruption also has positive aspect as an alternative of negative one rather than showing impoliteness, interruption can show fondness, sympathy, care and more.

### 2.3.1 Types of Interruption

### a. Simple interruption

Simple interruption occurs once an interrupter takes the floor when the current speaker still incompletes their sentence. The interrupter succeeds to disturb the interruptee's talk so the interruptee stops his/her speak. Thus, the interruptee listens to the interrupter until the interrupter finishes his/her talk, then the floor comes back to the interruptee.

A1 : I know what you thought I know you

A2 : \_\_\_\_\_ Ya still see him anymore?

(Zimmerman, 1975, p.114)

In this conversation, A2 interrupts A1. A2 becomes an interrupter and A1 becomes an interruptee. The simple interruption is shown when A1 cannot complete his utterance and he decides to stop saying and listens A2's speech. A2 who takes the floor can say his mind fully.

### b. Overlap interruption

Overlap interruption when the floor is shared between the participants because they speak at the same time. When the current speaker still speaks, the interrupter tries to take the floor. Nevertheless, they still can interrupt even though the original speaker does not stop until they complete their utterance. After the first speaker finishes, the interrupter still grabs the floor, so there is no break during the simultaneous speech.

L1 : ... I wonder whether people feel that this is because the Labour Party has run out of some steam. It hasn't so many *new ideas*.

L2 : \_\_\_\_\_ *I think i-*

I think it's because they are, ah answers to what are, gross over claims by the Conservative Party, ...

(Beattie, 1982, p.102)

The dialogue above shows overlap interruption because there is simultaneous between L1 and L2. L2 interrupts L1 because he wants to say his opinion about the topic that L1 brings. However, L1 can reach complete words before the turn taking occurs. L2 also can say his opinion completely because L1





#### d. Silent interruption

There is no simultaneous speech in this type because the current speaker silences before finishing his/her utterance. When they pauses before completing their talk, the new speaker takes the floor. Actually, the first speaker wants to continue their speech after the short pause, but the interrupter interrupts them instead. The conversation below shows an example of silent interruption.

B1 : But before you knew all this stuff, before you knew that she was  
(pause)

B2 : \_\_\_\_\_ That  
was Tina.

(Marche, 1993, p.395)

There is no simultaneous speech in this conversation. The silent interruption begins when B1's utterance remains incomplete, because he pauses for a while. During the silence, B2 takes the floor to say his response towards B1's talk.

### 2.3.2 Functions of Interruption

Murata (cited in Li, Han Z: 2001, p.269) suggest that there are two functions of interruption cooperative and intrusive interruption. In the other hand, Goldberg (1990) adds one function that is neutral interruptions. Neutral means which the interruption is neither cooperative nor intrusive. The basic function of



In the dialogue, M2 interrupts M1 because he agrees with M1's statement by saying "Yeah". A then adds his opinion after showing his agreement regarding M1's utterance. Previously, M2 states a wish for his life.

- 2) Assistance : the interrupter believes that the speaker needs help to complete the utterance. Therefore, the interrupter provides words, sentences, or ideas to help the first speaker. For example:

H1 : I think the movie last night is so awesome. The main actor, Johnny, Johnny (pause)

H2 : \_\_\_\_\_ **Johnny Tan.**

H1 : Mm-hmm, yes, Johnny Tan acts the character impressively.

H1 does not finish her sentence because she forgets the full name of Johnny Depp. Then, H2 interrupts her during her silent by saying, “Johnny Tan” because he wants to help H1 in completing the Johnny’s name. That case is called assistance interruption.

- 3) Clarification : the interrupter may be not sure with the speaker's topic. To get clearer statement, the interrupter wants to clarify it by asking the speaker about it. In another case, the interrupter may ask the wrong word that the interruptee says. Thus, the interrupter realizes their mistake, then straightaway corrects the word to make the sentence clearer. For instance :

C1 : He should be home for dinner at least three or four times a month,  
and if he can't

C2 : \_\_\_\_\_ Three or four?

(Beaumont et al, 2001, p.431)

C1 tells about someone that only come home once in a while. She says that that person should be for dinner three or four times. C2 cannot believe that C1 says two or three times a week. C2 may think that the frequency is too little. Therefore, C2 wants to make sure what he has heard by asking about it immediately.

## b. Intrusive

The intrusive is the opposite of cooperative interruption. People consider which interruption is rude because they only see this function only. This function, indeed, tends to show dominance and power of the interrupter. The interrupter tries to stop the ongoing speech and takes the floor intentionally. There are four types of intrusive interruption formulated by Murata and supported by Kennedy and Camden, disagreement, floor taking, topic change, and tangentialization (cited in Han Z, 2001, p.269).

1) Disagreement : when the listener listens to something that they does not agree with, they wants to correct or state their opinion about it. Therefore, they interrupts the first speaker to deliver their disagreement. For instance:

R1 : It's not worth saying in *the first place*.

R2 : \_\_\_\_\_ *But don't you* think he'd feel better if  
she told him

(Beaumont et al, 2001, p.431)



R2 does not agree with A's utterance. Therefore, he interrupts R1 immediately before R1 completes his sentence. He tries to show his disagreement by speaking his opinion that is contradict with R1's opinion about the current topic. The disagreement is marked with a word 'but'.

- 2) floor taking : the interrupter wants to develop the topic, so they interrupt the first speaker. They do not wish to change the topic, but only add their opinion by taking the floor.

F1 : I read a newspaper this morning and the legalization of cannabis seems very interesting. But it has negative aspect *from*

F2 : \_\_\_\_\_ *if it is legalized in our country, negative points will appear more than the positive ones.*

The floor taking interruption is shown when F2 takes the floor from F1 because he wants to develop the topic by uttering his opinion. Before F1 says his full sentence, F2 has already cut it. F2 does not change the topic at all but he wants to add his opinion that is in line with F1's idea.

- 3) topic change : different from the previous points, this type of interruption is meant to change the topic. The interrupter cuts the speaker's speech more aggressively, so they succeeds stirring the topic.

Q1 : I would never wait until he was 20 years old then try to *deal*

Q2 : \_\_\_\_\_ *The*  
**phone. The phone is ringing.**

(Beaumont et al, 2001, 432)

Q1 is still speaking when Q2 interrupts him. Q2 interrupts Q1 because he does not want to talk about the topic that M brings. Therefore, he immediately changes the topic by saying that the phone is ringing. Q1's utterance remains incomplete because he reacts to Q2's utterance after the interruption.

- 4) Tangentialization : the interrupter summarizes what the speaker says. They may ever hear the topic before and do not want to hear about it again. The other situation that may happen is the interrupter does not like to hear the full message. Therefore, they skip what the speaker wants to say before the message is delivered completely.

D1 : I guess you're right, but what *I said is true too*.

D2 : So I win. I win. I win. I win.

(Beaumont et al, 2001, p.431)

D1 admits that D2's opinion is true but he also thinks that his opinion is not false either. D2 who hears D1 confession immediately interrupts him because he wants to make D1 admit his defeat without giving any excuse. D2 skips D1's utterance that tries to add an excuse by uttering a conclusion.

### c. Neutral interruption

The last function is called neutral interruption. The characteristics of this interruption are the function is not negative or positive. It is not used to dominate or support the speaker. It can happen when the listener is enthusiast during the



There have been many studies conducted in the scope of conversation analysis. The first study was conducted by Fei (2010) entitled “*An Analysis of Gender Differences in Interruption based on the American TV series Friends*.” This study analyzed the functions and frequency of interruptions presented by characters in *Friends* series. The researcher wanted to compare the conversation between same-sex and mixed sex related to interruption produced during the series. The researcher used three function of interruption, competitive, cooperative, and neutral. The result showed that six characters produced competitive interruptions more than cooperative interruptions. The other findings showed that men tended to interrupt women much more than the women did. Men produced more competitive interruption toward women than women did toward men.

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This study also was conducted by State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel student, Veronica (2016) entitled “*The Interruption Used by The Participants in Ini Talk Show on Net TV*. “ The researcher analyzed the types and the functions of Interruption by the guests in the ‘*Ini Talkshow*’ on Net TV. As the result, the researcher found four types of interruption and the major types was Overlap interruption. Further, the researcher found two functions of interruption and the major functions was clarification.

From the previous study above, in this present study, the researcher wants to analyzed conversational interruption, especially in children conversation. If the previous study anayzed conversational interruption in different gender, this present study want to analyze conversational interruption in different ages. Therefore, children used as the subject. The researcher calculated the interruption which occured by children speaker and adult speaker. In addition, the researcher also analyzed the types of interruption and the functions of interruption in American TV series *Stranger Things Season 2*.



## RESEARCH METHOD



### 3.5 Data Collection

1. Opening [www.Google.com](http://www.Google.com) in computer.
2. Searching American TV series *Stranger Things Season 2*.
3. Downloading all episodes *Stranger Things Season 2*. There are 9 episodes in American TV series *Stranger Things Season 2*.
4. After downloading the videos, the researcher was carefully watching and understanding the conversation for many times.
5. Transcribing the videos into written text and marking the transcription.



After collecting the data, the researcher conducted several steps to analyze the data. All data that were found in conversation among the characters in American TV series *Stranger Things Season 2* arranged on data sheet. the researcher followed these steps:

1. The researcher identified the transcription to find out the conversational interruption in children conversation. In identifying process, the researcher will apply coding to identify types of conversational interruption. These are the symbols which used in coding the data.

Table 1.1 Coding : Types of Conversational Interruption

No.	Types of Conversational Interruption	Coding
1.	Simple Interruption	SMi
2.	Overlap Interruption	OVi
3.	Butting in Interruption	BTi
4.	Silent Interruption	SLi

2. After that, The researcher identified the functions of conversational interruption in children conversation. In identifying process, the researcher applied coloring to identify functions of conversational interruption. These were colors symbol which used in coding and coloring the data.

Table. 1.2 Coloring : Functions of Conversational Interruption

Functions of Conversational Interruption		Color
Cooperative	Agreement	Yellow
	Assistance	Green
	Clarifications	Blue
Intrusive	Disagreement	Pink
	Floor taking	Dark Blue
	Topic change	Red
	Tangentialization	Grey
Neutral		Purple



4. The researcher also compared between children conversational interruption and adult conversational interruption to know about the age difference affect function interruption by the children and adults occurred in American TV series *Stranger Things Season 2*.

$$P = \frac{X}{Y} \times 100\% \quad P = \text{Percentages}$$

y = Total collected data

[illegible]



on, the researcher presents the result by pie diagram and the data about types, functions of interruption and age difference between children conversational interruption and adult conversational interruption. Meanwhile, in discussion section, the researcher explains the reason of the interruption explanation to answer the research problem. In conclusion section, the researcher describes the answers of research problem about types and functions of interruption. The data of this research were collected from the utterances spoken by the characters in American TV series *Stranger Things* and identified in children utterances. But, the researcher also identified the differences between children conversational interruption and adult conversational interruption. The researcher also identified the differences between children conversational interruption and adult conversational interruption.

## 4.1 Findings

American TV series *Stranger Things* 2.



### a. Simple Interruption.

## Data 1

(9/1/6:36-6:40)

The conversation between Joyce and Will contains simple interruption because Will succeeds in taking the floor when Joyce is still speaking. Joyce as an interruptee (first speaker) stops her talk not long after Will begins to talk. In the first conversation, Will has known about what Joyce say to him. Therefore, Will interrupts Joyce and concludes the conversation. Meanwhile, in the second, Will should go to play with his friend but Joyce still wants to talk, and Will interrupts her saying he has to go.

In this case, Will as a child interrupts adult people, that is his mother. The next is another example of simple interruption from the dialogue between a child and an adult. The conversation between Eleven as a child and Hopper as adult in the episode 2 of *Stranger Things 2*.

## Data 2

Hopper : I don't care, all right? You go out there? Ghost or not, it's a risk. We don't take risks, all right? They're stupid, **and--**

*Eleven* : \_\_\_\_\_ *We're not stupid!*

(9/2/7:56-7:59)

In this conversation, Eleven talks before Hopper finishes his speak. Hopper prohibits Eleven to come on halloween party and Hopper says that only stupid people do 'trick or treat'. Then, Eleven does not agree with Hopper's statement. Thus, Eleven interrupts Hopper to express her disapproval with a slight anger intonation. This type of conversation is simple interruption because Eleven as the interrupter succeeds in taking the floor when Hopper is still speaking.









### c. Silent Interruption

## Data 7

The setting of this scene is in a game center. When Mike and friends are having a debate with Keith, Will suddenly sees something weird. Will stops his sentence because he feels scared and he does not know what the something weird is. Then, Mike takes the floor to ask what happened to Will. Mike worries about

The next example is found in Sixth episode of *Stranger Things season 2*, the conversation between Max as the first speaker and Lucas as the interrupter.

Max : No, no, no, it's not that. It's just...my Dad's still there...  
**So (pause)**  
 Lucas : \_\_\_\_\_ **Why?**  
 Max : It's this legal term called "divorce" see, when two married people don't love each other anymore.

(9/6/ 38:57-39:03)

Silent interruption can also happen when the interlocutor does something like touching and making gesture which makes the current speaker stops his/her sentence. For instance, the conversation between Dustin and Mike in Walkie-

talkie. When Dustin is explaining about Madmax, Mike is not interested and immediately hangs up.

## Data 9

*Dustin : Yeah, it's me, Dustin. What're you doing on this channel again? I've been trying to reach you all day. We were right. Max is mad max.*

*Mike* : Yeah, I'm busy. (hang up)

*Dustin* : *But... (Pause)*

*Lucas* : \_\_\_\_\_ *What do we do now?*

*Dustin* : we stick to the plan.

(9/1/35:59-36:03)

This conversation involves 3 people, Mike, Dustin and Lucas. Mike does not show any interest by saying “yeah, I’m busy” and immediately hangs up when Dustin is explaining about something which makes Dustin stops his sentence. When Dustin is silent, Lucas takes the floor by asking “ What do we do now?”. Silent interruption occurs when Dustin pauses his utterance because Mike has just hang up, Lucas then takes the floor to ask what they should do. Their conversation is categorized as asilent interruption.

#### d. Butting-in Interruption

The lowest frequency of type of interruption is butting-in interruption which is produced by the characters in conversation in American TV series *Stranger Things* 2. Butting-in interruption is classified into unsuccessful interruption. Butting-in interruption is different from the other two types because there is not any turn exchange. This type occurs when the interrupter tries to take the floor but the effort fails. The interrupter cannot complete and finish his/her utterance because the first speaker is still talking until his/her sentence finished without minding the interrupter or the first speaker interrupts back the



Because Steve tries to interrupt Dustin by saying "a liz.." Steve says his utterance incomplete sentence. Therefore, after he fails in the first attempt, he leaves the floor for the second attempt because Dustin says "a liz.." This type is butting-in interruption.

**Types of interruption occurred in children conversation**

There are three functions of interruption which are cooperative interruption, intrusive interruption, and non-cooperative interruption. Each of these functions of interruption have subcategories. Cooperative interruption has subcategories: agreement, assistance and clarification. Meanwhile, intrusive interruption has subcategories: correction, challenge, and disagreement. Non-cooperative interruption has subcategories: disapproval, disconfirmation, and disengagement.

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### a. Cooperative Interruption

### 1) Agreement

[illegible]



**Data 12**

*Lucas* : *Why?*  
*Max* : *It's this legal term called "divorce" see, when two married people don't love each other **anymore**.*  
*Lucas* : \_\_\_\_\_ ***Yeah, I know.***  
(9/6/ 39:01-39-08)

In this conversation, Max tells to Lucas about her family life. Her family is broken and her mother is married with her stepfather. When Max tells Lucas, Lucas takes the floor and shows his agreement about what Max says. Lucas as the interrupter interrupts Max by saying "Yes, I know". His interruption shows agreement interruption because Lucas understands Max's utterance.

The second example of agreement function is dialogue between Max and Dustin in episode 8 of Stranger Things 2. The conversation takes place in Will's house when they are saving from stranger things or wha they call as Demo-dogs.

**Data 13**

*Dustin* : *What do you want to do mike? The chief's right on this. We can't stop those demo-dogs on our own.*  
*Max* : *Demo-dogs?*  
*Dustin* : *Demogorgon dogs. Demo-dogs. It's like a compound. It's like a **play on words***  
*Max* : \_\_\_\_\_ ***Okay! I see***  
(9/8/24:55-25:00)

In the conversation above, Dustin explains about the stranger thing and he names it Demo-dogs. The compound word between Demogorgon and Dog. At first, Max does not understand the meaning of Demo-dogs. She asks to Dustin and Dustin explains to her. Agreement interruption occurs when Max interrupts Dustin because Max undersatnds what Dustin says. Max interrupts Dustin by

saying “Okay! I see” with the unbelief expression. Max as the interrupter shows her agreement about Dustin’s explanation.

## 2) Assistance

In this research, assistance interruption is the highest frequency function which occurs 27 times in nine episodes of American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. Assistance interruption happens when the interrupter can help the current speaker completing his/her utterance. Thus, the interrupter offers the current speaker with a word or idea which turns with the current speaker purpose. There are two examples of assistance interruption occurred in children conversation in American TV series *Stranger Things season 2*. The first example is found in third episode of *Stranger Things 2*. Which is the dialogue between Mike and Lucas in AV room.

## Data 14

Mike : Maybe these episodes that Will keeps having aren't really flashbacks at all. Maybe they're real. Maybe Will can somehow see into the upside down.

Lucas : so that would **mean**

Mike : \_\_\_\_\_ **Dart is from the upside down.**

(9/3/35:47-35:51)

The conversation above is assistance interruption because Mike interrupts Lucas by continuing the Lucas's utterance. The dialogue between Lucas and Mike is about Dart, the stranger animal which is found by Dustin. When Mike argues that all Will saw in his flashback was real, Lucas catches Mike's explanation but before he completes his utterances, Mike interrupts Lucas by saying "Dart is from the upside down. Mike interruption is the assistance for help what intends to Lucas say.

Assistance interruption is not only used by the children for interrupting their friends. But also, for interrupting to their older brother or sister such as the dialogue between Eleven and Hopper in episode 9 of *Stranger Things 2*.

## Data 15

Hopper : Yeah. The black hole. It got her. And somehow...I've just been scared, you know? I've just been scared that it would take you, too. I think that why I get...so mad. I'm so sorry.  
For everything. I could be **so... so**

Eleven : **Stupid?**

Hopper : Yeah. Stupid. Just really stupid.

(9/9/ 14:02-14:12)

Hopper is older than Eleven. But, Eleven interrupts Hopper by saying “Stupid?”. Eleven interruption is a function of assistance because Eleven wants to help Hopper as the interruptee to complete his utterance. Hopper looks hard to say his word. Therefore, Eleven takes the floor and interrupts Hopper to help hopper completes his word. After Eleven interrupts Hopper, Hopper shows his agreement on Eleven’s word by saying “Yeah. Stupid. Just Really Stupid”.

### 3) Clarification

Clarification interruption is when the interrupter does not hear or get the current speaker meaning. Thus, the interrupter wants to clarify about the truth of the current speaker statement. The interrupter proposes a more detailed explanation to the current speaker. In this research, clarification interruption occurs in 16 times by the characters in nine episodes of American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. The following examples are taken from dialogue between Lucas and Mike in episode 2.

## Data 16

Lucas : *If he's cool, then you be Winston.*  
Mike : *I can't!*  
Lucas : *why not?*  
Mike : *Because [pause]*  
Lucas : *\_\_\_\_\_Because you're not black?*  
Mike : *I didn't say that!*

(9/2/11:54-11:57)

Clarification interruption occurs because Lucas interrupts Mike by asking “Because you’re not black?” in this conversation, Lucas and Mike are debating who should be Winston, a character in Ghostbuster. Mike wants to be Winston and Lucas also wants to be Winston. When Mike cannot answer Lucas question about why he cannot be Winston, Lucas interrupts him. Lucas interruption is one of the clarification functions. Because he wants to clarify Mike’s answer.

Clarification interruption which is committed by the children is also found in the dialogue between Dustin and Erica in walkie-talkie. the conversation is found in the fifth episode of *Stranger Things season 2*.

## Data 17

Dustin : Erica? Erica, is Lucas there? Where is he?  
Erica : Don't know. Don't care.  
Dustin : Is he with Mike?  
Erica : like I said. I don't know and I don't care  
Dustin : please tell him its super important. Please tell him that  
I have a **code**  
Erica : \_\_\_\_\_ **code red?**  
Dustin : yep, code red. Exactly.

(9/5/ 28:45-28:50)

Erica is a younger sister of Lucas. When Dustin wants to call Lucas by walkie-talkie, Erica is there and tells Dustin that she does not know where Lucas









The second example is taken from the dialogue between Dustin and Jonathan in episode 8 of *Stranger Things* 2 where they are in front of Hawkins Laboratory gate.

Dustin : Let me try.  
Jonathan : Hang on. **Why it can't work?**  
Dustin : \_\_\_\_\_ **Let me try, Jonathan! I can! Son of a bitch! You know what...**

They are in front of the Hawkins Laboratory gate. They cannot open the gate because the electricity is off. Jonathan tries to turn on the gate but does not work. Dustin also wants to try to turn on the gate, asking to Jonathan to move and saying “let me try” floor taking interruption happens when Dustin interrupts Jonathan by saying again “Let me try, Jonathan! I can! Son of a bitch! You know what...” Dustin is angry because Jonathan does not give Dustin a chance. Dustin as the interrupter does not want to change Jonathan’s topic, but he develops the topic and tries to turn on the electricity and open the gate. Dustin’s interruption can be categorized as floor taking interruption.



The next example of topic change interruption also occurs in episode eight in the conversation between Will and his mother, Joyce. The example of this interruption is presented below.

## Data 23

*Hopper : You recognize this? Do you recognize this?*  
*Joyce : Hey. We wanna help you. But to do that, we have to understand **how to kill it.***  
*Will : \_\_\_\_\_ **Why am I tied up? why am I tied up? why am I tied up? why am I tied up?***

*(9/8/34:11-34:15)*

Will is tied up by his mother in the warehouse because Will is still possessed by the stranger thing. Joyce and Hopper want to interrogate Will about how to kill the stranger thing. Topic change occurs when Joyce as the current speaker asks Will how to kill the stranger thing. But, Will does not like it and he screams “Why am I tied up?” repeatedly. Therefore, Will interrupts Joyce. Will’s interruption is topic change interruption because he does not want to answer Joyce’s question. Thus, He changes the topic.

#### 4) Tangentialization.

Tangentialization is the lowest function of interruption which occurs in American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. Tangentialization occurs only 3 times in nine episodes. Tangentialization displays consciousness of the interrupter because the interrupter does tangentialization when he/she tries to summarize the utterance which the first speaker wants to deliver. This function is used by the listener to minimize the current speaker's utterance. The first example of tangentialization is



Neutral interruption is the third function of interruption. Neutral interruption is an interruption that is not either cooperative or intrusive which means the interrupter proposes neither to support nor to steal the floor from the current speaker's utterance. This interruption occurs when the listener needs to say something immediately. It usually occurs in emergency situations. The other occasion in which this may occur is when the interrupter does not pay attention to the first speaker, so he/she coincidentally cuts the speaker's speech.

In this research, neutral interruption appears 5 times in nine episodes. The example of neutral interruption occurred on American TV series *Stranger Things* 2 episode 3 in the dialogue between Dustin and Mr. Clarke who is a teacher in Hawkins School.

*Mr. Clarke : The case of Phineas gage is one of the great medical curiosities of all time, Phineas was a railroad worker in 1848 whohad a nightmarish accident. A large iron rod was driven completely through his head. Phineas miraculously survived. He seemed fine. And physically, yes, he was. But his injury*







Joyce, Hopper, Steve, Nancy, and Jonathan. The result of this research shows that the highest frequency of conversational interruption is uttered by adult people which appears 61 times. However, there are 46 times in the conversational interruption which is uttered by children. Furthermore, the researcher presents the examples of conversational interruption carried out by adult characters in American TV Series *Stranger Things 2*. The first example is the conversation between Nancy and Steve in second episode of *Stranger Things 2*.

## Data 28

Steve : Come on. Let me just take you home, okay? Come here. Let me take you home, come on.

Nancy : You wanted this.

Steve : No, I didn't want this. **I told you to stop drinking.**

Nancy : \_\_\_\_\_ **It's bullshit, bullshit, bullshit.**

Steve : No, it's not bullshits okay? No, it's not bullshit, Nancy

(9/2/43:11-43:16)

This conversation is when Steve and Nancy are attending the Halloween party in Tina's house. Nancy is drunk and unable to control her mind. Thus, she interrupts Steve by saying "It's bullshit, bullshit." Nancy's interruption is categorized as overlap interruption type because there is no break in continuity in Steve's utterance although Nancy interrupts him in the middle of conversation. Steve still keeps his floor until he succeeds in completing the message that he wants to deliver. Moreover, Nancy's interruption consists disagreement function because she does not care and believe of Steve's utterance.

The second example, the conversation between Bob and Joyce in fifth episode of *Stranger Things* 2.

## Data 29

Bob : I'm sorry. I just... I don't. See how any of this good for Will or for you. And even if I wanted to play along, I mean, how could I figure anything out. If I don't understand the context of the game? **Or...(pause)**

Joyce : \_\_\_\_\_ **What? What is it?**

Bob : I know that shape. Its lovers'lake. Its lovers'lake. I get it. Okay, I get. That's lake Jordan.

(9/5/25:42-25:49)

Their conversation consists silent interruption type because Bob Stops his sentence. When Bob is silent, Joyce takes the floor by asking “ What? What is it?”. Bob realizes the picture drawn by Will. Joyce interruption is categorized as clarification function because she wants to clarify about what Bob will say.

Then, the next example of adult interruption occurs in episode 9 of *Stranger Things 2*. There are three characters in this conversation. Jonathan and Joyce as the interrupter, and Nancy as the interruptee.

### Data 30

Nancy : *If this is a virus, and Will's the host, **then***  
Jonanthan : \_\_\_\_\_ ***then we need to make the***  
***host uninhabitable.***  
Nancy : *So, if he likes **it cold***  
Joycoe : \_\_\_\_\_ ***We need to burn it out of him.***  
(9/9/8:27-8:31)

This type of interruption is a simple interruption because Jonathan succeeds in taking the floor when Nancy is still speaking. Nancy as the interruptee (first speaker) stops her talk not long after Jonathan and Joyce begins to talk. The interruption functions of Jonathan and Joyce interruption is assistance because Jonathan and Joyce want to complete Nancy's utterance. Jonathan and Joyce take the floor and Nancy stops her utterance.

In the findings section above, the researcher only put the data from children conversation or children interruption to explain about types and functions of conversational interruption in American Tv series *Stranger Things 2*. Children conversational interruption occurs in each episodes of American TV series *Stranger Things 2* which is the types of interruption are simple interruption, overlap interruption, Silence interruption, and butting-in interruption. From the fourth types of interruption, simple interruption is the most frequent type of interruption which often occurs in the conversation, especially in children conversation of American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. Meanwhile, the least frequent type of interruption is Butting-in interruption. On the other hand, assistance interruption and disagreement interruption also become the most frequent function in children conversational interruption. Meanwhile, tangentialization is the minor function in children conversational interruption. The researcher assumes that children can interrupt anyone. They do interruption to thier friend or people who are older than them such as their parents, older sister, or older brother. Therefore, conversational interruption can be carried out by everyone and to everyone even though they are children or adult people.

In this research, the researcher also compares age differences in the use of conversational interruption. Therefore, the researcher does not only identify the children conversational interruption but also adult conversational interruption. From the findings about age differences in the use of conversational interruption, the result of this research shows that adult interruption has higher frequency than

ment from the first speaker. Adult interrupter interrupts more  
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 speaker by making positive interruptions. Meanwhile, Child  
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2012, p. 20) if someone tells something to people who have heard before, or news that they already learned, do not interrupt him/her to display the knowledge to present because it is a rude and ill manner. Al-Haitham (2012, p.21) also added that it is an ill manner to overcome people while speaking and interrupt them before they finish their speech. Their statements mean that interruption is a violation which should not occur in conversation because conversational interruption is impolite. People could be angry when other people talk without permission. However, sometimes conversational interruption as positive or negative case depend on the type and function of the interruption. The speaker must know how to do interruption responsibly and when the situation is suitable to do it. For the better way, the listener should be patient and wait for their turn to talk or when the current speaker has finished the utterance.

## CHAPTER V

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

In this chapter, the researcher conveys two final sections, conclusion and suggestions. In conclusion section, the researcher delivers of brief explanation about the result based on the research problem of this present research and in suggestions section, the researcher provides some suggetions for the next reearcher to discovers this related study.

## 5.1 Conclusion

This research is about children conversational interruption in American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. Based on the previous chapters, the researcher presents the conclusion of this research by answering three research problems in first chapter. First, the reseracher uses the theory of conversational interruption by Sacks, Schlegoff, and Jefferson (1974) to identifies the types of conversational interruptions presented in the American TV series *Stranger Things 2*. The researcher finds 107 datas which contain of conversational interruption. All the types of interruptions which are simple, overlap, butting-in, and silent interruption appear in this American TV series. Second, the reseracher identifies the functions of interruption by using Han Z (2001) theory. There are three functions which are cooperative, intrusive and neutral interruption. Cooperative interruption means conversational interruption used in positive case which has three subcategories. The subcategories are agreement, assistance, and clarification. Meanwhile, the intrusive means the use of interruption in negative case which has four

Moreover, the researcher has proven that conversational interruption is the violation which occurs in daily conversation. Especially, in children daily conversation. Conversational interruption is when the interrupter cuts the interruptee (the current speaker) while he/she still finishing his/her speaks. On the other hands, interruption is not only a violation which used in negative case but also used in positive case such as to show agreement, to get clear explanation from the current speaker, and to help someone who has problems in his/her utterance.

In this section, the current researcher presents the suggestions which can be measured for the next researcher on conversation analysis fields, especially on conversational interruption. The first suggestion, there are many subjects and objects of interruption which can be analyzed for the next researcher. The researcher suggests for the next researcher to analyze children conversational



interruption in talk show, movie, or daily conversation in real life. The next researcher can take the data from playground or elementary school when learning process.

The Second, if the next researcher wants to compare conversational interruption in different ages, the present researcher suggests for focusing on main character. Thus, the result of age differences effect is clear and significant. There is not any different number between children character and adult character. The researcher hopes that this research can be a good reference and useful for the linguistic learner to conduct their future research about conversational interruption.

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