

**RESPONSE AND FEATURES OF LANGUAGE DISORDER USED IN  
“ADAM” MOVIE : PSYCHOLINGUISTIC STUDY**

**THESIS**



**BY**

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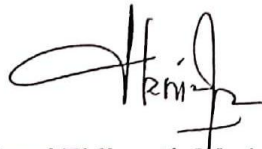
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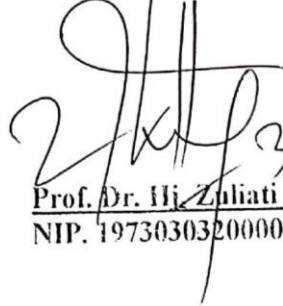
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comprehension of spoken and written (Warren 2001, p.20). Meanwhile, according to (Denham and Lobeck, 2013, p.22) also define it how people get their the first and second language and how people can produce and understand it. When someone has difficulty in producing and understanding the information, that situation is known as language disorder.

Language disorder is an inability in processing and understanding the information which can affect the language skill while they are communicating with others. Language disorder includes the impairment of language development and the use of spoken or written language. Based on Scovel (2000, p.70) language disorder can be caused by some factor such as hearing loss, mental retardation, drugs and neurological disorder, and by some accident, traumatic or a genetic problem. So, people with language disorder have a problem with speech.

For normally condition, people can express their feelings and respond an information because information can be distributed and received quickly by their brain. People who have language disorder cannot respond quickly, but they will give a slowly or absurdly response because there is an inadequate connection between brain region and the dysfunctional brain region. The dysfunctional region occurs because of their brain is on damage or the brain cells possess cells degeneration. In this case, language disorder is usually experienced by the children who have mental disorder, such as Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Autism or known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex disorder of the brain improvement and language thing Flusberg(2014, p.429). According to Ikalyuk and Kuzymyn (2015, p.88), autism is derived from Greek

word “autos” which means self and “autism” which means isolated-self. Children with autism experience a triad of impairments which includes ordinary in communication, behavior, and social interaction (Cleland, 2010, p.11). It means that children with autism experience complicated developmental issues that provide an impact on social improvement, behavior, and emotion. Children with autism may have a problem in receptive, expressive, or both of them. Children with autism get a failure skill to make social interaction in their daily life. They have lack of eye contact when they are interacting with others. So, they have a difficulty in building social relationship (Dawson,1989, p.9). Within the area of conversation, delay or absence of spoken language becomes one criterion that is used to recognize autistic disorder (Kjelgaard, 2001, p.288). People with ASD enjoy the language and conversation difficulties. They experience expressive and receptive language disorder. The expressive language disorder identifies developmental delays and problems in capacity to produce speech. Meanwhile, the receptive language disorder is inability to recognize speech. People with such disorder deliver responses unclearly so that they are difficult to make a good communication. They often provide imitative even competitive responses when they have interaction with others. So, the interlocutors often get misunderstanding in communication with autistic people.

There have been several studies which are related about language disorder analyses. One of them is conducted by Alvin Fikrotuz (2015) entitled “*The Expressive Language Disorder of the Cerebral Palsy in Skallgarigg Movie*”. The researcher identified the kind of expressive language disorder experienced by

cerebral palsy character. The results showed that articulation disorder or the manner of articulation is mostly found and those experiences are angry, happy, serious and underestimated condition.

The second studies entitled "*Asperger syndrome in the movie Mozart and the Whale*" by Novemia (2011) from State University of Semarang. The researcher analyzed the personal characteristic of Asperger syndrome represented by Donald Marton and his group and how the difficulties of Donald Marton as an Asperger Syndrome in social interaction. As the result of this study, Donald Marton had some difficulties in social interactions because he suffered Asperger syndrome. He is experience bullying and discrimination in his life. So, he had social skill dysfunction. As Asperger Syndrome suffer, Donald Marton still have a good mind division.

The third research is done by Mahardani (2016) entitled "*Language disorder of Autism in State Elementary School of Bangunrejo*". She analyzed verbal and Non verbal communication skill when student in elementary school perform social interactions. The result showed that the communication is done with the subject in the form. The subject can give the responses in communication.

The fourth article is conducted by Woodward (2006) under the title "*Padded room at heart of autism controversy gave several solutions*". This article talks about how parents who have autistic children give a treatment and therapy to their child. And the fifth is done by Grant (2006) article under the title "*Some*

*autistic child are not III, they are just badly behaved*". He discusses about a man age 26 who is stuttered.

Based on five previous studies above, already analyzes the psychoanalysis using various theory. In this research, the researcher wants to analyze language disorder response and features especially in autism character response used Rothwell and Kanner theory. However, this research is different from the previous study. In the previous study, the data taken from movie using various subject. The researcher take the data from the utterances produce by autism in "Adam" movie as the main data because it is related with the theme that will analyzed by the researcher and also the features language that used in their life. The researcher found the gap of this research by different theory and problem. Even, the researcher who used "Adam" movie as the data, but none of them analyzed about features language as their problem, the researcher would like to fill the gap by doing this research.

To conduct this present study, the researcher chooses Adam movie as the object and focus to the utterance that said by Adam Raki. This movie is tells about a young man who diagnosed autism. He has difficulties response in communication and diferrent behaviours than normal people. One day, adam living alone in manhattan after his father died, adam has a job in manufacturing company as a technician toy. This story is tells about a romantic drama between Adam and beth. But Beth's father did not repulse if Adam and Beth marry, because Adam is individual with autism and has a behaviour strange.











they tend to only think about themselves. Moreover, when they talk with others, they will give a limited response because the people with autism cannot build a good communication. They only keep to silent. It is because communication is difficult for them.

According to Scovel (2008, p.83), Autism will show a different sign such as lack of eye contact when they communicate in social activity. By knowing the disabilities of autistic person, they have a delay in language acquisition to acquire communication (Kenner in Matson, 2011, p.8). Yet, people with autism spectrum disorder have difficulties to understand the meaning of the conversation topic. So, they may give unclear response when they are communicating. As usually, they use body language to give responses or to make a conversation (Turnbull, 2005, p.2).

#### **2.4 Types of responses experienced by the Autistic character.**

This study is focused on the responses based on utterances given by autistic character in Adam movie. Based on Rothwell (2000, p.37), types of responses of autistic character are categorized as Cognitively Relevant responses (CR), Cognitively Irrelevant (CI), Cognitively Disruptive and Socially Inappropriate (CDI).

##### **2.4.1 Cognitively Relevant Responses (CR)**

According to Rothwell (2000, p.37), Cognitively Relevant response is coherent and socially suitable. It means that the reaction is an inquiry response to the topic. Schank (in Carrol, 2008, p.231) shows the example of relevant response such as:











### **2.4.2 More relevant but not too polite response**

Relevant but not too Polite responses (RNP). Actually, the responses are relevant in the direction of the subject given through the interlocutor but it is impolite in giving the responses. According to Volkmar (2005, p.352), a problem in following the guideline of politeness happens in autism. It means that although autism can supply relevant responses, they once in a while damage the rule of politeness. Consequently, the RNP occurs when autistic person has more relevant subject matter to the communication but he or she conveys it with the shortage of politeness method.

Yule (1996, p.60) states that politeness, in an interaction, is the means to reveal attention of person's emotional and social sense or known as individual's face. There are terrible politeness and positive politeness. The negative politeness is a face saving act which is oriented to the individual bad face. This type will have a tendency to show deference, respect to different time, or even express regret for the interruption (Yule 1996, p.62). Example, a person has to keep harmony even when socially interacting with others with the aid of apologizing while having some mistakes, hedging while inquiring for something, keeping off disagreement, respecting to an older, and so forth. Meanwhile, the effective politeness way is a face saving act that has a tendency to expose unity, emphasize that both speakers need the identical issue and have a common intention (Yule, 1996, p.62).

While autistic people show Relevant but not too polite (RNP) respons, they may forget about politeness strategy that has been show the expressions which







## **2.5 Features Responses of Autistic Character in a Movie**

Based on Kanner (in Volkmar et al, 2005, p.7), autistic life in their own world. They may behave unusually. They show some different behaviors than normal people. Volkmar (2005, p.314) adds that autistic individuals have difficulties socially in interacting with the others; they have impairments in communication and they also show restricted interests. Autism is a developmental disorder with original in infancy but it may cause the greatest disablement in adolescence and young adulthood (Frith, 1991, p.148). The disabilities that appear in childhood either in communication or behavior will be seen clearly in adolescence.

Individuals with autism can show the features of autistic that are often different from normal people. According to Kanner (in Aarons 1999, p.5), there are nine features of autistic person: an inability to develop relationship, delay in the acquisition of language, non-communicative use of spoken language after it develops, delay echolalia, pronominal reversal, repetitive and stereotyped play, maintenance of sameness, good rate memory, and normal physical appearance.

### **2.5.1 Inability to increase relationship**

The first feature of autistic person is an inability to develop relationship. It means that people with autism have difficulties in interacting with people and show more interest in objects than human being. Normally, human beings live in constant interaction with their environments. Meanwhile, individuals with autism have severely disturbed and limited interaction (Frith, 1991, p.38). The disturbance of autistic person is actually presented from birth. It can be seen

on their behavior even in early communication. According to Kanner (in Matson 2011, p.4), autistic aloneness exists from early infancy and children with autism are born with no innate ability to form emotional connections with people. This statement proves that people with autism have problems in building relationship with others in social life.

In social interaction, social skills are necessary to develop and maintain friendship (Bauminger and Shulman in Jones, 2007, p.63). The social skills for social interaction mean that people need to be skilled at learning and assessing what the other people's response. For example, a successful verbal greeting of "*Hello*" also needs to give smile and eye contact to the interlocutor. Unfortunately, people with autism are lack of social skills. For instance, people with autism consciously avoid eye contact, they are unable to understand the others feeling, to respond quickly enough, to provide verbal or non-verbal cues such as smile or use brief verbal response like "*OK*" to indicate empathy or encourage the other person or to continue dialogue and even, people with autism have sensory difficulties. They show discomfort when the other people touch them.

### **2.5.2 Delay in the acquisition language**

The second feature is delay in the language acquisition—the process of learning and develop a language. This process can be started before a baby can speak. Not all babies can develop a language and learn it and properly speak in their age. Usually, there is a delay in obtaining their language. According to Volkmar (2005, p.341), children with autism have a delay in language

development because they experience delay in speech an internal development, they talk more slowly than normally children. According to Aarons (1993, p.31), for some normally children who have been observed when they start a conversation with their parents and then the child can show their responses through a movement. These movements are the basic for social development. But it is different from the child is who diagnosed with autism. They can experience interference to show these movements.

Volkmar (2005, p.341) states that children with autism around the age of a year, they become less responsive to someone who invites them to speak. At this age, they are also less responsive to their mother's voice. In subsequent development, autistic children in age 2 years have problems in expressive and receptive language. At this age, they will have delay not only with their language but also their expressive skills will develop more slowly until the age of 5 years than normally child.

### **2.5.3 Non communicative use of spoken**

The third feature is Non-Communicative (NC). This feature is the inability to use the right words in meaningful communication. Because all people with autism have a problem in language and communication, they only speak in limited way (Volkmar, 2005, p.351). They have limited speak variation in communication situation. They rarely use language to comment, show off, have difficulty to initiate social interactions, or ask the information. Someone with autism has problem to identify the topics in conversation (Volkmar 2005, p.352) Give an example below:





Volkmar (2005, p.357) says that within autism, problem in using pronoun is usually considered as a part of a more-trendy problem with deixis. The deixis is not always the simplest marked by means of pronouns however additionally in various approaches in specific language. It consists of various determiners (e.g., this or that) or the choices of verbs (e.g., come or go).

### **2.5.6 Repetitive and stereotype play**

Many people with autism have unusual and interesting repetitive activities (Veague, 2010, p.5). They tend to repeat the same activities and do not build imaginative fake games. According to Volkmar (2005, p.391), games are defined as deliberate manipulation of objects in which exploration and practice are the primary goals of individuals with autism. In general, normal people will use their imagination when they see an object to pretend to play and create a new use of object. For example, normal children regard stone as food for dolls. However, individuals with autism have difficulty describing the game on the object they have just seen.

Repeated manipulation of objects means repetition of the same motor activity used to manipulate the physical environment (Matson, 2011, p.117). Repeated manipulation of objects is carried out by individuals with autism such as aligning objects, flicking light switches, or displaying repeated manipulations of objects such as strings, rubber tubes or toys. For example, someone with autism can turn on and turn off lights repeatedly. This is called Repetitive play object.











































**Datum 20**

Beth : Listen, I'm going out with some friends tonight, if you want to come ?  
 Adam : **Oh**  
 Beth : But, if not, you know that's fine  
 Adam : No, I wan't to go. But, um I don't think I can  
 Beth : **Okay, if you're busy**  
 Adam : No

The datum 20 above has marginally relevant response. Because, when Beth talks to adam about hang out with her friends. And she asks Adam to join by saying '*if you wanna come*'. Adam responds her by a relevant response to the topic "No, I wan't to go. But, um I don't think I can". The response still confuses Beth. Beth asks him again to get clarification but Adam still gives marginally relevant response by saying "No". Adam regards that Beth just informs him that she will hang out with her friends. He does not understand about Beth. So, the speaker needs a correction to make the hearer understands.

The conversation occurs in the front of apartment building. Adam is sitting in front of his apartment and watching people in the street in front of the apartment building. In this conversation, Beth gives a clasrification to make Adam understands what beth means. It can be seen in the second respond.

Beth : I mean it's not a date. It's just a little moving in celebration, you know ?  
 Adam : When ?  
 Beth : At 08.08 pm. I'll just knock on your door. On my way out and if you can, you can ?  
 Adam : Okay.

In the first response, Adam gives a confusing response and he does not accept her invitation, after beth gives a clarification or correction. Adam can



































discovered based on the spoken utterances that given by the main autism character in “Adam” movie.

The first is cognitively irrelevant response, it is the type of response used by Adam as autism person which gets difficulties to communicate with others. Autism person has bad concentration on utterances. Autism person has difficulties on understanding the utterances which uttered by someone. They give a response without understanding the conversation topic. So, autism person has problems in the ways how to interact with others. They cannot produce the appropriate words to respond what the speaker says. After analyzing the data in “Adam” movie. The researcher discovers numerous the types of response that emerged on the “Adam” movie used by the main autism character. The researcher found 26 data contained in the “Adam” movie. There are 8 data cognitively irrelevant, 6 data cognitively relevant, 3 data Odd response, 4 data Marginally relevant, 5 data Marginally irrelevant, and the most frequently found is command by cognitively irrelevant. It shows that Adam totally changes the topic of conversation or give response that are not relevant with the topic.

The second point is the Features which is represented by Adam in the Adam movie. In the previous explanation, Adam shows that mostly gives relevant response to the topic. But, in the second point. The researcher wants to show the features represented by Adam. There are three kinds of features that represented by Adam in the movie, there are inability to develop relationship, non-communicative, and delayed echalolia. After analyzing the data, the researcher finds out that Adam mostly represents inability to develop relationship feature.

There are 6 datas of inability to develop relationship feature used by Adam in the movie. This feature shows that autism person has difficulty to develop relationship when he interacts with others. Adam has bad social skills to asses what others response. For normal people, social skill is the important part to build a good interaction such as understanding others feeling, successfull greeting, etc. But, autism person has difficulties in social skills when he interacts with others. Autism person has a bad sympathy and empathy. He cannot understand what the others feeling. He feel discomfort when the others touch or hug him. These difficulties show that Adam has inability to develop relationship.

Based on the findings above, the researcher tends to compare the present study with the previous research. Alvin Fikrotuz (2015) she analyzed "*The Expressive Language Disorder of the Cerebral Palsy in Skallgarigg Movie*". She used the theory of Carroll about speech disorder. She explained about expressive response by cerebral palsy mostly used in movie, but she is not explain about the features of its utterances.

On the other hand, Novemia (2011) also conducted a study regarding the language disorder response, she explained "*Asperger syndrome in the movie Mozart and the Whale*". In the mentioned research, she explains about the personal characteristic of Asperger syndrome represented by Donald Marton and his group and how the difficulties of Donald Marton as an Asperger Syndrom in social interaction. But, she is not mentioned about features of autism that contains in Mozart and the Whale.











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