

## **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Background of the Study

Building a good social life through communication is really important. Human as a creature who cannot live without others should have a good ability to communicate. The ability is by using language as well as possible. But, not all the human can manage the language they use. Their capability of using language depends on their psychological condition. Each person has different condition. The way how language is connected with our psychology makes me curious to learn it. The study of it is called Psycholinguistic

Psycholinguistic is a study of the relation between language and its user's psychology. John Field added that "it provides insights into how we assemble our own speech and writing and how we understand that of others; into how we store and use vocabulary; into how we manage to acquire a language in the first place; and into how language can fail us" (2003: ix).

The psychology of a person has a big influence on making people able to use language well. When we are using language to communicate with others, we have to be responsible in producing language due to gain people's perspective that we are good in communication. Produce language has a close relation with

our ability of speech. But, as the user of language, human has its unique condition due to their ability of speech. In a daily life, people use language depending on their ability. When they communicate, some of them may often find some obstacles. It probably appears because of their brain condition or because they have what psycholinguists called as "speech disorder" and "language disorder".

Ellen Koslo, an associate professor of otolaryngology at Columbia University Medical Center where she is the audiology section chief in the speech and hearing department proposed that "speech" refers to the actual sound of spoken language. It's the oral form of communicating. "Speech" is talking: using the muscles of the tongue, lips, jaw and vocal tract in a very precise and coordinated way to produce the recognizable sounds that make up language. So, when there is people cannot produce language correctly, means he/she has a "speech disorder".

Language disorder has been proposed by psycholinguists as one of the important factors that can affect people to produce language because it is related with their internal factor. A language disorder can be defined as a significant delay in the use and/or understanding of spoken or written language. As American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1993) proposed that language disorder may involve the form of language (phonology, syntax, and morphology), its content or meaning (semantics), or its use (pragmatics), in any combination. According to the DSM-IV, American Psychiatric Association (1994) an

expressive language disorder is characterized by language production skills that are below an age-appropriate level. Deficits in expressive language are apparent in both the formation and production of language and include weak vocabulary skills, word finding difficulties, word omissions, poor narrative skills (i.e., story-telling), difficulty providing information, and grammatical errors. Someone may have trouble communicating his own thoughts or called expressive language disorder. Expressive language disorder can affect both oral and written language. According to Judith A. Myers-Walls, PhD, CFLET there are some categories that include in language disorder such as aphasia, delayed language, articulation disorder, stuttering, and voice disorder. When someone has a problem with her/himself, it possibly causes a serious impact in order to produce language. The impact can be in a various ways; it could affect their way of speaking, their capability to response, or maybe it can cause someone disable to produce language at all.

This problem is captured in a true story movie entitled 'The King's Speech'. It is a story about a real King of England long time ago who recently has to change his old brother to seat the empire. But, in his first period to do his obligation as a king, his civilization was doubtfully his performance. It happened because he cannot fulfill his task to do such a speech or live conference in his civilization because he always fails to speak. All his nervousness just come out if he has to speak in public. He always starts his speak by stuttering then stop it

immediately. Sometimes, he fails to say what he wants to say. So, his wife brought him to a famous therapist at that time in a goal to make the King able to speak in public. The therapist gave him some treatments to booster his speak. But then, after some hard effort, they finally made it.

The interesting point that I am going to explain in this thesis is about the King George VI who has to face a serious problem in produce language. He cannot speak well to people even with his own family. Speak well in here not only a little bit stammer but he also difficulty to produce words. Not only that, it is getting serious when he has to speak or giving speech in a public. Not a single word can come out from his mouth. He will be very nervous and stuck a word in his throat. It happens because King George cannot pass his language acquisition well. During childhood, psycholinguist states that this is the best time for a person to start learning and understand the use of language. As Chomsky stated (1965) 'A hypothesized innate mechanism in the brain of an infant which triggers and supports the process of acquiring a first language'. The King's childhood was very poor. He cannot freely speak due to his father commands to always speak grammatically correct and fluently. He also get some physical abuse from his nanny in the past. He was trained by his father to giving speech but George always made some mistakes. So, his father always got mad. His limitation in using language makes him more afraid to speak. So, he became stuttering and stuck-a-word when speaking in a public.

This movie has its magnet not only because it is based on true story but also because of the problem that a king has in the past. Behind his great status, the King has a very vital problem in using language- a problem that a king should not have. He has no pride if he cannot speak well. So, it undoubtedly if in the UK and Ireland, this movie was earning a highest account on its opening weekend. It took in £3,510,000 from 395 cinemas and after five weeks on UK release, it was hailed as the most successful independent British film ever (Wikipedia.org).

It proves that speech disorder has become an interesting topic for a long time ago. The way how the King George VI, as the main character, cures his problem through speech-language therapy becomes the issue that we all want to know.

The research that related to the writer's study about overcome speech disorder has been done by some researchers (e.g. Steven L. Skelton and Aubrie Lynn Hagopian, 2014. Susan Nittrouer et all, 2014.). But, each of the researcher has its different focus. Like Steven L. Skelton and Aubrie Lynn Hagopian (2014) from America who has done the research about children who has speech disorder with entitled 'Using Randomized Variabel Practice in the Treatment of Childhood Apraxia of Speech'. The research concern in speech disorder called Apraxia having by child and using different treatment. The subject and the kind of speech disorder were different with the ones I am going to analyze.

Susan Nittrouer et all (2014) did a research entitled 'Nonword Repetition in Children With Cochlear Implants A Potential Clinical Marker of Poor Language Acquisition'. For the analyze of speech-language therapy, she focused on giving therapy using Nonword Repetition method and the subject also for deaf children who had done Cochlear Implant.

From the explanation above, I can conclude that my research focused on speech-language therapy to cure speech disorder in adult is different from those before. So, my research is going to be very interesting and unique as I choose the movie about famous king in England, King George VI, and I am going to focus on analyzing the language productivity that the main character has in the movie, the strategies in speech-language therapy and the process of the language therapy.

#### 1.2 Research Problems

This study tries to answer the following question related to the problem such as;

- 1. What is the language productivity that King George VI has in the movie?
- 2. What are the strategies in speech-language therapy given to King George VI?
- 3. How is the process of speech-language therapy that King George VI gets?

# 1.3 Research Purposes

- 1. To describe the language productivity that King George VI has in the movie.
- 2. To describe the strategies in speech-language therapy given to King George VI.
- 3. To describe the process of speech-language therapy that King George VI gets.

## 1.4 Significance of the Study

The goal of this study is to give important information for these following people in particular scope:

## 1. Researcher

This study will be a reference on other study regarding similar topic, especially in the scope of psycholinguistic related with linguistic treatment for people with some language disorder. It can also open for other researcher to do further research about the language treatment in a different object. Or the further research can also use it as the comparative study for analyzing other language disorder but still in the same topic.

## 2. People with Language Disorder

The researcher hopes that the study will inspire all people in everywhere. Especially people who have the same speech and language disorder. Because sometimes people with this kind of disorder feel unconfident and desperate because he/she thinks that its disorder cannot be curing.

# 3. Pathologists

It is hoped that this study will help all pathologist in practice. This study will give them some picture of how we give a cure to people with this kind of disorder through linguistic field. Some of the linguistic term that will find in this study will enrich the pathologists to help them find a new treatment.

# 1.5 Scope and Limitations

This study will observe the speech-language therapy used to an adult in the movie entitled 'The King's Speech'. This study will focus on the language productivity that the main character has in the movie, the strategies in speech-language therapy and the process of the language therapy.

## 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

a. Language productivity: capacity to produce unlimited number of grammatical phrases and sentences using only finite means or simply we called as produce word formation.

Example; A criminal explained his/her alibi a lot during his/her interrogating.

- b. Speech-language therapy: kind of treatment used to people with language disorder.
- c. Process: some step or stages due to gain a result of one's treatment.

