



Language acquisition itself is one of process of human to acquire perception and comprehension of language. In other words, language acquisition process is a way of human to form an internalized knowledge in his mind to know and get for his language. It can be learned from an interaction between a learner with experienced language users, in example. adults, of that culture. (Costley and Jaime Nelson, 2013:4). In this case, acquiring language takes an important thing in human's life because every human was not born talking, human needs to learn its own language to do communication everyday (Clark, 2009: 1).

Language acquisition theories generally were divided into two general theories. First is behaviorism theory or usually called as learning theory comes from B.F Skinner. Skinner assumes that there was no complicated innate or mental mechanism needed to learn language, all the necessary came from systematic observation of the events of the external world (Aitchison, 2007: 8). Children do not have any device given by God which make them can acquire the language when they were born. Children were born with a blank sheet in his brain, and to fulfill that sheet, environment factors have the big influences to form the behavior of the children (Kustomo, 2012: 99).

Second is nativism theory which came from Noam Chomsky. Chomsky assumes that human was born with imprinted knowledge about language, it often referred to as 'the innate hypothesis' (Aitchison, 2007: 21). He explains to acquire language to be possible in human, human must

endow with a 'rich internal structure' (Aitchison, 2007: 97). Human has been given by God a Language Acquisition Device or usually called as LAD, it is innately patched in human brain. Through LAD which innately imbued, it makes human to have an enough ability to learn and acquire its language (Costley and Jaime Nelson, 2013:2). That process to learn and acquire language which passed by human before he can speak the language is called as language acquisition process.

Nativism and Behaviorism can relate each other. In other words, nativism theory must be supported by behaviorism theory and behaviorism also should be supported by nativism.

Behaviorism theory assumes the factor to support human to learn and acquire the language is environment. Children who live in good environment will have good process in acquire language and if they live in lack of language interaction environment, it will delay their language acquisition process such as in Isabelle, Chelsea and Genie cases which growth up in the mute environment from 'human speech'. Isabelle (pseudonym) has confinement with the mute mother that makes Isabelle did not communicate well because her closes environment, in this case is her mother, so she did not begin to learn language till she gets her freedom (Steinberg, 2001: 135). Then other case is from Genie (pseudonym), she was discovered when she was 13 years old in Los Angeles, USA. She had been locked by father in a room preceding 12 years. Her father isolated her even she never heard human voices and communicate using language, her

father frequently beat her with a wooden stick and growled at her like a dog (Steinberg, 2001: 131). Then the case that experienced by Chelsea (pseudonym), she was began to learn language at age 32, it happened when her parents thought that she was deaf because the misdiagnosed added she also lived in the rural place which did not give any language training to instruct any kind to her.

Other factor which can help the children to adapt and absorb the language normally in their environment is hearing equipment to hear the language look like. It was proven by Genie's case, although she was not deaf but she never heard voices for 13 years. It means that her ears were function-less to hear a language for 13 years. It looks like she was a deaf kid because her ability to hear was isolated and did not get any language input. Then, there was Helen Keller which deaf, blind and mute since she was 19 months old. Helen unable to acquired language normally because she was deaf and blind, it made her could not receive any language input. But, in the end she can learn language when she met a teacher which taught her through hand-signals and vocal chords with hands (Steinberg, 2001: 138). Nevertheless Genie and Helen Keller did not get the brain damage, the unequipped could be one of the reason that made children acquire language abnormally. She could catch even absorb the input of any language information to her brain, but her hearing was simulated into the deaf condition.

Other similar case of human with problem in language acquisition who deaf, blind and mute was filmed in 2005 by directed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali. Sanjay's film entitled "Black" shows a story of Michele McNally. She was a kid with hearing impairment, blind and mute condition since she was a baby. When Michele was baby, she was normal until one day an illness has made her blind, deaf and mute. Her parents decided to call Debraj Sahai to be Michele's teacher who taught to know language. Debraj Sahai taught Michele through some methods such as nonverbal communication and tactile sign language.

Non-verbal communication usage explained above can be used to help a blind, deaf and mute child to acquire language. Non-verbal communication itself is all aspects of communication other than words themselves. It includes how we utter the words, feature, environment which affect the interaction, objects which influence personal images and interaction patterns (Wood, 2009: 13). It can be a facial expression, kinesic/gestures, paralinguistic or paralanguage, proxemics, haptics, appearance.

In other hand, the usage of sign language is also found in *Black* movie. Sign language itself is a natural language which commonly used by impaired hearing human. Andrew Palmer stated that sign language express and impress language which utilities not just by your hand, but it can be body language and facial expression. Sign language may differ in each place or country even among those whose first language is the same

language (Hollis, 2011: 5). Such as, in United Kingdom or British Sign Language (NSL) is different with United States or American Sign Language (ASL). The differences such as BSL uses two-handed alphabet system and in ASL uses on-handed alphabet system (Hollis, 2011: 5).

Previously, there are some works which discussed about language acquisition in related topic, such as Awwaliyyah's thesis (2015) "An Analysis of Tarzan's Language Acquisition in The Movie *Tarzan of the Apes* (1999). She explains about how the language acquisition of Tarzan who isolated in animal environment without any human interaction then he started his language acquisition as human when he was mature. After that, the other work came from Heri Kustomo (2012) "Pemerolehan Bahasa Pada Anak Kajian Antara *Nurture* dan *Nature* (Kasus 'Wanita Tarzan' Kamboja)" which explains about a "Tarzan woman" Rochom P'ngieng who lost in jungle when she was 8 years old was found 19 years later when she was 27 years old. She was found in language lost condition then she begun to learn her language again. Then, the works come from Ariswara Pratama (2015) "A Psycholinguistic Analysis on Sign Language Used by Helen Keller in the *Miracle Worker* Movie" from Mataram University. He tried to explain what language that used by children in deaf and blind condition to acquire language. He also find out how deaf and blind children could acquire language.

See the case which had been explained, writer aims to write the thesis about what communication way used to aid Michele McNally as









- Language Acquisition : The process of human to absorb and get the knowledge of their language.
- Nonverbal Communication : It means the way of communication other than words. It can be the way how human utter the words, feature, environment which affect a communication, object with influence personal images and interaction patterns. (Wood, 2009: 13).
- Tactile Sign Language : A sign language which is commonly used by deaf-blind people to communicate with each other. This sign language is practiced by using hand contact.
- Tadoma : Method of speech-reading which based on vibrotactile reception of the lips movement that occur when producing speech.