

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF THE STUDY

3.1. Research Approach

This study uses descriptive qualitative approach in the purpose to describe the occurrence of speech disfluency in four-years-old children. Based on Denzin and Lincoln (1994), qualitative research emphasize the process and meanings that are not rigorously examined or measured in terms of quantity, amount, or intensity.

Furthermore, qualitative research involves fieldwork (Creswell, 1994). It means the researcher is directly in contact with the participants, such as meeting people, going to the setting, site, or institution to observe or record the participants' actions in their natural setting.

3.2. Population and Sampling

The population of this study was four years old children living in Surabaya. The writer focused only to use four-years-old children as participants. Moreover, the writer chose children from middle socioeconomics family because they received considerably more care and more education, which can help and motivate them to learn various subjects, including language.

The sample of this study was collected using purposive sampling, which means the writer take participants and put them in some criteria. The writer chose four years old children because in this age, children learn to use the basic rules of

their language (Norton, 1980). In other words, the writer considers that children start producing well-grammatical sentence in this age, for instance, positive, negative, and question sentences. Furthermore, in this study, to get the natural setting, the conversation happens between a mother and her child. The writer chose a housewife mother because she has more time with her child, so she can motivate her child to speak naturally. Furthermore, the writer also attempted to take participants that use Indonesian language as their first language.

3.3 Technique of Data Collection

It has been stated that qualitative research is a study to observe behavior in its natural setting (Creswell, 1994). Therefore, to get a natural setting, the writer used dyadic method, in which the argumentation happens in a conversation between the mother and the child. The parent-child relationship is an essential context for the development of intellectual skill, language competence, and social and moral values thus the family provide the foundation for an impressively diverse array of characteristics including communication that make each of us human (Berk, 1989). According to Berko-Gleason (1975, in Dardjowidjojo, 2000) child will be more talkative with his mother than his father. The writer was not involved in the conversation in an attempt to get the natural setting of the observation. The writer believes that this is the most natural way to avoid the participants from being silent during the conversation because the children would not feel forced to speak and it makes them comfortable during the recording.

Furthermore, in collecting the data, the writer took several steps. Initially, the writer chose the participants based on some criteria that the writer has decided. After deciding the criteria of the participants, the writer visited the children and their mother to find information related to the study and gave instructions to the mother accordingly. Then, the writer asked the mother to record the conversation based on some criteria that have been explained to the mother. The writer gave the mothers some questions (see appendix) to provoke the argument. The process of conversation recording between the mother and the children were done in approximately one week or more, without the presence of the writer. The duration of the recording is approximately between twenty to thirty minutes for each participant. Besides, in each recording there were some topics in order to incite the argument of the children.

3.4. Technique of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer did the following steps. First, the writer transcribed the recording orthographically. Next, the writer identified the existence of the disfluency and classified it based on the type proposed by Clark and Clark (1977); unfilled pause, filled pause, false start, and repetition. All are in the writer's effort to find out the possibility of speech disfluency in children's argumentation. The writer used the Cool Edit Pro Software to support the analysis by knowing the duration of the pauses. This is important because according to Goldman-Eisler (1986), pauses that are more than 250-millisecond could be considered as one of speech disfluency form.

Next, the writer analyzed the frequency of speech disfluency to find out the most frequent type of speech disfluency that commonly happens in children by giving argumentation.

At last, the writer analyzed the characteristics of each disfluency's type. Since the participants speak in Indonesian, the Indonesian grammatical rule proposed by Alwi et al (2003) is applied in this analysis. It is in order to identify the syntactic category of word.