

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Telling a story is a way to construct social interaction. Through the language used, the teller arranges participation story and send the message within to the hearer. The communication runs between them is the result of positive responses to the arrangement.

Telling personal experience story seems to be a fun activity done by members of a society on any occasions. Women, men, children or adult spend a lot of time telling or listening stories. People share stories to each other at public places, on public transportations or even in formal places and situations as in classroom or bussines meeting.

Most of conversational stories tell about what a person or other persons see, hear, feel, and do. An interesting story may be influenced by the way it told. The hearer captures a dramatic story when it is organized well. Since the story is based on daily activities, the topic centers around disturbances of situation or events personal experienced. Sometimes the characters (it could be the storyteller itself or other people) experience something that may harm,

embarrass, fail or cause other inconvenience feeling. Then the characters try to overcome the disturbances by managing various sources of strength. Johnston (1993) proposed strategy for resolving disturbances in conversational storytelling through community and contest as illustrated in stories below.

Story 1

Nonton "Cinta Paulina" ? Wah, apik lho. Paulina punya saudara kembar namanya Paola. Suami Paola namanya Carlos, orang kaya. Paulina diminta pura-pura jadi istri Carlos karena Paola lebih senang dengan Alesandro. Waktu Carlos dan anaknya mulai cinta Paulina, Paola balik nuduh Paulina ngrebut suaminya, ke pengadilan segala. Untung Paulina nggak nyerah. Bagus itu. Mestinya dia minta Carlos milih dia atau Paola.

Story 2

*A: Inter menang 1 - 0 lawan Milan tadi malam. Aku nonton sampai setengah empat. Rame B.
B: Ah, nggak rame. Aku nonton setengah jam terus aku matikan TV-nya. Lha, mainnya ogah-ogahan, gitu.
A: Iya. Tapi babak kedua yang bagus. Bierhoff yang masukkan. Wuih, tendangannya cantik sekali. Kelas dunia.*

It is easy to know that the first story is told by a woman and the second by a man. Mostly because the first topic is about a 'telenovela' on television that becomes favourite program among women and the second topic is about football game as many men choose for conversation. In the first story, the story teller wants to understand the disturbances of main character (Paulina) by giving her support and suggestion for solidarity since the protagonist is also a woman. The power source is then called *community*.

In the second story, there is an intention to compete knowledge of the game. The story expresses contest between the teller and the hearer. They create the world outside the story in terms of world of contest.

Such stories are found among labor community in Surabaya. Conversational storytelling helps them to ease tense of work or routineous job. This situation emerges the teller to use linguistic strategies in resolving the disturbances through community and contest as proposed by Johnstone.

1.2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

1. Does power construction through community and contest tend to be used among workers in telling stories?
2. How do... community and contest in conversational storytelling create world of power?

1.3. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The study is intended to find out power construction through community and contest elements which tend to be used among workers in telling stories.

1.4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The result of this study is expected to provide clear description on the use of language in creating social power in man's and woman's spoken discourse through storytelling activity, to give contribution in sociolinguistic study, and to enlarge our view upon different perceptions between man's and woman's social interaction reflected in their language.

1.5. THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

Relationship between language and social power can be described on how woman and man use language and how they interpret other's speech. In one circumstances domination and intention of man's speech show man's power. On the other hand, woman's affection, equality and similarity tend to be woman solidarity. To understand why sex difference occur, one need to look at the roles played by man and woman in community, what the possible motivations are used to adopt particular form of speech (Graddol and Swann, 1989).

Previous study explored that the different interpretation between them are context dependence. When woman and man make conversation, one intends to show power at the same time it can mean solidarity and any solidarity efforts at the same time reflect power of the utter (Tannen, 1993).

Language is vehicle of speaker's internal thought which delivers identity, ambition, attitude of the communicator (Graddol and Swann, 1989). Since every human being needs medium to express himself, telling a story is one of the way to know what a person intends to do. The teller does not just report his experiences in world of story but also creates world outside the story: the world of contest and the world of community. Johnstone (1993) proposed thematic choices and discourse choices in analysing conversational storytelling.

1. *Thematic choices* : the resolution of disturbances reflected in the story that are community and contest. Contests are more appeared in man's stories in which the protagonist acts alone to overcome challenge or threat. He competes others using physical or intellectual skills. Woman's stories stress on the important of making community efforts in which the disturbances are managed jointly.
2. *Discourse choices* : linguistic strategies in creating world of contest and community that are extrathematic details (spesification of time, place, event, name and reported speech details).

A story does not just start (Stubbs, 1983). Like written narrative a conversational story comprises structures for analysis in order to understand

what the characters experience. A complete narrative according to Labov (Pratt, 1977) is made up of :

1. Abstract : short summary of the story.
2. Orientation : time, place, persons identities and activity or situation details.
3. Complicating action : the raising conflict.
4. Evaluation : indicates why the narrative is told and what the narrators is get.
5. Resolution : conclusion or result of narrative.
6. Coda : brings the narrator and the listener back to beginning point of the narrative.

1.6. METHOD OF THE STUDY

The writer will use qualitative descriptive method that describes phenomenon in reality especially language use in the discourse of conversational storytelling.

1.6.1. Scope and Limitation

The writer observes and analyses conversational stories that contain disturbances both by woman and man without noticing their ethnicity, educational backgrounds, and job positions. The languages used for telling stories are Javanese and Indonesian or the mixture of both. The story will be analysed in the teller's strategy for resolving the disturbances through community and contest related to

its context of situation.

1.6.2. Population and Sampling

The population of this study is male and female workers in Surabaya.

The writer uses purposive sampling with definite characteristics. The data is taken from conversational stories made by groups of workers consisting of two to five persons. The workers have been living in Surabaya at least for 15 years, so the culture of Surabaya now influences them. They come from several companies and like share stories to other workers. The stories at least consist of two elements of six of Labov's narrative structures : complicating action and resolution because from those elements the writer captures the disturbances of the story's characters.

1.6.3. Definition of Key Terms

1. Story : situation, incidents, events in the past arranged in sets of words.
2. Conversational story telling : a way of telling a story that needs speaker - hearer participation.
3. Gender : man and woman sexual differences.
4. Power construction : building understanding of how power is emerged in someone's speech.
5. Community : power source in resolving and under-

standing disturbances by helping, advising, doing action in a group.

6. Contest : power source that shows individual competence, cleverness, physical challenges.
7. Working community : A group of people who have been working at the same place and live in a certain region, in this context is in Surabaya city

1.6.4. Technique of Data Collection

The writer combines sociolinguistic and ethnographic methods in collecting the data as suggested by Eder (Tannen, 1993). Sociolinguistic method is used to identify general patterns of storytelling activity and it is supported by ethnographic method to get detailed record of the talk in natural way.

First, the writer observes language strategies used among workers in telling stories. The workers are in a small group, consisting two to five persons. The members of the group are acquaintances, so the conversation runs spontaneously. The activities occur during working time, break time, before and after working time at the respondents' working environment. Some of them are also taken to the observer's house.

Second, the writer selects and records the conversation based on the requirements above. She tries to make records without the respondents being aware of

the tape recorder existence.

In brief, the data are collected in the following steps:

1. *Previous observation* : observes the tendencies of the workers in managing disturbances through the stories.
2. *Choosing population* : the population of male and female workers living in Surabaya.
3. *Taking sample* : groups of two to five workers who like to tell personal experience stories.
4. *Record* their conversational stories.

1.6.5. Technique of Data Analysis

After collecting data, the data are transcribed and classified into two groups: data of woman story teller and data of man. The writer presents and tabulates the occurrences in woman's and man's stories. Then, she analyzes them using thematic and discourse choices. The more details of technique of data analysis are as follows :

1. *Selecting stories* which consist of disturbances of the characters.
2. *Transcribing the data*.
3. *Classifying the data* of women's stories and men's stories.
4. *Tabulating the occurrences of community and contest elements* in women's and men's stories.

5. *Analysing* how woman and man create power in their stories through thematic, discourse choices.

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION