

Abstract

Dementia is one type of health problem that happens to elderly people. It is actually an acquired global impairment of intellect, memory and personality, but without impairment of consciousness. The memory loss has been cited as the most prominent aspect of dementia, at least in the early stages, and is rated as the most common problem. Pre-senile dementia is the onset of the disease when persons are younger than 65 and the onset after 65 is called senile dementia. There are three stages that perform the onset of the memory disturbance in dementing illness; stage 1 a person may have occasional memory lapse and forget to perform a certain activity, stage 2 the person may have memory errors include forgetting familiar people or friends, stage 3 the person may lose information about something familiar.

By analyzing the narrative ability of person who suffer from dementia we can be able to see how the disease affects their language skills which are narrative abilities. How they repeat more, speak more slowly, use many pause words in finding the exact words, and sometimes they turn back to the previous topic while they are talking about another topic. All of those evidence are the result of the progressively debilitating nature of the disease. Many experts of Psycholinguistics believe that failing in language skills are reflected by failing in cognitive skills. So it is not possible for them to construct an extensive and meaningful talk.