

## ABSTRACT

*Setyaningrum, Wiwin.* "A Study of Perceptual Characteristic of Voice Quality Found in Aging Population as A Function of Increasing Age". Submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the sarjana degree of the English Department, Faculty of letters, Airlangga University.

Language is altered as one progresses from youth to old. Not only are there profound changes in the content of language from youth to old, but the speaking and vocal characteristics are changing as well.

The changing of speech, especially on paralinguistic features such as pitch, loudness, and voice quality in aging people is closely related to their physical decline. Based on Crystal says that age and sex are proved to be the easiest tools to identify from such cues as paralinguistic features, the writer would like to discuss one of the paralinguistic features, that is voice quality, to give information about aging people.

In this study, the writer attempts to analyze the relationship between the voice quality and the increasing age. The writer uses quantitative analysis study, which involves 6 respondents as the speakers and 30 respondents as the listeners. Previously, the writer records the speakers' voices and then asks the listeners to score the speakers' voice quality on a semantic differential scale based on their closest perception. The writer also asks the listeners to give their judgment upon the age decade of the speakers. By using correlation test, the writer finds the significant relationship between the voice quality and the increasing age.

The result of the study shows that there is a positive and linear relationship between the two variables; voice quality (x), and the increasing age (y). It means that the relationship rarely occurs by chance.

In this study, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternate hypothesis is accepted because there is a relationship between the voice quality and the increasing age. Hence, we may conclude that such nonverbal cues as paralinguistic features of speech become valuable information about the aging people.

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION