

## Abstract

***Constantia, R (2014). The Quantity and Quality of Working and Non-Working Mothers' Speech to Their 2-3 Year Old Children in Kediri. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Degree of English Department Faculty of Humanities, Airlangga University***

This research aims at describing and explaining the working and non-working mothers' speech to their 2-3 year old children in Indonesia. Specifically, it focuses on finding out the quality and quantity of both mothers' speech as the verbal input for their children's first language acquisition. The writer takes interest in this topic because there is assumption that working mothers might have less quantity and quality of speech to their 2-3 year old children than the non-working ones due to the limited time to spend and interact with them. In conducting this research, the writer collected the recorded natural conversations between four pairs of participants in 60 minutes; transcribed the conversations orthographically; counted the number of utterances and words in mothers' speech to find its quantity; counted the number of word types and mothers' MLU to find its quality. The findings show that the working mothers have more quantity and quality of speech than the non-working ones. They spoke more utterances and words, used more different word types, and spoke longer utterances to their 2-3 year old than the non-working mothers.

**Keywords:** *working mothers, non-working mothers, children language acquisition, input quantity, input quality.*