

ABSTRACT

Puspitawati, Fathers' Language Input for Two Years Old Children's Lexical Development. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for sarjana degree of English Department, Faculty of Humanity, Airlangga University, 2009.

In fathers' speech, fathers may play a role in children's lexical development. Therefore, this study aimed to describe the characteristics of fathers' speech when talking to their 2 years old children. This study would also aim to provide the readers with the description about the language input for children's lexical development. In this study, the data were collected by recording conversations between fathers and their 2 year old children. Then, the writer analyzed the findings by categorizing fathers' speech features into these seven adults' speech features which described by Gleason et al. (1993, in Berko Gleason, 1993). Then, the writer would also analyze the content of fathers' speech whether the fathers' speech consist of more content words or included prepositions, and other function words. Afterwards, the writer analyzed the most frequent category in the seven features of adults' speech that is employed by fathers during the interaction with their two year old children.

Based on the data analysis, the writer found that all participants employed all categories of the adults' speech features; clear and slow enunciation of words, uttering sentence elements in isolated fashion, speaking about the *here* and *now*, reduced vocabularies, repeating key words in subsequent utterances, modifying the topic, and providing feedback. The most frequent category employed by the three participants was in the category of speaking about the *here* and *now*.

Keywords: language input and lexical development.