

ABSTRACT

Saptiti, A., Kenia. A Study Of Overextension, Underextension, and Mismatch Made By A Two-Year-Old Indonesian Child. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the sarjana degree of English Department Faculty Of Letters Airlangga University Surabaya.

This study is aimed at analyzing the three types of word-meaning error occurred in a two-year-old Indonesian child utterances. Besides, it is also intended to find out the most frequent type of the error. In this study, the writer took the data from a year recording of utterance of a young child aged 2;6. This study uses case study because the writer focuses on one particular case. In taking the data, the writer takes naturalistic observation. Then, the child's utterances were transcribed into orthographic transcription. Next, the writer identified, classified, and analyzed the findings with the theory of three types of word-meaning error proposed by Berk (1989).

Based on the data analysis, the writer found that the participants displayed all types of error, those were overextension, underextension, and mismatch. In addition, the most frequent type of error found during observation in a two-year-old child was overextension. The child mostly overextended a word to include a set of perceptually similar objects that he knew to have diverse functions. Mismatch was more common. It was typically uttered by the participant in missing to match his meaning of a new word and the adult meaning. Underextension was less common, and reflected a certain conservatism in finding a narrower definition that fit the child's early experience of a word.

Furthermore, the errors occurred tended to be noun rather than verb or adjective. In the case of language development, a major role in vocabulary development must be played by the child's own active cognitive processing usually contained that would be uttered again by the child.

Keywords: word meaning, overextension, underextension, and mismatch.