

## ABSTRACT

**Carolina, Laura.** A Study of Speech Disfluency Made By Indonesian Kindergarten Children in Describing Picture. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the sarjana degree of the English Department, Faculty of Letters Airlangga University, 2006.

This study aimed at analyzing speech disfluency occurred in Indonesian kindergarten children's speech. In this study, the writer took the data from three kindergarten children aged four, five, and six years old. Then, the writer analyzed the findings with the theory of speech disfluency proposed by Clark and Clark(1977).

Based on the data analysis, the writer found that all participants displayed all types of speech disfluency, those were unfilled pause, filled pause, false start, and repetition. The most frequent type of speech disfluency found in kindergartners' speech was unfilled pause. Furthermore, each type of speech disfluency had its characteristics. Unfilled pause and filled pause tended to precede content word rather than function word. While, the repeated words in repetition were mostly also content word. In the case of false start, the false words usually contained the syllable of words that would be uttered again by the participants.

**Keywords:** speech disfluency, unfilled pause, filled pause, false start, and repetition.