

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

People produce speech to communicate each other. Sometimes people make an error when produce a speech, namely slip of the tongue. According to Clark and Clark (1977), in speaking, people have already formulated plans and executed them. But not all have gone well in everyday speech. People always plan every word they want to say, but sometimes the execution is not the same as their planning and a speech error happen. A speech error (or slip) is an unintentional movement, addition, deletion, blending or substitution of material within an utterance or between utterances (Fromkin, 1973). From that explanation, the speaker produces a wrong utterance they did not mean to occur. The speakers who realize that they made a slip usually apologize and correct the utterance.

Slips of the tongue happen in a daily conversation and in any situation. It occurs in informal situation, such as talk to someone at canteen or a street, bargain with seller in a traditional market, and so on. It also occurs in formal situation, such as in class presentation, presidential speech, and job interview. Slips of the tongue are not related to the speaker's skills, they naturally happen because of unintentional processes when we produce a speech. According to Harley (2001), Errors can be categorized by the units of speech (e.g., feature, phoneme, word, or phrase) and the mechanism (e.g., perseveration, anticipation, exchange, substitution, or blend).

People cannot predict when the slips come in their speech. For instance, a male interviewee in a job interview said “SMP nya sembilan sembilan sampai sembilan ” and before the interviewer realizes the real target words, he immediately corrected it by saying “maaf dua ribu dua ”. However, not every speaker corrects their slips of the tongue, sometimes they did not realize their errors and continue their speech. For example, when the interviewee produces an utterance like “*setelah dari situ ditawarkan untuk pindah di bagian staf administrasi di perbankan*”. There is a word which appears in a wrong pronunciation but the speaker did not know the mistake and continue the speech without making any correction.

The phenomena about slips of the tongue make some experts to do researches on it. There are some theories dealing with slips of the tongue. In 1973, Fromkin proposed the types of slips of the tongue. She divided the types of slips of the tongue into 7 types which categorized them based on the mechanism of the slips of the tongue only. Some decades later, there is an expert who tries to make it more detail in categorizing the types of slips of the tongue. Harley (2001) has formulated 11 types of slip of the tongue based on the linguistic units involved in the error and the error mechanism involved.

There were several previous studies about speech errors have been conducted by some researchers. Kawachi (2002) conducted a research entitled Practice Effects on Speech Production Planning: Evidence from Slips of the Tongue in Spontaneous vs. Preplanned Speech in Japanese. His study tried to find out the differences of slips of the tongue behaviors in those two different settings using prevalent production models by Dell (1986) and Levelt (1989).

A research entitled *A Study on Speech Errors Made by Global TV VJ the Music Programs: Most Wanted* was conducted by Nisa (2009). Her research focused on common types of speech errors that happened on presenter of music program using theory proposed by Clark and Clark (1977). Another research was done by Radulescu (2011) entitled *'Slips of the Tongue'- A Psycholinguistic Approach*. She observed slips of the tongue in two point of view: psycho-analytical and linguistic view. In her research, she tried to divide the existence between those two perspectives and made them unified.

A research entitled *Slip of the Tongue in News Anchors' Utterances on Indonesian Private TV Stations (A Case Study on Metro TV and TV One)* was conducted by Widyawati (2013). She focused on the types of slips of the tongue occurred in news anchors and possible factors influencing TV news anchors produced slips of the tongue using types of slips of the tongue proposed by Fromkin (1973). Another research done by Pramudita (2014) on slips of the tongue occurred in the utterances of television news reporters of Kompas TV. Riantoby (2014) also conducted a research about *Slips of the Tongue Produced by Television News Presenters of Kompas TV*.

The previous studies above discussed slips of the tongue in some perspectives (psycho-analytical and linguistic view) and also slips of the tongue produced in speech; however, the rests analyzed slips of the tongue that occurred in an electronic media, namely television. Nisa explained common types of speech errors in television music program. Besides, Widyawati, Pramudita, and Riantoby observed slips of the tongue happened in television news presenters specifically.

However, there are only a few researchers discuss slips of the tongue which occur in formal situation in a job interview. Slips of the tongue can happen in any situation, such as the interviewees during job interview. Being nervous that comes to interviewees may be one of some factors causing slips of the tongue. When the interviewees feel restless and fear, the speech planning and execution become less accurate.

A job interview considered as a conversation in which important information is exchanged for making a selection amongst candidates. Like many job interviews, the quality of the information shows the quality of the decision. As an interviewee, setting a goal to provide the best information is one way to fill the position offered by the company. To reach the goal, interviewee must answer all of the questions from the interviewer correctly. In answering the questions, the interviewee must articulate it clearly so that the interviewer can catch the meaning of each word that he said. Interviewee usually looks for some common questions before job interview is held. From the materials, the interviewee can minimize errors in answering the questions.

In this study, the writer conducted a research about slips of the tongue occurred in the utterances spoken by interviewees during job interview. The writer took the data from PT. Bimasakti Multi Sinergi. This company was chosen because it is a national company based on information and technology in industry payment gateway and has served more than 80.000 payment points all over Indonesia. It means that the employees of this company have the ability to work professionally. This study consequently aims to find out the occurrence of slips of the tongue in

adult in formal speech, what types of slips of the tongue occurred in the speech, and the most frequent type of slips of the tongue. The data were analyzed using combined types of slips of the tongue proposed by Fromkin (1973) and Harley (2001). This research is also under the research project by Masitha Achmad Syukri (2014) entitled “Slips of The Tongue Produced by Indonesian Adults in The Formal *Situation*”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the phenomenon above, slips of the tongue may appear to anyone. There are some types of slips of the tongue produced by people. The types and the appearance of the slips are different in some people and situations. From the explanation above and the types of slips of the tongue proposed by Fromkin (1973) and Harley (2001), the writer tries to use interviewees as the subject and has formulated the research questions as follow:

1. What are the types of slips of the tongue produced by interviewees of PT. Bimasakti Multi Sinergi during job interview?
2. What is the most frequent type of slips of the tongue produced by interviewees of PT. Bimasakti Multi Sinergi during job interview?

1.3 Objective of the Study

From the statement of the problems above, this study aims to identify and classify the types of slips of the tongue produced by interviewees of PT. Bimasakti Multi Sinergi during job interview. This study also tries to find out the most frequent type of slips of the tongue which interviewees of PT. Bimasakti Multi Sinergi produced.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is supposed to give contribution in linguistics studies. The findings of this study might become the evidence for explaining speech production, and can be one of the references from students or lecturers that are interested in conducting a research in Psycholinguistics, especially slips of the tongue. Hopefully, the readers will get deeper information about slips of the tongue occurring in adults in formal situation, in this case is job interview. The readers can also get explanation about speech errors that occur in the utterance from the correction made by the writer. Moreover, this study is supposed to help interviewees to become more aware and prepare their performance in order to minimize the emergence of slips of the tongue and make interviewees better in the future.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the key terms used, the writer defines several terms:

1. Slips of the Tongue (SOT)

An unintentional movement, addition, deletion, blending or substitution of material within an utterance or between utterances (Fromkin, 1973). Errors which involve the sounds or words of the language, and provide a window onto the processes of speech production (Harley, 2001).

2. Speech production

The production of spoken or written language. The processes of speech production fall into three broad areas called conceptualization, formulation, and encoding (Levelt, 1989).

3. Interviewee

A person who answer the questions in an formal meeting at which somebody is asked questions to see if they are suitable for a particular job.

