

ABSTRACT

ARIZONA the Acquisition of Sentences by Three – Year Old children. A language acquisition study, Medan : English Applied Linguistics, Graduate Program, INIMED 2006.

This study investigates how the three – year old children acquire sentences. It is language acquisition study because it investigates the Acquisition of Sentence by children naturally in daily conversation. In the study the writer rises two research problems : 1) What sentences do the children acquire and which is dominant ? 2) How do the children use sentences to response adult conversations. The analysis strategy is used natural setting. The first is to group sentences into declarative, imperative, negative, interrogative and exclamation sentences. The second one is grouping sentences into active and passive voice and the third one is grouping into simple, compound and complex sentences. The finding showed that : firstly, children at the age of three years old are able to acquire all kinds of sentences. They are declarative, imperative, negative, interrogative, exclamation, active voice, passive voice, simple, complex, compound, indirect speech, indirect, indirect object sentence. They use declarative, active and simple sentences dominantly in the conversations. Secondly, they response adult conversation spontaneously.

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