

## ABSTRACT

Br Hutabarat, Hartini. 2007. **The Acquisition of Words by 22 – Month - Old Children.** A Thesis, English Applied Linguistics Study Program State University of Medan.

The objective of this study was to discover the words acquired by children at the age of 22 months. Data were collected by observing a male and a female. In addition, an interview was conducted to obtain more information from the children's parents. The observations were conducted twice a week for a three-month period starting from October up to December 2006. The analyses showed that the male and female children under study could produce 313 and 366 words respectively. In the process of pronouncing the words, the male could produce them clearer compared with the female. The differences occurred might be due to the influence of the environment because the male lives with his brother and sister whereas the female is the only child in the family. Based on the research, some conclusions and suggestions are presented. Parents and caretakers can give more care and attention to the children's language acquisition.