

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

It is clear that language is a very vital thing in life by considering that human is social beings. As social beings, human needs to communicate with each other to share ideas, information, emotions, and thoughts by using language. Language, as means of communication facilitates us in making relationship and helps us in understanding everything around the world, including art and science. In addition, the role of language as a set of system consists of a system of sound, a system of grammar and a system of meaning in which we can put our creativity and invention. As Sapir (2001:7) in his book *Language: An Introduction to the Study of Speech* states:

“Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols.”

Since language is very important, we must learn how to use it appropriately. One of the ways to communicate using language is by speaking. Speaking is more than sound flows from speaker’s mouth, but it is a complex system which involves complicated choices related to selection and ordering of meanings, sounds, and larger units and arrangements. Speaking is actually not such a simple thing since it involves a complex process of thinking about language aspects and skills. As it is stated by Rogers et al. (2010:1167), the capability to speak clearly

involves the complex system of the brain which is not fully understood. In speaking, people not only expected to think how to deliver their message to others, but also how to produce their message clearly and smoothly. In speaking process, the speaker must have the messages to be transferred to the listener, so that speaking and listening are two activities which seemed to be ordinary skills. When people speak, actually they arrange linguistic symbols in their mind (brain) and then produce them in the form of language by using their organs of speech. That is why we cannot separate speech with the process of thought.

In producing language, actually people strive for what we call with “ideal delivery” in uttering the words or sentences to the listener or addressee to be understood well. Clark and Clark (1977: 261) say that ideal delivery is the correct way of executing a sentence where the speakers know what they really want to say and say it fluently. However, in fact of reality some speakers fail to get ideal delivery and almost every speaker makes errors unconsciously. These errors are called common types of speech errors which appear sometimes in daily conversation, in formal meetings and in seminars.

Clark (1977: 35) says, “The common speech errors that are often made by the speakers who broadcast are related to the psychological principles which can be applied to the practical problem of speech, for instance, speech errors”. It proves that the process of speech production is closely related to the process of thought. Frisch and Wright (2002: 1) state that speech errors have traditionally been used to provide evidence for models of speech production that utilize the constructs of linguistic theory as psychologically real components of linguistic

performance. Cowles (2011: 161) defines speech errors as mistakes that speakers make when they intend to say one thing but something else comes out instead.

According to Clark and Clark (1977), there are nine types of common speech errors, namely silent pause, filled pause, hesitation pause, repeats (the repetition of one or more words in a row) and then false starts (the corrections of a word), retraced false starts (the repetition of one or more words before the corrected words), then, there are corrections, interjections, stutters, and slips of the tongue or tongue-slips. Furthermore, Clark and Eve (1977:271) have discovered that planning can become difficult for cognitive reasons, from anxiety, and for social reasons.

Since speech errors occur in almost all of speakers, reporters who take part in live broadcasts such as TV or radio also experienced it. Television broadcast is more popular than radio since it includes audio visual which makes it widely watched around the world. There are several channels provided in television, one of them is Metro TV. Metro TV has a different concept than the other stations in Indonesia. It broadcasts 24 hours a day, with programs focused on news around the world.

Among the programs broadcasted, breaking news is one of the important programs since it provides the latest news which is very important to be known by people around the world. If we take attention, the reporters who bring the news directly from the location produce several mistakes while bringing the news. As we know, Reporters are usually engaged in the direct gathering and communication of public information, usually through primary information

sources such as first-person interviews, news conferences and attendance at news events. Reporters must be able to develop and locate their own sources of information. They must be able to work quickly; usually reporters work under deadline pressure, and some must meet multiple deadlines per day.

There are certainly eight breaking news with eight different reporters, i.e. Debora Setiawan, Rakha Susanto, Andika Bakti, Sari Syahrial, Alhadi Habibi, Annisa Rahman, Rheza Ardiansyah, and Ferdinan Caston. Those reporters truly show phenomena related to their speech production.

The researcher absolutely focuses on the speech errors produced by those eight reporters. In the reports done by eight reporters of breaking news, it is seen that they frequently have problems of speech production-speech errors. The examples of the problem can be seen in the following excerpts.

Example I

Topic : Banjir di Terowongan Cawang Berangsur Surut

Reporter : Debora Setiawan

“Bisa kita saksikan **di-i-i [Stutter]** belakang saya ini dengan, **[eee]**, jelas ini terlihat ada, **[eee]**, genangan namun, **[ee]**, ini menurut laporan dari kasatlantas Jakarta Timur, Bapak Timin ini sudah berkurang jauh atau sudah, **[ee]**, lumayan surut jika dibandingkan dua jam yang lalu atau sekitar pukul lima hingga 6 pagi ini.”

From the piece of the report above, we can see that Debora Setiawan prolong the word “di-i-i”, which is included to stutter and “eee” to think about what she want to say next in the sentence which is called as filled pause.

Example II

Topic : Kawasan Perumahan Green Garden Terkepung Banjir

Reporter : Rakha Susanto

“Kondisi yang tampak saat ini [/] ini adalah jalanan menuju kearah perumahan Taman Ratu..”

From the conversation above, we can see that Rakha Susanto repeats his conversation in the sentence “ini [/] ini”. So, this is speech error and it is called repetition.

In developing and reporting the news, reporters also make errors while speaking because of various reasons. The errors made by reporters will give effects in the reporters’ performance and may create misunderstanding among the listeners related to the content of the news. As Budi Utami, M.si. said *”sebab kesalahan artikulasi bisa menyebabkan perbedaan daya tangkap khalayak dalam hal ini pemirsa, terhadap maksud dari kata atau kalimat yang ingin disampaikan, dan menimbulkan salah pengertian.”*

The errors made by speakers do not always create misunderstanding, but sometimes it just disturbs the listeners’ hearing and speakers’ performance. For daily speaking, it does not become a problem, but for the reporters who take part in TV program which is watched by people around the world, it must be something disturbing.

B. Research problems

The problems of the study are formulated as the following:

- 1) What are the types of speech errors committed by reporters in Breaking News Metro TV?
- 2) How often do reporters commit speech errors in Breaking News Metro TV?
- 3) What are the causes of speech errors that showed up in Breaking News Metro TV?

C. Objectives of the study

1. To identify the types of speech errors committed by reporters in Breaking News Metro TV
2. To describe the frequency of each types of speech errors and the highest frequency of speech error committed by reporters in Breaking News Metro TV
3. To describe the causes of speech errors produced by the reporters in Breaking News Metro TV

D. Scope of the study

In this thesis, the focus of analysis concerns with the common types of speech errors produced by reporters in breaking news Metro TV, the frequency of the types of speech errors, and the causes of speech errors. The study was

analyzed by using Clark and Clark theory. This study does not discuss about the tips to minimize the errors produced by the reporters.

E. Significances of the study

The findings of this study are expected to provide information which may have theoretical as well as practical values or significance. Theoretically, the findings of the study will provide information about speech errors made by speakers, especially reporters in breaking news.

Practically, the usefulness of the findings is described as the following:

1. For the readers, this thesis is expected to give knowledge about speech errors especially in television program, so that the readers know the reason why the reporters in breaking news make the errors.
2. For the next researchers, this thesis is expected to give more understanding about psycholinguistics, speech production, and speech errors, especially for those who are interested in speech errors.
3. For the English literature students, this thesis is very useful for those who interested in journalism, because they have the knowledge about speech errors and the reason, so that they can avoid in making errors while speaking.
4. For the reporters, this thesis is very useful to give them more understanding about the types of speech errors and its causes, so they can avoid in making errors while reporting the news.