A STUDY ON SPEECH ERRORS ON DAMASHINTA
SUNDAY WORK OUT: A PSYCHOLINGUISTIC APPROACH

RESEARCH PAPER
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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is so basic to human's existence because language actually has important social role in human's daily life. For human, language is used as a means of expressing idea and feeling. Although language is very basic and close to human, human generally does not aware of language is a very complicated skill and how actually difficult to produce language. When speaking, human seems very easy to arrange word by word without thinking. In fact, producing a language or speech is not easy, but needs considerable planning to start and complicated mental or psychological processes. This is in accord with Fauziati's statement that (2008: 137)

Producing speech seems require very little thought or effort. The words produced flow effortlessly. Speakers think what they want to say and their tongues automatically put their thoughts into words. They are not aware of how they produce a sentence. On rare occasion, however, such effortlessness of producing a speech is not true. When speakers try to talk something difficult, they need considerable planning where to start.

There are two activities related to speech production. Clark and Clark (1977: 224) state that Speaking appears to be divided into two types of activity—Planning and Execution. Speakers first plan what they want to say based on how they want to change the mental state of their listeners. They then put their plan into execution, uttering the segments, words, phrases, and sentences that make up the plan. Because speech production is complex activity, not all
speech goes well in everyday speech. On the other word, it can go wrong. It is called speech error.

Speech error is a mistake in speech production. It occurs commonly in spontaneous speech caused by the breakdown of the speech plan and the execution. According to Clark and Clark (1977: 260), there are two major sources of speech error. First, the result of gross difficulties the speaker has in trying to plan and execute speech at the same time. These include hesitations, corrections, uhs, and many other indications that speakers are interrupting the execution to do further planning. Second, the result of more localized difficulties speakers has in forming the articulatory program to guide the articulatory muscles in the production of sounds. These include all the “slips of the tongue”, which multiply when speakers are tired, in a hurry, or under pressure.

In spontaneous speech, the actual execution is sometimes filled by various types of speech error such as pause and hesitation, correction, repeat, replacement, false start, and even slip of the tongue. Speech error appears in everyday speech shows that it is as evidence that speech production is a very complicated skill. One example of speech error phenomena is speech error committed by the broadcasters and the callers on one of English programs on Damashinta FM in Pekalongan. This program is Damashinta Sunday Work Out.

Damashinta FM Radio is one of the most favorite radio stations in Pekalongan, Central Java. It is located in Jln. Tondano AD 3 Pekalongan
which is broadcasted on 97.1 FM. It has many high quality programs such as Morning Star, Permata Hati, Lunch Break, and Most Wanted and so on that are usually liked by teenagers. Besides that, it also has two special programs, Damashinta Sunday Work Out and Damashinta Sunday Long Dream. They are special and unique because those programs use full English as a means of communication. The broadcasters and the callers who join in those programs must use English. English programs of Damashinta FM Radio are broadcasted once in a week every Sunday. Damashinta Sunday Work Out is presented for four hours from at 6 am until 10 am while Damashinta Sunday Long Dream is just broadcasted for one hour at 9 pm to 10 pm. Both of them are designed to be interesting and informative for young adults in learning, acquiring and improving their English. The broadcasters, Dinar Ramadhani, Desi Gilang, Ella, Dewi, Rangga, and Rico usually invite the listeners to join those English programs to discuss a topic or just request song and say hello to their friends.

On Damashinta Sunday Work Out, when the broadcasters and the callers speak English especially in spontaneous speech, sometimes they make speech errors. For instance, Dinar Ramadhani on Damashinta Sunday Work Out on December 7th 2008 said “still accompany you with, er, favorite domestic cool song and if you want, er, listen your favorite song.” Dinar's speech contains filled pause speech error. It is a gap filled by “er”. When speaking, Niar hesitated in a moment to think and plan the next words to say. Niar also made repeat speech error when she said “...or dial to four / four two two eight zero three”. It is an error because the phone number of Damashinta
is 422803. It means that she repeated word “four”. In that program, there is other type of speech error, silent pause. It is a period of no speech between words when Niar said “I would like to great you // on the phone first”. Niar stopped her speech in a moment and when stopping her speech, she did not produce any speech. One type of speech errors, correction occurs such as “hi good morning for Irpan in, eh no no no Tian Tian”. In this speech, Niar corrected her speech by using the words “eh no no no” to replace what she was said earlier.

To avoid or minimize the occurrence of speech errors, speaker needs a good planning before speaking. If the speaker's speech contains few of speech error and even no speech error, it means the speaker creates ideal delivery. Ideal delivery is speech which runs smoothly and contains no speech errors (Fauziati, 2008: 140).

These phenomena of speech error on Damashinta Sunday Work Out make the writer interested in analyzing their speech errors. In this research, the writer applies psycholinguistics theory because Psycholinguistics is the study of language behavior; how generally people learn and use language to communicate ideas. The common aim of Psycholinguistics is to find out how language is produced, comprehended and remembered. It also tries to find out how language is acquired, how it goes wrong and how it is represented in the mind (Fauziati, 2008: preface). Thus, the writer entitled her research “A Study on Speech Errors on Damashinta Sunday Work Out: A Psycholinguistic Approach”.
B. Previous Study

Actually, the writer is not the first person who analyzes about speech errors. However, it does not mean that the writer only plagiarizes the previous studies. To prove the originality of the research, the writer presents the previous studies.

The first study of speech errors has been conducted by Diah (2003) entitled “Speech Errors in English Conversation By Interlocutors in Asri Broadcasting Corporation: Psycholinguistic Approach”. This study analyzes speech errors in the English conversation made by interlocutors of the English Corner Program in Asri Broadcasting Corporation. The results of this study are utterances containing silent pauses 12 or 11.2 %, filled pauses 46 or 43 %, repeats 19 or 17.8 %, retraced false starts 8 or 7.5 %, unretraced false starts 4 or 3.7 %, correction 7 or 6.5 %, interjections 8 or 7.5 %, stutter 1 or 0.9 %, and slips of the tongue 2 or 1.9 %. The dominant speech error appeared in the data is filled pause.

The second study is conducted by Postma et. al. (1990) entitled “On the relation among speech errors, disfluencies, and self-repairs”. In this study the relationship between speech errors (deviations from a speech plan), disfluencies (interruptions in the execution of a speech plan), and self-repairs (corrections of speech errors) was examined. Two hypotheses were formulated: Either disfluencies are special types of speech errors, or they resemble self-repairs (i.e., they are corrective actions applied to anticipated, internal errors). To test these two hypotheses, patterns of speech errors,
disfluencies, and self-repairs were compared in a task in which speakers recited stimulus sentences four times in succession under time pressure. Subjects in one condition were explicitly instructed to pay close attention to accuracy of speaking. In another condition subjects were told that speech accuracy was not important. A much lower speech error rate was found in the higher-accuracy condition, but rates of disfluencies and self-repairs did not differ significantly between the two accuracy conditions. This is regarded as support for the self-repair account of disfluencies. When accuracy of speaking is stressed, speakers tend to avoid and repair speech errors at the cost of reduced speech fluency.

The third study about speech error has been conducted by Terao (1999) entitled “Comparative Analysis between Conduction Aphasia and Speech Errors”. This paper makes a comparative analysis between spontaneous speech errors and some conduction aphasic utterances made by two patients. The results and suggestions are as follows: (i) The frequency of contextual errors by normal speakers are three times higher than non-contextual errors, whereas the tendency is reversed in conductive aphasic errors; (ii) the phonological environment of the interacting elements as well as similarities between errors and sources should be considered seriously when we postulate the “Phonological Level” and “Phonetic Level”. The author suggests that patients are capable of building a phonological frame (e. g. sequence of more slots for intended words) as evidenced by two observations: those addition errors tend to occur between bimoraic foot boundaries with
high regularity; and substitution errors seem to occur between two morae with identical vowels.

Based on the research above, the writer has different focus on the research, although the writer concerns the same object that is speech error. The difference between this research and the first previous research is the radio that is used in those researches. The writer observes speech errors in English Conversation made by the broadcasters and the callers on Damashinta FM Radio in English Program "Damashinta Sunday Work Out" while Diyah used Asri Broadcasting Corporation Radio. The difference between this research and the second previous one is this research only observes speech errors and does not analyze self repairs and disfluencies while Postma and friends analyzed the relation among speech errors, disfluencies and self repairs. The difference between this research and the third previous study is that this research does not analyze speech errors on aphasia while Terao compared conduction aphasia and speech error. The writer is trying to complete or extend the previous studies about psycholinguistics especially speech production and speech error. This research is original because there is no research about speech errors on Damashinta FM Radio before this research. This research is expected to give good contribution for English learners in learning English especially dealing with speaking skill.
C. Focus of the Study

Based on the background above, the writer formulates the research problems as follows:

1. What are the types of speech error made by the broadcasters and the callers?
2. What is the frequency of each type of speech error committed by the broadcasters and the callers?
3. What are the sources of speech error appearing in that program?

D. Limitation of the Study

In conducting this study, the writer limits the study only on speech errors carried out by both the broadcasters and the callers on one English programs of Damashinta FM. That program is Damashinta Sunday Work Out on December 7th to December 28th 2008. That program is broadcasted every Sunday from at 6 am to 10 am. The limitation is used to make the research easier, clearer and focuses on the objectives of the study.

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statements mentioned above, the writer has the following objectives:

1. To investigate the types of speech error on Damashinta Sunday Work made by the broadcasters and the callers.
2. To find out the frequency of each type of speech error committed by the broadcasters and the callers.

3. To reveal the sources of speech error appearing in that program.

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes that her research about speech errors give some benefits for the writer herself and the readers in general.

1. Theoretical Benefit
   a. Gives some contributions to develop Psycholinguistics.
   b. Gives more information about speech production especially speech errors to the readers.

2. Practical Benefit
   a. The result of this research can be used by the broadcasters and the callers of Damashinta FM Radio and the learners of English in speaking. They can use the theory when they speak in order to decrease the percentage of speech errors in their speech.
   b. The finding of the study could be good input for readers in understanding speech errors.
   c. The elaboration of this research may be useful as references for other researchers to conduct a study for the same topic.
G. Research Paper Organization

Research Paper Organization is conducted to give a clear guidance in reading and understanding the content of the research in order to have guidance for the readers in reading the whole content, this research paper is organized as follows:

Chapter I Introduction which consists of the background of the study, previous study, focus of the study, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization.

Chapter II is Underlying Theory. It covers psycholinguistics, speech production, ideal delivery, speech error, slip of the tongue, and sources of speech error.

Chapter III is Research Method. It consists of type of the research, object of the research, data and data source, method of collecting data, and technique for analyzing data.

Chapter IV covers Research Finding, Discussion, and Implication. Research finding consists of type of speech error, frequency of each type of speech error, and sources of speech error. Discussion deals with types of speech error, frequency of speech error, and sources of speech error. And then the writer presents pedagogical implication of the research.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion. It consists of conclusion of study and suggestion from the writer.