

## SYNTACTIC ACQUISITION ON THREE YEARS OLD CHILD (A CASE STUDY OF AHMAD DZAKY AL-FARISI)

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### abstracts

This research analyzes about Syntactic Acquisition of three years old child at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, in Jambi Province, *Tebo* Regency, *Rimbo Bujang* sub district, at *Perintis* village. The purposes of this research are (1) to describe types of sentences produced by a three years old child named Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi (2) to find out factors that affected child in obtaining his first language acquisition on three years old named child Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi at *Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School* in *perintis* village, *Rimbo Bujang* Sub-district, *Tebo* Regency, Jambi province. In this research, the writer applied descriptive qualitative method theory by Moleong (2006:6) and the writer uses Participant Observational Method (SLC) to collecting the data. The data were analyzed by using referential method and distributional method, the writer also uses an informal and formal method to represent the results of the analysis.

The result of the research reveals some findings showed that the child produced four types of sentences, they are: (1) Statement, (2) Imperative Sentences, (3) Interrogative Sentences, (4) Exclamation Sentences. Based on the 15 data found in this research, the writer found 9 data of interrogative sentences, 1 data of imperative sentence, 2 data of statements, and 3 data of exclamation sentences. The most dominant type of Sentence produced on three years old child by Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School especially in *Perintis* village, *Rimbo Bujang* Sub-district, *Tebo* Regency, Jambi Province is Interrogative sentences, the types of sentence is supported by Eastwood's theory (1994:15).

Based on this research, the writer found out the factor that affected child in obtaining the first language acquisition on three years old child named Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi. The results of this research also show that the factor affected the first language acquisition of this child's language is Language Acquisition Devices that have innate abilities from birth which are then honed in the form of always being invited to communicate with parents, imitating other people, the mother always provides stimulation in the form of words, phrases or sentences. Based on this research, the writer formulates the factor that affected in obtaining the first language acquisition on three years old child from Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi is natural factor supported by Chomsky's theory (1965:222).

**Key Words:** *Syntactic Acquisition, Types of Sentence, and Factor Affected Language Acquisition*

### INTRODUCTION

Language acquisition is a matter of growth and maturation of relatively fixed capacities, under appropriate external conditions Chomsky (2009:101). The language that is acquired is largely determined by internal factors. It is because of the fundamental

correspondence of all human languages and based on the fact that "human beings are the same, wherever they may be" that a child can learn any language. The functioning of the language capacity is, furthermore, optimal at a certain "critical period" of intellectual development and

next Chomsky (1965:222) said that every child was born with LAD and an innate ability to acquire language is the result of our uniquely human biological inheritance which is called a Language Acquisition Device while that the environment only functions as a provider of input. Then, the language acquisition device that will process the input and determine what is mastered first such as sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and so on. It also supported by Varshney (2003:307) language acquisition is the process whereby children achieve a fluent control of their native language. It can be said that one of the processes in a child's brain to get a first language or mother tongue is language acquisition.

Language acquisition has several different aspects, one of which is the syntactic aspects and this section will briefly describe aspect of child syntactic acquisition. Syntactic acquisition is the process acquisition especially in syntactic unit. Syntactic acquisition starts when a child first speaks, mixing one word with two or more of these words to form phrases and sentences. It is possible that a three years old child speaks more in terms of words, phrases, or sentences.

Acquisition of a child's language is a natural process experienced in his life. Therefore, child being in acquiring language is a process that is very

impressive. In the process, a child is never taught formally to obtain a series of word. However, it is difficult to understand the context. It can be said that the child of language usually can be understood by his mother.

Related to language acquisition of child, the writer has experience it directly in her environment. Based on daily activity and empirical facts that during the writer gets from her nephew. Based on phenomenon, the writer is interested to analyzing the child as informant in the research, especially those that are related to the terms of syntax. So that the writer can know and understand the level of knowledge of the language acquisition on three years old child.

The language of child in this research can be shown from his first language. There are two processes that occur when a child is acquiring his first language namely (a) The process of competency and (b) The process of performance. The process competency is the mastery of grammar which occur naturally and the process performance is the process of understanding and issuance process or process producing sentences Chomsky (1957:45) these processes are natural ones that have occurred when children start talking. Chomsky also states that this competency includes three grammatical components, a syntactic

component, a semantic component and phonological component. It happened also (syntactically) by the child, that they are have been able to compile a sentence without being taught, showing language acquisition is not obtained through the learning process.

Therefore, in this research, the writer focused on three years old child. The writer chooses three years old child named Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi. The informant was born on December 02<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 and as the second child in his family. The informant live at Al-inayah Islamic boarding school, in *Perintis* Village, *Rimbo Bujang* Sub-district, *Tebo* Regency, *Jambi* Province and the informant is active child.

Based on the explanation above, we can see how the utterance that used by the speaker as follow language acquisition. This is one of the example data.

**Datum 1:**

*(Record on September 2022)*

Participant : Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi and the writer as his aunt.

Time/Place : September 2022, in the morning. Dzaky’s house, specifically in Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, *Jl*

in language acquisition

*Lesmana* at *Perintis* village, *Rimbo Bujang* sub district. *Tebo* Regency, *Jambi* Province.

Context : Dzaky is a nephew of the writer. This utterance takes place in Dzaky’s house, precisely in front of the door of his house, He saw the writer and then he called the writer. So that, the writer responses the child. Dzaky also asked to the writer to get the information.

Dzaky : ***Bulek, mau kemana?***  
Where are you going, aunt?)

Aunt : ***Bulek, mau pergi ke toko.***  
(I am going to store)

Table 1: Example of datum

NO.	Datum	Types of sentences	Function
1.	Bulek, mau kemana?	Question	To get the information.

	(Where are you going, aunt?)		

From the datum above, it shows that the conversation happened on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The conversation at Dzaky asked question to get the information about the writer. It supported by Eastwood (1994:15) states the most basic use of a question is to ask for information.

The Child acquire their first language differently, some are slow, some are even faster. Based on daily activity, the factor that influence the acquisition of Dzaky's language is natural factor. This Natural factor is supported by Chomsky (1965: 222) that every child was born with LAD (Language Acquisition Device). LAD is an innate ability to acquire language is the result of our uniquely human biological inheritance while that the environment only functions as a provider of input. Then, the language acquisition device that will process the input and determine what is mastered first such as sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and so on.

happened between Dzaky and the writer in the morning. In the conversation, Dzaky produces utterance in the form of question to the writer "*Bulek, mau kemana?*" in English "Where are you going, aunt?". From the sentence, it can be categorized as the type of sentence is question. Because question is an expression of someone curiosity about an information that is set forth in a question sentence and it shows th

The writer explains more and shows the data analysis in chapter III. The writer has reasons to analyze syntactic acquisition on three years old child. Because based on the reasons and phenomenon above, the writer is interested to understand the syntactic acquisition because we know the child in that age are amazing and extraordinary language. Then, the writer can observe the patterns set of words spoken in his attempt to make a sentence. The writer wants to know the type of sentences and factor affecting of language acquisition and in language faculty there has not found yet research that analyze language acquisition on syntactically of three years old child. This research is important because it can help the next writers to know more about this object research. Therefore, the writer chooses the title "**SYNTACTIC ACQUISITION ON THREE YEARS**

## **OLD CHILD (A Case Study of Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi)”.**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

In this research, the writer uses descriptive qualitative method. Moleong (2006:6) states that qualitative research is a research whose analysis does not use the procedures of statistical analysis or the other quantification. Furthermore, Moleong (2006:9) states that in general, qualitative research uses three qualitative methods such as observation, interview and documentation analysis. In this research, the source of data was taken from oral data or utterances produced by Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, in *Perintis* village, *Rimbo Bujang* sub-district, *Tebo* Regency, *Jambi* province. It can be said that descriptive qualitative method is used as a research procedure that resulted in descriptive data containing spoken, written words and people behavior which can be observed.

#### **1. Source of the Data**

Source of the data is where the data is derived from. It is divided into two types, they are sources of substantive data and source of locational data. Sudaryanto (1993:40) they are:

##### **a. Substantial data.**

Substantial data is data collected originally by the writer for the first time. This includes conversations,

script, transcripts, writings, surveys, observations, personal interviews, utterances and so on. Substantial data of this research is the utterance word, phrase, clause, and sentence that produced by three years old child namely Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi.

##### **b. Locational data.**

Locational data is data used as supplementary source of data that supports the substantial data. Location data in this research is in Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, in *Perintis* Village, *Rimbo Bujang* Sub-district, *Tebo* Regency, *Jambi* Province.

#### **2. Technique of Collecting the Data**

According to Sudaryanto (1993:88), there are two methods in collecting the data, listening method (Simak method) which means that a data collection method done through the process of listening or observing about the use of language being studied and proficient method (Cakap method) is data obtained by conducting conversation between writer with language speakers as data sources.

The writer uses the simak method and the writer uses technique Participant Observational Method (SLC)

which means that in observing the researches participate or involve directly in the utterances or conversation. Next the writer uses the cakap method and the writer applied the technique of eliciting and then technique of listen and note. The implementation of this method is realized through:

1. The first, the writer comes and has a direct conversation by using face to face conversation with the child "Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi" at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School.
2. The second, the writer uses eliciting technique and give some question to child at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School.
3. The third, the writer records all utterances that occur between the writer and a child at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School.
4. The last, note technique. It is the continuing technique of this method. According to Mahsum (2005:103), this technique is done by writing some relevant data from the source of informant. In this research, the writer writes down the conversation between writer and child at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School.

### **3. Technique of Analyzing the Data**

According to Sudaryanto (1993:13) said that there are two methods to analyze the data, which are referential

method and distributional method. Referential method is a method of analyzing the data in which the tool or device is outside the observation, regardless and not being part of the language that will be investigated. The distributional method is the method in which the tool or device is the language itself or the distributional method analyzes language based on the behavior of the lingual units of the language being studied.

. In this research, the writer used referential method and distributional method to explain the data where the tool device refers to the referent of the language.

In analyzing the data, the procedure was started from observation of the data that had been collected that from the conversation between Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi at Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, in *Perintis Village, Rimbo Bujang Sub-district, Tebo Regency, Jambi Province*.

Then the writer identified which of the utterance applied the types of sentence by Eastwood (1994:15) and the factor affecting language acquisition by Chomsky (1965:222).

After the initial procedure of data analysis was conducted, those data were sorted out and classified based on which type of sentence that occurred, which than analyzed using the type of sentence theory

by Eastwood (1994:15). Next step of data analysis is involved another observation. After the selected data were completely analyzed and classified into each type of sentence. The writer identified the most used type of sentence by informant. This step aimed to seek the dominant type of sentence by each informant to identify their syntactic acquisition. As the final step of analysis, the writer concluded which type of sentence that most often used when talking with the child.

#### **4. Data Presentation**

According to Sudaryanto (1993:114) states that there are two methods and techniques of presenting data analysis. Those are:

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This chapter provides all findings and discussion from two research questions :

1. What are the types of sentence that produced by three years old child?
2. What is the factor that affected child in obtaining the first language acquisition on three years old child?

Types of sentence and factor affected language acquisition by three years old child named is Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi in Al-Inayah Islamic Boarding School, Perintis village, Rimbo Bujang sub-district, Tebo Regency, Jambi Province. The result of study reveals some finding's

#### a. Formal method.

The formal method is the method of representing data using statistic in the form of numbers, diagrams, charts, and tables.

#### b. Informal method.

The informal method is the method of presentation using strings of ordinary words so that they seem detailed and descriptive.

In this research, the writer uses informal and formal method to represent the results of the analysis. Because the results of the analysis of language acquisition, especially utterance in sentence types can be presented and described in natural language and using tables.

: The writer found the most used sentence is question (interrogative sentences) with 9 of data, statement sentences with 2 of data, imperative sentences with 1 of data, and exclamation sentences with 3 of data. Therefore, based on the research, the writer formulated the highest frequency of the type of sentence is question.

### **Types of Sentence and Factor That Affected Child in Obtaining the First Language Acquisition by Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi.**

#### **Datum 1**

Participants : *Dzaky and the writer as his aunt*

Place	: Aunt's room	Aunt	: <i>Bulek ke pasar tadi nang</i>
Context	: <i>The aunt came from market in unit 2. She bought (There were many cakes to brought in her hometown. When the writer through in front of Dzaky's house. Suddenly Dzaky appeared from the floor and especially aunt's room. Dzaky screamed and Dzaky played with his aunt. But, that time aunt while his aunt packed his bag. Because she wanted to go to her</i>		
Time	: Friday, April 21 <sup>st</sup> 2023 at the writer's Room. In the Afternoon.		
Conversation	The utterance used of sentence "Bulek dari mana aja" in English "Where have you been?" and this interaction Dzaky applied the sentence and the type of sentence is question. Because question is an expression of		
Dzaky	: <i>Bulekk</i> (Aunt..)		
Aunt	: <i>Hallu sayang</i> (Hallo honey)		
Dzaky	: <i>Bulek dari mana aja?</i> (Where have you been?).		

someone curiosity about an information that is set forth in a question sentence. So, in this situation, Dzaky gave a question to his aunt and he wanted to get the information about his aunt. It supported by Eastwood (1994:20) states that the most basic use of a question is to ask for information. There are wh-questions and yes/no questions. Wh-questions begin with a question word, e.g. where, what.

At this time, Dzaky's curiosity arose and pushed him to be able to speak then express a question. The question was "Where have you been?" that produced by Ahmad Dzaky Al-Farisi. It showed that he was able to apply the question sentence.

Based on his activity every day with his aunt and it is also from his natural factor that influenced him to speak a question. It explained by Chomsky (1965:222) that every child was born with LAD (Language Acquisition Device). LAD is an innate ability to acquire language is the result of our uniquely human biological inheritance while that the environment only functions as a provider of input. Then, the language acquisition device that will process the input and determine what is mastered first such as sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and so on.

It can be shown that Dzaky acquired language because he was

equipped with LAD, it supported also when environment with his aunt also supported him to acquire his language. When he plays with his aunt, make short conversation and ask questions so that he is provoked to answer and start communication. His aunt always gives stimulations to Dzaky in the form of words, phrases, and sentence. His aunt spoke to Dzaky not using slurred and unclear language. So it can be seen from the data, Dzaky was able to pronounce this sentence influenced by his parents who always stimulated him so that it was processed through his brain and finally he was able to say the sentence well to other.

## Datum 2

- Participants : *Dzaky and the writer as his aunt*
- Place : Aunt's room
- Context : Dzaky wanted to play in aunt's room. But, the door was closed. While his aunt still prayed dhuhur
- Aunt : *Hallu sayang, itu saru Dzaky / itu tidak sopan Dzaky*  
(Hallo honey, it is impolite)
- Dzaky : ***Buka pintunya Bulek!***  
(Open the door, aunt!).
- Aunt : *Oke, bentar sayang*  
(oke, wait honey)

Based on Datum 2, the first utterance above happened in the afternoon at aunt's room. Dzaky played to talk with

inside. Dzaky called her. But, she didn't answer. Many times Dzaky called her and still didn't answered. After that, the aunt opened the door and talk to Dzaky. Dzaky just sat down in front of aunt's room exactly beside door.

Time : Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2023  
at the writer's Room.  
In the Afternoon.

- Conversation  
Dzaky : *Bulekk, Bulekk, Bulekk..*  
(Aunt, aunt, aunt.)  
***Iiihhh bulek budeg!***  
(***Bulek tidak dengar!***)  
(Aunt was deaf! or aunt was not listened!)  
---A few moments later--  
-

his aunt. Many times Dzaky called his aunt and did not respond. So, Dzaky directly talked to his aunt **"Iiihhh Bulek**

**budeg!/bulek tidak dengar!”** in English “Aunt was deaf or aunt was not listened”. It categorized the type of sentence is exclamation. Exclamation is sentence that spontaneously stated and high-pitched or stressed. It explained also by Eastwood (1994:24) that an exclamation is a sentence spoken with emphasis and feeling. We often use a pattern with how or what and any phrase or short sentence can be an exclamation. There is usually a greater rise or fall of the voice than in other types of sentences. In writing we use an exclamation mark (!).

The second utterance above happened after Dzaky talked that. Dzaky asked to his aunt to opened the door. Dzaky talked “**buka pintunya bulek!**” in English “open the door, aunt!”. The sentence expect a reaction and the type of sentence is imperative. Because, imperative sentence is sentence that certain requests or instruct other people to do something we want. It supported also by Eastwood (1994:21) explained that the basic use of the imperative is to give orders, to get someone to do something. The speaker expects that the hearer will obey.

Based on the two data above, Dzaky initially called his aunt repeatedly and there was no response at all, which made Dzaky feel irritated and asked his aunt to open the door. factors that

influence dzaky in uttering the sentence “**iiihhh bulek budeg! / you can't hear it!**” and “**Open the door, aunt!**” is a natural factor himself. Because from birth every child is equipped with tools to speak. It supported by Chomsky (1965:222) that every child was born with LAD (Language Acquisition Device) and LAD is an innate ability to acquire language is the result of our uniquely human biological inheritance while that the environment only functions as a provider of input. Then, the language acquisition device that will process the input and determine what is mastered first such as sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and so on.

It can be seen that Dzaky acquired language because his friend gave stimulation to Dzaky in the form of words, phrases, and sentence. So it can be seen from the data, Dzaky was able to pronounce this sentence influenced by his friends who always stimulated him and in this case also Dzaky acquired language because he was equipped with LAD. So that it was processed through his brain and finally he was able to say the sentence well to other.

### **Datum 3**

Participants : *Dzaky, his aunt and receptionist (Lisa and April)*

- Place : In office Al-Inayah 2 office. Because he
- Context : Lisa and the writer brought a cake and gift looked his aunt in the office. Then we ate cake together. April given cake one by one person at there and Dzaky also ate the cake.
- Time : Tuesday, May 02<sup>nd</sup> 2023  
In the Afternoon.
- Conversation
- Dzaky : **Hmmm... enak!**  
(*Hmmm... delicious!*)
- Aunt : *Serius?*  
(*Seriously?*)
- April : *Mau lagi?*  
(*want more?* ).
- Dzaky : *Iya... (yes)*

The utterance above happened in the afternoon at office. The child plays communication with his aunt. The utterance used of sentence “**hmm enak!**” in English “**hmm delicious!**” and it categorized the sentence is exclamation. Exclamation is sentence that spontaneously stated and high-pitched or stressed. It explained also by Eastwood (1994:24) that an exclamation is a sentence spoken with emphasis and feeling. We often use a pattern with how or what and any phrase or short sentence can be an exclamation. There is usually a greater rise or fall of the voice than in other types of sentences. In writing we use an exclamation mark (!).

Based on the utterance above, Dzaky is happy and he expresses his feelings when eating cake in a different tone from his usual sentences. Dzaky said the sentence “**hmm delicious!**”. So, this short sentence that he is able to say without any help from other people and natural factor that influence Dzaky's language acquisition. It supported by Chomsky (1965:222) that every child was born with LAD (Language Acquisition Device). LAD is an innate ability to acquire language is the result of our uniquely human biological inheritance while that the environment only functions as a provider of input. Then, the language acquisition device that will process the

input and determine what is mastered first such as sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and so on.

In this case, Dzaky acquired language because he was equipped with LAD, it supported also when at home his parents always talked to him. His aunt and friends give stimulations to Dzaky in the form of words, phrases, and sentence. They responded to Dzaky's statement about cakes. Then they asked and offered the cake back. So Dzaky responded well with his language. His aunt spoke to Dzaky not using slurred and unclear language. So it can be seen from the data, Dzaky was able to pronounce this sentence influenced by his aunt who always stimulated him so that it was processed through his brain and finally he was able to say the sentence well to other.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Based on the finding and analysis in the previous chapter, the writer takes some conclusions as follows:

1. The subject of this research acquires word, phrase, and sentence through interaction and imitation based on the theories applied. There are two interactions that occur, first is the interaction between the subject and his family and the second is the interaction between the subject and the other

in social environment. He also acquires word, phrase, and sentence by imitating the others and imitating the words he got from watching television and YouTube videos. Even the period of the case study was semi-longitudinal research, several moments of the subject saved, recorded, or written. However, the writer noted some patterns of development in the subject's language acquisition and learning. As the subject grew older, the more complex his language becomes.

2. From the research has been done the writer finds one factor, namely internal factor on how the subject acquire his language acquisition. Subject basically acquired his first language with the presence and aid of his Language Acquisition Device (LAD). Without such brain facility, it would have been impossible for him to acquire his first language. Several considerations also played in the natural acquisition of his language such as the parents talk, cognitive, and affective. The maturation of his brain parts responsible in discharging linguistic functions, the development of his muscles responsible in the production of

speech sounds, and the elimination of his emotional filters that hinder his language acquisition contributed to the natural evolution of his first language and though his ability to acquire his first language seemed innate, its development and

enhancement were further shaped by the interaction. These interaction forces came in the form of imitation, correction and reinforcement, and structured input.

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