

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter, the witer discusses about background of the study that describes the reasons why the writer intends to conduct the study. On the basis of the reasons, statement of research problems, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope of the research are formulated. Definition of key terms is given so that the readers are expected to have the same interpretation in understanding of the study and organization to close this chapter.

A. Background of the Research

Language is a system of communication consisting of sounds, words and grammar, or the system of communication used by the people of a particular country or profession (Cambridge Advance Dictionary: 2008). Language plays an important role as a bridge to communicate with someone to another. By using language, the people in the world can interpret their utterances for communication. In communication, whether oral or written communication, we must be able to understand what speaker or writer talking about, we need to catch the message to make the communication be meaningful.

As we know that in our daily life, so much information that is jotted down on oral communication form or spoken language. So, as the listeners we must be able to catch the messages that shown up by the speaker. In order to discover how such inferences are made, we will need firstly to examine the range of possible functions of language, and secondly we try to understand how people correctly

interpret them. Understanding this connection between the form and the function of language will help us to explain the interpretation of language. The importance of language function is to explain such interpretation we will need more than our list of cohesive devices, to look behind the literal, formal meaning of what is said or written, and to consider what the sender of a message intends to achieve with it.

There are a lot of oral communications events between speaker and hearer such as, political speeches, academic seminars, talk show TV, teaching learning process and students' presentation. Of course, there are a lot of utterances for a unit of language used by somebody in context to do something to communicate and reserve sentence for grammatically complete units formally used, in isolation from their context and their function.

Among the oral communications that have been mentioned above, students' presentation is the best representative oral communication events, because in students' presentation besides it is used for transferring information, it is consist of some variance opinion and language functions to make a sense with addressee. Presentation is an activity through which the presenters communicate with the audience. It means that in the presentation activity both presenters and audience are the main objects which have to communicate each others. In addition, it can show the interaction of speaker and hearer in limited topic. When we engage in discussion or presentation with someone, on the other hand, the purpose may be to seek or express opinions, to persuade someone about something, or to clarify information. In a conversation, using variance of language function is important to reach the communicative and social objective.

Many formal education uses presentation of students to increase the students' language management in delivering material. Structuring and applying utterances to the context is very important. It is in order to make the audience understand what the speaker means and to avoid misunderstanding. Like IAIN Tulungagung, there is an English Department which is students give chance to explore their language by doing presentation in good communication. Some of lecturer on English subjects demand the students to present the material in English. It is to train the students to be active and to apply the ability of students in structuring utterances.

The researcher is interested in analyzing the language functions in students' presentation because it is an obligation from the lecturer that students must use full English in doing presentation and communication with the lecturer or other friend in the class. The researcher wants to find the language functions that involves in students' presentation in order to know the interpretation of language reach understandable communications between speaker and hearer and connect them to the theory.

Language functions covers; emotives function, directive function, phatic function, poetic function, referential function, metalinguistic function, and contextual function. *The emotive function*: communicating the inner states and emotions of the addresser ('Oh no!', 'Fantastic!', 'Ugh!', and swear words used as exclamations). *The directive function*: seeking to affect the behavior of the addressee ('Please help me!', 'Shut up!', 'I'm warning you!'). *The phatic function*: opening the channel or checking that it is working, either for social

reasons ('Hello', 'Lovely weather', 'Do you come here often?') or for practical ones ('Can you hear me?', 'Are you still there?', 'Can you read my writing?').

The poetic function: in which the particular form chosen is the essence of the message (the advertising slogan BEANZ MEANZ HEINZ) would lose its point if it paraphrased as 'If you are buying beans, you will naturally buy Heinz').

The referential function: carrying information ('Mubarak was toppled down by Egyptians in 18 day massive demonstrations').

The metalinguistic function: focusing attention upon the code itself, to clarify it or renegotiate it ('What does the word here mean?', 'This bone is known as the "femur", "'Will" and "Shall" mean the same thing nowadays').

The contextual function: creating a particular kind of communication ('Right, let's start the lecture', 'It's just a game').

Like in the thesis of Adhalina (2011) from Faculty of Humanities in Diponegoro University Semarang, in her study she obtained language function and style between students and teacher in updating their status in facebook webpage. She used Holmes's theory which consist of six language functions such as expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, poetic and phatic functions. Besides, the thesis of Nova (2015) from State Islamic Institute of Tulungagung, in her study she obtained language function found in "Enchanted" movie script. She used Cook's theory which consist of seven language functions such as emotive, directive, phatic, poetic, referential, metalinguistic and contextual function. Another previous study, the thesis of Andayani (2013) from Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Mahasaraswati University. In her study, she obtained language functions found in English used by receptionists in Bali Brasco.

She used Halliday and Kusumayanti's theory which consist of language functions as asking for information, giving situation, denying something, offering something, certain or uncertain, permission, repeating, greeting and thanking. All of them obtained about language function although the theory is different, it means that in using language it is important to pay attention the utterances of speaker used to avoid misunderstanding and to get the point of message in those utterances.

In IAIN Tulungagung, some of the students use variety of utterances with different functions when they do presentation to reach understanding in delivering material. So, in this research the researcher focuses on analyzing language functions in presentation of sixth semester English Department Students at IAIN Tulungagung.

B. Statement of Research Problems

On the basis of background, the research question is formulated as follows:

1. What are language functions found in presentation of sixth semester English Department Students at IAIN Tulungagung?
2. How are the language functions formally realized?
3. What type of language function is dominantly used in students' presentation?

C. Objectives of the Research

1. To know what language functions that is used in presentation of Sixth Semester of English Department Students at IAIN Tulungagung.
2. To know the formally realization of language functions.
3. To investigate the most language function used in students' presentation.

D. Significance of the Research

1) Theoretically

Theoretically, the result of the research answered the research problems concerning language function used in students' presentation.

2) Practically

It is expected that the result of this research is useful for:

a. The English Learners

This research is useful for the English Learners, by knowing each type of language functions in analyzing students' presentation.

b. The English Teachers

This research is useful for the English Teachers to know about the types of language functions. It can be used by the teachers as their assessment in teaching learning process to know the students' ability in placing the language based on its' functions.

c. The Researcher

This research is useful for the Researcher to convey her ideas precisely, to identify and to have a good understanding of language functions in students' presentation.

E. Scope and Limitation

This research is conducted to analyze the language functions used in presentation of sixth semester English Department Students at IAIN Tulungagung. There are some classes of English Department Students at IAIN Tulungagung, the researcher chooses English Department Students in sixth semester only which is used full English presentation.

F. Definitions of Key Terms

To make study clearer to the readers and avoid confusion in understanding this study, the researcher would like explain several definitions of key terms:

a. Language

Language is a system of communication which consists of a set of sounds and written symbols which are used by the people of a particular country or region for talking or writing. (Collin Cobuild Dictionary: 2006). By using language, people can make a symbol how they can communicate their utterances one another.

b. Language Functions

Language functions are what and how the utterances can be interpreted by the speaker to hearer. People are interpreting other people's language and expecting other people to interpret their own

in this way all the time, apparently with a surprising degree of accuracy.

c. Presentation

Presentation is an activity through which the presenters communicate with the audience. Siddons (2008: 1- 2) states three essential ingredients of a presentation: The audience, you- the presenter, and the presentation itself.

It means that in the presentation activity both presenters and audiences are the main objects which have to communicate each others.