

IV LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

A Psycholinguistic Study of Language Difficulties in Patients with Broca's Aphasia

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Abstract

Psycholinguistics is the study of language. Language is a tool to communicate with each other. One of the language disorders is Broca's aphasia, which affects a person's communication. Aphasia occurs due to damage to the brain. People with aphasia have language difficulties. This study aims to determine the language difficulties suffered by aphasia broca fighters. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method based on observation through video. This study uses 2 videos to observe, both videos are sourced from a speech-language pathologist and a teenager with Broca's aphasia. The results of the observations from the two videos are that people with Broca's aphasia have difficulty saying what they want to say, they say one or two words that represent what they want to convey. But they understand what is being said and their memory is quite good.

Keywords: *psycholinguistics, broca's aphasia, language difficulties.*

Abstrak

Psikolinguistik adalah ilmu yang mengkaji mengenai bahasa. Bahasa adalah alat untuk berkomunikasi satu sama lain. Salah satu gangguan kebahasaan yaitu aphasia broca, yang mempengaruhi komunikasi seseorang. Aphasia terjadi karena adanya kerusakan pada otak. Penderita aphasia mengalami kesulitan bahasa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui kesulitan Bahasa yang diderita oleh pejuang aphasia broca. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif berdasarkan observasi melalui video. Penelitian ini menggunakan 2 video untuk diobservasi, kedua video itu bersumber dari seorang a speech-language pathologist dan seorang remaja penderita aphasia broca. Hasil observasi dari kedua video tersebut yaitu penderita aphasia broca memiliki kesulitan untuk mengucapkan apa yang ingin mereka ucapkan, mereka mengucapkan satu atau dua kata yang mewakili apa yang ingin disampaikan. Namun mereka paham apa yang sedang dibicarakan dan ingatan mereka cukup baik.

Kata Kunci: *psikolinguistik, afasia Broca, kesulitan bahasa.*

INTRODUCTION

Humans are social creatures who need each other. Communicating is part of the socialization process. Psycholinguistics is a science that deals with the structure of language. Language is a core function for humans in relation to communication, in the personal and individual domains, in addition to the functions of memory, perception, cognition, and emotion, (Nasrullah, et al. 2020). According to Purba (2018) psycholinguistics explores the processes that occur in the brain while producing and comprehending language, and it is concerned with the relationship between the human mind and language.

The existence of damage that occurs in certain parts of the human brain will cause interference with one's language competence (Nasrullah, et al. 2020). One of the language disorders is Broca's aphasia. Broca's aphasia is a speech disorder caused by brain abnormalities, particularly in the Broca's region (Yuliana, et al. 2021). Broca's aphasia usually occurs due to damage to the brain. Broca aphasia is a language impairment caused by a stroke in the left hemisphere of the brain, which affects functional communication skills (Hartini, et al. 2020).

People with Broca's aphasia have difficulty producing words, so they only say one or two words to represent what they want to say. People with Broca's aphasia often stop when they talk and think about what to say. People with Broca's aphasia understand their interlocutor. The same goes for their memories. When they were asked a few questions, they understood the question, but had difficulty answering it at length.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method based on observation through video because the data is in the form of sentences produced by Eugene Speech Therapy and Instan Neuro. Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numeric data to understand concepts, opinions, and experiences. The purpose of this research is to understand the reality of phenomena in depth and detail. By using this method, this research tries to describe and interpret the speech of Brocas aphasia which agrees with reality.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Data obtained from YouTube sources related to language difficulties and symptoms that occur in patients with Broca's aphasia. Video presentation related to language difficulties for people with Broca's aphasia and direct interviews with people with Broca's aphasia. The results showed that people with Broca's aphasia, had difficulty pronouncing the words they wanted to say, but they understood what was being said.

Video 1 (<https://youtu.be/vxrMfAg0Dfl>)

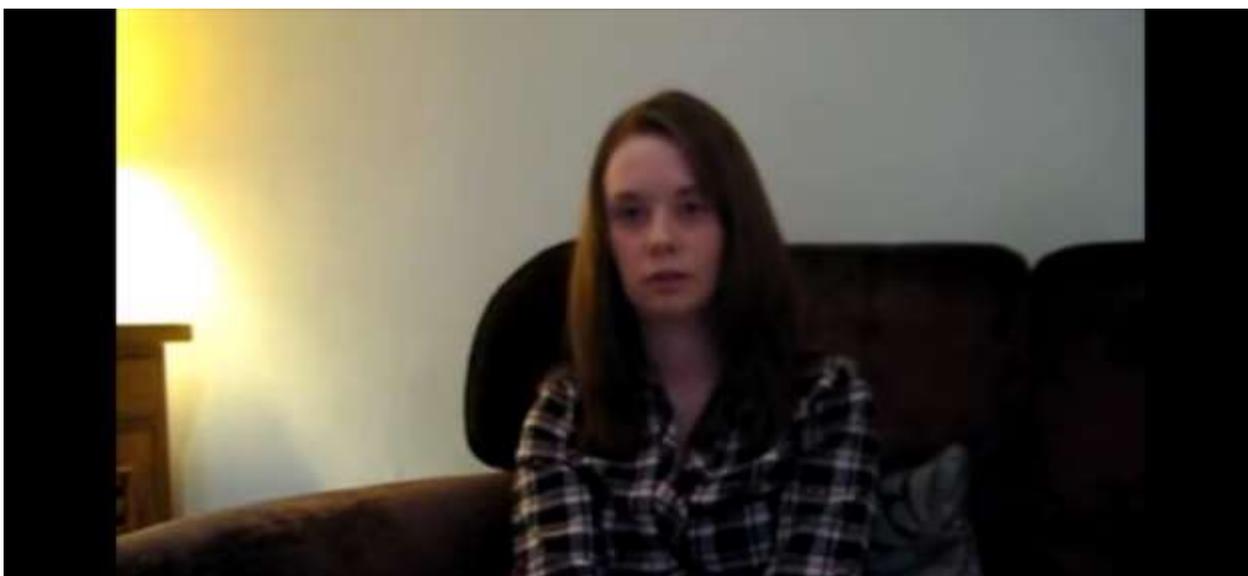
Sumber Youtube: Eugene Speech Therapy



Based on the Eugene Speech Therapy youtube channel above, it is explained about language difficulties for people with Broca's aphasia and the symptoms that occur. Sierra, the owner of the youtube channel above, whose full name is Sierra Corbin, is a speech-language pathologist in Eugene, OR. She explained related to Broca's aphasia. People with Broca's aphasia have difficulty expressing a few words to explain what they want to say. People with Broca's aphasia say one or two words to represent what they want to say. But their understanding is good enough to remember and respond to the other person.

Video 2 (<https://youtu.be/IP8hkopObvs>)

Sumber Youtube: Instan Neuro



Based on the explanation of the youtube source above, a woman named Sarah Scott, 19 years old. Having an ischemic stroke while reading aloud in English class. She understands related to the questions asked but finds it difficult to answer and convey what she wants to say. She often utters the word "I can't" when she has difficulty answering questions. Often says um... while thinking and remembering what she wants to say. Interviewer helps her to answer the question, for example when the interviewer asks "what do you do now everyday she answers "um...speech..." and is still having trouble continuing his speech, the interviewer helps him to complete what she wants to say "speech therapy?" and yes confirms the interviewer.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Based on the video above, Aphasia sufferers express their difficulties in speaking, they can understand what other people are saying or asking but find it difficult to answer. When a person with Aphasia speaks, he or she will stammer in speech word for word. It is not easy for a person with Aphasia to speak but he understands and remembers easily.

The neurological dimension of language disorder occurs in the case of aphasia. Aphasia is known from the damage of the left hemisphere, which are classified into classic types, namely fluent or non-fluent (Code, 2019), anterior or posterior, and expressive or receptive aphasias (Hallowell, 2017) or in other terms Wernicke or Broca Aphasia.

Several researchers did some previous studies on aphasia. For example, Septianto (2020) found that people with Broca's aphasia have several characteristics: agrammatism, non-fluent, repetition, naming, phonetic deviation, phonological literal paraphasia, and verbal paraphasia. On the other hand, in Syarifah (2020) mentioned some difficulties of Broca's aphasic that affect the linguistics elements: lexical error, morphological error, and phonological error. Furthermore, Yulia et al. (2018) showed that the syntactic structure also becomes a significant problem for people with Broca's aphasia, namely telegraphic speech, a short sentence, two words, and holophrastic.

Based on research conducted by Yuliana (2021), language difficulties that occur in patients with Broca's aphasia are:

1. Difficulty in putting whole phrases together
2. Speaking in a jerky rhythm
3. Frequently comes to a halt while speaking
4. Writing difficulty
5. Difficulty reading long lines aloud
6. The language's grammar is simple and straightforward
7. It appears to be tough to begin speaking.
8. Use unexpected terms frequently.

In Aphasia, spoken and written language as well as reading and auditory comprehension can potentially be impaired. Psychological support may be needed to help persons with aphasia cope with the strong feelings of loss, frustration and fear. Despite even severe aphasia, most informants preferred to engage in conversations, especially with significant others (i.e persons they knew well). The impact of aphasia on life can be serious, especially on health. No one has the same aphasia in terms of severity, previous speech and language skills, or personality. But in all cases, it is important for the person to communicate as smoothly as possible from the start of the recovery process.

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