A STUDY OF
TWO-WORD UTTERANCES
OF TWO TWO-YEAR OLD
CHINESE CHILDREN

A THESIS
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching

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ABSTRACT


Key Words: acquisition, utterance, telegraphic speech

This thesis deals with the acquisition of children’s language during the two-word utterances period. In this period children tend to produce utterances which are called telegraphic utterances. It means that most of their utterances contain with content words and not the functional words. They omit those functional words.

To support her thesis, the writer provides the theory of language acquisition, the input hypothesis and the theory of telegraphic speech itself. Based on those theories, the writer tried to analyze the omissions happened in two Indonesian children telegraphic speech. The writer also completed her analysis with the analysis of the semantic relationship and the syntactic system that occur in children’s two-word utterances.

To collect the data, the writer prepared a tape recorder and cassettes to record the children’s speech. The writer classified the data based on the telegraphic speech omissions happened.

The results were as follow. The subjects’ telegraphic speech had some characteristics; they were the omission of the subject of the utterance, the omission of the bound morpheme and also the omission of the preposition. For the semantic relationship and the syntactic system analysis results can be seen in the tables.

The writer concluded that two years old children did experienced the telegraphic speech period in their two-word utterances phase. In experiencing this period, each child face different cases. It depends on the maturity of each child to acquire a language.