CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter provides the research method of the study to investigate Sundanese interference on a child’s Indonesian learning process. The data of this study were examined to reveal the interference that takes form of morphology and lexical choice. Further, the factors that are based on the psycholinguistics point of view that may cause the phenomenon were examined. This chapter contains research design, research subject and context, data collection, data analysis and data presentation.

3.1 Research Design

This study was guided by a descriptive qualitative research design as this study attempts to describe the research subject’s Sundanese interference toward the Indonesian learning process. A qualitative research was appropriate to employ because the present study works in natural settings rather than fully controlled. This design relies on Denzin & Lincoln’s (in Creswell & Clark, 2007, p. 36) notion that, “Qualitative research involves an interpretive, naturalistic approach to the world”. It means that qualitative research, study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them. Therefore, this design is in line with the aims of this study which is to investigate language interference of a child in spontaneous speech and uncontrolled environments.

3.2 Data Collection

This part consists of the research site and participants, data collection techniques, and data transcription of the study. Further descriptions can be seen in the following sections.
3.2.1 Research Site and Research Subject

The research was conducted in research subject’s school – SD Islam Terpadu Insan Sejahtera. The consideration behind the choice of research site is based on the language that is primarily used, which is Indonesian. Moreover, the easy access to the site that allows the researcher to obtain the data becomes another point to the consideration process.

As the type of this study is a case study, then a particular subject was chosen. A 7 year-old Sundanese boy was selected. The name of the research’s subject is Aulia Manggala. He is raised in a family which uses Sundanese as the only language spoken between family members and is surrounded by Sundanese-speaking people as his neighbors and play mates. His Indonesian sources in the house are from television programs and commercial breaks. It is contrast with the condition in his school which uses Indonesian as the language used in classroom and playground around. Considering the facts, it is reasonable to choose the subject due to several reasons.

First, subject’s language background is seen as one of the factors that is assumed to determine the result of the research. It can be said so since subject of the research uses two languages – Sundanese and Indonesian – in separated social environment. What it means by separated social environment is the research subject was taught and uses only Sundanese language in the family and neighborhood (since the social circumstances around the subject is Sundanese speaking environment) but then the language is switched into Indonesian in his school environment (class room and subject’s play group) since it is the environment for subject’s second language – Indonesian – learning process. That condition can be seen as the appropriate requirement for conducting the research that focuses on language interference. The pre-assumption from that background is there will be some forms of Sundanese as the native language in the –at least-performance of Indonesian as the second language.

The next reason is the age of subject. Research subject who is a child can be seen as the different aspect of the research that is assumed to differentiate the result from the previous findings of other studies in the related theor
3.2.2 Data Collection Technique

There are two types of data that are used in this study. First is the Indonesian speech produced by research subject. The collection of data and the observation of the subject were conducted from March 13th to April 1st, 2015. This observation was conducted by paying close attention to the process of how the research’s subject produced Indonesian sentences with the interference of his Sundanese.

In terms of data collection technique, the data were collected through two different means, which are recording and taking field note. In the recording phase, the voice of research subject’s spontaneous speech was recorded along the session of his class with his teacher in normal class situation. The topic of the speech was diverse as they were based on each school subject that was being taught. This technique relies on Tager-Flusberg’s (2000) notion that “in the field of child language, the richest source of data comes from spontaneous speech samples” (p. 315).

In addition, the process of taking field note was administered to obtain more data. Field note is used to collect the data that could not be recorded due to certain circumstances. The goal of using field note is to keep the data objective by allowing the research’ subject to produce his Indonesian sentences without being burdened by the existence of the researcher. By doing so, it is hoped that the nature of the sentences is natural and uncontrolled.

The second data, which are used as the source of examination of the factors of subject’s Sundanese interference, is the results of interview process. The interview consists of several questions regarding the nature of language used by research subject in school and house. The questions were asked to two participants who are seemed to be aware of the condition mentioned – subject’s classroom teacher and mother. The interview process was assisted by the use of recorder, and the results were transcribed.
3.2.3 Data Transcription

The result of the recording and field note taking were transcribed and used as the primary source. This is in line with Atkinson and Heritage (1984 in Silverman, 2006) who states as follows:

The production and the uses of transcripts were essentially ‘research activities’. It permitted the researcher to have direct access to the data and enabled them to reuse it in a variety of investigations and can be re examined in the context of new findings. (Atkinson & Heritage, 1984 in Silverman, 1993, p. 119)

As this study is a case study which focuses on one research subject, it is important to observe research subject’s sentences rather than observing all of the sentences produced by subject and other participants. Participant’s sentences were included only if they are needed to describe the context of the conversation once they contribute to the process of analyzing and interpreting the data. Thus, the sentences that are primarily transcribed are research’s subject speech. The sample of transcription is presented below.

Raw Data : The collection of research subject’s Indonesian sentences (other participants who are involved and the context of the conversations are not included)

(1) “Kamu ih korsinya jangan dibulak-balik”
(2) “Bunda, Zaky nya bangor !”
(3) “Zaky, panghapus aku mana ?”
(4) “Nanti aja biar teteh aku yang nganter”
(5) “Ih, nanti teh jurig-nya datang ke rumah kamu !”

The words in italic indicate the form of Sundanese interference that are found in the produced sentences.
3.3 Procedures of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, there are several steps that will be conducted. They are classification, interpretation, and evaluation.

Classification is used to classify all the data that are obtained into several classes. Those classes are Sundanese particles, affixes, noun, verb, and adjective. In the interpretation process, all of the interference forms are examined through the point of view of language interference theories that have been proposed by experts. It is used to describe and explain how the data can be seen as the form of language interference. In the last process, which is the evaluation process, all the findings that are obtained along with the result of the interview toward subject’s classroom teacher and mother are evaluated. In the latter process, the factors of interference that are proposed by Weinrich (1970) are used as the core of evaluation process so that the factors can be revealed.

In order to determine the percentage of Sundanese interference in each class that are observed in subject’s speech production, numerical data was computed by using a simple scaling composed by Von Eicken et al. (in Salma, 2013, p. 35).

\[ P = \frac{F \times 100}{N} \]

Note:
\[ P = \text{Percentage} \]
\[ F = \text{Frequency} \]
\[ N = \text{Overall Number} \]
3.4 Example of Data Analysis

Once the transcription was complete, the further analysis then was started. Example of the analysis of the data is exemplified below.

Terus jurigna  teh  muncul
next  ghostDEF PART  appear
‘Then the ghost appeared’

Interference form(s) : suffix –na and particle ‘teh’

(1) Suffix –na

a. –na is considered as Sundanese suffix as it is a part of word that changes the meaning of the sentence in a systemic way (Aryapitipun, 2003).

b. Suffix –na is derivational as it does not change the meaning or the class of the assigned word.

Jurig  ---  Noun
Jurig + (-na)  ----  Noun

c. Suffix –na in the example serves the function of implying definitive meaning.

d. Sundanese suffix –na is equal with Indonesian suffix –nya. It indicates the assumed function of interference as subject’s linguistic strategy to facilitate his Indonesian through the use of similar Sundanese syntactical system

(2) Particle ‘teh’

a. ‘teh’ is considered as Sundanese particle as it is considered as a word which carry certain grammatical purpose yet convey little meaning or meaningless at all (Oxford, 1990).

b. Particle ‘teh’ in the example serves the function of signifying the topic of the sentence.

c. Particle ‘teh’ is assumed to serve the function of subject’s facilitation to Indonesian by consulting his Sundanese in order to convey certain meaning through the use of grammatical item that are not found in Indonesian.
After the analysis was applied in all data collection, the distribution of data which consisted of the percentages was also shown. Furthermore, the entire analyses were given in the chapter four of this study and the rest of data presentations were shown in the appendices of the study.

3.5 Concluding Remarks

This chapter has discussed the method applied in conducting this study. The data collection, data analysis framework, and example of data analysis have been discussed clearly. In order to answer the research questions, further data analyses and data presentation will be developed and presented in the next chapter.