

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of study

Talk and conversation are forms of spoken discourse for social interaction and communication. Specifically, talk and conversation aim to connect people, to exchange information, and also to reveal a person that he/she exists in the society which makes other person could see him/her in order to be noticed or known by other. In addition, according to Goodwin and Heritage (1990:283), social interaction is “a process of which the businesses of the world are transacted, the identities of its participant are accepted or denied and the cultures are transferred or modified”. Social interaction deals with shared meaning, mutual understanding and human coordination. However, the way people behave in a conversation becomes a problem when it deals with norms of the speaker in social interaction.

In order to have successful communication, there are a set of rules or conventions in conversations that must be considered such as turn-taking patterns and overlapping speech. Gee (2011:44-46) explains that language activities in certain settings and context, like taking part in a committee meeting, a lecture, interview, a political debate, and “small talk” among neighbors are conducted according to certain “rules” or conventions. These rules or conventions do not necessarily determine who is wrong or right, but rather determine who has acted appropriately or not. People might have intentions, implicit ideas or understandings which differ from each other in their conversation structure according to those set of rules. Forrester (2002) mentions that elements and structures of conversation (such as turn taking patterns) could be brought as evidences in order to identify or uncover implicit ideas in everyday interaction. Furthermore, Forrester (2002) asserts that although we cannot have access to somebody else’s thoughts, feelings and intentions, we can gain knowledge of a shared ‘inter-subjective’ world as an ordinary, practical accomplishment by using Conversational Analysis (henceforth, CA).

CA was started by sociologists Sacks and Schegloff (cited in Sert & Seedhouse, 2011) in early 1960s as a ‘naturalistic observational discipline that could deal with the details of social action rigorously, empirically and formally’. Sidnell (cited in Sert & Seedhouse, 2011) claims CA aims to describe, analyze, and understand talk as a basic and constitutive feature of human social life. Meanwhile, Forrester (2002) suggests that CA focuses on a process of identifying elements and structures in a conversation which is naturally occurred and then through a detailed procedure of micro-analysis, identifying participant-oriented evidence for the models, concepts and ideas that people use.

In some contexts of conversation, turn-taking patterns and overlapping speech become an interesting issue. Turn-taking might have certain “unique” functions especially when it deals with TV or media talk setting as has been investigated by previous studies (Nugroho & Ariyanti, 2014, and Mustafa, 2010). Leaning on the study by Nugroho & Ariyanti (2014), turn-taking is presented as a strategy to bring interest to the program. The study was conducted in an interview TV program “*Indonesia Now exclusive Agnes Monica with Dalton Tanonaka*” on *Metro TV*. Moreover, they also examined the use of overlap strategies. However, they do not provide further explanation on the functions of overlaps and interruptions. Mustafa (2010), on the other hand, conducted a conversation analysis and attempted to answer the reason behind the occurrences of overlaps and interruptions. Yet, he analyzed the conversation in a formal debate setting at TV broadcasting program, *TVOne*. He found that the reasons for overlaps and interruptions occurred in formal debate setting were generally caused by unsatisfied speaker towards their interlocutor’s utterances. However, he just described the reasons by looking at the transcription without looking at the elements of overlap based on the theory.

Unlike the two previous studies, this present study does not only investigates turn-taking patterns based on turn-taking rules in TV interview program, but also investigates the functions of overlaps in conversation at TV interview setting in a more detailed explanation on how and what kind of overlap

and interruption are used to achieve speaker's goal in a conversation. To do the analysis, this present study applies Conversation Analysis proposed by Sack et.al (2009) and overlap theory by Adda (2006).

## **1.2 Research questions**

This research attempts to address the following questions:

1. What are the types of turn-taking patterns organized in speakers conversations?
2. What are types and the functions of overlaps in TV interview setting?

## **1.3 Aims of the research**

In line with the research questions, this research aims to:

1. Reveal the types and organizations of turn-taking patterns in conversations.
2. Examine the types and functions of overlap in TV interview setting.

## **1.4 The scope of the research**

The present study only analyzes turn-taking patterns and the occurrences of overlaps from one session of *The Young Turks* TV interview program between Larry King as the interviewee and Cenk Uygur as the interviewer. This study is only interested in special interview of Larry King because this study wants to figure out how Larry, who is known as the legend of interviewer, is interviewed by other.

## **1.5 Significance of research**

The present research is conducted due to the significance it might give, theoretically and practically. Theoretical benefit is talking about the development of knowledge, especially in linguistic field. The objective of this research is to discover the function of turn-taking rules and overlap strategy in TV interview setting which hopefully could enrich other research in discourse analysis.

On the other hand, practical benefits which are taken from the findings allow readers to understand and comprehend the conversation in social interaction, enlighten the reader about turn-taking rules and patterns in TV interview setting, and examine the function of turn-taking patterns and overlap.

### **1.6 Clarification of key terms**

In order to avoid misconception and misunderstanding towards some key terms existed in this research, several terms have to be clarified and explained in detail as follows:

- **Interview** is an asymmetric interaction between speakers who have different statuses and complementary roles (Grice & Schegloff cited in Adda et al, 2007). Interview is different from ordinary talk or everyday talk, because the conversational behavior depends on the context or institutional talk. Interview in this context of study is the act of conversation which involves two participants at the same time in TV interview program. In line with Huthcby (2006), the form of interview in this study is news interview or interviewing public figures on the air.
- **Turn-taking** is the strategy of how people organize their turn in conversation, when current speaker start to speak and stop and another speaker start to speak and stop. Interruption and overlap is a strategy for taking turn, as well as to prevent someone else from taking the turn (Paltridge, 2006).
- **Overlap** is a strategy for taking turn, as well as to prevent someone else from taking the turn (Paltridge, 2006). Overlap is used for portions of speech delivered simultaneously with speech from another speaker in a speaker change (Heldner & Edlund, 2010).

### **1.7 Organization of paper**

The paper of study is organized into five chapters. Chapter 1 is Introduction. This chapter provides the background of study, reasons of choosing the topic, scope of the research, research questions, and the aims of the research, significance of the research, and the organization of paper.

Chapter 2 is Theoretical Foundation that contains theoretical foundations which served as the basic of analysis. It also provides previous studies and research related to the conversations and social interactions. Furthermore, this chapter provides definitions and clarifications. It covers the description of theoretical foundations and relevancy of the theory.

Chapter 3 is Research Method. It provides the steps on how the research and analysis in this study was conducted, the basic problem which this study focused on and the method which is used in this research. This chapter also provides data collection and data analysis which describes the collection of data, how it was collected and how it was analyzed.

Chapter 4 is Findings and Discussion. This chapter examines the findings of the data analysis using conversation analysis approach. Furthermore, discussion of findings is presented in this chapter.

The last chapter, chapter 5 is Conclusion and Suggestion. This chapter contains the conclusion of the research based on the research findings and discussion and the suggestions for further research from the writer.