

A Case Study of Language Development in 0.1-0.9

Year Old Child



NailaShahadat

ID# 13014084015

M.Phil

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES (SSH)

UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (UMT)

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DEDICATION

To Malik Shahadat Ali and Khadija Yasmeen,

For being so supportive, helpful, and encouraging throughout my academic
career.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to observe language development in a child from the birth up to the age of 9 months. The present research focused on the acquisition of human speech sounds by a child, in comparison with non-human sounds. Other than that, the study also tried to explore the effects of audio-visual elements on language development. A newborn baby boy was the subject of the current study. The total observation period of 9 months was broken down into three stages. Each stage comprised of three months of child's age. The data was collected in the form of audio and video recordings, documents and interviews with family members of the subject. After observing the subject for 9 months, conclusions were drawn and compared with past studies in the same area. A child goes through many human and non-human sounds during his language acquisition period but as devised by Chomsky (2004) that language is innate (Chomsky, 2004), child accepts only human speech signals to acquire language. The research concluded that both sound and image help a child to acquire a language. Individually, they cannot be beneficial in developing language in a child. Language development is a systematic process, which is achieved by a child in the early period of his or her life, no matter child comes across how many human and non-human sounds. It becomes easier for a child when he or she finds pictorial representation of what he or she listen.

Contents

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.....	
DEDICATION.....	3
ACKNOWLEDEMENT.....	4
ABSTRACT.....	5
CHAPTER ONE.....	11
INTRODUCTION.....	11
1.1 Chapter overview.....	11
1.2 Introduction.....	11
1.2.1 Background.....	13
1.3 Purpose of Study.....	24
1.4 Significance of Study.....	25
1.5 Aims & objectives	25
1.6 Statement of problem.....	26

1.7 Research Questions.....	26
1.8 Summary.....	28
CHAPTER TWO.....	30
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	30
2.1 Chapter overview.....	30
2.2 A glimpse of previous related works.....	30
2.3 Summary.....	79
CHAPTER THREE.....	80
METHODOLOGY.....	
3.1 Chapter overview.....	80
3.2 Theoretical Framework	81
3.2.3 Ethical consideration.....	81
3.3 Methodology.....	84
3.4 Data collection.....	87
3.4.1.Do kids show more responsiveness to human speech sounds	

overnon-human sounds?.....89

3.4.1.1.Phase One: Subject’s exposure to different sounds.....90

3.4.1.2. Phase two: Exploring subject’s attitude to distinct sounds.....90

3.4.1.3. Phase three: Paying attention to subject’s production of sound..... 91

3.4.2. Do sounds with its graphical representation appeal kids more?.....92

3.4.2.1. Phase one: Observing subject’s attitude towards image and sounds in his surroundings.....92

3.4.2.2. Phase Two: Displaying sounds and images separately for subject’s observation.....92

3.4.2.3. Phase three: Exploring subject’s responses to audio-visual elements.....93

3.5 Fieldwork Techniques.....94

3.6 Summary of Chapter.....96

CHAPTER FOUR.....97

DATA ANALYSIS.....

4.1 Chapter overview.....97

4.2 Presentation of Data.....	97
4.3. Implementation of Data Analysis Techniques.....	98
4.4.Results and Discussion	100
4.4.1. Do kids show more responsiveness to human speech sounds over non-human sounds?.....	100
4.4.1.1. Phase one: Journey from un-familiarity to familiarity	100
4.4.1.2. Phase two: Responsive gestures	101
4.4.1.3. Phase three: Eruption of preferred sound	102
4.4.2.Do sounds, with their graphical representation, appeal kids more?.....	103
4.4.2.1 Phase one: Staring and listening.....	103
4.4.2.2. Phase two: Understanding of audio-visual elements	104
4.4.2.3. Phase three: Indicating their likeness	105
4.5 Summary.....	107
CHAPTER FIVE.....	108

CONCLUSION.....	108
5.1Key Findings.....	108
5.2. Contribution of the Study.....	111
5.3. Directions for Future Research.....	114
References.....	116

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Chapter Overview

The first chapter gives us an overall idea of this study. The first section introduces the research topic and a detailed background of research questions. The second section discusses the purpose of the study. The third section is about the significance of the study and implication of the study with reference to the field of language development. The fourth section contains the objectives of the study. The fifth and sixth section explains the statement of the problem and research questions of the study. The last section summarizes the whole chapter.

1.2. Introduction

Language learning and development is a natural and spontaneous process. This process of language learning starts from the very first day when a child's auditory organs begin to work (Bainbridge, 2010). During this intricate and complex stage of language acquisition and development, a child comes across different sounds, both human and non-human sounds.

