

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

In this age of globalization, significant changes are occurring worldwide. These profound shifts manifest when individuals possess a strong yearning for achievement. People's aspirations can be realized when they can effectively articulate their thoughts and viewpoints to others. Additionally, acquiring communication skills is essential for attaining one's ambitions, desires, and objectives. Effective communication hinges on the recipient's comprehension of the speaker's message. Therefore, the question arises: how can individuals transmit information to others without the ability to eloquently express their ideas verbally? In essence, learners must possess the capacity to speak effectively in order to facilitate meaningful communication with one another (Wulandari, Amalia, & Ramdhani, 2022). Communication is an important aspect of everyday life, as it allows individuals to convey and exchange thoughts and ideas with others. According to Harley (2001), language plays an important role in understanding human behavior, and according to Fromkin (2011), language is more than just spoken and written forms, encompassing a variety of signs and sounds that humans can understand. Language serves as a vital means of communication, playing an important role in human survival. Therefore, the study of language has become an important field of study. Language is an inseparable part of human life and civilization, and there is no human activity that does not involve language. Given its importance, linguistics has emerged as a discipline that focuses on examining all aspects of language and its correlates.

Linguistics is concerned with the study of human nature and language and has significant implications for areas such as education, sociology, language teaching, cognitive science, and psychology (Adrian, 2001). Everyone's language ability varies due to various factors such as the age of acquisition, environment, and personal circumstances, all of which affect their ability to use language effectively. However, some people have a language disorder, also known as a communication disorder,

which refers to a condition that affects a person's ability to understand, use or produce language effectively.

Adrian (2001) said that these disorders can manifest in a variety of ways and can affect different aspects of language, including spoken language, written language, and non-verbal communication. One type of language disorder is Speech Sound Disorder (previously known as Phonological Disorder): Speech sound disorders involve difficulties with articulation or pronouncing sounds correctly. This can lead to speech that is difficult to understand, making communication difficult.

These disorders affect the language process, interfering with the formation of sounds, and can be associated with problems in the speech organs. According to Suwento's (2002) interpretation of Schum R.L., speech refers to the production of sounds for communication and pronunciation. Meanwhile, language skills include four domains, namely phonology, semantics, pragmatics, and syntax. These domains are aspects that cannot be separated from the communication aspect of language. According to Adrian (2001), phonology refers to the process of putting together the various sounds of language, while pragmatics deals with the social purposes served by language. While phonology deals with the formation of language, phonetics focuses more on the formation of sounds. While it is true that languages can use means other than sounds to communicate meaning, most human languages are spoken. Phonetics, on the other hand, is the field of study that deals with the production and reception of speech sounds, technically referred to as phonons. Some of the people we meet around us have physical imperfections including cleft lip and palate that can prevent them from communicating clearly. This can make cleft patients feel inferior or insecure when speaking and communicating with others. This condition often leads cleft sufferers to feel isolated and reluctant to speak for fear of being laughed at.

Based on data information received by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia in 2019 said that out of 54 data from 30 countries in 1 year. The prevalence of cleft lip and palate in the world is 9.92 out of 10,000 births. As many as 65% of head and neck abnormalities are cleft lip and palate. The incidence varies by geographical location, ethnicity, and gender. Asian ethnicities have the

highest incidence of cleft lip and auricle while African ethnicities have the lowest. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that every year 2,651 infants in the United States are born with cleft lip and 4,437 infants are born with cleft lip. The national prevalence of cleft lip and palate in Indonesia is 0.2%. DKI Jakarta province was found to top the list for cleft prevalence, at 13.9‰ well above the national rate (2.4‰), while other provinces such as South Sumatra (10.6‰), Riau Islands (9.9‰), West Nusa Tenggara (8.6‰), Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (7.8‰), ranked afterward. The lowest prevalence was found in Jambi, West Kalimantan, and West Sulawesi provinces at 0.4‰ each.

The incidence of cleft lip and palate in Indonesia is 7500 per year. In South Sumatra, the incidence of cleft patients is 10.6‰ with many children suffering from clefts. Factors that can influence the occurrence of cleft lip and palate are genetic factors, nutrition, and living habits. However, the provincial government is making an effort to organize a free cleft lip and palate surgery social service. This is done almost every year in collaboration with hospitals and foundations under Smile Train Indonesia, namely the Yayasan Ummi Romlah. This foundation has been established in 2017 and is located in Palembang City, South Sumatra. This foundation is engaged in the social field, namely organizing special operations for cleft lip and palate sufferers. This foundation socializes its activities to the entire community through various media, among others: Through the hospital and social media such as Instagram and Facebook. Sufferers who have had cleft surgery through this foundation also participate in promoting it to their relatives and the community where they live.

The patients come from various regions, both urban and rural areas, and even from outside the province of South Sumatra. There were 3 patients at the foundation who became the resource persons in this study. First, Indra is from Palembang. He is 23 years old. He is a cleft lip sufferer who started his first surgery at the age of 4 months on the lip. The second surgery was at the age of 18. Finally, he started the surgery again on August 1, 2023. Indra said that he often gets bullied by his friends. This makes Indra feel inferior and ashamed. His activities are now studying at Universitas Syakirti Palembang which is close to where he lives. Secondly, Fatur is 27 years old and from Palembang, South Sumatra. Second, Fatur

started his first surgery in 2023 in April on the lip. The second surgery was performed in the same year in June. Fatur works at a car repair shop located in Jakabaring, Palembang. He got information about cleft lip surgery from the boss where he works. Fatur said that he lacked confidence before the surgery. Now, he said that to meet people, he is more confident with his new look. Third, Putri from Cengal, Ogan Komering Ilir, South Sumatra. Putri is 16 years old. Her daily activities include helping her mother at home, playing. Her mother says that she does not dare to leave the house because her physical condition is different from the others. She had her first surgery in 2022. Now, she has had her 5th surgery. She has started to be confident with her condition now.

After the surgery, people with cleft lip and palate still make nasal sounds when communicating. The nasal sound that occurs in cleft patients is caused by the oral and nasal cavities used for speech being impaired, resulting in abnormal sound resonance (Chair, 2009), this shows that cleft surgery alone is not enough to solve all the speech problems that may occur in individuals with cleft lip and palate abnormalities, after cleft surgery, there can be persistent symptoms that affect speech, voice, and language, this study aims to determine the relationship between linguistic aspects and cleft.

The above statement implies that people with cleft lip and palate not only experience speech-related problems but also experience social difficulties due to misinterpretation. Therefore, conducting specialized research to explore the lives of individuals with cleft lip and palate and how their speech sounds during daily communication would be significant. This statement suggests that individuals with cleft lip and palate not only experience speech difficulties but also social challenges due to misunderstandings. Therefore, researching to better understand their lives as individuals with this condition and how they sound when communicating in their daily lives would be valuable, even for individuals with clefts.

Based on the background of the problems above, in this study, the writer will conduct research entitled "**Speech Disorder Experienced By A Cleft Lip Sufferer After Surgery At Yayasan Ummlah**"

1.2 Problem of The Study

The problems in this study are formulated in the form of questions. Based on the background of the problems that have been described, the formulation of the problems proposed in this study are:

1. What kinds of speech disorder after surgery experienced by cleft lip sufferer at Yayasan Ummi Romlah?
2. What sound cannot be pronounced clearly after cleft lip surgery?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

Research objectives are useful to make it easier for the writer to research problem, so that it can be achieved in accordance with what the writer wants are:

1. To know what kinds of speech disorder experienced by cleft lip sufferer.
2. To know what sound can be pronounced clearly after cleft lip surgery.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The research on "Speech Disorder Experienced by After Surgery of Cleft Lip Sufferer at Yayasan Ummi Romlah" is significant because it sheds light on the speech difficulties experienced by individuals with cleft lip and palate after surgery. Improved understanding of speech disorders in cleft lip and palate patients: The study can provide insights into the speech disorders that individuals with cleft lip and palate may experience after surgery. This understanding can help healthcare professionals develop better treatment plans and interventions to address these speech difficulties.

The study can help identify factors that affect speech outcomes in individuals with cleft lip and palate after surgery. For example, the experience of the surgeon performing the surgery can influence speech outcomes. Identifying these factors can help healthcare professionals optimize treatment plans and improve speech outcomes for cleft lip and palate patients.

The study can contribute to the development of better speech interventions for individuals with cleft lip and palate. For example, the study can help identify the most effective speech therapy techniques for addressing speech difficulties in cleft lip and palate patients.

The study can help improve the quality of life for individuals with cleft lip and palate by addressing their speech difficulties. Speech difficulties can lead to social,

emotional, and educational challenges, and addressing these difficulties can help individuals with cleft lip and palate better communicate and interact with others.

The study can also raise awareness of cleft lip and palate and the speech difficulties associated with the condition. This increased awareness can help reduce the stigma associated with cleft lip and palate and promote greater understanding and acceptance of individuals with the condition.

The study can improve our understanding of speech disorders in cleft lip and palate patients, identify factors affecting speech outcomes, develop better speech interventions, improve the quality of life for cleft lip and palate patients, and raise awareness of the condition.

1.5 Limitation of The Study

The main objective of this research was to examine the speech difficulties of 3 people who had received surgical treatment for cleft lip and palate. The study centered on the analysis of their speech and the data is collected by interview of cleft lip sufferer who had surgery.