

## Analysis of Sarah's Broca's Aphasia Depicted in SymphUK Youtube Channel

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**Abstract:** *The research entitled Analysis of Sarah's Broca Aphasia Depicted in SymphUK Youtube Channel. This research is aimed to analyze the language deviations and communication effectiveness that occur in Sarah's Scott aphasia. The analysis is conducted by using the types of language deviations in aphasia theory by Alfredo Ardila (2014) and communicative effectiveness theory by Lunenburg (2010). This research belongs to qualitative research and use purposive sampling technique to classified the data. Meanwhile, the data of this research were the conversation of Sarah and the interviewer in seven videos from SymphUK youtube channel. The result shows that there are 16 data that can be categorized as types of language deviations. The data divided into two types, which are semantic paraphasias (verbal paraphasias) and agrammatism. Then, there are three barriers of communicative effectiveness that occurred in Sarah's case, which are process barriers, semantic barriers, and psychosocial barriers. The finding leads to a conclusion that Sarah's aphasia influenced her language using that leads into an ineffective communication with her partner of communication.*

**Keywords:** *Psycholinguistics, Language Deviations, Aphasia, Communication Effectiveness, SymphUK Youtube Channel.*

**Abstrak:** Penelitian yang berjudul Analysis of Sarah's Broca's Aphasia Depicted in SymphUK Youtube Channel ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penyimpangan bahasa dan efektivitas komunikasi yang terjadi pada tipe afasia yang dimiliki oleh Sarah Scott. Analisis dilakukan berdasar pada teori jenis-jenis penyimpangan bahasa dari Alfredo Ardila (2014) dan teori efektivitas komunikasi dari Lunenburg (2010). Penelitian ini termasuk penelitian kualitatif dan menggunakan Teknik purposive sampling untuk mengklasifikasikan data. Data yang digunakan oleh studi ini didapatkan percakapan antara Sarah dan pewawancara dalam tujuh video dari channel youtube SymphUK. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 16 data yang dapat dikategorikan sebagai jenis penyimpangan bahasa. Data dibagi menjadi dua jenis, yaitu paraphasias semantik (paraphasias verbal) dan agrammatisme. Kemudian, ditemukan juga beberapa hambatan dalam keefektifan komunikasi yang terjadi pada kasus Sarah, yaitu hambatan proses, hambatan semantik, dan hambatan psikososial. Temuan ini mengarah pada kesimpulan bahwa afasia yang dimiliki Sarah memengaruhi penggunaan bahasanya yang kemudian mengarah ke komunikasi yang tidak efektif dengan lawan bicaranya.

**Kata kunci:** Psikolinguistik, Penyimpangan Bahasa, Afasia, Efektivitas Komunikasi, Youtube Channel SymphUK.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Aphasia is a language impairment that relates with speech production. Aphasia is the loss or impairment of language function caused by brain damage (Ardila, 2014: 46). Aphasia is an impairment of language, affecting the production or comprehension of speech and the ability to read or write. It always occurs due to brain injury commonly from a stroke. Aphasia can happen in all ages, but usually the elders. Moreover, aphasia is divided into

basic groups. It differed based on the part of the brain in which location the damage happens. Broca's aphasia is a disorder of speech production that includes impairments of grammatical processing (Kuhl and Damasio, 2012: 1364). Broca's Aphasia is a language disorder that relates to brain injury. This term can be analyzed by psycholinguistics. Psycholinguistics is a branch of knowledge which concerns psychology and linguistics. Moreover, a brain injury is when a damage to the brain that affects a person physically, emotionally or behaviorally. Brain injuries can happen at birth, or later, from an illness or a trauma, and are called either traumatic or non-traumatic, depending on the specific cause. Someone who is in a good condition of mind may not find any difficulties in expressing their thoughts. In contrast, someone who has any brain injury or neurological cases can influence how someone uses a language to communicate with each other.

One of the phenomena about aphasia was portrayed in a YouTube channel *SymphUk*. This youtube channel shows us about an aphasic. Her name is Sarah Scott. In this youtube channel, her ability in using language is being shown in each video. This stroke attack is caused by blocked or narrowed blood vessels. As the result, she is categorized as a Broca aphasic, or it can be called as non-fluent aphasia. Furthermore, Broca aphasia itself could be happen when someone has a brain damage in the frontal lobe of the brain. As the impact, she lost all of her vocabularies. In this case, the cause of brain injury can influence someone's language using. She lost her vocabularies, she cannot speak, read and also write everything she wants to express. Furthermore, Broca's aphasia can be called non-fluent aphasia. Furthermore, there are nine types of language deviations in Aphasia; phonetic deviations, phonological (literal) paraphasia, verbal paraphasias, syntagmatic paraphasias, circumlocutions, neologisms, jargon, agrammatism, paragrammatism (Ardila, 2014: 53).

One of the previous studies is from Sadika Parvin Tamanna which analyzed this aphasia with *Production and Comprehension Deficit in Broca's Aphasia: A Test in Bengali*. It was published in 2017. This research focuses on the speech production and comprehension deficit for aphasics in Bengali language. The research showed the data about the term of Broca's Aphasia that can happen in Bengali language. In this case, the researcher analyzing Broca's aphasia focuses on the production deficit due to the damage of language areas in the brain. The researcher collected the data through the experiment in two terms, which are in production problem and comprehension problem. The result research is that the test on the comprehension capacity of Broca aphasics with the reversible word orders of Bengali have portrayed clearly that the Broca's aphasics not only suffered with language production but they could also suffer with comprehension and the link between syntactic and semantic processing.

The second study is from Choy and Thompson (2010). This study with title *Binding in agrammatic aphasia: Processing to comprehension* investigates online processing and offline comprehension of binding constructions, such as reflexive (e.g., himself) and pronoun (e.g., him) constructions in unimpaired and aphasic individuals in an attempt to evaluate theories of agrammatic comprehension. They did the research with eight participants with agrammatic Broca's aphasia and eight age-matched unimpaired individuals. They used eye tracking to examine online processing of binding constructions while participants listened to stories. Offline comprehension was also tested.

Then, Yuliana, Handani, Selmia, Irmawati and Yusri (2021) explain about psycholinguistics difficulties that face by Broca's aphasic people. This research describes the difficulty of the language experienced by the Aphasic and their handling. The method used is a quality that is a systematic description, factual, and accurate of fact. The data collection technique used in this research is observation, interviews and documentation. The data analysis technique applied by researchers is a data reduction and data presentation after that withdrawal conclusion. Research results indicate that the difficulty of speaking the language experienced by the suffering of Broca Aphasic. Carragher, Sage and Conroy (2015) analyzed about driven treatment focused on the language production skills of participants with post-stroke Broca's aphasia and to track outcomes from psycholinguistic assessment tasks to everyday conversation. The procedure series design was utilized with pragmatic selection of participants with chronic aphasia undergoing the same assessment and treatment procedures. Nine participants with Broca's aphasia and their main conversation partners took part in the study.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research may be defined as the application of the scientific approach to the study of a problem. Problem is something which has to be solved. Thus, research is required to look for the answer related to a problem which wants to be solved. Qualitative research method was developed in the social sciences to enable researchers to study social and cultural phenomena: observe feelings, thoughts, behavior and the belief of the mass society. The researcher focuses on the language deviations that happen in Broca's Aphasia. It is based on the video in YouTube channel *SymphUK*. The data source of this research is based on some videos that appear in *SymphUK* YouTube channel, which show Sarah with Broca's Aphasia. The video that is being analyzed is about her utterance in seven videos that shows about her Broca's aphasia. This is analyzed through purposive sampling. According to Sugiyono (2017: 85), Purposive sampling is a technique of determining samples with certain considerations. It is because the researcher has some specific criterias that not all of the video in *SymphUK* youtube channel have. The primary data here are Sarah's utterances from seven videos that are being analyzed.

As stated by Wiersma and Jurs (2009: 236), data collection may be in the form of interactive or non-interactive. Interactive techniques require the researchers interacting with subjects who are being studied. Meanwhile in non-interactive techniques, there is no such kind of interaction. In this study, the researcher used the non-interactive technique which means not directly interacting with the object being studied. Then for the process, the researcher observed some related videos about aphasia, determined *SymphUK* youtube channel as the source of object analysis about aphasia, transcribed the utterances that occurred in this aphasic patient as the data, and then the researcher classifies the data into the significant term which deals with the research problem. Furthermore, *SymphUK* youtube channel shows about Sarah's process to go through her therapy for her aphasia. Data analysis is a process whereby researchers search and arrange it in order to enhance their knowledge of the data and to present what they learned to others. According to Sugiyono (2018), there are three activities to analyze data in descriptive qualitative

research. Those activities are data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research, the data are taken from a youtube channel. It is *SymphUK's YouTube* channel. It is about someone with aphasia and her name is Sarah Scott. She has brocaaphasic or it could be also called as non-fluent aphasia. She becomes an aphasic as the result of her stroke attack which is a brain damage that occurred in the frontal lobe. Moreover, that condition happens when an aphasic person faces some obstacles to produce her utterances, which could lead to some language deviations. It explains about her process in producing utterances as the impact of a stroke attack. In this research, the researcher applied the utterances from Sarah which is already scripted through her conversation with an interviewer. The researcher analyzed the data through the theory about nine types of language deviations in Aphasia; phonetic deviations, phonological (literal) paraphrasia, verbal paraphasias, syntagmatic paraphasias, circumlocutions, neologisms, jargon, agrammatism, paragrammatism (Ardila, 2014: 53).

The researcher used seven videos as the sample to be applied to the theory. There are sixteen pieces of data which are taken from seven videos of *SymphUK* youtube channel. In understanding the data, the researcher presented an explanation through some terminology: *D* is datum, *V* is video which the data is taken from, and *M* is minute on which the time taken by the video. Moreover, in this research, there are 16 of data in total. Based on the nine language deviations, the researcher found out about three language deviations in Sarah's case. Based on the table above, there are semantic paraphasias (verbal) and agrammatism. First is semantic paraphasias, there are six data with the percentage is 37.5%. Second is agrammatism, it consists of ten data with the percentage 62.5%.

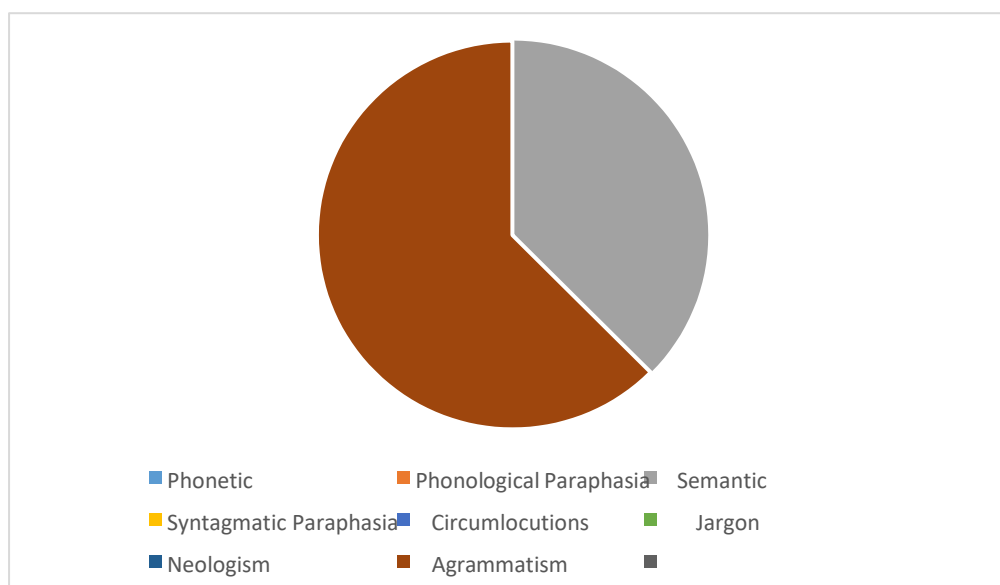


Figure 1. Table of Language Deviations in Aphasia.

**Datum****Conversation**

Interviewer : What happened? Can you remember what happened?

Sarah..... Yeah the same and also arm as

well. Interviewer : Leg.

Sarah : Leg, yes.

(D2, Video 1, M 1m:34s)

**Context :**

Conversation Conversation above shows in the first video that is being analyzed from the SymphUK youtube channel. This was her first conversation with an interviewer after going through some therapy process. In this video, Sarah is being asked a simple basic question with the interviewer's help. She explains about how she got the stroke attack that leads her into an aphasic.

**Analysis :**

In this context, Sarah is asked about her condition of how she got the stroke attack. The question is given by the interviewer through the whole video. Then, Sarah had some difficulties in answering the question. Based on her answer, she changed her choice of words when she was trying to explain her experience. Rather than using word leg, on the contrary she produced word arm when she pointed out to her leg. Therefore, based on the theories it can be categorized as one of language deviations which is verbal paraphasias (semantic paraphasias). This is the condition that happens when an aphasic person changes the target word into another word that is still semantically related. This feature of language deviations could happen in her case as the result of her stroke that leads into aphasia, specifically Broca's aphasia.

**Datum****Conversation**

Interviewer: So, there is an occupational therapist who runs it isn't there?

And

she is going to work with you for a year to try and help you get some other work?

Sarah: So um, yesterday monday um tomorrow I'm going to find out like a

computer and you can see job you want to

do (D10, Video 4, M 2m:16s)

**Context:**

This conversation shows in the fourth video that is being analyzed. It is from a youtube channel called *SymphUk* youtube channel. In this part, Sarah is asked by the interviewer about her speech therapy then about a career planning for an aphasic patient.

### Analysis:

Based on Sarah's answer, she spoke words about the day but it turns out that she is mistaken to define the day itself. She finds it difficult to speak out words that she tries to convey. Instead of saying *tomorrow*, Sarah answers with the words *yesterdaymonday*. Her changing words appear in different meanings, but it is still in the same semantic fields. This feature shows a kind of characteristic in semantic paraphasias terms. This occurs when an aphasic replacing a word with a superordinate word rather than the replaced one when she is trying to explain something. As a result, she could not produce her target word clearly. It shows in the video that she still gets the help from the interviewer to make her purpose clear and can be understood. Thus, this case can be categorized as verbal paraphasia (semantic paraphasias). This case can happen as the result of Sarah's aphasia.

### Datum

#### Coversation

Interviewer: How can that happen to you?

Sarah: Ummm stroke. school my English  
class

Interviewer: How?

Sarah: Book, I read loud I can not

(D1, Video 1, M 0:47s)

### Context:

The conversation between Sarah and the interviewer above shows in *SymphUK* youtube channel for the very first part after Sarah's diagnosed as an aphasic. This was her first conversation with an interviewer after she went through some therapy process. In this video, Sarah is being asked a simple basic question with the interviewer's help. She explains about how the stroke attack happened to her.

### Analysis:

Based on Sarah's utterances, it shows that she looks difficult to answer the question. When the interviewer asked about how the stroke happened to her, Sarah could not answer it clearly. According to her utterances, when she says **book, I read loud I can not** there is a process to speak some words and she could not process some utterances in a grammatical way. Instead of explaining by sentences, she answers the question only with some pointed words. It clearly shows that she has language peculiarity on her. From her utterance, it represents one of agrammatism's features. This happens when an aphasic tends to do a reduction in the use or omission of grammatical morphemes that could lead to misunderstanding to someone's perception. It shows that Sarah tends to shorten her sentence when she explains something. Moreover, this case occurred as the result of her stroke that led her into aphasia. Thus, her aphasia influences how Sarah produced her utterance when she is communicating with the interviewer.

### Datum

#### Conversation

Interviewer: What are you doing now?

Everyday? Sarah: **Um, speech and also riding**

Interviewer: Riding what?

Sarah: **Horses, and connect**

(D3, Video 1, M 2m:21s)

#### Context:

Conversation above happens in the first video that is being analyzed. This is a basic conversation between Sarah and the interviewer. In this part, the interviewer asked Sarah about her activities. As someone with post-stroke that makes her become one of an aphasic.

#### Analysis:

Based on the conversation, Sarah tends to answer the question shortly. It clearly shows that she has a language deviation in her language. Moreover, based on her utterance, when she answers **Horses, and connect** there is a grammatical destruction in her answer. Furthermore, instead of answering the question in a complete sentence and the structured one, her response is built up in short words. She only spoke nouns and a conjunction there. It means her utterances do not form a grammatical structure. However, in this case, although phrase length is significantly decreased into some words, semantic content is still maintained and can be understood. Furthermore, her utterances above can be categorized as agrammatism

terms. This is the condition when an aphasic tends to omit her sentences when she is trying to communicate to others. This feature can occur in her language used as the result of her stroke, that then leads into aphasia. Thus, this aphasia gave impacts to her language use.

### Datum

#### Conversation

Interviewer: Is that hard for them?

Sarah: Yeah, because I can't speak, a little but it's harder **and I can't sometimes because like my friends like and it's too hard** and I don't like it.

(D5, Video 1, M 4m:23s)

#### Context:

This conversation shows in the first part of the video after she went through a therapy process. This video is from the SymphUK youtube channel. The situation happened when she talked about some basic questions that were given by the interviewer. She is asked about her daily life, about meeting her friend, and the change that aphasia gave to her.

#### Analysis:

Based on the context above, Sarah's utterance shows that she speaks in an ungrammatical way. Different with the previous analysis, Sarah has a difficulty in defining limits of her words to build up into a structured sentence. It can be seen from Sarah's answer, **and I can't sometimes because like my friends like and it's too hard**. In this part, Sarah is trying to explain something in detail. But it turns out that she produced some erroneous words into her sentences. Moreover, her answer becomes complicated because she tends to add some words into her sentences. She also tends to speak out more conjunctions to explain the information.

Moreover, instead of answering the question clearly, the sentences are built in unstructured ones. Thus, it might lead to misunderstanding someone that communicated with. As a result, Sarah had difficulties to convey the exact meaning of her purposes. Moreover, that feature shows that Sarah has language deviation in her utterances. This can be recognized as Sarah's response to the interviewer question. It is included in one of the characteristics of agrammatism terms. This happens when an aphasic gets some difficulties by using basic grammar, word order and sentence structure.

## 4. CONCLUSION



This research focused on the kind of language deviations and how this language deviations influence Sarah's utterances from *SymphUK* youtube channel. After analyzing the data through Ardila's (2014) theory of language deviation In Aphasia, the researcher concludes that, based on the analysis, out of nine language deviations, there are two kinds of language deviations that could be pointed out in Sarah Scott's utterances. It is analyzed through her utterances in seven sample videos in *SymphUK* youtube channel. Here, the researcher found 16 data that can be categorized as language deviations in aphasia. It is divided into two kinds, which are semantic paraphasias and agrammatism. The dominant language deviations that appear in her utterance is agrammatism. This has total for about ten data followed by semantic paraphasias has total for about six data. Moreover, agrammatism most frequently appears in Sarah's utterances. It is because the agrammatism term itself most likely occurs in someone that is categorized as a Broca's aphasic people.

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