

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Communications have shown that what people say is not always what they actually mean. Quite often, speaker's utterances mean much more than what they actually literally say. This is in line with the view of Thomas (1995, cited in Adaoma, 2018, p. 1) who stated that "people do not always or even usually say what they mean". The quotation means that in doing a communication, sometimes, people do not understand what other people mean when they talk. Therefore, we have to listen to them carefully and we have to pay attention more, in order to avoid the misunderstanding.

Now, the world is growing rapidly. Especially, in the world of education, they uses a lot of presentation media. Thus, in the world of education, many teachers teach other languages in one of the subjects in school including in Indonesia, which in the subjects, English lesson is inserted. Basically, Indonesian is a daily language used by the people themselves, so, when there is an English language lesson presentation, they will be forced to use English in delivering the presentation. Meanwhile, the Indonesian community itself is unusual with the language, they often did an errors and nervousness in delivering his/her presentation. Hence, often there is a misunderstanding between the speaker and the listener.

In a communication, people utter sounds which is symbolized by words. In doing so, they usually make lots mistakes or errors while engaging in communications, such as speech delay, pauses, restarts and fillers, yet the most frequently error found is fillers. Fillers are not just the flaw of speech (Erten, 2014), On Psycholinguists point of views, fillers are often treated as flaws in speech, an interruption in speaking time, and a meaningless noise. In contrast, Clark and Tree (2002) stated that fillers served a very communicative function, even if, it has no primary meaning. On the other hand, fillers are used to help meaning. In addition to, considering to the point above, Clark and Tree (2002) stated that, even though, fillers are not the meaning in a communication, yet it can be used to transfer a variety of interpersonal message such as holding the floor. In many cases, fillers are used as communication strategies by a person who uses it.

As very simple examples that usually we hear are sounds *uh* and *um*. The speakers usually produce these kinds of sound in their speech. Based on Corley & Stewart (2005:1), “most of people use it just to improve the speech. It is only as flavor of human speech. But it is still influence the aspect of communication”. Therefore, those fillers often occur in communication.

According to Kock (2007:7) “filled pauses are parts of speech which is aimed at filling an empty time because of hardness in uttering next upcoming words, the filled pauses usually in form of an *uh* or *um*”. While, Tree (1999), defined fillers “as a detector of indicating fear, reluctance, uncertainty, or faltering, as in a speech.” These examples of fillers are given by Tree (1999), “*Umm, uh, okay, well, I mean, you know*” and others such as “*ehm, how to say, and it is*”, they are

merely a few example of fillers employed to ‘buy time’ during speech. As stated by Khojastehrad (2012), hesitation, disfluency-creating pauses cannot be avoided in spoken languages, merely a very few persons to whom are able to make speaking completely fluent. Even though, a few persons are fluently sufficient in speaking English, they still use fillers unconsciously. Fillers have been widely explored by many researchers, for many instances, such as, Halimah (2017), Fatihurrahman (2016), and Mukti & Wahyudi (2015).

Fillers are not only found in conversation, but also it was found in doing presentation. Berofe doing the presentation, people always prepare it very well. But sometimes, when they do the presentation they feel nervous so they forget some words that they want to deliver, and make some errors in delivering the presentation. So that’s why there fillers occur during the presentation. Gallo (2010) explained that, the main purpose of a presentation is the listener will understand the ideas of presentation well. Therefore, people need to learn and pay attention in many aspects of speech so that the listeners will get the points of presentations well.

However, fillers always occur in individuals presentation, to help them to remember the next words that they want to deliver. And a study on fillers in presentation is important to be conducted. The writer will investigate the university student that will graduate soon and they will face real world, it means they will work and do many things in working, one of which is presentation. Thus, the writer is interested to analyze the use of fillers in eight-semester students, when they are presenting their thesis examination. There are some

reason for choosing them: Firstly, they are students of English Literature major in university. Secondly, the students use English in their presentation. Thirdly, they are fluently sufficient in English spoken language. Under those considerations, as English Literature students who were studied for four years, they should not make lots of fillers.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the research question is:

How do fillers occur in thesis examination presentation of students and which is the most frequent position used by the students?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Referring to the problem above, therefore this research will try to achieve general objective, which is:

To find out fillers occurrences in Thesis Examination presentations and to find the most frequent position used by the students.

1.4 Uses of the Study

This research is expected contribute to these two main following uses, theoretical and practical uses.

1.4.1 Theoretical Uses

This research hopefully give contributions toward linguistics science particularly in pragmatics analysis of fillers. Therefore, it can give more knowledge to classify the discussion on fillers in presentation.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

The writer believes that this study can give more knowledge to the readers about fillers. Moreover, it is very useful for students to identify the way they deliver their speech or presentation related to the uses of fillers. Besides, the result of this research can be used as a reference for students to understand more about fillers.

1.5 Scope of the Study

In this study, the writer focuses on identifying and analyzing the occurrence of filled pauses *uh* and *um* and which one is more dominant used by the students their Thesis Examination presentation. The writer focuses on analyzing *uh* and *um*, as the most common filled pauses used. It is the reason why the writer wants to discuss filled pauses *uh* and *um* in this research. The writer will investigate students presentation. The students was selected from the students who had done thesis examination presentation majoring English literature in a private university in Indonesia. To make the analysis of the present study more systematic, then the writer uses a theory proposed by Clark and Tree (2002).