

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with introduction of the study, which contains background of the study, identification of problem, formulation problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study and limitation of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

There are some aspects that people should fill with to make conversation work. Successful conversations start when two or more people feel comfortable while talking with each other. One of the ways to create successful conversation is through backchannel. Backchannel is important for people wishing to be able to function as supportive, cooperative listeners. This is in line to the theory from Lammi (2010), It means that backchannel as a simple response that serves to show interest and understanding to continue to encourage the speaker to continue the conversation, and the use of lexical items as backchannel is a form of listener's attitude to express concern for the speaker or something else.

However, the use of backchannels is still debatable in terms of is it must in the conversation between the speaker and the listener. According to Noguchi & Den (1998) the backchannel is considered to be regarded as only alternative response. For example, is found to vary from speaker to speaker. Not everyone responds to a backchannel with the same response. Actually, in casual conversation, backchannel is very often used,

because casual conversation has an aspect of communications which is wide enough so like intonation, grammar and gesture in conversation to see listener attraction to topic presented by speaker (Ike, 2010). Backchannel in casual conversation also can happen in teaching and learning process. One of the studies who discussed by Maliheh Yazdfazeli, Mothallebzadeh, & Fatemi (2015) claim that backchannel in teaching and learning can happen in all stages and can have an impact on each stage, in presentation stages can provide students awareness and sensitivity to the conversation process, in practice stages can help students to define roles and in production stages can help students in interaction and discussion process independently.

In its development, since casual conversation and backchannel are inspirable, it apparently attracts some scholars' attention to use casual conversation as a form of coaching (Meyers & Meyers, 2009). However, the study which put the setting of using casual conversation and backchannel in pre-service teacher coaching.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Theoretically, after explaining about the background of the study, the researcher has some interesting reasons to choose the topic about analyzing backchannel that appeared in casual conversation during pre-service coaching in senior high school in Yogyakarta.

Furthermore, research that discusses backchannel during pre-service teacher coaching is very rare, but there are a number of studies that discuss coaching using

casual conversations, according to Goof (2018) there are discussions about coaching processes with casual conversations, in which there are several aspects such as topics discussed and also some characters from the coacher in providing coaching. Coaching uses a casual conversation, it is very possible to find the use of backchannel and its functions

Therefore, further analysis of the effectiveness, function of the backchannel in the conversation process. Backchannel can be found in various aspects or types of conversations, one of aspects in casual conversation is the existence of backchannel. It helps casual conversation running well. One function of backchannel is to keep conversation steady and continuous (O'kaffe & Adolphs, 2011).

Contextually, the pre-service teacher is considered to be able to make good conversation, because they have already got the conversation subject and prepared to do teaching practice. The researcher thinks they can help to serve good casual conversation as the data of this current study.

Moreover, the researcher thinks that the analysis of the used backchannel in casual conversation during coaching process is rarely being research. It makes the researcher feels being responsible to analyze this study. It is also useful for English learner to know more deeply about the important of using backchannel functions in supporting casual conversation during coaching process.

1.3. Limitation of the Study

The study only limits on:

- (1) The conversation which is analyzed is taken pre-service teacher of senior high school in Yogyakarta during coaching process
- (2) This research will analyze functions backchannels that occur in conversation are made by pre-service teacher of senior high school in Yogyakarta during coaching process

1.4. Formulation of the problem

Based on the description of study above, the researcher would like to conduct the study entitled “Backchannel in Casual Conversation During Pre-service Teacher Coaching in Senior High School in Yogyakarta”. The problems that will be discussed in this study is formulated into:

- (1) How does the pre-service teacher use function backchannel during the coaching process?
- (2) How are the pre-service teacher act out backchannel in the casual conversation during coaching process?

1.5. Objectives of the Study

As the writer states to conduct a research, automatically there is an objective why the researcher does this research. The objectives of the research are:

- (1) To describe functions of backchannel in casual conversation made by pre-service teacher of senior high school during coaching process
- (2) To explain the functions of backchannel made by pre-service teacher of senior high school during coaching process

1.6. Significances of the Study

The result of the study will give significant advantage for the students, teachers, and the researcher himself; moreover, contribute some benefits related to theoretical and practical significance. First, the researcher hopes that finding of this research hopefully can give a contribution in English learning, especially in conversation analysis that can be used for further reference.

Secondly, by knowing good conversation structure, teachers are able to enrich their knowledge in modeling conversation, so they can improve their ways of teaching English. Moreover, teacher can improve students' motivation in making casual conversation with backchannel. Third, the researcher also hopes that students can improve and maximize their skills in maintain the conversation, especially in using backchannel when they are as listener.

Lastly, this research hopefully can be used as references for who wants to conduct research which relevant to this area, not only for the current researcher but also for next researchers.

