

TYPES OF HESITATION OCCURRENCE USED BY THE CHARACTERS IN MOVIE AKEELAH AND THE BEE

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Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan jenis-jenis *hesitation occurrence* yang terdapat pada sebuah film yang berjudul *Akeelah and the Bee*. Dari film tersebut diperoleh 80 *hesitation occurrence* yang terbagi kepada *false start*, *repetition*, *parenthetical remark*, *silent pause*, *filled pause* dan *lengthening*. Dari hasil analisis data, ditemukan bahwa *hesitation occurrence* berjenis *filled pause* lebih sering digunakan dengan frekuensi 22 kali atau 27,5% dari keseluruhan data yang diperoleh. Sementara itu, *false start* adalah jenis *hesitation occurrence* yang paling jarang digunakan oleh karakter-karakter di film tersebut, dengan frekuensi penggunaannya 4 kali (5%).

Key Words: hesitation occurrence, character, movie.

A. Introduction

Human speaking is not always running fluently, sometimes in their speech, they also have hesitations that are usually marked by silent pause, filled pause, lengthening, false start, repeat/restart and parenthetical remark. Most of people do hesitation in their daily speaking, especially in spontaneous speech. Speech by one or more interlocutors may be described as continuous, but a moment's reflection will reveal that it is not really continuous at all. Minimally, speakers must break off their speech to breathe (Wanatabe and Rose, 2008).

In language production, the hesitations may be happened in encoding process, how the language is produced and delivered to the listeners. Harley (2001) states that the processes of phonological encoding involve turning words into sounds. The sounds must be produced in the correct sequence and in specific way that is how the muscles of the articulatory system should be moved.

Most of hesitation occurrence usually happens in spontaneous speaking that must have a lot of information delivered by the speakers to the hearers. The speakers have to think of what information they want to deliver to the listeners spontaneously. In this case, the speakers often make pauses in their speaking in order to recall the information that they have to say. Corley and Stewart (2005) state that the words of unprepared spoken language are likely to be accompanied by a range of unintentional errors.

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Some people assume that the English native speakers are fluent in speaking their own language; whereas, non-native speakers are not. It is acceptable because it depends on the mother language that can make the speakers speak fluently because of the daily use of the language. Rarely, when we listen to some speeches that are delivered by native speakers, we still find that they do not always deliver the information fluently. In the middle of their speaking, they still get hesitations and try to think what points they are going to say. In that case, they also just keep silent for a while or say something to fill the pauses.

Hesitation is one of errors that may happen in producing the sound and resulting utterance disfluency. Hesitation can also be said as pauses of varying length that occur when the speakers are losing their words during speaking. Carroll (1985) states that hesitations are period of silent that occur between linguistic units of an utterance. When people speak, actually, the productions of complete sentences have often turned to speech disfluency to unravel the processes of production. It is often heard that many speakers hesitate in their speech, whether it is in daily life, movie scene, formal events, etc. The problem is so humane that there is no human speaks perfectly without any errors or hesitations.

Rose (1997) adds that hesitation is a crucial factor that people sometimes do the delay of message transfer in some way. If the hesitation had not occurred, the communication of the speaker's message would have been faster. From the statement above, we can conclude that hesitation is a period of breaks that occur during speaking. Those pauses can be empty or filled with set of words or repetitions to recover the disfluency in speaking.

According to Rose (1998), hesitation is used to take a breath during speaking, to be preparation to continue speaking, to be a signal for people to end or to take their speaking turn. Hesitation pauses also use when people try to decide what they want to say because sometimes people need time to think first before speaking their words out. For example, when a teacher wants to give explanation and some examples about a subject to her students, she sometimes need time to think of the examples that seem easy to be understood by the students. Actually, the teacher hesitates in her speaking by making a silent term, repeating the same words during thinking or making a sound. In short, language, as a mean to speak, will need hesitation in some ways when the speakers deliver their speaking.

There are several types of hesitation phenomena that are generally used by people in delivering their speech. They are:

1. False Start

According to Rose (1997), a false start happens when a speaker begins an utterance and then he/she abandons it completely without finishing it. False start means that a speaker utters a few words and then stops in mid-sentence. False starts are not as common as repetitions/corrections. They often occur when a conversation becomes intense with many speakers speak at once or when the speaker is being interrupted.

For example: *This is not... Whaa, this is a wonderful place.*

The example above shows that the speaker does not finish the first utterance yet. Then, he starts producing the next utterance with a complete one. Here, the situation is when the speaker thinks that the place is not as interesting as he wants: in contrast, when he looks the fact, it is even more interesting than what he expects to be.

2. Repetition

Repetition is a phenomenon when a speaker repeats the same words in a time in order to hide his/her hesitation part in a speaking. Clark and Clark (1977) note that repeats are repetitions of one or more words in a row. Repetition usually occurs because of articulatory problems rather than other language production problems. That statement means the speaker repeats a single word or more in an utterance. Here, when the speaker does a mistake in pronouncing a single word or more, he/she spontaneously hesitates and repeats the same words where the mistake exists. Then, he/she tries to repronounce the word with the correct one.

Mahfida (2007) says that repetitions are another common form of disfluency that involve the interruption of speech, followed by the repetition of a single word or more that have been produced by the speaker without contain any correction of the utterance.

For example: *Now, we are from the third group would like to present (prezənt), present (pri'zent) our paper about hesitation phenomena.*

From the example above, it can be seen that the speaker repeats the word *present* twice in a single utterance. The two words that is repeated have the same spelling, but different pronunciation and different meaning. However, the second word that is repeated has the correct pronunciation and meaning that the speaker should be used in his/her utterance in order to make his/her information clearer.

3. Parenthetical Remark

Rose (1997) says that parenthetical remark is when a speaker utters a sequence of one or more words that is to be understood as a replacement (i.e., correction) of the immediately preceding comparable sequence. The speakers use parenthetical remark in order to make the material of their speaking clearer and easy to be understood by the listeners by specifying or giving more simple words to describe it. They usually contain some words like *I mean, well, that is, etc.*

For example: *So, could u open the door, please - I mean could u open the main door?*

Based on the example above, it is seen that the speaker uses a couple of word *I mean*. It is because he/she wants to explain what he/she means about his/her previous utterance. If we read the first sentence only, the listener will never know which door that the speaker asks to be closed while there are so many doors in the circumstance. However, by giving the further explanation, the listener can do what the speaker asks to do because the information is concrete enough.

4. Silent Pause

Silent Pause is the length/duration of silence taken by the speakers during their speech. Syaifuddin (2008) states that unfilled pause or silent pause is a period of no speech during speaking, determined by the length of the silence. The speaker just keeps silent between their words. In silent period, speaker does not produce any sound or word to fill their pause. For example; "I went there (0.5) yesterday". The sentence shows that the speaker makes a pause after saying the word *there*. The phenomena may occur because of the process of thinking. The speaker thinks when he/she went to the place that is told in the situation.

According to Yule (1994), people also use silent pause or completion point in conversational interactions as a marker of finishing speaking turn by pausing at the end of a completed syntactic structure like a phrase or a sentence. The silent pause may happen in the end of the speaker utterance. In this case, the silent pause takes a role as a mark that the first speaker ends his utterance and it already becomes the second speaker's turn to speak up. The silent pause is categorized as hesitation phenomena if the length of the silence more than 3 seconds.

The statement above is supported by Wanatabe and Rose (2012) that says that silent pause (unfilled pause) is breaks in speech production of any duration. In silent pause, speakers do not produce any sounds or words to fill their pauses. Rose (2012) also adds that silent pauses are long pauses, not articulatory or juncture pauses. It is usually longer than 3 seconds.

For example: *I want a cup of coffee (0.5) a serving of fried rice (0.4) and the chocolate ice cream, please!*

From the example above, it can be seen that the speaker hesitates in his/her speaking. It can be said that the speaker is in a restaurant and ordering some food to the waitress at the moment speaking. The speaker uses silent pause twice in his/her single utterance. The first one is after saying the word *coffee*; the speaker makes a silence in 5 seconds. Then, the next one is after saying the word *rice*; the speaker makes a silence in 4 seconds. It is because he/she thinks and be confused which food that should be ordered.

5. Filled Pause

Filled pause is a break taken by the speakers followed by simply noise or sound during their speech. The sounds that are commonly used such as *um*, *err*, *uh*, *etc.* Harley (2001) states that filled pause is where a gap in the flow of words is filled with a sound such as *uh* or *um*. Based on the statement, filled pause is when a speaker hesitates during his/her speech, then he/she makes a pause and fill the pause with a simply noise or sound. Filled pause takes place in the beginning of the speaker's utterance or sometimes in the middle of the utterance.

Wanatabe and Rose (2012) add that filled pauses involve the articulation of some sounds during the delay. They also agree that filled pause is a delay during speaking that is filled with some sounds in order to make the pause section is not just a form of silence and also to make the listeners do not easy to be bored in the speaking moment.

For example; *I will choose one of you to be the chairman...um...I choose you!*

From the example above, it shows that the speaker makes a pause in his/her speaking. He hesitates after saying the word *chairman*. It is because he/she needs time to decide who the best one to be the chairman is. In order to make his/her pause does not heard just as a silence section, the speaker uses sound *um..* to fill his/her hesitation part.

6. Lengthening

Lengthening occurs when the speakers take articulation of words longer than what it should be. Shofa (2008) says that lengthening occurs when a speaker draws out the enunciation of a word which is called a lengthening as in the following extract. Rose (2012) adds “lengthening is prolongation of one or more syllables of a word so that its duration is excessively long in its context. The phenomena usually occur in vowels.

The two statements above explain that lengthening occurs when the speaker gets interrupted in his/her moment of speaking. When the interference exists, the speaker pronounces a single word longer than what it should be. During the lengthening phenomena exists, the speaker may think and remind the material that he/she wants to deliver to the listeners.

For example: *You should prepare the books a:nd also the stationeries.*

From the example above, it can be seen that the word *and* in normal sound is not produced with a long voice, but here the speaker tries to say the next word while he/she thinks and try to complete his/her utterance. So, the word *and* is voiced longer than what it should be; it becomes *a:nd*.

B. Discussion

The writer analyzed the types of hesitation occurrence used by the characters of the movie *Akeelah and the Bee* i.e. false start, repetition, parenthetical remark, silent pause, filled pause, lengthening. Then the writer identified which types and processes were mostly used in this newspaper. For example:

Akeelah : Well, *um...* Me and some of the other kids are hanging out in my room, drinking soda pop and watching movies.
(00:24:54)

From the sample above, it shows that Akeelah hesitates in the beginning of her sentence. She uses sound *um..* to fill her pause. This kind of hesitation occurrence is called filled pause. In that scene, it is shown that Akeelah wants to invite Dylan to have a small party before facing the spelling bee competition. Unfortunately, Dylan’s father does not want Dylan wasting his time for something useless without learning about the spelling more and more. Here, Akeelah uses filled pause in talking to Dylan’s father because she feels nervous and a little bit afraid of Dylan’s father in asking his permission to allow Dylan joining her to drink soda pop and watching movies together. As the movie presents, Dylan’s father is a bad tempered.

In short, the research finding is described in the table below:

The total percentage of the hesitation occurrence from the whole data.

Kinds of Hesitation Phenomena	Total	Percentage (%)
1. False Start	4	5
2. Repetition	20	25
3. Parenthetical Remark	6	7,5
4. Silent Pause	18	22,5
5. Filled Pause	22	27,5
6. Lengthening	10	12,5
	80	100

The table above describes the total percentage of hesitation occurrence: False Start, Repetition, Parenthetical Remark, Silent Pause, Filled Pause and Lengthening which were used by the characters in movie *Akeelah and The Bee*. From the 80 data found, filled pause are the most often found in the movie scenes. It is 22 from 80 data found, with the percentage of occurrence is about 27,5%. Then, it is followed by repetition with the total data found 20 from 80 data. Next, there is 18 data of silent pause, with the percentage for about 22,5%. After that, lengthening is 10 from 80 data, with the percentage for about 12,5%. Then, parenthetical remark is 6 data, with the percentage for about 7,5%. The last is False Start. It occurs 4 times from 80 data with the percentage for about 5%.

C. Conclusions and Suggestions

The hesitation phenomena are not only used in daily conversation but also in movie scenes. In the data analysis, the writer finds that filled pause is a type of hesitation occurrence that mostly used by the characters in movie *Akeelah and the Bee*. There are 22 from 80 data for filled pause. It is about 27,5% from all of the data. It is because all of the characters are native speakers of English. A native speaker usually uses filled pause in his/her hesitations.

It is recommended for the readers especially the students of English Department to choose the analysis of hesitation occurrence as the object of research, because there are many interesting aspects which can be analyzed. It is suggested for everybody who is interested in the study of hesitation occurrence to find other sources in order to see the different uses of types of hesitation occurrence.

Note: This article is written based on the Zahiria Desri Roza's paper under the supervision of Rusdi Noor Rosa S.S., M. Hum.

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