

LANGUAGE AS A SOCIAL INSTRUMENT

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Abstract

The study focuses on the usefulness and the use of language as an instrument to associate a group of people in the society, both in the large and in the small groups to fulfill their everyday needs. They were described in the form of ideas and arguments that were investigated in the form of activities of library research design. The data were collected from many references both primary and secondary ones in terms of the topic. The primary data dealt with the roles and functions of language in terms of the usefulness and the usage of language in society. The findings of the study showed that language is used as an important instrument to connect people in many aspects of human life consisting of language in the world of education, language in the world of science and technology, language in economic and business contexts, language in the social and political contexts, language in the aspects of national defense and security, language and international relation.

Keywords: language, language usage, social instrument, social life

INTRODUCTION

The existence of human beings in the world is identified as the existence of communication. Human beings are also identified as a social being or *zoon political* because they are naturally created in the social group. As members of the social group, human beings must deal with communication because they have to fulfill their needs. In the effort to fulfill their needs, human beings need to communicate with one another. Therefore, human beings need a language or language as the means of communication no matter what language or language to be permanently used to communicate for all members of the social group.

Because there is more than one social group in the world, the language used is more than one as well. The social group usually refers to ethnicity appearing in the form of an ethnic group. Every ethnic group has its language called as a local language. The local language of a particular ethnic group connects the members of the ethnic group to build an intensive interaction in all contexts of communication.

Starting from ethnic groups with their local languages, a nation in a particular country is established with the national language. The international community is then established from all nations in the world. To connect all nations in the process of interaction, an instrument is also needed in social life. The instrument itself is language. Therefore, international language or languages become important to be used as the instrument of communication in the social group to facilitate human's everyday life.

Concerning language and social life, there is a term that cannot be separated from those, namely communication. Language and communication cannot be separated from each other. Human beings need to communicate with one another in any kind of context. The communication meant here is usually verbal to fulfill all their needs in their everyday life. The communication must need a language or languages to share ideas and meanings in the process of communication. In other words, language functions as a means of communication.

Communication is a fundamental notion in the study of behavior, which acts as a frame of reference for linguistic and phonetic studies. Communication refers to the transmission of information (a message) between a source and a receiver using a signaling system: in linguistic contexts, source and receiver are interpreted in human terms, the system involved is a language, and the notion of response to (or acknowledgment of) the message becomes of crucial importance (Crystal, 1985: 57)

As the means of communication, language plays important roles in any human relationship covering educational, cultural, economic and business, social and political, and national defense and security contexts. Science, technology, and arts are the aspects of human life that are closely related to communication as well. Although communication covers still many other contexts, the writer elaborates only on some of them, namely educational, science and technology, economic and business, social and political, national defense and security, and international relationship contexts.

Those aspects are always needed, experienced, and discussed in every kind and form of communication to connect human beings in society. In this case, communication is performed through language. Communication can only take place through language. Therefore, language and communication are never divorced from each other in all aspects of human life. It can also be stated that language is an instrument of communication. Because communication takes place in society, language is called as a social instrument.

Based on the theories above it can be stated that every communication must have its purposes. Every purpose contains particular messages to be sent to the listener or hearer. The meaning of each word, phrase, clause, and sentence in a process of communication can change depending on the speakers and the contexts where they are speaking or communicating. The followings are some features of natural communication proposed by Cross (1992).

First, purpose deals with performing speaking is a purposeful activity. Someone who is speaking to another must have a certain purpose such as greeting, apologizing, criticizing, enquiring, or informing something. *Second, unpredictability* sometimes takes place in speaking. We cannot predict or guess the nature of most speech acts. It also occurs in exact words. *Third, slip and hesitations* deal with producing words or sentences at the moment of speaking that often causes slip what we are saying or performing. This happens because we cannot monitor our speech directly. Grammatical items are the most language components that provide so many mistakes or slips. However, some people do not care what is happening to their sentences concerning the grammatical items. No matter whatever happens to their sentences, they keep on speaking. The important thing for them is how to make the hearer understand their messages or ideas.

Fourth, the creativity that always appears in the effort of comprehending novel utterances or other kinds of literary works, people usually get difficulties. This is the main problem of many readers in general. Understanding novel utterances does not ensure the speaking ability of the people. But for some speakers, it is easy for them to do this. It depends on their creativity to manage or develop their ideas to be their schemata to perform in other styles of producing language, especially in oral performance. *Fifth, spontaneity* in the process of speaking that normally happens to the people when producing words, phrases, utterances, and sentences that are not planned before. Their ideas and utterances are produced at the moment of speaking. Therefore, we can say that language is something creative, or a symbol of creativity. Language is often called something productive.

Sixth, economic matters in performing oral communication which usually makes people tend to do it bypass. They tend to speak less but they want other people to understand more about what they are talking about. It is based on the character of human beings, that is, “work less but get more”. It is also based on *Newton’s Law of Motion*. The concept of law of motion states that “*a body at rest remains at rest and a body at motion continues to move at constant speed along a*

straight line unless in either case, the body is acted upon by an outside force” (Bram et.all in Wahab, 1998: 25-26).

Seventh, stress and intonation that enables the messages or ideas transferred by a speaker to a hearer not to be always understood easily. It is often caused by the intonation and stress of words and sentences uttered by the speaker. Although the words and grammar have been accurately stated, if the stress and intonation are not suitable for the context being discussed, the hearer can misunderstand the messages. That is why, stress and intonation should be paid more attention to avoid or anticipate misunderstanding (Bram et.all in Wahab, 1998: 25-26).

Eighth, comprehension checks as one of the features of natural communication which always forces each speaker to check the hearer’s comprehension whether he or she has understood or not what is spoken by the speaker. The verbal check such as “Right? Y’ know? Know what I mean?” are the phrases or expressions that are often used by many people in speaking styles. Ninth, *turn-taking* as a process in oral communication performed by a speaker is not merely making the hearer understand his messages, but the speaker naturally would like to be responded by the hearer. Because communication is a means of social interaction, communication should occur normally. Normal communication is one of the *turn-taking* processes. A speaker wants to send his or her messages orally and he is very eager to get a response as soon as possible so that is can get what is intended (Cross, 1992).

Based on the above ideas of language and communication performed by the people in social life, it is important and urgent to more deeply investigate the role and function of language as an instrument to associate and unite groups of people in society. The investigation is better done in the form of scientific research.

METHODS

The study was designed as library research. It means that all data collected were not from the field but in the library. The design of this study can also be called a literature approach. Library research is research in which research makes use of library sources to get the data (Zei, 2004). This statement implies that literature or references become the main source of library research.

The other expert's Barney G. Glaser & Anselm L. Strauss (1967: 176) stated “another benefit is the great breadth of the available comparative material in terms of time, space, and other properties. The statement clearly describes that all researchers cannot be hampered by time and space to conduct research. They can

conduct research whenever and wherever they are because the references always are with them especially in the digital era right now.

All data were collected based on the ideas of experts in terms of the topic written in the form of a reference book, coursebook, monograph, journal article, etc. In this case, the researcher collected based on the research questions to be answered. In other words, the description of research findings was guided to answer the research questions dealing with the ideas of the experts on language in general and the use of language as the social instrument.

Because the design was in the form of library research, the data collected were also in the form of qualitative data. Therefore, the data were analyzed descriptively and qualitatively. In other words, the research was done and the data were analyzed by employing a descriptive-qualitative approach. In doing the research the researcher did any activities. They were (1) formulating research questions and research objectives; (2) collecting and exploring references dealing with the topics and the data to be collected; (3) planning the research design; and (4) planning the research procedures consisting of data collection, data presentation, data analysis, and conclusion.

All data were collected from any kind of sources, both primary data and secondary ones. After being collected, the researcher selected the topics and explored the materials especially the theories dealing with the topic and research questions. In the process of exploring materials, the researcher did some activities such as information or reference gathering, data reduction, data display, data review, data comparison, and conclusion drawing/verification.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Findings of the Study

This section presents data collected in the process of investigation in the form of library research. In other words, the data were collected and analyzed by collecting, exploring, displaying, describing, reducing, and concluding them to get a clear main idea about language as a social instrument. They consisted of primary data and secondary ones.

Primary data focuses on language as a social instrument to connect people in some contexts of human life consisting of language in the world of education, language in the world of science and technology, language in economic and business contexts, language in the social and political contexts, language in the aspects of national defense and security, language and international relation.

Secondary data dealt with definitions of language and the nature of language. In this part, the researcher displays the secondary data firstly before displaying primary data. It was done to make readers easily comprehend the results of the research.

1. Definition of Language

According to de Saussure, three terms should be discussed to know what actually language is. They are *language*, *langue*, and *parole* which come from French.

The term *language* (English) does not have a clear meaning, because it can have two terms in French, *language*, and *langue*. But *language* and *langue* (French) have different meanings. The term *language* indicates language generally, for example, “Humans have language but the animal does not”. The term *langue* means certain languages, for example, English, Dutch, Indonesian, Javanese, Ternatenese, Tidorenesese, Bajonesese, etc. On the other hand, *parole* means ‘speech’ (English), ‘logat’, ‘ucapan’, and ‘perkataan’ in Bahasa Indonesia (Verhaar, 1978: 1).

Language is an arbitrary *sound system* used by the members of the social group for working together, communicating, and self-identification (Kridalaksana in Chaer, 2003: 32). From this definition, we can know that all languages are made up of speech sounds, and they are limited. The sound system of any language contains only a small portion of all the speech sounds that human beings can produce and discriminate. The English language does not contain all of the speech sounds which we can produce and discriminate. One sound system is different from the sound system of any other language. Every language serves its speakers as a system of communication. It is also a unique structure of arbitrarily chosen and arbitrarily organized sounds which facilitates and accommodates its speakers as a means of communication (Buchman, 1963: 2 – 5).

Language is the system of sounds, words, patterns, etc used by humans to communicate thoughts and feelings. Language is words, etc used by a particular group of people (Hornby, 1989: 699 – 700). This definition gives an illustration that only humans can speak languages. Animals cannot speak any language.

2. The Nature of Language

As we know that no tribe has ever been found which is without language, and all statements to the contrary may be dismissed as mere folklore. The truth of the matter is that language is an essentially perfect means of expression and communication among every known people (Sapir in Mandelbaum, 1949: 7).

a. Language as a System

A system is a group of things or parts working together as a whole (Hornby, 1989: 1305). A system consists of subsystems. The subsystems work together to reach an objective. If a subsystem does not function, the system cannot work. Language is also a system. In what case can language be a system? Language is the object of linguistics. Linguistics is a study of language. When we study linguistics, means that we are studying a language or languages. Linguistics has some aspects, namely phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. These aspects are categorized as subsystems that work together as a system in the form of a language or language communicated in real life.

When a subsystem (aspect) of language (linguistics), i.e. phonology is not involved in the system of language, the language cannot be communicated because phonology covers the system of sounds in a language, and the language itself is the system of sounds. If a language does not have the rule to be constructed in the form of sentences, it cannot be communicated because people cannot understand what is being communicated. The study about the principles, process, and procedures of constructed a phrase, clause, and sentence is called *syntax*. The syntax is an aspect of linguistics functions as a subsystem of language which is communicated in humans' daily life. The morphology and semantics are also like phonology and syntax which work together as a system of language.

b. Language as a Symbol

The terms symbol, sign, signal, gesture, code, and symptom are different from each other. They can be related to language. But before elaborating language as a symbol, the writer would like to quote the definitions of the terms derived from some references.

The symbol is an image, object, or something, etc that suggests or refers to something else (Hornby, 1989: 1304). The sign is a mark, symbol, etc used to represent something (Hornby, 1989: 1184). The signal is a sign, gesture, sound, etc that conveys a message, command, etc (Hornby, 1989: 1184). The gesture is an expressive movement of a part of the body, especially the hand or head. It is also defined as an action showing one's (usually friendly) intentions or attitude (Hornby, 1989: 516). Code is a system of words, letters, symbols, etc that represent others, used for secret messages, or for presenting or recording information briefly (Hornby, 1989: 218). The symptom is a change in the body that indicates an illness. It can also be defined as a sign of the existence of something bad (Hornby, 1989: 1304).

The definitions above indicate that all terms are quite different from each other but they are closely related. It can be concluded that all of them function as a language represent a certain item. However, concerning linguistics, de Saussure did not use the term *symbol* or other terms, but he used to *sign*, namely *linguistic sign* (*sign Linguistique*). Although de Saussure did not use the term *symbol*, in his article, the writer keeps using it to refer to the nature of language.

In this article, the writer does not explain all terms above completely, but he just focused his discussion on the term *sign*, namely *linguistic sign* (*sign Linguistique*). About the definition of the term *linguistic sign*, it is clear to understand that what is meant by linguistic sign is only used in *written language* as the representation of *spoken language*. To understand a message given by someone, we need signs as the representation of the sounds of a language. That is why; we can say that language as a symbol.

c. Language is a Sound and Meaningful

As being explained above that language is the *system of sounds*, words, patterns, etc used by humans to communicate thoughts and feelings. Language is words, etc used by a particular group of people (Hornby, 1989: 699 – 700). Technically, sound can be defined as an impression in the central nerve as the effect of an eardrum vibration reacting because of the change of the air pressure (Kridalaksana in Chaer, 2003: 42). This definition indicates that language consists of *sounds*, but not all sounds can be categorized as language. The sounds can be categorized as language are *meaningful and understandable sounds* because they can transfer the *semantic representation* between humans in the form of *surface structure*.

The sounds produced are the units of language in the forms of morphemes, words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and discourses. The units contain meanings. That is why; every *sound* that does not have meaning cannot be called *language* (Chaer, 2003: 45).

d. Language is Arbitrary and Conventional

Language is arbitrary. The word *arbitrary* can be translated as something based on personal opinion or impulse, not a reason (Hornby, 1989: 50). The words in a language do not have an obliged relation to the symbols or signs representing the words (Chaer, 2003: 45).

Concerning the concept of the term *arbitrary*, the writer would like to explain briefly the controversy between the *physics group* and *thesis group* about

the relationship between words of language and nature. According to the physis group, there are close relationships between word and nature.

The relation between word and nature is arbitrary and conventional. The physis group said that the relationships between word and nature are the sounds and colors of the things, for example, the words *splash*, *pick*, *sway*, *etc* represent the sounds of the things named by the people (English). The sounds of the things develop to the association of colors and songs. They are related to the feelings of human beings. On the other side, the thesis group says that there is no relationship between words and nature. They gave many words and phrases as evidence of their argument (Wahab, 1998: 5 – 6).

Also, language is something conventional. The name of each object and activity is not given according to the agreement of the owner of the language. Therefore, we can say that language is conventional.

e. Language is Productive

Language is *productive* means that the elements of language are not limited. In producing sentences, human beings can make many sentences with their varieties. Every language has its characteristics in terms of the types of sentences and numbers of an element of the language. If we want to discuss something, we can produce many sentences to explain our focus of discussion although the discussion is brief. The more someone produces sentences in a language the better he is in intelligence. The productivity of someone in producing many sentences in a language reflects his minds, thoughts, and intelligence.

f. Language is Uniquely Human

Every language has its characteristics that do not own by other languages. The process of sounds, morphemic process, and syntactic process always happen in every language. That is why; language is called unique. Besides, language is only owned by a human being.

It cannot be argued that only human beings have language. The animal cannot produce sounds, words, and sentences in a permanent and complex language. Although animals have complete organs of speech, they cannot produce and speak a language like what human beings do. The followings are some chief reasons to say that language is uniquely human.

Anatomic and physiologic correlates; there are differences between human and animal anatomic construction physically and psychologically. The physical and psychological anatomic constructions of humans correlate with the system of working, especially in the process of producing a language or languages. The evidence that verbal behavior of human is related to some morphological and

functional specializations such as oropharyngeal morphology, cerebral dominance, specialization of cerebrocortical topography, special coordination centers for motor speech, specialized temporal pattern perception, special respiratory adjustment and tolerance for prolonged speech activities, and a long list of sensory and cognitive specialization prerequisite for language perception. So, it enables humans to produce language well.

Developmental schedule; the process of getting and producing language (especially speaking skills) of a child is very regular. The phenomenon regularity, the appearance of the child's physical development, and other kinds of language phenomena are principles of categorizations and pattern perception. The sounds of language and the configuration of words are at once perceived and reproduced according to principles.

Difficulty to suppress language; although it is very potential for humans to acquire and to produce languages, dramatic handicaps sometimes influence the ability of humans (especially children) to learn and or acquire languages. Blindness, deafness, etc, are the handicaps of humans as the difficulty to learn, to acquire, and to produce languages.

Language cannot be taught; the fundamental difference between human and nonhuman is verbal behavior especially in acquiring languages. The different principle from a human and non-human is not only a quantitative thing but also in the qualitative one. Phonemic analysis, syntactic analysis of a sentence, a semantic domain of any word are principles of speech perception of language that nonhuman cannot do like the human does. It means that there is no capacity of nonhuman to acquire or to learn languages.

g. Language is Universal

Language is learned systematically through a permanent science called *linguistics*. Because linguistics can be matched to all languages in the world, so linguistics becomes a central science of all languages. Although the language is unique, it can have the standard science which is learned all over the world. Therefore, language can be *universal*.

Language universals; we know that the language family is very different all over the world. But it does not mean that there is no similarity. There are some similarities of all languages based on the same principles in terms of semantics, syntax, and phonology. By the similarity of all languages, a human can acquire, learn, and produce languages well and can formulate a kind of sciences that we call "*linguistics*". The linguistic components can be learned systematically from phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics (Lenneberg, E. 1964: 65 – 68).

As stated above that every language is similar to each other based on the same principles in terms of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. By the similarity of all languages, a human can acquire, learn, and produce languages well and can formulate a kind of sciences called “*linguistics*”. Based on the same principles of all languages in the world, humans in a place can learn any language in other places.

h. Language is Dynamic

Language is always related to human beings who are never divorced from many activities in their daily life. In doing their activities, human beings always need language to communicate their ideas, minds, and thoughts. Because of the close relationship between language and human beings who always do their changeable and dynamic activities, language also tends to be dynamic (Chaer, 2003: 53). The process of development of sciences (especially the science of language (linguistics)) in terms of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics is caused by the dynamics of human beings as the owner and speaker of the language. Therefore, we can say that language is dynamic.

i. Language is Various

A social group that communicates a language means that the members of the social group are the community of the language. We know that there are many different kinds of social stratum in a social group such as they *have and the have not, the urban and the rural-urban population, the educated and the uneducated people, etc.* Each social stratum in a community has different language variation from the others. The educated people have different language variation from that one of uneducated people. The urban population has different language variations from that one of the rural-urban population, and so on (Chaer, 2003: 55). This process of language variation difference is what we call *idiolect and dialect*.

Dialect is a regionally or socially distinctive variety of a language, identified by a particular set of words and grammatical structures. Spoken dialects are usually also associated with a distinctive pronunciation or accent. Any language with a reasonably large number of speakers will develop dialects, especially if there are geographical barriers separating groups of people from each other or if there are divisions of social class. One dialect may predominate as the official or standard form of the language, and this is the variety that may come to be written down (Crystal, 1985: 92). Dialect is a form of a language (grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation) used in a part of a country or by a class of people (Hornby, 1989: 331). Dialect is a variation of the language used by a social group in a certain place and time (Chaer, 2003: 55).

Idiolect is a term used in linguistics to refer to the linguistic system of an individual speaker (Crystal, 1985: 152). Idiolect is the total amount of a language that anyone person knows and uses (Hornby, 1989: 616). Idiolect is a personal variety of languages (Chaer, 2003: 55).

The definition of *idiolect* and *dialect* gave by some linguists above can make the writer conclude that whether dialect or idiolect has the similarity and differences. Both dialect and idiolect are variations of the language. But dialect is used by a group of people in a certain social group, while idiolect is only used personally by anyone.

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that in the process of expressing language, a variation of language always appears in every social group from time to time both individually and collectively. Because of the existence of various social stratum in the social group, language can be various.

3. Language in the Aspects of Life

In elaborating language in terms of different aspects of life, the researcher dealt with several contexts that can shape all needs and wants of human beings in their everyday life. Therefore, the following points can be learned and implemented as the empirical facts in the field.

a. Language in the World of Education

Learning as one of human's basic needs requires a language or languages to be the medium of learning. The learning activity cannot be done if there is no language to be communicated. Someone who is learning science, technology, culture, arts, etc, is not able to understand what he is learning without mastering the language used as a tool of communication in the teaching-learning process.

His achievement got is better or not depends merely on how far he understands language as a medium of transferring materials. It can be said that the success of someone in the learning process is determined by his mastery of the language being communicated whether by getting a lecture, reading many books, discussing with other people, or by listening to radio and people's talk. One's ability to use, to express, or to speak a language reflects his mind and thought of intellectual ability. That is why; the existence of language is very essential and significant in the teaching-learning process.

b. Language in the World of Science and Technology

When we talk about science and technology, we may remember a sophisticated machine as one of the products of science and technology, that is, *computers*. The ability of a computer to compute and to process other kinds of data or things cannot be separated by the language used in the computer. It is not

important what language is used by the computer to process data, but it is important to recognize that there is a language used by the computer, namely *programming language*.

If we have programmed a computer using a certain language (i.e. English), we can only operate the computer by using the language programmed. It cannot be operated if we use another Bahasa Indonesia without programming the computer in Bahasa Indonesia.

In the process of discovering and inquiring about science and technology, we are not separated by using language, because we know that a product of science and technology is a system consisting of subsystems. The subsystems can work together if there is a language programmed as the means of communication that is, *programming language*.

Besides, the process of transferring the operating system of science and technology products from the inventor to the user or from generation to generation requires a language as the tool of communication. The language itself is used to teach the users about how to use the products of science and technology whether directly by lecture, speech, tape recorder, VCD, book, magazine, or newspaper. From this paradigm, we can say that language is very essential in science and technology.

c. Language in Economic and Business Contexts

In the world of business and trade, a businessman or a trader may not run his business without making a relationship with other people both to other businessmen and to his customers. To connect a businessman or a trader to others (especially his customer) there should be a language that can be used to communicate among them, and the language connecting them should be similar to make them understand each other.

In arranging a contact of business, businessmen or traders cannot make good contact with each other without using the language. The businessmen or traders who are successful to make relations with each other are those who can use language as the medium of diplomatic in a business contract. They can also make their customers interested in their business or their product if they use good and accurate communication (in English: *speech*; in France: *parole*) in their advertisement or announcement. The intelligent businessmen or traders are those who master the language well or make a good diplomatic using the terms of business and interesting expressions make people interested.

d. Language in the Social and Political Contexts

The existence of human beings as *zoon political* or *social beings* always runs normally in the form of *community* social group or society, states, and the international community. They cannot live or survive their life without any help from others. They need each other to fulfill their daily needs and wants. To fulfill their daily needs, they need language as a tool of communication among them. The successful people in society are those who can make up a relationship with others using effective communication.

In society, people often misunderstand each other. There are some causes of the misunderstanding. One of them is miscommunication among them. The question may appear is why there must be a miscommunication. Miscommunication sometimes happens because of the language used is not effective. Someone who does not use effective communication can make other people unhappy, sad, or angry. This can affect the relationships among the people in society.

In political life, a politician should build up a good relationship with all members of society to get many political supports from them. A good relationship between the politician and the members of the society can happen if there is effective communication. Effective communication can happen if the politician is good at certain language. A politician's ability to express or to speak a language reflects his mind in the process of thinking to produce good thoughts through effective communication especially in his political campaign. The thoughts can be produced if he has a high level of intelligence. Through a language used by a politician, we can know the politician's level of intelligence.

e. Language in the Aspects of National Defense and Security

As independent countries, every country must keep its national integrity. They also want to keep surviving in running their governance normally. National defense and security is a condition that has to be kept by every country as well. To reach the survival, national integrity, political stability, and national defense and security of a country, there should be effective communication among the elements of the country. In this case, language plays an important role as a means of effective communication. Communication involves as many groups of people in society to fulfill their everyday needs and wants.

f. Language in International Relation

There is no country standing alone in the world. It cannot survive without any help from other countries in terms of economy, education, health, culture, arts, social and political affairs. The existence of other countries is very helpful for a

country to survive. That is why; the country has to make up a good relationship with others. That kind of relationship is usually called an *international relationship*. To make a good international relationship among countries, a country has to provide political diplomacy by placing its diplomat and ambassador in the other countries.

A diplomat and an ambassador have to be able to make effective communication with the government and the society of the country where they are placed. Good and effective communication can be supplied by the diplomat and ambassador if they are good at a language or languages, especially international language. Intelligent diplomats and ambassadors are those who master an international language as a means of effective communication concerning their bilateral and multilateral relationships. How well a diplomat and ambassador in communicating a language it depends on their level of Intelligence. In other words, the use of language in the form of effective communication reflects their process of thinking and their level of Intelligence.

B. Discussion

This segment presents the points from the findings to be explored, discussed, and elaborated completely. They consist of (1) definitions of language and the nature of language; and (2) language in the aspects of life consisting of language in the world of education, a language in the world of science and technology, a language in economic and business contexts, language in the social and political contexts, language in the aspects of national defense and security, and language in international relation.

The definitions of language as well as its nature cannot be separated from one another. They are interrelated with each other as well. In this case, language is defined in different points of view by different experts. Language is also used based on contexts. Because of the difference in the contexts, language appears with any kind of nature-based on its definition from different experts and different points of view. Again, it is analyzed based on the usefulness and usage of the language itself. The usefulness and usage of the language are generated and caused by the urgency of everyday needs and wants of human beings in the world.

1. Language and Its Nature

Based on the findings of the research, there are some results that the researcher can present in this section. They are definitions of language and the nature of language. Definitions of language came from different points of view dan different experts (linguists). They are Ferdinand de Saussure who classified

and differed *language*, *langue*, and *parole* which come from French, Abdul Chaer who elaborated language as an arbitrary *sound system* used by the members of a social group for working together, communicating, and self-identification, Buchman that stated that every language serves its speakers as a system of communication.

Besides, some points dealing with the nature of language are presented in this section. It was stated by the linguists that there are several nature of language that shape the usefulness and the usage of language. they are (1) language as a system; (2) language as a symbol; (3) language is a sound and meaningful; (4) language is arbitrary and conventional; (5) language is productive; (6) language is uniquely human; (7) language is universal; (8) language is dynamic; and (9) language is various.

2. Language in the Aspects of Life

Language as an instrument to associate and unite people from all places and spaces in the world can play important roles for human beings. The association and unity of the people in the world are caused by some reasons. One of them is the variety of needs and wants of the people in the world that are very important and urgent to be fulfilled. The importance and urgency of the needs and wants generates several contexts based on the variety and complexity of the needs and wants.

The variety and complexity of the needs and want involved different ways and strategies to achieve a high quality of life. The high quality of life is determined by the high quality of needs and wants that can appear through the welfare of certain people or groups of people. It is a logical consequence of the principles of human life. The more people get welfare, the more they need and want, and the harder they work. By working harder, people need many instruments to achieve what they idealize as their vision and ambition of life.

The instruments can be obtained by connecting different various aspects of life in all places and time. Therefore, there are several aspects of life are the ones that people usually deal with. They are (1) language in the world of education; (2) language in the world of science and technology; (3) language in economic and business contexts; (4) language in the social and political contexts; (5) language in the aspects of national defense and security; and (6) language and international relation.

All aspects of human life mentioned above have been displayed and analyzed in the findings section. However, one more important thing that should be

known, understood, and recognized is the interrelationship among the aspect. In other words, the above aspect can be described and socialized by using language as a social instrument in all places and spaces as well as people from generation to generation during the existence of human beings in the world.

CONCLUSION

Because of the importance of social interaction in all social groups in the world, language becomes important as well. The importance of language can be seen from its multifunction in the process of communication. In other words, language has many functions in society. One of the functions is as a social instrument. As a social instrument, language connects people all over the world. The connection of people in the world appears in the form of social interaction that requires verbal communication to share ideas and to fulfill all needs and wants of human beings.

However, language sometimes is problematic because of the uniqueness and variety of the language itself. The difference in dialect, alphabetical system, and culture can hamper the process of communication and interaction in the social group. These problems can be solved by formulating the standard of the study of language (linguistics) that has been done and developed from time to time. Intercultural communication competence and interpersonal communication competence can also support the quality of the process of communication and interaction across the social groups in the world. This effort can place the position of language as a social instrument in the top ranking of human beings' needs and wants in their everyday life.

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