

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Problem

Speaking is an interactive process that involves the creation, receiving, and processing of meaning. There are phases in speaking when ideas are assembled, phrases are formed, and sentences are pronounced. The speech is not formed properly if one or more phases of the procedure fail. "Fluency" refers to the quality of speech production. Disfluency is a generic term for speech disorders with features like pauses, repeats, interrupted speech, and intonation in the voice (Paul et al., 2005). However, there are failures when speaking like people with speech pathology, namely, stuttering (Bailey, 2005, p. 2). Stuttering is a speech disorder that affects a person to repeat and extend syllables, sounds, and words when speaking (Lanier, 2010, p. 9). The phenomenon of difficulty speaking is included in the study of psycholinguistics. When the condition of fluency of speech is disturbed, it causes several errors such as repetition, pause, prolongation, and broken word (Sleeper, 2007, p. 69).

Stuttering is a mistake in speaking that is done unconsciously by the speaker. According to Lanier (2010), someone who stutters involuntarily is usually aware of his mistakes, such as repeating sounds and syllables. But they couldn't control the flow to fix it based on standard speech before it was too late. Stuttering is a problem when the speaker realizes what he wants to say, but at the same time he has difficulty saying it (Sleeper, 2007, p. 71). Stuttering is a part of

psycholinguistic studies that focuses on the relationship between language and thought, so it cannot be separated from humans and everyday life. The fields of psychology and linguistics are combined in this field of study. It looks at the mental processes involved in creating and understanding oral and written discourse (Aitchison, 2003, p. 12). Applied linguistics includes psycholinguistics. A subfield of the study of psychology and linguistics is known as psycholinguistics (Lyons, 2002, p. 85). The processes that take place in the brain when producing and comprehending spoken and written discourse are examined in this study, which has relevance to the human mind and language. Stuttering speech disorders have been through a lot of research, but unfortunately, many still do not know what causes stuttering. The phenomenon of stuttering can be encountered in everyday life, for example, when confessing, feeling nervous during a job interview, lying, and so on. Stuttering occurs when someone shows impaired understanding or expression through a system of oral, written, or other symbols. And if it is evident when a person babbles, is confused, nervous, angry, surprised, or deals with rarely used words, a person cannot speak normally or will stutter (Zubair, 2013, pp. 16–17).

After years of speaking normally, cases of stuttering appear for the first time in adulthood. Such cases are called acquired stuttering. Acquired stuttering is of two kinds, and the first is neurogenic. Signal disorders between the brain and muscles or nerves cause neurogenic stuttering. The failure of the brain to appropriately coordinate with the various parts of the speech mechanism causes neurogenic stuttering. Following a stroke or another kind of brain injury,

neurogenic stuttering can develop. The second acquired stutter is thus psychologically based. Stuttering that is caused by thoughts or mental processes in the brain, such as thinking and reasoning, is known as psychogenic stuttering. Psychogenic stuttering was once considered a major cause of stuttering, but today the psychogenic type of stuttering is only recognized as a minor cause of stuttering in individuals. Stuttering individuals can develop emotional problems such as not wanting to meet new people or talking on the phone because these problems will cause the individual to stutter. Psychogenic stuttering can occur in individuals with several mental disorders or mental illnesses, such as those who are under stress or severe mental illness (Salvatore, 2013, p. 3).

One of the phenomena of neurogenic stuttering is manifested in a video entitled *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring*. This video was uploaded by the TED youtube channel. This episode was chosen because in this video Elon Musk is a guest star on the channel, and Elon Musk stutters quite often. Elon Musk has been invited to talk at the TED conference. On that occasion, Elon Musk discussed his latest initiative, which is to excavate a tunnel beneath Los Angeles. And, most recently, Elon Musk of Tesla and SpaceX has been inspired to establish a future on Mars. In an interview with Chris Anderson, the main curator of TED. Elon Musk has Asperger's Syndrome, which makes this possible. Elon Musk revealed during a performance of Saturday Night Live that he had Asperger's syndrome *"I don't always have a lot of intonation or variation in how I speak... which I'm told makes for great comedy. I'm actually making history tonight as the first person with Asperger's to host SNL."* Asperger's

syndrome is a neurological or nervous disorder that is included in the autism spectrum disorder or autism, a disorder of the nervous system that affects the ability to communicate and interact with others . Asperger's syndrome can affect Elon Musk's speech, causing him to stutter. In the process of looking for objects, researchers settled on Elon Musk because he is basically one of the richest people in the world right now, in addition to being the founder of The Boring Company, CEO of SpaceX, CTO of Neuralink, and architect of Tesla production. Even smart and great people experience stuttering, therefore researchers want to show Elon Musk's stuttering, so researchers decide to choose this video as the object of research.

People with Asperger's syndrome have such an interesting language ability that they may have difficulty explaining emotionally significant events by talking about them in a face-to-face conversation. Their written language is superior to their spoken communication. Fluency and cancellation of invitations can sometimes go too fast, especially when the person is excited or talking about special interests. Can this happen to Elon Musk as a person who is known to be intelligent and quite famous throughout the world, who of course will be careful when speaking in public? The answer that will be achieved is in accordance with the objectives of this research, the aim is to examine data on Elon Musk's stuttering when speaking in order to find out the types of stuttering found, stuttering patterns, and causes of stuttering.

The author draws on the Hedge M.N., and Davis, D. theory. Types of discontinuity are categorized. In order to categorize the types of stuttering that are

frequently observed in stutterers, Hedge, M.N., and Davis used Shipley's hypothesis. Part-word repetitions, monosyllabic whole-word repetitions, sound prolongations, silent pauses (blocks), and broken words are among the stuttering that are frequently classified as stuttering disorders. Then the type of stuttering that is otherwise more commonly associated is interjections, revisions, multisyllabic whole-word repetitions, and phrase repetitions. But in this study the researcher will only examine a few types including repetition, part-word repetition, whole-word repetition, phrase repetition, interjection, syllable interjection, block pause, and broken word. (Shipley & McAfee, 2009, p. 358)

The author uses the stuttering pattern theory proposed by Lickley. With filled pause, repetition, substitution, insertion and deletion. And the theory of the causes of stuttering from Attwood, Ward.

The following section of this study will examine Elon Musk's stuttering, which may be seen in recordings of Elon speaking on YouTube. The sorts of stuttering in the videos are the main focus of this investigation. Several studies have discussed stuttering and its causes. The first is the research of Rizqi Aliyah from the Brawijaya University in 2012, entitled "*A Psycholinguistics Study of Speech Disorder of Stuttered Character in The Movie Entitled The King's Speech*". The dialogue of the primary character, Bertie, is examined in this study. The writer discovered from the data, there were 15 film scenes that contained stuttering utterances. The author then looked at the information utilizing Hulit and The Cincinnati Children's Hospital theories to pinpoint Bertie's stuttering pattern.

The results of the research findings indicate that the stuttering patterns carried out by Bertie are closing, adding schwa, repetition, hesitation, and revision.

The second was by Anggie Ray Salvatore from Yogyakarta State University in 2013, entitled "*A Disfluency Analysis of Psychogenic Stuttering Experienced By A Patient of Conversion Disorder in A Dangerous Method Movie*". In his thesis, the author analyzes the phenomenon of stuttering that occurs in conversion disorder patients in the main character of the film *A Dangerous Method*. He explains the types of disfluency due to the repetition of some patterns in the movie, as well as the fear that comes from the film's main character because of abusing his experiences when Sabina is still a child.

The third was by Leliana Desita Iriyanti and Adam Damanhuri from the University of Surabaya in 2016, entitled "*Parental Guidance Movie: Psycholinguistics Perspective of Utterances in Turner Simmons's Stuttering*". The Hedge and Davis stuttering theory is used by the author in the publication. In the movie *Parental Guidance*, a young boy named Turner Simmon stutters, and this study focuses on the sorts of disfluency and speech that connect to certain kinds of speech sounds. Out of the six categories of stuttering, Desita and Adam's investigation revealed that Turner exhibited four of them: block, sound prolongation, entire word repeat, and part word repetition.

The fourth was by Tiara Dwi Cahya Utami from the Muhammadiyah University of Purwokerto in 2019 entitled "*Stuttering Cases In Talk Show Videos Of Taylor Swift vs. Katy Parry: Psycholinguistics Study*". In her thesis, the author

finds out the types of stuttering and its causes with the theory of Hedge and Davis. The study also focuses on the varieties of stuttering and the emergence of its causes in two well-known figures from the world, namely Taylor Swift and Katy Parry, in a Talk Show video uploaded by a Youtube channel called The Therapist.

This study is similar to one by Mari Wiklund and Minna Laakso from the University of Helsinki published in the journal in 2020 under the title "*Comparison of Disfluent and Ungrammatical Speech of Preadolescents with and without ASD*" which examined the types of disfluency in the conversations of Finnish-speaking boys with ASD and Asperger's syndrome (AS) who have impairments. This study differs from previous research in two ways: first, it uses online conversations with individuals who have Asperger's syndrome (AS) for its analysis; second, it examines the origins of speech difficulties.

## **1.2 Research Problem**

The research background indicates that the disorder described in this investigation is stuttering. Elon Musk, an AS sufferer, stutters during a discussion in the video *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring?* The issue raised in this study is the type of stuttering, pattern of stuttering, and the causes of stuttering. Based on the background of problem can be formulated into the research questions as follows :

1. What types of stuttering and stuttering pattern are found in the video *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring?*
2. How causes of stuttering in the video *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring?*

### 1.3 Research Objective

The following research goals are based on the research questions :

1. To identify the type of stuttering and to document the stuttering pattern that Elon Musk is experiencing in video *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring*
2. To analyze the cause of Elon Musk's stuttering in the video *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building - - and Boring*

### 1.4 Research Significance

This study has both theoretical and applied significance.

#### 1. Theoretically

The results of this study can add to the findings of neurogenic stuttering in psycholinguistic studies. Research on neurogenic stuttering is a topic that not many researchers have discussed, therefore the researchers hope that this research can be useful for understanding neurogenic stuttering in the video entitled *Elon Musk: The Future We're Building and Boring*, especially its types, patterns and causes.

#### 2. Practically

The results of this study will be useful and can provide a clear reference and analysis in psycholinguistic studies, especially neurogenic stuttering. Especially for students majoring in English literature, or for those who are in linguistics. This study provides information about the disfluency in the stuttering phenomenon.



## 1.5 Definition of the Key Terms

To explain the terms in this study and to avoid ambiguity, the definition is below :

1. *Asperger's syndrome (AS)* is a neurological or nervous disorder that is included in the autism spectrum disorder or autism, a disorder of the nervous system that affects the ability to communicate and interact with others.
2. *Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)* is a neurological condition that impacts a child's capacity for communication, interaction, and behavior as well as language development.
3. *Stuttering* is a condition that interferes with a person's ability to speak. The repetition of words, sentences, noises, or lengthy word utterances are the main characteristics of this disorder.
4. *Neurogenic Stuttering* is a condition when someone has trouble making speech naturally and fluently. The sufferer has a voice and is frequently interrupted.
5. *Youtube* is Youtube is the most popular platform today. Youtube is a type of social media that facilitates its users with video and audio.
6. *TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design)* is an American-Canadian media organization that distributes free online talks under the slogan "ideas worth spreading".