CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This introduction chapter presents the background of the study, statement of the problems, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study and the definition of the key terms.

1.1. The Background of The Study

Sign language is the facility of human communication to interact with other people at home and school (Daniels, 2001:3). Some of the researchers (Fauziyah et.al, 2012; Kurniawan, 2015; Susanto, 2014; Luter et.al, 2015) attempted to explore the issue of sign language in application such as Indonesian Sign Language and American Sign Language. The sign language applications are really important to help the deaf people or the normal people to understand with each other. Many researchers have investigated sign language in different kinds of contexts such as Tomaszewski (2001) in Polish Sign Language, Lissi et.al (2010) in Chilian Sign Language, Pivac (2009) in New Zealand Sign Language, Anand et.al (2013); Krunal (2013); Sheth (2013) in Indian Sign Language, Marshall et.al (2012) in British Sign Language, Naoum et.al (2012) in Arabian Sign Language, Smith (2005) in Taiwan Sign Language and Capirci et.al (1998) in Italian Sign Language. This study aims at adding more information related to sign language by focusing on BISINDO (Bahasa Isyarat Indonesia) or IndoSL (Indonesian Sign Language) at shown Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie as the first study.
Based on the previous studies above, the studies have discussed about the teaching and the learning of sign language to the students, deaf children and hearing children such as the development sign language in two issues (the acquisition of Polish Sign Language and written in Polish) on cognitive development (Tomaszewski, 2001), the strategies to teach the students using written text and explain the meaning (Lissi et.al, 2010), teaching sign language in hearing children in the enhancement of visual-spatial cognition (Capirci et.al, 1998) and interpreting the learners (deaf community) to learn sign language in outside classroom (Pivac, 2009) as second language. The sign language recognition also talked in the survey about the problem in the gesture recognition system from video (Sheth, 2013) and the using algorithm with glove to form every high performance (Naoum et.al, 2012) in sign language recognition. The other studies examined two ways of translation (sign to speech and speech to sign) system using webcam and camera to communicate with the people who do not understand about sign language (Anand et.al, 2013), the using flex sensor glove and one hand for the patients who do not speak properly (Krunal, 2013) and the history and development of sign language for the deaf community in Taiwan such as phonology, morphology, semantic and also discourse (Smith, 2005). The present study aims at filling these gaps by identifying the features of sign language, which is reflected in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie. Furthermore, this study observes the process of Angel as a deaf woman in acquiring and exploring based on this movie.
Some years ago, a series of the sign language studies has been done to examine the sign language in various focuses, such as: deaf learners with language challenges (Staden et.al, 2009), deaf children with autism spectrum disorder (Shield and Meier, 2013), facial expression and emotion (Elliott and Jacobs, 2013), developing identity for deaf children (Sutton-Spence, 2010), sign language with babies (Barnes, 2010), human-robot symbiosis (Hossian et.al, 2014) and teaching sign language to a chimpanzee (Gardner and Gardner, 1969). Sign language has not only investigated deaf children or people directly in real life but it can investigate the movie such as in the Indonesian undergraduate journal by Pratama (2015) who investigated the sign language used by Helen Keller in The Miracle Worker movie (American movie). Following Pratama’s study, in this present study, the researcher investigates Angel in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie (Indonesian Movie) as the subject of this research.

By the time goes on, Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie has been analysed and received many attentions from some researchers. The first research is from Azhari (2013) as an undergraduate student of State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya that focuses on moral message in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie with semiotic. He found the moral symbols in this movie such as through the love, expression of heart, prayer, bother in social, achievement and something that has relation with motivation. He found the denotative meaning. The picture and scene mean the enthusiasm of life. In this movie, he told that, this movie described the positive points that should be
manifested in the real life. The power of enthusiasm of life that is shown in *Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?* movie has meaning that, test in the real life is not like an obstacle to persistent as the person who gets achievement and benefits from other people.

The other study is from Diana (2014) as an undergraduate student of State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta that focuses on patient delegation by Angel in *Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?* movie. She analysed the scene that has the patient message by Angle. She also used semiotic with two steps of significant by Ronald Barthers to find “penanda” dan “petanda” and “denotation” and “connotation” in the patient form that are described by Angel that reflected the individual patient to fight for her life. She found seven types of patient which are described by Angel such as patient to do religious thing, patient to encounter by word (*ejekan*), patient to get requirements (to encounter ordeal and disaster), patient to receive the rule of Allah, patient to wait the promise from Allah, patient from carnal lusts (Hawa Nafsu) and patient in the human relation. To enrich the existing research on *Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?* movie, this present study analyses the same movie with different focuses that is on the sign language and the process of Angel in acquiring and exploring the language using sign.

Sign language is chosen for this study because, there is not the undergraduate thesis that talked and discussed about sign language especially in UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. So, by this study, the researcher puts this study for the first study to identify the features of sign language and observe the
process of Angel in acquiring and exploring the language using sign language related on Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie.

There are many famous movies but Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie is chosen as the source of data for this research because it has not been touched by others to analyse the sign language. The researcher only focuses on Angel as the main subject of this research because she is a deaf woman who only can express herself via sign language to interact with other people. She is very clever, patient and talented in the school. When she passes from school, she gets the highest score in National Examination that it is held for the third grade of senior high school.

From the explanation above, this study is also similar with other previous study which talked about sign language in the Helen Keller movie by Pratama and the same movie also by Azhari and Diana. This study talks about the sign language as the theory and Angel in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? is as the subject of this study. But this study is the first study which wants to identify the features of sign language and the process by Angel in acquiring and exploring the Indonesian language using sign related on Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie. By this study, the researcher aims to explore more by describing and interpreting the sign language and the process of language contained in this movie itself.
1.2. Statement of The Problems

Based on the background of study above, the problems are formulated as follows:

1.2.1. What features of sign language that are used by Angel in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie?

1.2.2. How is the process of Angel in acquiring and exploring the first language using sign language in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie?

1.3. Purpose of The Study

According on the problem of the study above, the objectives are formulate as follows:

1.3.1 To know and get understanding about the features of sign language that are used by Angel in Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie.

1.3.2 To get and know the process of Angel in acquiring and exploring the first language using sign language Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? movie.

1.4. Significance of The Study

According on the background of study above, the writer expects that, the study contributes to analyze the sign language and the process by a deaf woman to acquire and explore the language based on the psycholinguistic and enlarge the view of the students of English Department, and the students have a new knowledge and idea from this research. This research is explained to understand the sign language and the process of the language using sign by the deaf woman. The result of this study is beneficial to help the teachers or the
parents who have deaf children to educate them more with first sign language and the common people to understand well about the deaf children’s statement.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

This research is conducted to identify the features of sign language and the process of Angel in acquiring and exploring the first language using sign language based on Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda? Movie. Further, this study wants to use eight aspects of sign language, those are: finger spelling, spatial grammar, placement, non-manual features, handling, flat surface and people and vehicles and shining structure. The object is taken from Indonesian Movie which describes the sign language and the process in acquiring and exploring the language based on the scene of the movie itself. Not only the scene, but the screen shooting and the dialogue help the researcher to collect the data.

1.6. Definition of Key Terms

a. Psycholinguistics

Psycholinguistics are the study about formula single in the language production and the people can produce the language with naturally form.

b. Language acquisition

Language acquisition is the way of the people acquire the first language or the second language and their ability to speak and use their language.
c. **First language acquisition**

The study of first language acquisition is focused on the process of language for the children to learn the first language at the first time. The first language is an officially or societally dominant language (not speakers’ first language) needed for education (Savielle, 2005).

d. **Sign language acquisition**

Sign language acquisition is the new lesson and is still built for making a good practice. Sign language acquisition is a relatively new field and is still developing its own good practice (Baker & Woll, 2008:1).

e. **Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?**

*Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?* is the Indonesian drama movie that was very popular in 2011. *Ayah, Mengapa Aku Berbeda?* is from novel adaptation and online story written by Agnes Davonar that has been read by 2 more million online readers. It talks about the journey of Angel who has deviation since she was a child.