## AN ANALYSIS OF PAUSES, OVERLAPS AND BACKCHANNELS IN CONVERSATION IN VLOG BY NESSIE JUDGE

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#### **Abstract**

This research focuses on pauses, overlaps, and backchannels based on conversation in vlog of Nessie Judge with title tips in speaking English. The duration the vlog is 7:32 minutes posted on November 27, 2016 on Nessie's youtube account. When the speaker is speaking will occur in the conversation, become a reason the resercher to anlyze pauses, overlaps, and backchannels. The purpose of this research is to find out what the types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels and how the pauses, overlaps, and backchannels in the conversation between Nessie and her partner. This research used qualitative method. To collect the data the researcher watched the vlog of Nessie. After the data collected, the data was classified into types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels. Then, the reasercher analyzed the reason behind of it. The result of this research showed that there are two types of pauses in conversations. Filler and unfiller pause. And also there are two types of backchannels. Vocal backchannel and non vocal backchannel. And the last is overlaps which only once during the duration of the vlog.

**Keywords**: conversation analysis, pauses, overlaps, backchannels, vlog

## INTRODUCTION

Pragmatic is a branch of the other of linguistic reviewing the meaning. The main focus of the pragmatic is a person's ability to obtain the meaning of certain of a native speaker in delivering specific purposes, to recognize what is the purpose of speaker, to connect new information with what had happened before, to interperet what is said speaker based background knowledge, and to conclude or know information from speaker which speaker no need to bother express what they meant. According to (Stephen C. Levinson, 1983) pragmatics is the study of language from a functional perspective, that is attempts to explain facets of linguistic structure by reference to non-linguistic pressures and causes. It can be conclude that pragmatic is the study of language which addresses the true meaning of a word. Language itself is used in a conversation. Conversation is form of communication between two or more people. Having a good conversation also means having good communication. But the speaker often has distrubances in the conversation, such as when pauses, overlaps and backchannels occur, and it became one of the studies in conversation analysis.

Conversiation Analysis (CA) as a method of gathering data involving naturalistic conversational interaction, and reporting on features of its structural organization. There are several recentprimers Heldner & Edlund (2010) stated that conversiation analysis is a set of methods and a certain analytic mentality for studying talk-in-interaction, such as pauses, overlaps, and backchannels in conversation. Harvey Sacks, and his co-workers, Gail Jefferson and Emanuel Schegloff (Gumperz, Berenz, Atkinson, Heritage, & Langford, 1994). Based on the purposes of this study, the explanation about pauses, overlaps and backchannels, as follows:



#### 1. Pauses

Pause is a silent time made by the speaker when having a conversation. This time usually takes 2,5 until 3 second. According to Reed in (Binti Ida Umaya, 2017) pause has two types. such us **em, er, uh and** that is called *filler pauses*. The other types of the pauses is *unfiller*. *Unfiller pauses* can may form of the state of silent the elongation sound in the end of the word, such us "information-n-n-n" or has been only silent without use word. In addition, the example of pause In conversation can be found, such as:

Lora: What majors will you take Dave?

Dave: English education study program. But i haven't really decided yet.

Lora: So, you want to be a teacher?

Dave: **Em ---** no, i don't really think that i can do it.

Based on the above interactions between Lora and Dave, there is a short pause marked by 'em'. And can be interpreted as doubt.

## 2. Overlaps

According to Sidnell, Jack, & Stevers (2013), overlapping talk simultaneous by two or more interlocutors in represented by lining the overlapping talk up and marking it with square bracket. Overlaps or double slash (//) is simultaneous talk by two or more speaker, irrespective of its status in participans minds as an interruption. Interruption it happens when speaker do not finish the speaking yet, thus the listeners take the turn before the speaker has finished speaking. The example of overlaps in conversation, such us:

Daniel: Do you see footage fot tonight?

Billy: Yes, on the beach, Daniel: Gosh, he's so cool.

Billy: Especially when there are waves // hit him.

Daniel: that's really cool.

Daniel and Billy make an overlaps in their conversation. It was caused Billy make an interruption when mentioning what happened to the waves.

## 3. Backchannels

Backchannels is respond given while someone else is talking, to show interest, attention and or a willingness to keep listening. According to Norrick and Fischer (2009 cited in Umaya, 2017) backchannels are typically short utterence such as **yeah**, **mmm**, **uh-huh and** it is called as vocal backchannels. Nodding a head, smilling, or doing body language are also included and it is called as non vocal backchannels. But the most common vocal indication. The example of backchannels in conversation, such as:

Aciel: Excuse me ... i'm a new student here, can you tell me where the toilet is?

Eden: Toilet? Just go straight here ...

Aciel: Uh-huh

Eden: and then, turn right ... and the last room is toilet.

Aciel: Mmm.. oh yeah thankyou.

The signal uh-huh, mmm, yeah, gives the speaker feedback that the direction is being received. This show that the listener follows what speaker said.

From the explanation above, in this research the researcher will analyze the three aspects in conversation contained in a vlog. According to (Marketingterm, 2015), Vlogs are a chronologycal publication that spread about one's thoughts and in the form of web links.



Moreover Vlog is one of the phenomenon of social media that many of follow around the world. In the vlog often there is a conversation between the owner vlog and their partner. As vlog owned Nessie Judge and her partner Chia. The purpose of this study was to find out what are the types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels and how the pauses, overlaps, and backchannels in the vlog owned Nessie Judge with the title "Tips in Speaking English" as long duration 7:32 minutes.

## **METHOD**

The researchers used qualitative research method. Ospina (2004) defines qualitative research as a form of systematic empirical inquiry into meaning. In addition (Denzin, Norman, & Licoln, 2005) describe qualitative research method as involving an interpretive naturalistic approach to the world. It is supported by Creswell (cited in Aryana & Apsari, 2018) that "Analyzing qualitative data requires understanding how to make sense of text and image, so that you can form answers to your research questions". Thus, this method used to describe the natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them such as how pauses, overlaps, and backchannels in conversation between Nessie and her partner, and what the types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels. In addition, the data was taken from conversations which contain pauses, overlaps, and backchannels in the vlog of Nessie and her partner. After the data collected, the data was classified into types of pauses, overlaps, and backchannels. Then, the reasercher analyzed the reason behind of it.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Results

In this research there are 21 data from the transcript which contain pauses, overlaps and backchannels, however the researcher only analyzes 10 data because the other data have the same meaning. After the data are collected, the next steps is analyzing the data. To analyze the data the researcher would like to tabulate the collected and classify them into pauses, overlaps and backchannels. The conversations beetween Nessie and her partner Chia are below:

Table 1: Conversation between Nessie and Chia

No
1.



2.	Chia: reading a book is a great way for you to get more vocabulary and (3 second) you can also actually learn about grammar  Nessie: yes Chia: from books Nessie: it depends on what you're reading, but (2 second) yeah you can learn about grammar you can learn about how (3second) certain phrases is used in sentences.  Chia: that's true, nice tips	Pause
3.	Chia: okay guys, so (2 second) the tip i tell everyone is to watch movies, and to watch a lot of them, or watch our youtube videos  Nessie: yeahh Chia: but (3 second)  Nessie: but don't use indonesian subtitle (2 second) because a lot of the title you will just be focusing on that (3 second) only Chia: yeah and it's good if you have english subtiltles also so you can actually like see how the word looks like (3 second) like if you're a visual person you like listen and also see how like the spelling is	Pause
4.	Chia: and(3 second) that'll be really good for you. Okay guys, so (3 second) um (5 second) i think we should talk about our favorite movie so i could like recommend them Nessie: well can we tell them to australian movies, my favorite movie is (4 second) titanic Chia: titanic that's a good one Nessie: what's your favorite movie? Chia: my favorite movie (3 second) let's see(2 second) mmm (3 second) i have a lot but i just talk about though a recent one that watched now you see me	Pause
5.	Nessie: yeah also bahasa indonesia has different structure to english so stop trying to translate word to word  Chia: get a friend (3 second) get a friend guys really because (3 second) you need someone to practice (3 second) your english with and if you dont have a friend for someone to be your friend	Pause
6.	<b>Nessie:</b> makes it so much fun the study it just be a part of language. So those were our tips we would like to here more if you could comment down below just put more	Overlaps

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	Nessie&chia: tips	
7.	Chia: we gonna say hi again? Nessie: yeah yeah	Backchannels
8.	Chia: okay guys, so the tip i tell everyone is to watch movies, and to watch a lot of them, or watch our youtube videos Nessie: yeahh	Backchannels
9.	Chia: don't get to umm hurt  Nessie: yeah all the time when able corrects you because they really care about your work improvements  Chia: yeah	Backchannels
10.	Chia: Just do it get it above all the biggest tip we can give you is just do it guys.  Nessie: Even if you you're just trying to post comments  Chia: Umm Yeahh  Nessie: On an english vidio it's okay even if someone corrects you see it as a positive.	Backchannels

# Discussion 1. Pause Data 1

Chia: Yeah, well i think i'm just gonna last throughout this whole vidio. Hi guys..

Nessie: Hi.. so \_\_\_\_ (3 second) uh ... (3 second)

Chia: We gonna say hi again?

Nessie: Yeah Yeah, so my channel and chia's channel both are delivered in *English* \_\_\_\_\_ (3 second) mostly. And\_\_ (2 second) we got a lot of questions asking us on tips how to speak english

Chia: \_\_\_\_ (3 second) true. Y'all ask us how do we learn English, how do you get me tips lalala and since we're really nice people we are here to give you tips and since we're good citizens we are here to give you five tips on how to speak English.

In the dialogue, Nessie and Chia open the vlog with light conversation. They explain what content will be delivered in the vlog. And they choose tips in speaking English as the content. The reason why they choose that topic because many people asked them how do they learn English and what the tips to be able to speak English as well as they are.

In the dialogue above, there are some pauses. The pauses occured because the speaker is still confused about what they said when opening, and also because the speaker loses what words to say next. And those that effect it can be because they are still in the opening of the vlog.



Both types of pause are found in the dialogue. Such as when Nessie said 'uh' for 3 second, she does filler pause. And then when Chia pauses before said 'true' she does unfiller pauses because she has been of silent the elongation sound of the end of the word.

## Data 2

Chia: Reading a book is a great way for you to get more vocabulary *and* ... (2 second) you can also actually learn about grammar.

Nessie: Yes.

Chia: From books.

Nessie: It depends on what you're reading, *but* ... (2 second) yeah you can learn about grammar you can learn about *how* ... (3 second) certain phrases is used in sentences.

Chia: That's true, nice tips.

In the dialogue, Chia and Nessie give first tips how to speak in English by reading a books often. Pauses that occured in the dialogue when Chia stated of silent the elongation sound of the end of the word 'and'. And also when Nessie does pause after 'but'or 'how', and that is because she was thinking to continue what was next to say.

The kind of pause in the dialogue is unfiller pause, because the speaker just has been silent without said the other word.

#### Data 3

Chia: Okay guys, so ... (2 second) the tip i tell everyone is to watch movies, and to watch a lot of them, or watch our youtube videos.

Nessie: Yeahh.

Chia : *But ... (3 second)* 

Nessie: But don't use indonesian *subtitle* ... (2 second) because a lot of the title you will just be focusing on *that* ... (3 second) only.

Chia: Yeah and it's good if you have english subtiltles also so you can actually like see how the word *looks like* ... (3 second) like if you're a visual person you like listen and also see how like the spelling is.

In the next dialogue, Nessie and Chia tell that watch movies can improve in speaking English. There are some pauses in conversations between Nessie and Chia. Such as when Chia recomend everyone to watch movies or to watch a lot of them, and Nessie justify her words, then Chia said 'but' with elongation sound and occured pauses for 3 second, until she didn't continue her words and Nessie who continues it. Another pause occured when Nessie try to continue chia's words, she does a pause after she said 'subtitle'that is occured because she thought of what words she should say to support the previous statement. She make a pause for 3 second before starting to speak again.

The types of pauses in the dialogue just unfiller pause. Between Nessie and Chia doesn't said the word when make a pause.



#### Data 4

Chia: And ...(3 second) that'll be really good for you. Okay guys, so ... (3 second) um... (5 second) i think we should talk about our favorite movie so i could like recommend them

Nessie: Well can we tell them to australian movies, my favorite movie is ... (4 second) titanic

Chia: Titanic that's a good one

Nessie: What's your favorite movie?

Chia: My favorite movie ... (3 second) let's see ...(2 second) umm... (4 second) i have a lot but i just talk about though a recent one that watched now you see me.

In the dialogue Chia and Nessie tell about their favorite movie for give recomend to viewers. Some pauses can found on the dialogue. Such as when Chia began giving suggestions to mention their favorite movies, she does pause with 'um'. And the same pause is done when she will mention her favorite movie. The pause happened for 4 second because she had to think about what her favorite movies.

The types of pause in the dialogue is filler pause because uses the word 'umm'.

## Data 5

Nessie: Yeah also bahasa Indonesia has different structure to English so stop trying to translate word to word. And the next is

Chia: Get a friend ... (3 second) get a friend guys really because ... (3 second) you need someone to practice ... (3 second) your english with and if you dont have a friend for someone to be your friend

In the nex dialogue, Nessie tell about the diffferences between Bahasa Indonesia and English. In Chia's dialogue she made pause for 3 second. Such as when she said 'get a friend, she does a pauses for continue the next words. But in this case, she not continue with new word after pause. She reply the words before to bridge the words she will say next.

The kinds of pauses in that dialogue is unfiller pause. Because she just silent in the pause without said the words.

## 2. Overlaps

#### Data 6

Nessie: Makes it so much fun the study it just be a part of language. So those were our tips we would like to here more if you could comment down below just put more ...

Nessie&chia: *Tips* 

The dialogue contain an overlaps. When Nessie was talking. Suddenly she made an interruption. Chia as a listener can understand what Nessie will said. So that when they say the word spontaneously occured overlaps. The word is 'tips'.



## 3. Backchannels

### Data 7

Chia: We gonna say hi again?

Nessie: yeah yeah.

'Yeah' is the one of the sign of backchannels. in that conversation the word yeah' usually occur to respond Chia when she ask to Nessie does she have to say hi again. 'Yeah' actually a sign that shows agreement. But from the dialogue that took place between Chia and Nessie, the used of 'yeah' has no meaning in real agreement. Because they had said hi before, but Nessie looked halting in her conversation, so Chia asked "we gonna say hi again?". The question was given as an impression of joking and helping Nessie haltingly. Then Nessie responds with 'yeah', who is nothing but responding to Chia's joking questions. It means 'yeah' is not only for agreement but also as a sign that listener is listening.

The types of backchannels is vocal. Because Nessie give respond with said 'yeah'.

## Data 8

Chia: Okay guys, so ... the tip I tell everyone is to watch movies, and to watch a lot of them, or watch our youtube videos.

Nessie: Yeahh.

The backchannel used in the dialogue is 'yeah'. Yeah occur when Nessie respond what Chia said. 'Yeah' in that dialogue used as a sign agreement. The kind of backchannels is vocal backchannels. The speaker used 'yeah' to respond the statement.

The types of backchannel in the dialogue is vocal backchannel.

## Data 9

Chia: Don't get to umm hurt

Nessie: Yeah all the time when able corrects you because they really care about your work improvements

Chia: Yeah

'Yeah' used in the dialogue as agreement. Both used by Nessie or Chia. Nessie immediately respond Chia who said "don't get hurt". Then Chia also used 'yeah' as a sign of agreement about what Nessie's stated.

In the dialogue the type of backchannel is vocal. Because between Chia and Nessie used 'yeah' for responding each other.



#### Data 10

Chia: Just do it get it above all the biggest tip we can give you is just do it guys.

Nessie: Even if you you're just trying to post comments,

Chia: Mmm ... Yeahh..

Nessie: On an english vidio it's okay even if someone corrects you see it as a positive.

In the dialogue above, 'mmm' and 'yeah' uses as backchannel. Chia give respond to Nessie sign as agreement to what Nessie said. Actually Chia cut off the Nessie's conversation. She gave a sign an agreement before Nessie finished her words. Pause occured in the dialogue because Chia's backchannel.

The types of backchannel used in the dialogue is vocal backchannel. Because the speaker respond with 'mmm' and 'yeah'.

## **CONCLUSION**

After analyzing the ten data from conversations contained in the Nessie's vlog and her partner. The researcher concludes that, first the researcher found types of pause and backchannels. both types of pause are found in the conversations. Namely filler pause and unfiller pause. The filler pause contained in the conversation is **uh**, **um**, **hmm**. Whereas the unfillers pause in the conversation is mostly the used the end leght of the sound from a word like "and.." "but.." or just silent pause. Besides the pauses, there are the types of backchannels found in conversation of *tips in speaking English* vlog by Nessie Judge. Vocal backchannels in the conversation such as **yeah**, **mmm**, whereas non vocal backchannels such as head nods, laughed. The overlaps also found in the dialogue between Nessie and Chia.

Next, the researcher has found how pause, overlaps, and backchannels occured in the conversation. The both of speaker in the vlog used the pause to take a rest before continued speaking. The other reason pause occured is the speaker need to think what the next word to said. In addition, vocal backchannels used by the listener to respond or give a sign of agreement or only as a respond which indicates that listener is listening to speaker.

The last is overlaps. The overlaps occured when one of the speaker had an interruption and listener spontaneously said the word which will be said. In conversation conversation between Nessie and Chia, Nessie had an interruption and occured pauses, after pauses occured overlaps. Chia and Nessie spontaneously said "tips" together.

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