

THE SELF REPAIR IN SPEECH OF HOST AND GUEST IN THE TONIGHT SHOW STARRING JIMMY FALLON

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Abstract

In communicating, speech errors sometimes can occur to anyone and under any condition however people can correct the speech error by doing self-repair in their utterance. The purpose of this study was to discover the types of self-repair in speech of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon's host and guests, along with the factors that cause them to make errors in their speeches. This study employed a descriptive qualitative approach, with data drawn from conversation transcriptions of five episodes of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon that had been uploaded on YouTube. To analyze the self-repair, researchers used a psycholinguistics approach. This study analyzed self-repair based on Levelt (1983) and Clark and Clark (1977). The results showed that there were three types of self-repair found in the conversation between the host and guests, namely, interrupting the utterance (IU) 27 times, editing terms (ET) 29 times and correction and its relation to the original utterance (COU) 21 times. The most dominant type of self-repair was editing terms. The results also showed that the factor that causes them to make errors in their speech is cognitive reason, situational anxiety and social circumstances.

Keywords: Psycholinguistics, self-repair, speech error, talk show

INTRODUCTION

A language is generally a communication tool that is used by people to communicate with others. With language, people can easily convey ideas, feelings, or anything that wants to be conveyed to others. However, people occasionally make errors when delivering speech. The errors usually involve the sound or words of the language and are related to the speech production. These errors in speech are usually called speech errors. A speech error can be understood as a mismatch between what we intend to say and what we actually say (Harley, 2006). There are several reasons that cause people to make errors in speech or utterance, for example, being tired, anxious, drunk, or nervous. Moreover, (Carroll, 1986) says that sometimes people make errors because they forget something to say. In conclusion, speech errors can happen to anyone and under any conditions.

Although people make errors in speech, they also can repair the speech errors by themselves. It is called self-repair. Self-repair in spoken language is an effort by the speaker to correct their own mistakes in speech or utterances without intervention from their interlocutor. Self-repair occurs when a speaker begins to speak and, at some point after starting the utterance, noticeably rephrases their utterance to correct the errors in their speech, or gives pause in the middle of speech or utterances to correct the entire speech or utterance. This is in line with what was said by (Postma 2000; Schegloff, Jefferson, & Sacks, 1977) in (Pillai, 2006), self-repair is self-initiated corrections of one's own speech within the same speaking turn. The main reason why people do self-repair is to choose the right words to repair the errors in their speech or utterance so that there are no misunderstandings in their conversation.

The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon is one of popular talk shows in America

which aired on late night on NBC national television since 1954. Generally, the content of this talk show is opened by short monologues from the hosts, interviews, games, comedy sketches, and musical performances. The guests that are invited to the talk show are also from various circles, such as singers, actors, athletes, and so on. Besides that this talk show is also aired on the official YouTube channel of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

In this case, it can be seen that self-repair in speech can be a very interesting topic to study as a phenomenon in language because people frequently make errors in speech, particularly those who use English in their daily conversation like in the program The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Some of them use English as their mother tongue and some of them do not. Jimmy Fallon as the host of the talk show is from America. Just like some of other guests such as actors Chris Evans and Scott Evans, a professional wrestler Roman Reigns and a singer also actress Billie Eilish. While, Matthias Schweighöfer is an actor from Germany and Gad Elmaleh, is a comedian from Morocco. According to their conversation on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, all of them still make mistakes in their speech. Besides that, they also do self-repair to correct their own mistakes in their speech or utterance.

Therefore, the conversation of selected episodes between the host and guest of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon is taken to become the source of this research. It is because this talk show has casual and natural conversation. Other than that, it is also to explain more about the linguistic phenomena that occur in the conversation on the talk show. It shows that they often make errors in speech even though they use English in their daily activities and then they repair the errors by themselves. This research formulates two problems:

1. What are the types of self-repair in speech made by the host and guest The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon?
2. What are the factors that cause the host and guest of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon to make errors in their speech or utterance?

Psycholinguistics

(Aitchison, 2003) explains that psycholinguistics is a field of study that combines two disciplines which is psychology is the study of behavior and mind meanwhile linguistics is the study of language. Both linguistics and psychology have different aspects, however they are related. Psycholinguistics explains the relationship between the mind and language to examine the processes that occur in the brain while producing and perceiving both written and spoken language. (Annisa, 2021) concludes that this is not only about how humans process this phenomenon in their brain, which is the description of producing and perceiving language, but also about the description of what they have learned as background knowledge to interpret.

(Clark and Clark, 1977) say that there are three main studies in psycholinguistics: 1) Comprehension is the process of interpreting and understanding both written and spoken language. 2) Speech production is the process of creating and expressing something in mind through language. 3) Language acquisition is the process of acquiring both a native and a second language.

Speech Production

Speech production is the process of how people produce language. In psycholinguistics, speech production occurs in the brain and begins with the formulation of the conceptual level or message that the speaker wants to convey or express. (Levelt, 1989) in (Temple, 2000) said that there are four models of speech

production namely: 1) Conceptualization, the processing of conceptualization connected to speaking intention and ideas that will be presented vocally. 2) Formulation, which involves giving concepts that are intended to articulate a language form. 3) Articulations, is the processing includes retrieving the phonological plan in addition to initiating and carrying out articulation. 4) Self-monitoring, which involves monitoring one's own speech to assess if what we intended to say is correct or how we intended to say it.

Speech Error

A speech error is a mistake that occurs while producing a speech. It frequently occurs in spontaneous speech as a result of the execution and breakdown of the speech plan. (Clark & Clark, 1977) classified speech errors into nine categories: 1) Silent pause, 2) Filled pause, 3) Repeats, 4) False start (untraced), 5) False start (retraced), 6) Correction, 7) Interjection, 8) Stutter, 9) Slips of the tongue.

The Factors that Influencing Speech Errors

(Clark & Clark, 1977) explain three possible sources of factors influencing speech errors, namely: 1) Cognitive reason is the first thing a people will experience when trying to convey something. To convey something that has in mind through language is definitely not an easy thing because it requires linguistic planning, namely the selection of the right words will take quite a long time. This will be exacerbated when someone experiences a lack of grammatical, lack of vocabulary and lack of pronunciation which is an important point needed in producing language (Kafifah & Aini, 2020). 2) Situational anxiety usually occurs when people are in high-pressure situations. They usually feel anxious, tense, or even excited when speaking, so that linguistic planning and implementation is disrupted. This causes them to produce a lot of pauses when talking, hesitating, and other speech errors. 3) The last factor is social circumstance which is usually caused by the interruption of the people around the interlocutor or the participant in the situation. If the speaker hesitates or takes too long to speak, someone may take over the conversation. It causes the speaker to be in a hurry to finish his speech and will result in speech errors rather than perfect speech.

Self-Repair

Self-repair is self-initiated by the speaker to correct errors in their speech or utterance. (Levelt, 1983) divided self-repair into three types, namely:

Interrupting the utterance (IU)

(Levelt, 1983) said the first reason is there is an error in the speech spoken by the speaker and the second is because the utterances spoken by the speakers are sometimes correct but not necessarily fully in accordance with the intended meaning. See the following example; *-but I remember it was just, like, it was the most special experience though.* Here the speakers interrupt the speech in the middle of speaking because the word is not appropriate. In other words the speakers do repair speech errors because of inappropriate words or speak quickly.

Editing terms (ET)

Editing terms usually signed by using "uh, ah, oh, sorry, I mean etc." during the speaker's utterance. This happens when there is an inappropriate utterance that the speakers are aware of. See the following example; *-I want a maple pie, I mean apple pie.* The use of these editing terms also has their respective purposes. The terms 'no, rather' or 'sorry,' indicate an obvious refusal of what was said by the speakers. Meanwhile, the term 'therefore' confirms the previous expression. The conclusion is

the speaker uses editing terms in the middle of speaking to repair speech errors in utterance by using terms *sorry, I mean, ah, uh, er, uhm* and etc.

Correction and its relation to the original utterance (COU)

Levelt (1983) said that there are restrictions on the way in which speakers construct the correction which are purely structural in character. See the following example; *-Is he seeing, er interviewing a patient?* At the time of interruption, the speaker is committed to a few grammatical rules. As can be seen in example above, at the moment after 'seeing' there is commitment to complete the verb phrase complement clause (Levelt, 1983) suggesting that this production is suspended during the editing stage and then reactivated in order to produce the correction. In conclusion, the correction and its relation to the original utterances are concerned with the error of grammatical function in speech.

METHOD

Design

This study was carried out by using a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. The researcher uses a qualitative method because the data that has been analyzed are in the form of word or sentence that is the conversation between the host and guest of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

Source of Data

This study's data sources are divided into two categories: primary data and secondary data. The primary data is derived from the conversation transcripts of five episodes of The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon, which is then analyzed by classifying the types of self-repair and finding out the factors that cause the host and guest to make speech errors in their utterance. The five selected episodes of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon that have been uploaded to YouTube are as follows:

1. Chris Evans and Scott Evans on November 5, 2019, 9:45 minutes
2. Matthias Schweighöfer on October 9, 2021, 5:35 minutes
3. Billie Eilish on September 28, 2019, 7:49 minutes
4. Glad Elmaleh on April 12, 2018, 7:48 minutes
5. Roman Reigns March 31, 2022, 8:14 minutes

In addition, secondary data is also collected from any literary document, book, journal, etc. that is related to this study as supporting data.

Procedure of Collecting Data

To get the data of this research, this research uses several techniques, namely:

1. The researcher collected the data by watching the five episodes of The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon as much as possible to understand part by part of this movie. The researcher tried to understand the movie and listen carefully. Read the transcript and transcribed the conversation in the movie.
2. The researcher used the scene in the Talkshow to understand more the dialogues of the movie, condition, situation and conflict of the movie which correlates with the research. Selected or categorized the scene of conversation by the characters.
3. The researcher used the dialogues of the Talkshow that are relevant to the analysis.

Data Analysis

In analyzing the depression of the female character in the movie The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, the researcher used a pure structuralism approach. The researcher analyzes the intrinsic element of the work. Technique of analyzing data as follows:

1. Selecting and sorting the data (primary data and references).
2. Identifying the primary data that was taken from the dialogue and scene in the movie.
3. Identifying references such as a book, and article that relates to the work.
4. Describe the types, causes and the ways to resolve the depression of the female character in the movie *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

This section presents the data that contains self-repair in speech of selected episodes in *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*. There are five selected episodes from this talk show consisting of six guests. After analyzing five selected episodes of the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, it was discovered seventy-four extracted data contained seventy-seven self-repair in host and guest speech errors on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*. The most types of self-repair were found in the conversation transcript between the host and guest are Editing terms (ET) with twenty-nine data, followed by Interrupting the utterance (IU) with twenty-seven data, and the least was Correction and its relation to the original utterance (COU) with twenty-one data. The following is the explanation of types of self-repair that has been found by the researcher:

Interrupting the Utterance (IU)

Interrupting the utterance is the first type of self-repair (IU). When a speaker makes an error in their speech, they interrupt their utterance in the middle of speaking to correct the error by repeating the incorrect words with the correct ones. Here are some examples of interrupting the utterance (IU) from data produced by the host and guest in *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

Data 1

This conversation took place on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* with the guests Chris Evans and Scott Evans. The conversation was made by Jimmy Fallon and Chris Evans. The topic is that they are playing a game which is noise canceling headphones. Chris becomes the first player of the game. The following is a conversation from transcript:

JIMMY : Ready? Uh..., Chris, what would Scott be if he weren't an actor?
CHRIS : Okay, if he weren't an actor, **it would be / it would be I know this**. It would have something to do with, um...,

Chris's utterance above was a speech error, which is a repetition. The speech error is "**it would be / it would be...**" Chris realized the speech errors, so he interrupted his utterance after the error with "**I know this**" to answer the question from Jimmy about another job that Scott liked. Chris interrupted the utterance, which is categorized as self-repair when he makes speech errors.

Data 2

This conversation took place on the *Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* with the guest Matthias Schweighofer. The topic is about Matthias, as the German actor who caught the attention of American people for the role he played in the "Army of the Dead" movie. The following is a conversation from transcript:

JIMMY : And you just stole every scene, and you just charming and funny.
MATTHIAS : Yeah, **it was / it was so – You know>**, I was so happy about the critics to be "You know, this German guy, he's actually really funny. He has a cool sense of humor." And, you know, because **I always love - You know>**, a-a-a American comedy, **it's like, you know>**, when I was younger - Because I was born behind the wall, then the wall came down and uh...,uh..., in East Germany, so - And then the world came down, **and>, you know**, everything from America has swept over, and I loved it

Matthias, in this utterance, made self-repairs to correct the errors in his utterance. He interrupted his utterance, that is "it was / it was so **you know>, I was so...**" He interrupted his utterance in the middle of a speech by adding "**You know**" because he realized that he made an error repeatedly and then repaired it to the correct utterance "**I was so...**". This happened after quite a long explanation of how he was originally interested in becoming an actor.

Editing Terms (ET)

In this research, the editing terms that are frequently used by the host and guest on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon are, "*I mean, Um, Uh.*" This is to correct or clarify an error in their utterance. Here are some examples of editing terms (ET) from data produced by the host and guest in Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

Data 3

This conversation was made by Jimmy Fallon as the host and Billie Eilish as the guest of the talk show. The topic is about the new album of music from Billie that has been released and set an amazing record. One of the track lists on that album, entitled "Bad Guy" became the most listened to. The following is a conversation from transcript:

JIMMY : Wow. That's a really cool way of a-a-attacking it. And you did it. **I mean...**, I heard it. I think I heard "Bad Guy" first, and I was like, "I don't know if anyone's ready for this type of music." It was so / so different. I was like....
BILLIE : I didn't, either. I thought they'd hate it.

Jimmy in his utterance made self-repair editing terms in the middle of his utterance, which are "That's a really cool way of a-a-attacking it. And you did it. **I mean...**, I heard it." Jimmy added the sign "**I mean**" because he wants to make it clear what he intends to say about the songs in Billie's new album, that he has also listened to the song.

Data 4

This conversation is taken from the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon with the guest Gad Elmaleh. Both Jimmy and Gad are talking about the comedy sketch show Saturday Night Live which was adapted in France and Gad become the host on that show in France. The following is a conversation from transcript:

JIMMY : It's a different but you're creating your own thing. It's a different show.
GAD : Is not - **I mean**, I've been a huge fan of the "Saturday Night Live," and when they **uh...**, offer me to host, that was / that was so I excited and honored.

In this conversation, the self-repair editing terms are used to correct the errors in utterance. As can be seen in the utterance that was made by Gad, "Is not - **I mean** I've been a huge fan of the "Saturday Night Live," and when they **uh...**, offer me to host, that was / that was so I excited and honored." Gad added two signs, editing terms that are "**I mean**" and "**uh**" in the middle of his utterance. This is because Gad made speech errors, namely corrections. He used the editing terms "**I mean**" to clarify what he intended to say about Saturday Night Live and used "**uh**" because he was thinking for a moment to continue his utterance about the show.

Data 5

This conversation took place in the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon with the guest Matthias Schweighofer. They are talking about the article that discussed about Matthias. The following is a conversation from transcript:

JIMMY : I like the kick at the end. Why not a little pop to the end there? Yeah. Uh>, I / I'm just so happy that you're // kind of exploding here in America and people are getting to see how **um...**, how charming you are, but also how talented you are. You directed this film, as well as acting in it. "Army of Thieves." And here are some reviews early reviews that came out. Someone says, "In the early scenes of his English language di-directing debut, he occasionally recalls Wes Anderson. He **uh...**, even has echoes of Martin Scorsese's clockwork studies in 'Hugo.'"

MATTHIAS : Isn't that cool?

In the utterance that was produced by Jimmy, he made a speech error that is "to see how **um...**, how charming." Because he was trying to find a suitable word to describe Matthias, so to repair the error, he added the editing terms "**um...**" in the middle of his speech. Also in, "He **uh...**, even has echoes of..." he made the same mistake as before and repaired it by adding the editing terms "**uh**".

Correction and its Relation to the Original Utterance (COU)

The last type of self-repair that is found in the conversation of selected episodes of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon is correction and its relation to the original utterance (COU). It happens when the speakers are confused and unable to produce the right utterance. Here are some examples from the utterance that was produced by the host and guest in Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.

Data 6

The conversation below is taken from The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon with the guest Chris Evans and Scott Evans. The context is they are playing a game of noise canceling headphones. And Scott had told the most embarrassing moment of his life. The following is a conversation from transcript:

SCOTT : All right. Am I close? And I / and **I said - and I begged** my sister, "Pull over." Because I really had to go. She was like, "Where are you going to go?" And I was like, "On the / on the street. I will do it anywhere." She wouldn't pull over. And I // I went, like - I went in my pants.

JIMMY : Wow. [Ding] Wow! Wow!

The utterance " And I / **and I said - and I begged** my sister, "Pull over." Because I really had to go." is the speech error that is repetitions that was made by Scott in the conversation above. Scott intends to say something about how he tells his sister to pull over because he needs to use the toilet, so he says, "...**and I said**" and corrected to "**and I begged my sister.**" He corrects the error because he thinks that the one he said before is not in accordance with what he intends to say, so he repairs it to the correct one.

Data 7

This conversation is taken from the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon with the guest Roman Reigns. The topic is about Roman's activities at home during the pandemic with his young children. The following is a conversation from transcript:

ROMAN : And / and / and they kind of got into it, as well, to just come in there and hang out **and do - act like** they're working out. Grab the 5-pound dumbbells.

JIMMY : That's awesome.

Roman in this utterance tries to explain about his children who is always join with him when he did exercise in the morning, he made a speech error in his utterance, which was, "...just come in there and hang out **and do**" and then he repaired it to "**act like** they're working out." He did self-repair correction and its relation to the original utterance because the one that he said before is not in accordance with what he intended to say.

Discussion

According to the findings of an analysis of conversation transcripts from each selected episode of the Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon, the host and guests of the talk show commit numerous speech errors, including silent pauses, filled pauses, repeats, false starts (untraced), false starts (retraced), correction, interjection, and stuttering. Slips of the tongue were the only type of speech error that was not discovered.

As for the factor that causes the host and guests to make speech errors in their utterance, it can be seen from the context of the show in each of the selected episodes of the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. In the first selected episode the guest is Chris Evans and Scott Evans. This episode is 9.45 minutes long with the content of playing a game. From this it can be seen the factor that causes them to make errors is situational anxiety. This usually occurs when people are in a high-pressure situation. They usually feel nervous, tense and excited when talking. Both the host and guests Jimmy Fallon, Chris Evans and Scott Evans are making a lot of speech errors since they were excited while playing a game.

In the second selected episode, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon invited Matthias Schweighofer who is an actor from German. He speaks English as a second language. This episode is 5.35 minutes long with the content talking about the new movie project of Matthias Schweighofer. Since he speaks English as a second language, Matthias Schweighofer is not very fluent in English like Jimmy Fallon. According to theory by (Clark & Clark, 1977) this is categorized as cognitive reason. This is because Matthias Schweighofer, in his utterance in the conversation between Jimmy Fallon, needed more time to put together the words he wanted to say. Meanwhile, Jimmy made a lot of speech errors, stutters, and repetitions in his utterances because he

sometimes hesitates when speaking and speaks very fast, causing him to make speech errors. This is categorized as situational anxiety.

The third selected episode invited Billie Eilish as the guest of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. This episode is 7:49 minute long with the content of talking about the new album music from Billie Eilish. The factor that causes Billie and Jimmy to make errors in her utterance is social circumstance. Both of them made many speech error-filled pauses in their utterance. Especially in her utterance, Billie speaks slowly, and when she gets interrupted by Jimmy, she starts to speak fast to finish her utterance. This causes her to make errors in her utterance.

The next selected episode in The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon is invited Gad Elmaleh a comedian from Morocco with a video duration of 7.48 minutes. Same as Matthias Schweighofer who speaks English as the second language, Gad can also not speak English fluently. And Jimmy Fallon as the host of the talk show also made some speech errors which is categorized as situational anxiety. This is because he was too excited in several parts in this episode. Therefore, in this episode there are two factors that causes the host and guest of The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon to make errors namely, cognitive reason and situational anxiety.

Finally, the last selected episode is with Roman Reigns. This episode talked about Roman's victory in WWE 2022, with a video duration of 8.14 minutes. Roman in his utterance made some speech errors, that is, filled pauses and also corrections, since he gave a lot of long explanations when talking with Jimmy. Likewise, Jimmy, who made a speech error filled pause and repetition in his utterance because he was nervous talking with Roman. The factor that causes them to make speech errors according to Clark and Clark (1977) is situational anxiety.

CONCLUSION

From the analysis and discussion that have been done, it can be conclude that:

1. The researcher found three types of self-repair in speech of host and guest of the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, namely, interrupting the utterance, editing terms and correction and its relation to the original utterance. The host and guests of the talk show use all of these types of speech errors to correct the error in their utterance. Furthermore, the most types of self-repair that the host and guest use is editing terms which is twenty-nine data categorized as editing terms (ET), the second is interrupting the utterance which is twenty-seven data categorized as (IU), and finally is correction and its relation to the original utterance only have twenty-one data categorized as (COU).
2. The factors that caused the host and guests of the Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon to make errors in their utterances, that is, cognitive reason, situational anxiety, and social circumstances. The most common factor that causes the host and guest to make speech errors is situational anxiety, followed by cognitive reason and least is social circumstances.

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Journal of English Literature and Linguistic Studies

Vol 2 (2) 2024

E-ISSN: 2548-4575

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