CHAPTER II

GENERAL REVIEW ABOUT LANGUAGE

2.1 Definition

2.1.1 Definition of Linguistics

The word linguistics (parabled with *linguistique* in France and *linguistiek* in Dutch) was derived from Latin, *lingua* which means language. In Romans' languages, languages from Latin, there were some words that had similar meaning to *lingua*. They are *lingua* in Italy, *lengue* in Spanish, and *langue* (and *langage*) in France. English took *langage* in France and used it as language (Chaer, 2007 : 2).

Linguistics is often mentioned as General Linguistics. It means linguistics doesn't only examine languages but also examine every part of languages in general, language becomes a means of human social interaction, that is mentioned as *langage* in France (Chaer, 2007 : 3).

Basically, linguistics has been experiencing three development phases :

2.1.1.1 Speculation Phase

This phase discusses about how to take summary done by speculative actions. It means that summary is made without supports from empirical proves and done without certain procedures.

2.1.1.2 Observation and Classification Phase

In this phase, the experts of languages collect and specify all language facts in detail without giving theory or conclusion.

2.1.1.3 Theory Formulating Phase

In this phase, every branch of knowledge tries to understand the basic problem and ask questions about the problem related to the collected-empirical data.

2.1.2 Definition of Language

From the brief definition about linguistics, we can define language as follow. Language can be defined from many point of views but the most used definition is, language is a system of arbritair-oral symbol which is used by members of language community to communicate and interact with others, related to their own culture (Dardjowidjojo, 2005 : 16).

System in language is a system which consists of symbols. Because language is oral then those symbols are also oral symbols. These symblos are arbritair, it means there is no relation between these symbols and their existence or events.

2.2 Functions of Language

The function of language is discussed because the function that should be carried by language actually is not only one. Perhaps because of this case, then it is difficult for the philosophers to limit language as an acurate means of communication, one symbol for one meaning, one meaning for one symbol (Poedjosoedarmo, 2003 : 169).

But communication is not the only function of language. The other functions of language are:

2.2.1 as a means of communication.

2.2.2 as a means of polite sender.

2.2.3 as a means of respect and intimity sender.

2.2.4 as a means of introduction.

2.2.5 as a means of solidarity sender.

2.2.6 as a means of nation independence foundation.

2.2.7 as a means of carrying out the intuitions.

2.2.8 as a means of reflection of nation civilitation.

2.3. English as Language

There are two types of English that are often used, American English and British English. These two types of English had had many changes about 300 years or more lately. It is for certain, those two types of English don't develop in the same condition. But the difference between them is not too big. Most American and British speakers can understand each other easily (although pronounciation can cause some confusion), and the writing in both countries is definetely the same. The differences could be in grammar, vocabularies, spelling , and pronounciation (Robith, 1996 : 240).

Lingga wrote (2006 : 1) that according to decision of International Phonetic Association, if we want to spell a word, for example when we are on the phone, then we must use standard spelling that has been standarized internationally.

To spell the word 'CLUB' for example, according to formal standard spelling, then we have to say : CLUB : C for Charlie, L for Lima, U for Uniform, B for Bravo.

It is the same as Indonesia and other languages, English has the same number of alphabet, that is 26 letters, 5 vowels and 21 consonants. The complete English formal standard spelling is :

A	=	Alpha	N	=	November
B	=	Bravo	O	=	Oscar
C	=	Charlie	P	=	Papa
D	=	Delta	Q	=	Quebec
E	=	Echo	R	=	Romeo
F	=	Foxtrot	S	=	Sierra
G	=	Golf	T	=	Tango
H	=	Hotel	U	=	Uniform
I	=	India	V	=	Victor
J	=	Juliet	W	=	Whisky
K	=	Kilo	X	=	X – ray
L	=	Lima	Y	=	Yankee
M	=	Mike	Z	=	Zulu

Beside those letter above, there are diphtongs in English.

/eɪ/ like in pay, day say   /aɪ/ like in sky, high, fly, buy

/aʊ/ how, now, cow   /æ/ like hat, rat, at

/ɪə/   like in beer, pier, hear   /eə/   like in pair, hair

/əʊ/   like in poor, tour   /ʊə/   like in oh, no, so, phone

/ɔɪ/   like in boy, toy, coy

In English, like Lingga (2006) wrote, the words can be devided into some parts/classes according to the function or job done in the sentence. The devision or grouping of words based on the function in the sentence is called Part of Speech. Generally, the words are devided into eight groups which is then called The Eight Parts of English, they are :

2.3.1 Noun

Noun could be people, animals, plants, places, and general things that do something or given something to do. Noun could be be abstract or real. Noun also could be countable and uncountable.

2.3.2 Adjective

Adjective can be used in two ways :

2.3.2.1 Before Noun. It is called attributive position

2.3.2.2 After be, seems and other verbs which is called predicative position

2.3.3 Pronoun

Pronoun is word that is used to replace the proper noun or noun phrase (like the cat becomes it, George becomes he, Shasha becomes she, etc). Pronoun also could be used as determiner. Example : Which bottle would you like? I'll take both.

2.3.4 Verb

There are two types of verb :

2.3.4.1 Transitive verb, the verbs that are followed by noun. The nouns that follow them are direct object (Wishon, 1980 : 26)

2.3.4.2 Intransitive Verb, the verbs that are followed by nothing or by an adverbial modifier.

2.3.5 Adverb

Adverbs normally follow the verb and are of basic types : advers of manner, adverbs of time, and adverbs of place. Adverbs of manner, like most other adverbs, normally follow the verb. These adverbs explain how the action of the verb is done (Wishon, 1980 : 9).

2.3.6 Preposition

It is difficult to know the usage of preposition well. Most of them have many different functions, for examples : dictionary listed 18 'at' with the same usage but at the same time, different prepositions has similar usage (Robith, 1996 : 551).

2.3.7 Conjunction

Conjunctions are words like and, but, because, although. Those words are used to connect some sentences together, and to show relationship between some ideas in the sentences (Robith, 1996 : 290).

2.3.8 Interjection

Interjection is word that is used to give order to someone to do something.

2.4 *Mandarin* as Language

Phonetic system *Hanyu Pinyin* is a system made by People's Republic of China Writing Renewal Institution. This system becomes main tool to learn *Mandarin*.

As a tool to transcript *Mandarin* characters, the form of *Hanyu Pinyin* is syllable which is called *yin jie* (read : in cie) and it is not like ordinary syllble like in English. Every syllable in *Mandarin* consists of consonant, it is called *shengmu* (read : seng mu), and vowel, it is called *yunmu* (read : yin mu). There is also dipthong or *fuyunmu* (read : fu yin mu) in *Mandarin* (Selvia, 2007 : 22).

Hanyu Pinyin consonants are :

B (pe)	P (phe)	M (me)	F (fe)
D (te)	T (the)	N (ne)	L (le)
G (ke)	K (khe)	H (he)	
J (ci)	Q (ji)	X (si)	
ZH (ce)	CH (che)	SH (she)	R (re)
Z (ce)	C (che)	S (se)	
Y (ye)	W (we)		

The single vowels in *Mandarin* are :

A (a)	O (o)	E (e)
I (i)	U (u)	Ü (i)

The diphtongs in *Mandarin* are :

AI (ai)	EI (ei)	AO (ao)	OU (ou)
IA (ya)	IE (ye)	IAO (yao)	IU (iu)

UA (wa)	UO (wo)	UE (we)	UAI (wai)	UI (we)
AN (an)	EN (en)	UN (uen)	IN (in)	
ANG (ang)	ENG (eng)	ONG (ung)	ING (ing)	IONG (iong)
UAN (wan)	UANG (wang)	IAN (ien)	IANG (yang)	ER (el)

A lot of consonants are read different from ordinary alphabet pronounciation. The vowels have the same case. The consonants and vowels above are standard writing to transcript *Hanzi* into alphabetical writing. For example, the word 'baba' is not pronounced as 'baba' but 'papa'.

Another unique thing from *Mandarin* compared with other languages is each word has tone (Selvia, 2007 : 23). Words with different tones have different meaning. There are 4 basic tones and 1 netral tone, usually called *Si Sheng Diao* in *Mandarin* :

2.4.1 *Yin* tone which has symbol (−) is flat tone, example : *yi, san, ma.*

2.4.2 *Yang* tone which has symbol (′) is high tone, example : *xue, shi, hai.*

2.4.3 *Shang* tone which has symbol (˘) is deep tone, example : *yu, wo, lao.*

2.4.4 *Qu* tone which has symbol (`) is low tone, example : *shang, shi, qu*

2.4.5 Netral tone which has symbol (.) has no tone, example : *ma, ne.*

Mandarin is defferent from English. It has character which is called *Hanzi*. Each *Hanzi* represents a word. In *Mandarin*, a word could be a single word itself and most of them are compound words, which means two words or more are combined then it becomes a word. For example the word 'study' in English is single word but in *Mandarin* '*dushu*' is compound words. It is from the word '*du*' which

means read and the word '*shu*' which means book. But when the two words are compounded, it will become a word, *dushu* means study.