

# **A CASE STUDY IN SEMANTIC DEVELOPMENT OF MALAY CHILDREN WITH COCHLEAR IMPLANT AS COMPARED TO NORMALLY DEVELOPING CHILDREN AGED 3;0 TO 6;11: A VOCABULARY STUDY**

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This is a case study on vocabulary development of Malay children with cochlear implant as compared to normally developing children aged 3;0 to 6;11. Overall, 4 subjects with cochlear implants who communicate verbally which had been categorized according to their hearing age and 144 subjects with normal developing had been taken as subjects in this research according to 4 different age groups (3;0-3;11, 4;0-4;11, 5;0-5;11 and 6;0-6;11). 100 utterances from two different contexts (play and free conversation) had been taken and analyzed. Result showed that the vocabulary acquisition and development of children with cochlear implant are not equivalent with vocabulary acquisition and development of normally developing children. The vocabulary acquisition and development for children with cochlear implant depend on several factors such as early detection and intervention, hearing age, language stimulation at home and school and communication method (verbal communication, sign language). However, the pattern of vocabulary usage of children with cochlear implant according to the categories is likely to be similar as the pattern of vocabulary usage of normally developing children. They produced 'entity' the last followed by 'action' vocabulary and 'properties'. However, the 'properties' vocabulary usage for children with cochlear implant is more than normally developing children. For normally developing children, the result showed consistent development of vocabulary usage between children in age group 3, 4 and 5 years old. However, it showed a slight decrease in vocabulary usage for children in the 6 year old age group. The result this study provides a resource for clinician on vocabulary development and helps clinicians choose suitable vocabulary and category of vocabulary to focus on in treatment to increase a client's vocabulary.

Mossadeq, N.M. 2009. A case study in semantic development of Malay children with cochlear implant as compared to normally developing children aged 3;0 to 6;11: A vocabulary study. Bachelor of Speech Science Thesis. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.