The Politeness of Strategies Used by Students STKIP PGRI Trenggalek

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Abstract: This study purpose to analyze the politeness strategies used by English Study Program. The student is seven semesters in study process. In completing thisresearch, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive method and the theory of Brown and Levinson. From this study, the researcher found four kinds of politeness strategies used by the English Study Program; those are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness and Off-record. The factors that influence the politeness strategy used by the main are the payoffs and social variables. Furthermore, sociological variables also affect the use of politeness strategies used by students, which are social distance, relative power and rank of imposition. The suggestion to the next researcher is able to investigate moreabout politeness in a broader context and combine it with other social aspects suchas religion, ideology, or even culture.

Keywords: Payoffs; politeness strategies; sociological variables

INTRODUCTION

Communication takes many aspects in human life, in relate to cultures, economics, politics, religions, society, etc. In addition, the purpose of communication is to convey messages and maintain social relationships normally used verbal language, either spoken or written that understood by both the speaker and the hearer. Leech (1983) pragmatics refers to the study of language in context and how people use language in social situations to convey meaning relate that pragmatics is more concerned with determining what people mean by their words. This type of study entailed determining what a person intended in a certain situation and how that context affected what they said (Widyaiswara, 2020).

The purpose of communication is to maintain social relationships is carried out using several strategies. In conducting communication, the element of politeness becomes an important aspect to be raised.

Politeness is one aspect of interacting which is intended to produce respect for others. Also (Mills, 2003) state that politeness is considered a form of the speaker's strategic behavior,assessing the potential threat to the hearer, the level of familiarity with the hearer, and the balance of power between the listeners, and modifying the utterance accordingly. By raising the element of politeness in communicating, people can further strengthen their social relationships and both can respect each other's self-image. Holmes (2013) state that politeness involves contributing to social harmony and avoiding social conflict, that is relate to interacting.

One of the communications in learning process is "Teacher-Student Interaction". This interaction is at the core of the educational experience and playsa vital role in facilitating effective learning. It involves the exchange of information, ideas, and knowledge between the teacher and the students within theclassroom or educational

setting. A supportive and respectful teacher-student interaction contributes to politeness. Politeness strategies are the speaker's effort in expressing his politeness in the form of language. Brown and Levinson (1987) states that the politeness strategies are the strategy used by the speaker to carrying attitude towards the face of the hearer and to maintain social relationship with the hearer. The main focus of their theory is on face, which refers to an individual's public self-image or the social value they place on themselves in a given interaction.

According to Hutauruk (2017) states that positive politeness is refers to the desire to be liked, admired, and respected by others. Positive face is the need to have one's identity and actions be appreciated and approved of by others. Negative politeness strategy is refer to the desire to be unimpeded and free from imposition. Negative face is the need to have one's actions and decisions not be restricted or imposed upon by others. Watt (2003) states that negative politeness strategies emphasize avoidance of imposition on the hearer and are oriented toward the hearer's negative face. Off-record strategy is involves hinting or suggesting rather than making direct requests or statements, allowing the recipient to respond without feeling obligated to comply. (Mujiono & Ula, 2020).

Furthermore, there are two factors influence the choice of politeness strategies. These are the payoffs and sociological variables. The payoffs refer to the perceived benefits or costs associated with using a particular politeness strategy in a given social interaction. In other words, individuals consider the potential advantages or disadvantages of being polite in a specific situation. (Brown & Levinson, 1987). The sociological variable can influence the politeness strategies, those are social distance, relative power, and rank of imposition. Mills (2003) argue that sociological variables refer to the social factors and characteristics that influence how politeness is perceived and practiced in different cultures and social contexts. Relative power is the level of politeness with people who have a lot of authority over us is higher than with people who don't (Widyaiswara & Affandy, 2022).

There are related previous studies. The first by Maqdisa (2017). This research conducted the study on the kinds of politeness strategies in imperative sentences in *Tangled* movie. She found that the main character in *Crazy Rich Asian* was more widely used positive politeness strategies and affective commitment as identity reflected. Second, by Aisah (2019) who conducted the study on the identity reflected in politeness strategies used by *Crazy Rich Asian's* main character? She used theory of Brown and Levinson (1987) to identifying the kinds of politeness strategies and identity theory by Stryker (1980). Third, Al-Hamasy (2020), the focus research about the kinds and factors influencing the use of politeness strategies by two main characters in *Zootopia* movie. She used descriptive qualitative research and theory of Brown and Levinson (1987). She found 61 positive and negative utterances from Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde. The final result, the positive politeness is more widely used than negative politeness and the most factors used is payoff.

Based on the previous studies explained above, the first and the second researcher analysis the kinds of politeness strategies in movie, the third researcher examined positive politeness strategies, factors influencing the politeness strategies. The difference between this study and previous focused on analyzing the kinds of politeness strategies and factors influencing the politeness strategies used by the student in English Education Furthermore, this study

investigates four types of politeness strategies and the factors influencing the politeness strategies.

METHOD

This study used qualitative research as design because the objectives of this study deeply understand the findings of language phenomena of politeness and factors influencing the politeness strategies in seven semester STKIP PGRI Trenggalek. According to Creswell (2018), Investigating and making an effort to comprehend the significance that individuals or groups attach to a social or human situation. The participant of this study is the student in seven semester of English Study Program, STKIP PGRI Trenggalek. The research starts in September to November 2023.

The researcher using the phenomenological method in this research, the researcher seeks to explain or clarify the meaning of concepts or phenomena based on the perception of experiences that occur in many individuals. Because phenomenological studies are conducted in nature, there are no limits to interpreting or understanding the phenomenon being studied. Phenomenological research aims to find the psychological meaning of individual experiences of phenomena through detailed study in the context of the subject's daily life (Murdiyanto,2020). The data collection techniques in this study are, 1) Recording the learning process in literary work appreciation class, 2) scripting the data into text, 3) Selecting data which relate to the politeness strategy. The data analysis technique of this study using four steps, those are identifying, classifying, interpreting, and drawing the conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data taken from the dialogue, narration in learning process during the studying in literary work appreciation class which contains of kinds and factors influence the politeness strategies by students.

1. Kinds of Politeness Strategies

The four kind's politeness strategies according to the theory of Brown and Levinson (1987), those are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record.

a. Bald on record

According to Brown and Levinson (1987), the bald on-record strategy was the most efficient form of communication.

Dialogue 1

Lecture: Yeah, I know, it's kind hard to imagine. So let me just show you.
Student 2: Hemb, we don't have time to go around. ***Help! Don't hurt us!***

This occurred in class when Student 2 gets accident and late for joining class. The students have reason were involved in an accident. When she felt threatened, she yelled "***HELP! Don't hurt us!***" The utterances "***HELP! Don't hurt us!***" was bald on record strategy used by student when she was in an urgent situation. They try to negotiate for having convenience by the assignment. They are not ready yet; this statement likes their struggle to avoid for receiving it.

b. Positive Politeness

The positive politeness was a regressive action aimed at the hearer's positive face, the want to be approved, accepted and desired (Brown & Levinson, 1987, p.101).

Dialogue 2

Lecture : This assignment must be done right now. Student 1 : ***We are going to do together mam.***

Student 2 : *We are as cooperate class.*

The utterance ***"We are going to do together mam."*** was positive politeness strategy applies by Student 1, the word ***"We"*** indicated that student has asked Luca to participate in the same activity together. Student 1 words indicated that

he is involved in the same action with the student 2.

c. Negative Politeness

The negative politeness strategy was repressive actions aimed at the hearer's negative face. His desire for unhindered freedom of action and unhindered attention (Brown & Levinson, 1987).

Dialogue 3
Student 3**:** *I'm sorry, I'm little confusing to understand!*
Lecture**:** It's fine. We're gonna read more references.

The conversation happened when Lecture and Student 3. Student 3 apologized to lecture because they are not understood. The utterance "*I'm sorry, I'm little confusing to undersand*" was a negative politeness strategy that Giulia uses to apologize. When apologizing, Giulia used a low tone that conveyed guilt for what had happened. With this conversation, Giulia saved Luca's negative face.

Dialogue 4
Student 2 **:** *Could I explain my difference opinion based on my analysis?*
Lecture : You can have it.
Student 3 **:** Yeah, Thank you mam!!

The conversation took place in Y2.05 room, when the student explained their analysis. Student 2 wanted to share more about the result of their analysis. The utterance "*Could I explain…?"* indicated an indirect request to the hearer. The word *"Could"* in this conversation was a negative politeness strategy showed pessimistic, it happened because the speaker doubts the hearer would answer the question.

2. Off-record

Brown and Levinson states that off-record strategy was communicative act which contains more than particular intention, the utterances have to interpreted by the hearer in order to understand the real meaning.

Dialogue 5
Student 3 **:** *Mam? You forgot your bring.*

Student 4 : *And if I could just ...*

Lecture **:** Oh yeah. Thanks.

The conversation happened when Student 3 said "*Mam? You forgot your bring. And if I could just ...*" to another student. But when the utterance was incomplete because Student 4 words were cut off. The utterances "*And if I could just ...*" was off record strategy used by Student 4, but the sentence used was incomplete, so the hearer must interpret the speaker's utterance real meaning what kind of that the lecture was bring.

3. Factors Influence the Politeness Strategies

The factors influencing the politeness strategies, those are payoffs, social distance, relative power, and rank of imposition.

a. Payoffs

The payoffs were a factor in the speaker's adoption of a politeness strategy aimed at rewarding the hearer (Brown & Levinson, 1987).

Dialogue 1
Student 1**:** *I'm sorry about my late. I don't know the class started early!*
Lecture**:** It's fine. We're gonna continue...

Payoffs were a factor that affected Student 1. Student 1 apologized to Lecture by using a negative politeness strategy. The speaker does not expect that her utterance will be approved by the hearer even if she wants to. Because it can minimize the negative face of both if the hearer does not agree.

b. Social Distance

Social distance was a symmetrical social dimension of similarity or difference, in which the speaker and the hearer stand for the purpose of this act (Brown & Levinson,

1987).

Dialouge 2

Student 3: There is an information about Celebration of Giving BirthMuhammad SAW.

Student 2: *Well, we'll figure it. Thanks for the nice information.*

Dialogue 2 expressed the factors that influence Student 2 was social distance. This situation occurred when the student ask about the next class tomorrow. Student 3 share the information, and Student 2 used a positive politeness strategy because he was the same age as Giulia. This made it easier to maintain a good relationship with friend and doesn't have to be too polite when communicating.

c. Relative Power

According to Brown and Levinson (1987), Relative power is the degree to which the hearer can impose his own plans and self-evaluation (face) at the expense of the speaker's plans and self-evaluation.

Dialouge 3

Lecture: Today is the fifth meeting in this course, I think I will give the quiz for you about the previous topic that we have discuss before.

Student 1: Ugh. Mam.

Student 3: we don't have prepared it. *HELP US! Don't hurt us Mam Please!*

This situation occurred when the lecture directly gives the quiz for the student. Directly they suppressed, and not ready yet. They try to negotiate for postponing the quiz but the power relation in Lecture position. This is the evidence that relative power can make the student obey the lecture supposed.

The factors affecting the politeness strategies used by the students were payoffs and sociological variable factors. In payoffs, A speaker realized the benefit of using politeness strategies. In the bald on record strategy, the payoffs are the speaker's desire to be able to express his wishes directly and efficiently.

For positive politeness, the speaker's desire can maintain social closeness with the hearer. Meanwhile, for negative politeness, the payoffs are the speaker's desire to respect the hearer. In social variables are the factors mostly related to each other in social relations who were related to the context or situation?

CONCLUSION

The first result shows the kinds of politeness strategies used by the students STKIP PGRI Trenggalek, that are Bald on record, Positive politeness, negative politeness and off record. Based on the discussion, bald on record strategy used by students when they are in the urgent situation and to warning. The positive politeness strategy used to ask or give reason, seek agreement, avoid disagreement, promise, exaggerate, use identity marker, or when the character being optimistic. Thenegative politeness strategy used to apologize, indirect request, being ironic or being pessimistic. The off-record strategy used to give hints; the utterances not complete, or use metaphor. The second result showed the factors influencing the politeness strategies used by student that were payoffs and sociological variables. In the payoff, A speaker realized the benefit of using politeness strategies. In addition, social variables are the factors mostly related to each other in social relations, which were related to the context or situation. The suggestion to the next researcher is able to investigate more about politeness in a broader context and combine it with other social aspects such as religion, ideology, politic or even culture.

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