

POLITENESS INTERACTION STRATEGY USED BY TEACHER AND STUDENTS IN *LEAN ON ME* MOVIE

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Abstract: The objectives of this research are to find out politeness strategies used by Joe Louis Clark and the students in the *Lean on Me* movie and to find out the dominant types of politeness strategy used by Joe Louis Clark in the movie. This research uses descriptive qualitative approach. The data were in the form of utterances which contains politeness strategies. The data source is *Lean on Me* movie script. The data are collected by note-taking technique which were later classified and analyzed under the theories of Brown and Levinson (1987). The result of this research shows that there are four types of politeness strategies used by the main characters in *Lean on Me* movie when having conversation with the students and teacher. The politeness strategies were Bald-on record strategy, Positive politeness strategy, Negative politeness strategy, and Off record strategy. Positive politeness strategy has the highest frequency among other strategies since the dialogues are among teacher and students.

Keywords: *politeness interaction, interaction among teacher and students, positive politeness strategy*

Politeness is a system used by the speaker in order to keep up to the addressee expectations. It means speaker and addressee cannot losing face when they do interaction. Face refers to the respect that an individual has for him or herself and maintaining that in public or private situations. Politeness also use in language based on determined by an external context. This external context is the context of communication which is determined by the social status of the participants.

Politeness not only use in daily activity interaction, but politeness also use in visual communication like a movie. Based on the explanation above the researcher tries to find out another type of politeness strategy in a movie. The title of the movie is *Lean On Me* as the data of this research, the researcher will analyze politeness that use by the main character and the students and then what politeness type that use dominant by main character. The main character in the movie is Joe Louis Clark as the object of this research. She is English teacher. The movie tell about the once successful Eastside High School in Paterson, New Jersey, has deteriorated due to drugs and poverty. The majority of students cannot pass basic skills testing and not even teachers are safe from gang violence. Mayor Bottman learns that the school will be turned over to state administration if 75% of the students cannot pass the minimum basic skills test. He consults school superintendent Dr. Frank Napier, who suggests the school hire elementary school principal Joe Clark, aka "Crazy Joe", who was a teacher at Eastside High, as the new principal. The mayor is reluctant at first, but Clark is hire.

This research aims to describe the types of politeness strategy used in the movie, and which type is the most frequently used in the movie.

Review of Related Studies

There are some studies that used as supporting information. In this research becomes the literature for this research. First Sa'diyah (2010) *an analysis politeness strategies used by Indonesia chatters in the discourse of online environments specifically in IRC channels*. This research investigated three downloaded data of written conversations of messages in the IRC. The data were collected by logging into an IRC channel, which is cafe slam, for approximately two hours and then copying the conversations or messages written by the Indonesia chatters in the channel into the computer hard disk. The data were collected by logging in into an IRC channel, which is #Cafeislam, for approximately two hours and then copying the conversations or messages written by the Indonesian chatters in the channel into the computer hard disk. The written conversation or messages that are took as data are only the one contained faced threatening act (FTA). This research used Brown and Levinson (1987) theories of politeness strategy.

The result of the analysis shows that bald on record strategy is most widely used by Indonesia chatters in IRC. It many happened one to the setting of the conversation that is the cyber world where the people communicated there may not really know each other and they may never meet in the real world. It can be said

that there is almost no boundary for everyone to say what they want to say.

The second research by Eftanastarini (2015) under the title "Analysis of Politeness Strategies in Command Used By Main Characters in Movies Entitled 'Facing The Giants', 'Dangerous Minds', And 'The Ron Clark Story'". The objective of the research is to identify the types of sentence in command, the applied of politeness strategies, and to investigate the factors that influence the main characters in applying politeness strategies in command. The collected politeness utterances in command used by main character in 3 drama movies: "Facing the Giants", "Dangerous Minds", and "The Ron Clark Story". This research used politeness strategies from Brown and Levinson (1987).

The results of the research show two important points. First, there are f types of politeness strategies employed by the main characters in *Nanny McPhee* movie when having conversation with the children. Positive politeness strategy has the highest frequency among other strategies since the dialogues are among family members who have a close relationship and know each other very well. Second, in realizing those politeness strategies, the main characters utilize their own sub-strategies: using imperative form; Positive politeness by claiming common ground, conveying that S and H are cooperators, and fulfilling H's wants for some X ; Negative politeness by being indirect, not presuming/assuming, not coercing H, communicating S's want to not impinge on H, and redressing other wants of H's. Among all sub-strategies, claiming common ground is the most frequent strategy as the main characters need to share common ground with the children.

Based on previous research, the equation of this research is to found out politeness strategies in movie. The first, the research of Sa'diyah (2010), data were collected by logging into an IRC channel while the present research data were collected by watching the movie and reading the script. The second research of Eftanastarini (2015), using a three-movie in his research while the present research uses only one movie. And finally, the research of Hasmi (2013), analyzing the politeness strategies in *Nanny McPhee* Movie while the present research analyzing politeness strategies in *Lean on Me* Movie.

Regarding the research above has offered a valuable data and result in their research. The research has compared this research with review of related literature

before. It means the researcher will focus research politeness strategies in the *Lean on Me* movie that use in the main character and analyzing by using Brown and Levinson's theories.

Movie

Movie is more commonly use in the US than in the UK. A "movie" refers to a motion picture, but "the movie" the specific definition has changed over time, modern usage refers to a typically non-realistic or semi-realistic drawing or painting intended for satire, caricature, or humor, or to the artistic style of such works.

Summer (1992:476) defines the film is; the first, A roll of material which is sensitive to light and which is used in camera for taking photographs or moving pictures for the cinema, and the second is story, play, recorded on film to be shown in the cinema. Movies can make people laugh, cry, or feel afraid. An artist who creates cartoons is called a cartoonist. The concept originated in the middle Ages and first described a prefatory drawing for a piece of art such as a painting, fresco tapestry, or stained glass window. In the 19th century, it came to refer to humorous illustration in magazines and newspaper and after the curly 20th century, it referred to comic trips and animated films.

Politeness

Politeness is an aspect of pragmatics in that its use in language is determined by external context. This external context is the context of communication which is determined by the social status of the participants: politeness is a system used by the speaker in order to keep up to the addressee's expectations. First formulated by Penelope Brown and Stephen Levinson (1987), politeness theory has since expanded academia's perception of politeness. Politeness is the expression of the speakers' intention to mitigate face threats carried by certain face threatening acts toward another. Another definition is that politeness is a rational behavior aiming to reduce an imposition or threat to an interlocutor's face. Politeness is the expression of the speakers' intention to mitigate face threats carried by certain face threatening acts toward another.

Politeness Strategy

Politeness strategy is basically the study of knowing the way the people use the language while they are having interaction or communication. It preaches how to use the

language and conduct the conversation run well and go smoothly.

In case of communication, however, everyone wants to be understood and not to be disturbed by others; moreover, he or she does not want to lose his face while communicating. Loosing face means the notions of being embarrassed, humiliated or disappointed. That is why face is something that is emotionally invested, maintained, enhanced and constantly attended in an interaction. According to Brown and Levinson (1987) consider politeness a strategic device that interlocutors employ to attend to negative face want: the desire not to be impeded and positive face wants: the desire to be approved of. They claim that the notion of face constituted by these two basic needs is universal, although the content of face is culture-specific and subject to cultural elaboration.

Bald-on Record

The *bald on-record* does nothing to minimize threats to the hearer's 'face.' Here, there is no attempt to acknowledge the hearer's face wants. This type of strategy is commonly found in people who know each other very well, and who are very comfortable in their environments, such as a close friend and family. And in applying this strategy, someone can utilize its five sub-strategies. They are showing disagreement (criticism), giving suggestion/advice, requesting, warning; threatening, and using imperative form.

Positive Politeness Strategy

Positive politeness strategies seek to minimize the threat to the hearer's positive face. They are used to make the hearer feel good about himself, his interests or possessions, and are most usually used in situations where the audience knows each other fairly well. In addition to hedging and attempts to avoid conflict, some strategies of positive politeness include statements of friendship, solidarity, compliments.

Negative Politeness Strategy

Negative politeness strategies are oriented towards the hearer's negative face and emphasize avoidance of imposition on the hearer. These strategies presume that the speaker will be imposing on the listener and there is a higher potential for awkwardness or embarrassment than in bald on record strategies and positive politeness strategies. Negative face is the desire to remain autonomous so the speaker is more apt to include an out for the listener, through distancing styles like apologies.

Off Record

Off-record (indirect) takes some of

the pressure off of the speaker. Its utterances are indirect uses of language which precise meaning has to be interpreted. The performs *off record*, typically through the deployment of an indirect illocutionary act which has more than one interpretation and, thus, allows for plausible deniability on the part of the speaker if the intended recipient takes offence at the face threat inherent in the utterance.

Research Method

According to the type of the research, this research is qualitative descriptive. This research used sociolinguistics approach to analyzing the types politeness strategy in main character Joe Louis Clark and the students in the *Lean on Me* movie using by Levinson and Brown. In this research, the researcher collected the data from *Lean on Me* Movie. The data were collected by watching the movie and reading the script. After that the researcher will analyze what type of politeness strategy that dominant used by Joe Louis Clark and the students in the classroom based on the theories of Brown and Levinson (1987).

Findings and Discussion

There are four types of politeness strategies used by Joe Clark and the students in the classroom in *Lean on Me* movie. Table 1 displays the frequency of politeness strategy.

Table 1. Frequency of Politeness Strategy in Lean on Me Movie

No	Politeness Strategy	Type	Freq.
1	Bald-on Record	Showing Disagreement	5
		Giving Suggestion/Advice	4
		Requesting	4
		Warning/Threatening	11
		Using Imperative Form	7
Sub total 1			31
2	Positive Politeness	Claiming Common Ground	25
		Conveying that S & H are Cooperators	17
		Fulfilling H's wants for some X	4
Sub total 2			46
3	Negative Politeness	Being Indirect	2
		Not Presuming/Assuming	3
		Not Coercing H	4
		Communicating S's want to not impinge on H	4
		Redressing other wants of H's	2
Sub total 3			15
4	Off-Record	Inviting Conversational Implicature	8
		Being Vague/Ambiguous	4
		Sub total 4	
TOTAL			104

Based on the calculation shown in Table 1, the researcher found that the most dominant politeness strategies used are positive politeness.

There are the types of politeness strategies employed by the main characters in *Lean on Me* movie when having conversations with the students. They are Bald-on record, Positive politeness, Negative politeness, and Off-record strategy. Among the four strategies, positive politeness strategy is the most frequent strategy that occurs 46 times out of 104 total data. It is followed by Bal-on record strategy (12 out of 104). The main character (Joe Clark) prefer to apply positive politeness strategy in conveying their utterances to the students since this strategy usually occurs in the groups of people in which they, in social situation, know each other very well.

In realizing those politeness strategies, the main character in *Lean on Me* movie utilizes his own sub-strategies. Bald-on record has five sub-strategies: showing disagreement (5 out of 104), giving suggestion/advice (4 out of 104), requesting (4 out of 104), warning/threatening (11 out of 104), and using imperative form (7 out of 104). Positive

politeness can be applied through claiming common ground (25 out of 104), conveying that S and H are cooperators (17 out of 104), and fulfilling H's wants for some X (4 out of 104). Meanwhile, by being indirect (2 out of 104), not presuming/assuming (3 out of 104), not coercing H (4 out of 104), communicating S's want to not impinge on H (4 out of 104), and redressing other wants of H's (2 out of 104), someone can perform his/her negative politeness. Then, in Off-record, there are two sub-strategies that can be used: inviting conversational implicature (8 out of 104) and being vague or ambiguous (4 out of 104).

Conclusion

There are the types of politeness strategies employed by the main characters in *Lean on Me* movie when having conversations with the students. They are Bald-on record, Positive politeness, Negative politeness, and Off-record strategy. Among the four strategies, positive politeness strategy is the most frequent strategy that occurs 46 times out of 104 total data.

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