

Politeness Principle As Seen in the Dialogue between Characters on “Freedom Writers” Movie

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Abstract:

Politeness phenomenon is universal in language usage, which has been so long approached by people from the distinctive perspectives of cultures. With the advance of intercultural communication politeness can no longer be confined to the study of either the different culture, and the reevaluation of politeness with the amendment of the principles for intercultural communication must be implemented for the sake of efficacious interaction. This research is conducted using descriptive qualitative method based on the theory known as Politeness Principles. The data are in form of utterances used by the characters in FREEDOM WRITERS movie. The data analysis reveals some finding covering the formulated research question.

Keywords: Pragmatics, Politeness Principles, Movie

Introduction

A movie is produced by recording images from the world with cameras, or by creating images using animation technique. The movie is a fictitious story, which is one writing-related literature. Movies is a motion picture, and the motion called intermittent movement (Famela, 2011). Movie productions never stop releasing new movies. Every year, even in month, movie production always releases the new movies with a lot of technological development in it. People can find many kinds of movies or we call it genres. There are some basic element of fiction including: plot, characters, setting and theme of the story.

Character is an important element of fiction. Various characters in the story are made by author's creativity. Author creates the characters according to their tastes: for example, the professions, status and attitudes. Every character has a different part in the story. The differences make the character have many types. Some types of characters in the story are as follows: major

character, minor character, round character, flat character (Sartika, 2013). In the character there is a dialogue to convey a message.

According to Peter dialogue in literature, particularly in fiction, drama and philosophical writing, refers to conversation between two or more characters (2015, p. 17). It is a conversation that is made specifically for characters in novels stories, drama, or movie. Dialogue has a specific goal to be achieved and not just a conversation on any topic. The aim of dialogue is to explore a particular topic in depth so that there is understanding or harmony, or finding solutions to a problem or conflict. In dialogue the implication must be considered in order to fulfill the linguistic rules. One application of linguistic is pragmatics.

Review of Literature

Leech in (Winarsih, 2009) states that pragmatics relates the sense of the utterance to its pragmatic force. This force may be relatively direct and indirect. In other words, the conversational implicature clarifies the distinction between literal meaning and use of the utterance contextually. It considers language as an instrument of interaction, what people mean when they use language and how we communicate and understand each other. In pragmatics includes speech acts, speech implicature, conversational external factors, and conversational interactions. And it's included in FREEDOM WRITERS movie. Politeness is a practical application of good manners or etiquette. And also politeness is a form of good action taken by someone to another person. Politeness phenomenon is universal in language usage, which has been so long approached by people from the distinctive perspectives of cultures (LI, 2015). Every culture has a different level of politeness but most of them are the same. That is a conversation. Usually, it is older people we respect that we should be polite.

Politeness principle proposes how to establish feeling of community and social relationship. Thus, politeness principle focuses on the process of interpretation that the center of the study is on the effect of the hearer rather than the speaker. There are six maxims of the politeness principles in daily conversation.

a. Tact maxims

Tact maxim is minimizing cost to other and maximizing benefit to other (Watts, 2003). It's mean of this maxim is to care for others by providing to them.

b. Generosity maxims

Generosity maxim is proposed as a pair of tact maxim. When the tact maxim is used on '*other-centered*' then the generosity maxim is used on '*selfcentered*' (Watts, 2003). This maxim is used to be selfish then other.

c. Approbation maxims

The concept of approbation maxim is to minimize dispraise of other and to maximize praise of other (Watts, 2003).

d. Modesty maxims

Modesty maxim is proposed as the pair of an approbation maxim. Similar to generosity maxim, the concept of modesty maxim is focused on '*self-centered*'.

e. Agreement maxims

The agreement maxim is minimize disagreement between self and other and maximize agreement between self and other.

f. Sympathy maxims

The sympathy maxim is minimize antipathy between self and other and maximize sympathy between self and other.

Method

The design of this research use descriptive qualitative. This means that this research analyses the data by describing the data in details. At the same time, this research is qualitative because the data analyzed are not in the forms of numbers (or numeric) but they are in the forms of words, phrases, or utterances or sentences. As Taguchi states that using a qualitative approach is an open approach and exploration that can be done by researchers in committing to gain an understanding of the reasons behind a phenomenon or event (Taguchi, 2018, p. 3).

From some view above, it can be pointed out that in a descriptive qualitative research, the researcher juct collects the data, organizes them,

classifies, then makes the interpretation on data, and at last, the researcher method, the researcher tried to describe the facts concerning the object of the research, namely the principles politeness.

The objectives of this research were finding the principles politeness in “FREEDOM WRITERS” movie and the factors influencing those strategies. In this case, researcher focused on naturally emerging language and the meaning individuals assign to experience, which was the characteristic of qualitative method. Therefore, the researcher collected the data, analyzed and interpreted them, and drew conclusion about the kinds of the principles politeness, and the factors influencing characters to employ his strategies, that were included in descriptive approach. It was the reason that the researcher chosen descriptive qualitative as a research approach in this study.

Results and Discussions

Politeness principle is minimizing the expression of impolite beliefs, and maximizing the expression of polite beliefs which is somewhat less important in Noviani (2014, p. 20). The Politeness Principles as a way of explaining how politeness operates in conversational exchanges, indicating the ability of participants in a social interaction to engage in interaction in an atmosphere of relative harmony.

1. Tact maxims

Tact maxim is minimizing cost to other and maximizing benefit to other (Watts, 2003). It's mean of this maxim is to care for others by providing to them.

Dr. Carl : Well, you united them and that's a step. What can I do for you?

Erin : I want to do more with them, and I need the support of someone in power

2. Generosity maxims

Generosity maxim is proposed as a pair of tact maxim. When the tact maxim is used on *'other-centered'* then the generosity maxim is used on *'self-centered'* (Watts, 2003). This maxim is used to be selfish then other.

Marcus : My moms kicked me out when I got jumped into the gang life. But I'd like her to see me graduate. I'd like to be 18.

Other student : Ms. G? Can I read something from my diary?

3. Approbation maxims

The concept of approbation maxim is to minimize dispraise of other and to maximize praise of other (Watts, 2003).

Erin : I am. I know I have a lot to learn as a teacher, but I'm a really good student. I am, and I really want to be here.

Margaret : Those are lovely pearls

4. Modesty maxims

Modesty maxim is proposed as the pair of an approbation maxim. Similar to generosity maxim, the concept of modesty maxim is focused on *'self-centered'*.

Margaret : Here's your coffee

Erin : Thank you

5. Agreement maxims

The agreement maxim is minimize disagreement between self and other and maximize agreement between self and other.

Other student : Ms. G? Can I read something from my diary?

Erin : That's be great

6. Sympathy maxims

The sympathy maxim is minimize antipathy between self and other and maximize sympathy between self and other.

Erin : Dad, I got them. Okay. Dad, I don't know what to do with this. I'm not a social worker. I'm barely a teacher. Thank you. These kids, they're 14, 15 years old, And if they make it through the day alive, that's good enough. And I'm supposed to teach them?

Steve : Listen to me. You're not responsible for their lives outside that classroom. Just do your job the best you can.

Conclusion

Based on the explanations and analysis above, the writer draws the following conclusions:

1. From the analysis in research in dialogue between characters on “FREEDOM WRITERS” movie, the writer has found the six types of politeness principle that are used by the students. The maxim are; tact maxim, generosity maxim, approbation maxim, modesty maxim, agreement maxim, and sympathy maxim.
2. The tact maxim is the dominant maxim that used by characters in dialogue in “FREEDOM WRITERS” movie. Tact maxim is minimize cost to other, maximize benefit to other. In this analysis consist much of dialogues in the data using tact maxim because in research in dialogue between characters, the lecturer wanted to connect the actual existing material to the previous students knowledge about the material.

After the finding the result of this research, the writer suggest that:

1. To the lecturer

The data might become a reference for lecturers while teaching. They will know more about politeness principle in research in English language teaching. The lecturer should more understand that the politeness also

important to students. Without politeness, the students have not good attitude in schools.

2. To the students

The students will get more understanding of politeness principle. So, they can using politeness principle in their daily life.

3. To other writers

The data might become reference to other writers or they can complete this research in the next their research to be better

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