Strategi ketidaksopanan pada ungkapan Lionel Logue dalam film The King's Speech

(Impoliteness Strategies Used in Lionel Logue's utterances in The King's Speech movie)

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Abstract

The use of communicative strategies that are to maintain social harmony called politeness does not always run well in a conversation. In fact, impoliteness strategies that are used to disturb social harmony also occur. People may misunderstand and draw wrong inference to politeness or impoliteness. Impoliteness can be analyzed from the speaker's and the hearer's perspectives since it depends on the speaker's intention and the hearer's reception. Therefore, the more comprehensive the study on impoliteness lain linguistic perspective, the better it will be, particularly from pragmatic outlooks. Considering the phenomenon explained before, the present study aims to describe the types of impoliteness strategies used by character in The King's Speech movie and to explain the function of impoliteness strategies in it. This study is conducted by using qualitative methods. The data were in the form of utterances spoken by the Lionel Logue. The result of this study shows that there are three impoliteness strategies occurs in this film. It is also found that the function of impoliteness is to gain an equal status in order to make his hearer feel close to him.

Keywords: Impoliteness Strategies, Lionel Logue, Pragmatics, The King's Speech,

Abstrak

Penggunaan strategi komunikasi untuk menjaga keharmonisan social yang disebut kesopanan tidak selalu berjalan baik pada setiap percakapan. Pada kenyataanya strategi ketidaksopanan yang digunakan untuk menggagu keharmonisan sosial, juga muncul. Seseorang bisa salah menerima atau mengalami kebingungan terhadap strategi yang diucapkan orang lain apakah sopan atau tidak sopan. Ketidaksopanan bisa dianalisa dari perspektif pembicara atau pendengar karena ini terkantung pada tujuan pembicara dan penerimaanya oleh pendengar. Oleh karena itu, semakin mendalam penelitian tentang ketidaksopanan dalam lingkup ilmu kebahasaan, khususnya dalam segi ilmu pragmatik, akan semakin baik. Melihat gejala tersebut, skripsi ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan strategi ketidaksopanan yang digunakan tokoh dalam film The King's Speech dan untuk menjelaskan fungsi penggunaan strategi ketidaksopanan dalam film ini. Skripsi ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Data berbentuk ungkapan yang digunakan oleh Lionel Logue. Hasil temuan dari skripsi ini adalah tiga tipe ketidaksopanan; yaitu ketidaksopanan positive, ketidaksopanan negative dan ketidaksantunan bald on record.. Selain itu, dalam skripsi ini juga ditemukan bahwa tfungsi ketidaksopanan adalah untuk mendapatkan status yang setara agar pendengar merasan lebih dekat.

Kata Kunci: strategi ketidaksantunan, Lionel Logue, Pragmatic, The King's Speech,

Introduction

To maintain harmonious relationship, people have to conduct their speech well in order to make the conversation run smoothly. There is a language strategy that can be applied to fulfilll these purposes, namely the "politeness strategy". One of the most well-known theorists of politeness is Brown and Levinson's (1987). Brown and Levinson (1987) define politeness as a universal feature of language use, which means that every language has its own ways to express politeness. Further, according to Brown and Levinson (1987), politeness strategy is developed or used in order to save the hearers' "face". Face refers to the respect that an individual has for him or herself.

In Brown and Levinson's (1978:62) account, face is divided into two concepts: *positive* and *negative face*. Positive face is "the wants that a member wants other to find desirable; such as love, liberty, and piety". Thus a disagreement toward one's opinion has failed to maintain the positive face. Negative face is "the wants that his action be unimpeded by others" (1978:62). Then, any act that failed to maintain the positive and negative face wants is known as face-threatening acts (FTA).

Thus, to minimize or avoid FTA people use certain strategy. Brown and Levinson (1978) proposed 5 strategies that could help speaker to communicate more polite and save another face. The strategies are: bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, off-record and not doing the FTA. In brief, politeness, with the

function to soften the FTA, concerns on how people employ communicative strategy to maintain social harmony. From this explanation, speaker is expected to preserve his/her hearer's negative and positive face to get the successful of communication.

However, impoliteness strategy also occurs in daily life conversation. This study is concerned on Lionel Louge's utterances in The King's Speech movie, because Louge is an interesting character since the language that he used can be problematic. Louge was famous with his unconventional methods and relationship to help assisting in curing Prince's stammer. Whoever the patients, Louge just accepts them on his consultation room. There is no exception, including his special patient, The Prince.

This equality can be seen on the language he uses. In English, for instance when we talk to person we do not know well, it is appropriate to address them as Mr. or Mrs instead of their real name or their nick name. But in this film, Louge shows the opposite. For example, in the first meeting with the Prince, Louge refers to the Prince as "Bertie" instead of royal highness. He also debates and answers back to what Bertie says. Lionel refuses to let Bertie smoke during their speech sessions, saying "sucking smoke into your lungs will kill you." These examples of manner are considered impolite and breaches royal etiquette.

Hence, this study is designed to achieve two purposes; 1. to investigate the use of impolite utterances and how they are received by the character 2. to show the role of impoliteness in the film.

Research Method

This study applies qualitative and quantitative research. "Qualitative research tends to be associated with words or images as the unit of analysis" (Denscombe, 2007:248). According to Mackey and Gass (2005:2) qualitative research is a research to use nonexperimental design in which data cannot be easily quantified and the analysis is interpretative (descriptive). Moreover, it is stated that qualitative research is inclined in interpretation (Mackey and Gass, 2005:182). Qualitative-interpretative analyzes the data in the form of selected utterances in *The King's Speech* movie that includes impoliteness stratttegies and provides the interpretations of the implied or intended meaning. Furtheremore, this study uses purposive sampling. Blaxter (2006:163) states that purposive sampling is "handpicking supposedly typical or interesting cases". Purposive sampling is applied to the situation where the researcher already knows something about the specific data because they are seen as instances that are likely producing the most valuable data (Denscombe, 2007). This means that the researcher selects the data which is relevance to the topic of the investigation. Hence,

purposive sampling is compatible to apply in this study because the researcher only selects dialogues which contain impoliteness strategies. In consequence, only 13 utterances in *The King's Speech* movie are picked to be analyzed. After finding the type of impoliteness, then, this study applies descriptive, and interpretative method. Descriptive method is used to apply the theory of impoliteness proposed by Culpeper on the selected sentences taken from Lionel Lougue's dialogue. Last, interpretative method is used to find out the implied meaning of the utterances in *The King's Speech* movie based on the type of impoliteness and the context. .

Result

The result of impoliteness strategies analysis shows that there are 13 sentences that is used by Lionel which consists of 1 bald on record imopoliteness, 6 positive impolitness and 6 negative impoliteness.

Discussion

The analysis illustrates that the character in this movie used impoliteness strategies. It is proved by the following dialogues:

a. Bald on record impoliteness
1.   Lionel: *Do you know any jokes?*
Bertie : Timing isn't my strong suit.

Context of situation: Speaker: Lionel, Hearer: Bertie, Place: on the consultation room, time: morning. This datum is occurring in practical room of Lionel. That was the first time meeting between Lionel and Bertie. Lionel tries to open conversation by inviting him to speech to break "the ice" as his positive face for they look so clumsy in their first meeting. . Lionel opens it by asking to Bertie "*Do you know any jokes?*". The type of this sentence is interrogative but the intention is ordering. In this utterance Lionel does not really want to know whether Bertie know any jokes, but he requests Bertie to talk about any jokes. It impedes Bertie's negative face want. Then Bertie answers that question by saying "Timing isn't my strong suit". This utterance has intention to reject Lionel's demand. This response is showing a sense of superiority of Bertie.

According to theory of impoliteness strategy, the utterance "*Do you know any jokes?*" is certain acts *(order)* inherently violate Bertie's face want. He scorns him as a rigid person indirectly. It is regarded as bald on record impoliteness. Lionel's utterance generates the defensive response of Bertie. His self esteem is really undermined. He defends himself because he wants to save his face by saying "timing isn't my strong suit". He does not want if Lionel consider him as a rigid person. Bertie

wants to be considered as a strict person who does not wasting time.

b. Positive Impoliteness

1.   Lionel: It's a little bit formal for here. I prefer names.

Bertie: Prince Albert Frederick Arthur... George.

Lionel: How about *Bertie*?

Bertie: Only my family uses that.

Lionel: *Perfect*. In here, it's better if we're equals.

Bertie: If... if we were equals, I wouldn't be here. I'd be... at home with my wife, and no one would give a damn.

 Analysis:

       Context of situation: Speaker: Lionel, Hearer: Bertie, Place: on the consultation room, time: morning. In this conversation, Lionel shows his impoliteness behavior towards Bertie by using inappropriate identity markers, calling the Prince with his nickname *Bertie*. Calling name is one of the positive impoliteness occurrences of the strategy *use inappropriate identity markers*. In the system of constitutional monarchy, where the language is expected to be very formal, using nicknames would not be expected. Lionel use a nickname for a person who is not close to him, and therefore, this is an act of impoliteness. Furthermore, he stands to call the prince except his nickname, by saying *"perfect"*. According to Culpeper (1996: 9) using "a nickname when a distant relationship pertains" is part of the impoliteness strategy *use inappropriate identity markers*, and therefore, these cases are counted as positive impoliteness.

2.   Lionel: How about when you talk to yourself? Everyone natters to themselves occasionally, *Bertie*.
Bertie: Stop... Stop calling me that.
Lionel: *I'm not going to call you anything else*.
Bertie: Then we shan't speak.
Analysis:
Context of situation: Speaker: Lionel, Hearer: Bertie, Place: on the consultation room, time: morning. In this conversation, Lionel shows his impoliteness by using inappropriate identity markers, calling the Prince with his nickname *Bertie*. He stands to call the prince except his nickname by saying *I'm not going to call you anything else*. This clearly attacks Bertie's face. Since identity marker is used by Lionel this utterance falls under the category of positive impoliteness.
Bertie defenses to this positive impoliteness. He tries to counter Lionel by offending him. He replies Lionel's face attack by face attack also. He offends Lionel by saying that Lionel has to stop calling his nickname. This trigger Lionel to launch his want by saying *I'm not going to call*

you anything else. However, Bertie keep his face by countering attack by saying "then we shan't speak."

c. Negative Impoliteness

1.   Lionel: Where does this leave you?
Bertie: I know my place. I... I will do anything... in my power to keep my brother on the throne.
Lionel: *Is it that serious? Your place may well be on the throne.*
Bertie: I am not an alternative to my brother.
Analysis:

       Context of situation: Speaker: Lionel, Hearer: Bertie, Place: on the street, time: afternoon. On this conversation, this act regarded to show Lionel's sense of superiority. He tries to suggest Bertie to take the throne from his brother because the issue his brother wants to marry a divorce woman that is forbidden in the royal life. Then, the utterance *"Is it that serious? Your place may well be on the throne.* Lionel invades Berti's space because Lionel goes further to Bertie's privacy. The intention of the utterance above is Lionel tries to persuade and convince Bertie that he actually has the better ability and more worthy to be king than his brother by saying. However, Lionel also attacks Bertie's negative face.

       It can be proved from Bertie's responses by saying "I am not an alternative to my brother." He feels reluctant to his brother because it could be means that younger brother trying to push older brother off the throne. Moreover, if the throne is given to Bertie, he feels he would be a stammer king. It means from his responses, he does not want his private life is invaded.

2.   Lionel: Please, don't do that.
Bertie: I'm sorry?
Lionel: I believe sucking smoke into your lungs, well, it will kill you.
Bertie: My physicians say it relaxes the ...the throat.
Lionel: *They're idiots.*
Bertie: They've all been knighted.
Lionel: *Makes it official, then. My castle, my rules*. Thank you.
Analysis:

       Context of situation: Speaker: Lionel, Hearer: Bertie, Place: on the consultation room, time: morning. In the conversation above Lionel ask Bertie not to smoke. Although Bertie denying his command by explaining that physicians have the opposite opinion from him, Lionel emphasize his power by saying *"They're idiots"*. It means that empire is full of incompetence people. This utterance is regarded as a rude word. The answer of Bertie by saying *"Makes it official, then. My castle, my rules."* for "they've all been knighted" is the evidence Lionel's language power to command Bertie. In sum, in this utterance, Lionel shows his competence in that situation,

and then he able rejects the Bertie's opinion. He imposes Bertie to follow his rule. Thus, this utterances is regarded as negative impoliteness.

3.   P: You are trivializing everything.
L: *I don't care how many royal assholes have sat on this chair.*
Analysis:
Context of situation: *speaker*: Lionel, *hearer*: Bertie, *place*: Westminster Abbey, *time*: morning. Bertie sees Lionel who sits on the Saint Edward Chair which is the chair that only king or queen can sit. He is so angry because Lionel behaviour. He wants him to get up but Lionel does no listen to him. Lionel replies Bertie by attacking his positive face when he uses Dissacoiate from other. He refuses to do what Bertie's ordered because he thinks that the chair is just an ordinary chair. Whoever sit on that chair whereas the royals or common people, the chair is only a chair. It would have been better for Bertie if Lionel cooperate with him or at least disagree in a more polite way so that no face loss occur to Bertie. However, Lionel just does not seem to care what Bertie says.
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Conclusion

Having successfully identified and analyzed extracts of related conversation between Lionel Louge and other main characters in The King's Speech movie in the previous chapter, this chapter provides the final recapitulation of what have been elaborately put down. Lionel Louge, with all his unconventional behavior has been the most prominent character in the movie. He causes problems and conflicts through his impolite remarks.

Taking Culpeper's impoliteness theory (1996, 2002) as the starting point and using his list of impoliteness strategies, there are basically five ways in which Lionel could be impolite with his utterance. He could use negative impoliteness, bald on record impoliteness, sarcasm or mock impoliteness, or by withold politeness. He could also choose to attack someone's positive face and thus he uses positive impoliteness.

In the first place, the investigation in this study is conducted to answer several questions that are set up to be the problems to discuss. They are; What types of impoliteness strategies are used by Lionel Louge? And what does the function of impoliteness in this film?

Referring to the first question in this study, that is, what types of impoliteness strategies are used by Lionel Louge?, it is answered that from five types of impoliteness strategy, only three types occur in character's utterances addressed to the other main character. They are bald on record impoliteness, positive impoliteness, negative impoliteness. On the other hand, withhold politeness and sarcasm or mock impoliteness do not appear in the movie.

Each type of impoliteness strategy is realized in some ways and each type has its particular realization. Bald on record impoliteness is realized in the form of using order. Positive impoliteness is expressed in the form of disassociating from the other, using inappropriate identity markers, select a sensitive topic. Meanwhile, negative impoliteness has two realizations in the form of condescending, scorning, or ridiculing, and invading the other's space.

The last goal of this study is to disclose the function of impoliteness in The King's Speech movie. This study shows that impoliteness is interpreted differently depending on the context. Thus, impoliteness is a context dependent. Impoliteness can be analyzed from the speaker's and the hearer's perspective since it depends on the speaker's intention and the hearer's reception. It seems that Lionel employs impoliteness to gain an equal status in order to make his hearer feel close to him.

After the investigation in this thesis finally comes with the result, it is expected to contribute a better conception in understanding the issue of impoliteness. It is hoped can be useful as the reference of the study about impoliteness strategies. It is also hoped that this analysis can support further analysis in the similar study.

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