



AN ANALYSIS OF POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN THE DIRECTIVE SPEECH ACTS IN THE SLEEPOVER MOVIE

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Abstract

This research focuses on the main character's directed speech act and politeness methods in the movie *The Sleepover* (2020). The goals of this study are to discover what directed speech act utterances are utilized by the main character and what politeness tactics are used by the main character of the film. This study's data is an English script (subtitle) for *The Sleepover* Movie. The qualitative research method was applied in this study. The goal of this study is to discover what kind of directive speech act and politeness methods the main character use. The findings of this study concern three of four directed speech acts performed by the main character and four types of politeness methods employed by the character.

Key words: speech act, politeness strategies, directive

A. INTRODUCTION

Communication is the most fundamental human requirement. People communicate with others by using language to transmit their ideas, feelings, or thoughts. People must communicate clearly in order to be understood. It implies that in order for people to accept the message, everything must be said correctly. Speech act is the part of pragmatics that studies the meaning conveyed by speakers and interpreted by listeners. According to Searle (1969:21) In the study of language, the basic communication act is the speech act. He categorizes speaking acts into five kinds. They are representative, directive, commissive, declarative, and expressive. This study focuses on one of the types of speech actions mentioned by Searle above, which is the directive speech act. There are numerous objects that can be examined in the directive speech act, such as requesting, commanding, asking, ordering, and proposing. Politeness is strongly tied to the study of directive acts. According to Holmes

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(1992:296), being polite makes others feel at ease. Others will be friendly to those who make an effort to be pleasant. Furthermore, civility helps minimize and avoid conflict in conversation or engagement. As a result, being nice is critical. According to Brown and Levinson (1987), Politeness strategies are devised in order to save the "face" of the listeners. Face refers to an individual's respect for himself or herself and sustaining such "self-esteem" in public or private situations. Then, we normally strive to avoid embarrassing or making the other person uncomfortable. Face Threatening activities (FTAs) are activities that violate the hearer's need to retain his or her self-esteem and be respected. Politeness methods are developed primarily for the purpose of dealing with these FTAs. Brown's idea of politeness strategy, as bare and record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off-record.

This research is intended to identify politeness strategies used in speech act in the movie. The spectator will learn about words, action, and utterances by viewing this film. The film used numerous politeness strategies in the lines in their context in the situation. The viewer may see how the characters use various directed speech actions to keep the movie's story threads flowing smoothly. There are several studies that has explained about politeness strategies Norhidayenti (2013) employed a sociolinguistic technique to analyse the politeness and impoliteness expressions of characters in the Kung Fu Panda film. Kurniadi (2015) examined the film *The Legend of Hercules*' directive speech act.. Hafiz (2020) A Pragmatic Analysis of Politeness Strategies of Directive Expression Reflected in '*Inglorious Basterds*' Movie and Its Indonesian Translation. Rahmaniar (2016) an analysis of positive and negative politeness strategies in John Green's novel "the fault in our stars". Then, Yuting(2015) The Application of Politeness Strategies in English and Chinese movie review.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The data of this research were the directive utterances of the main characters of the sleepover movie and the script as the data to take find what politeness strategies in this movie and also the directive speech act in this movie. The data of this research were the utterance used by the main characters of this movie, they are Clancy, Kevin and their mom (Margot). The movie tells the story about a girl and her friends having a sleepover when they learn that her mother is a former thief under witness protection that gets roped back into that life when her old group successfully locates her, the length of the movie 100 minutes, directed by Trish Shie Written by Sarah Rothschild Produced by Mickey Liddell Pete Shilaimon. The film was released on August 21, 2020 by Netflix. The reason why I choose this movie because the movie is easy enough to analyze then the plot of the movie is easy to understand and also the word that used in this movie is not too difficult.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Research Finding

A. Directive utterances in main character of The Sleepover movie.

The first research question is “What are directive utterances acts used by main characters? In this part will shows the analysis of speech act in directive utterance according to the main character of The Sleepover movie. There are 4 directive utterances that found in the data of the analysis, they are:

1. Commanding

Speaker wants to command the hearer by using utterance in command form which there is some definitions. According to Searle (1979) the notion of command is ambiguous, and command as locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts must be distinguished, command as illocutionary acts are the speech acts that impose some obligation on the hearer.

The following representative data which categorized as commanding:

Datum 00:09:29,375 --> 00:09:32,62

Absolutely not. *Do not call anybody.*

That's so embarrassing.

Datum 00:06:37,708 --> 00:06:41,208

Don't be a perv! Close the door.

In the scene Clancy asks to her mom not to call anybody's parents because she wants to go to a party and her parents doesn't allow her to go to the party because she thought that something bad will happen if there is no parent. And Clancy suddenly said “*Do not call anybody.*” to warn her mom with a loud sound.

The datum above is uttered by Clancy, in the scene Clancy command Kevin to close the car door and top being perv because Clancy saw Kevin is shocked while Mim enter to the car and he looks perv and Clancy said “*Don't be a perv! Close the door*”.

the utterances above are categorized as commanding because in that utterances using utterance in command form which there is some definitions

2. Requesting

The requesting is an expression of what the speaker wants the addressee to do something. According to Searle (1969) request is a directive speech act whose illocutionary purpose is to get the hearer to do something in circumstances in which it is not obvious that he or she will perform the action in the normal course of events. The speaker believes that the hearer is able to perform an action.

The following representative data which categorized as requesting:

Datum 00:08:41,625 --> 00:08:44,583

Mom, *can we talk about this?*

Datum 00:38:08,583 --> 00:38:10,750

Also, that wig is awful.

Please take it off.

The datum above shows dialogues from the main character Clancy. In the first datum shows the dialogue between Clancy and her mom, in the scene Clancy and her mom was arguing about why she has phone yet and the children in her mom school already have. And in that moment Clancy request to talk to her mom by says, “*Mom, can we talk about this?*”

Please. It's time. I need a phone”. The word “can” and “please” are include to the requesting word. In the second scene Clancy and Kevin after they swam the sea, they went to the gift shop to change their clothes because their clothes are wet so they decided to take some stuff to make them feel better. After they took the stuff, Kevin and Lewis took a wig to make them looks mature but after that Clancy request to Kevin and Lewis to take off the wig by says” Also, that wig is awful. *Please take it off.*”

the utterances above are categorized as requesting because directive speech act whose illocutionary purpose is to get the hearer to do something in circumstances in which it is not obvious that he or she will perform the action in the normal course of events

3. Suggesting

Suggesting belongs to the group of directive speech act which According to Searle (1979) are those in which the speaker purpose is to get the hearer to commit himself or herself to some future course of action.

The following data which categorized as suggesting

Datum 01:21:43,166 --> 01:21:46,333

We gotta go before Leo gets away,

Datum 00:49:01,583 --> 00:49:04,333

-There's a gift shop. Let's go in there.

-Ooh, OK!

The first utterance spoke by mom (Margot) to her family to go out from the place that they are save themselves from the police, and mom want to secure her family from Leo because Leo has a bad idea that he wants to do to her family so mom

asks her family by says” *We gotta go before Leo gets away*, or this whole thing becomes my mess.

And the second one spoke by Clancy, while they want to save themselves from the water police and they arrived in the port to take a rest. After that Clancy saw a gift shop, she suggests to her friend to there to take some clothes and change it. Clancy says” There's a gift shop. *Let's go in there*”.

the utterances above are categorized as requesting because the speaker is purpose to get the hearer to commit himself or herself to some future course of action.

B. Politeness Strategies of the main character in The Sleepover Movie

The first research question is “What kind of politeness strategies used by main character in The Sleepover Movie?” This part presents the analysis of the politeness strategies in the collected data to answer the question. There are four politeness strategies: Positive politeness, Negative politeness, Bald On Record, and Off record.

1) Positive Politeness

Positive politeness is a strategy that is used to minimize the damage to the hearer’s face. Brown and Levinson (1987) state that positive politeness is a redress directed to positive face, the want to be approved, accepted, and desired. This politeness strategy occurred 118 times in the data.

The following are presentative data which show the use of Positive Politeness:

SL 1 (00:00:44,166 --> 00:00:46,833)

“Mrs. *Westenfeldt*, I don't know what would make you think.

SL 14 (00:42:09,125 --> 00:42:11,833)

“No, *honey*, *don't worry*. nothing like that.

I was a thief of expensive things

The datum above uttered by Kevin and Mom (Margot). In scene of SL 1 Kevin explaining about what his story about in front of the class and while Kevin tells the story all the friend in the class are laugh and suddenly Kevin stop and the teacher Mrs Westenfield ask him to stop and Kevin reply to Mrs Westenfielt, “Mrs. *Westenfielt*, I don’t know what would you think”. In that scene shows that Kevin call Mrs. Westenfielt that means showing respect about the position of the Mrs. Westenfieldt as teacher in his school. In scene of SL mom a.k.a margot try to make her husband calm down and no need worry about what he did in the past about one of her work that work as a thief of expensive things. So in this scene Margot says “No, *honey*, *don't worry*. nothing like that.I was a thief of expensive things” . in this uttered Margot Using the inclusive “we”, “I”, “you”. To make er

husband to believe what she did in the past is a professional thief that only steal a expensive things.

The utterances above are categorized as politeness strategies because the utterances use redress directed to positive face, the want to be approved, accepted, and desired.

2) Negative Politeness

Negative politeness is used to appreciate the social distant and respect the status differences. Brown and Levin (1987) state that negative politeness is redressive action addressed to the addressee's negative face: his want to have his freedom of action unhindered and his attention unimpeded. This politeness strategy occurred 68 times in the data.

The following are representative data which show the use of Negative Politeness:

SL 51 (00:10:51,500 --> 00:10:54,291)

"I mean, I'm probably not gonna get accepted anyway".

SL 01:04:31,625 --> 01:04:35,083

But, uh, just out of curiosity, what is your plan?

The datum above uttered by Clancy in scene SL 54 Clancy shows her pessimistic while she talks with her friend Mim that they want to go to the party and Clancy are pessimistic to get excuse by her mom. It shows by in the scene *"I mean, I'm probably not gonna get accepted anyway"*. And also in scene SL 56, Clancy and their friends wants to save her mom because was stolen by a criminal agent and they go to the secret place that her mom had already given a clue to go to that place.

The datum above uttered by Clancy to her mom's friend while they want to save their mom and they met with her mom friend then they stopped by mom's friend because she said that's not kids job, but Clancy already have a plan to get know what her mom friend will do. So after they were debate each other Clancy ask the way she save her mom, it shows in the dialogue *"But, uh, just out of curiosity,*

what is your plan?" to her mom's friend, then they tied her to go to their mom place, then they go to their mom place. According the sentence above it related with negative politeness because between the speaker and listener has a gap between them, that means it related with negative politeness.

The utterances above are categorized as negative politeness because the utterances are redress to negative politeness and in the utterance related to the negative politeness "pessimistic" and it shows in table of negative politeness.

3. Off Record

Off record is one of the politeness strategies which is uttered in indirect form. By giving hints to the hearers, the speaker hopes the hearers could understand what they have said before. Brown and Levinson (1987) state that off record strategy is used when a speaker wants to do the FTA but wants to avoid the responsibility for doing it.

The following are the representative data which show the use of Off Record:

SL44 (00:52:32,000 --> 00:52:34,041)

“She's just trying to trick me into reading”.

SL31 (00:26:39,791 --> 00:26:43,958)

I knew it! She always takes the free samples at the grocery store

The datum SL44 above uttered by Kevin when they went to library to find a clue that his mom already gave in their house so when they in the library he reminded that his mom has asked him to go to library to read a book but he didn't go to library because he don't like to do that. And in SL31 above uttered that Kevin thought that his mom is a thief because everytime his mom went to grocery store, she always took a free sample.

The utterances above are categorized as off record because there's element in off record that shows in the utterance. *“being vague”* is one of element in off record that shows in SL44 and also in SL45

4. Bald on record

Bald on Record is a direct utterance that is used to command hearer to do something for the speaker without considering the face of the hearer. Brown and Levinson (1987) state that bald on record is the most efficient communication form, because imperative forms are the most approach that usually used in this strategy. This politeness strategy occurred 28 times in the data.

The following are presentative data which show the use of Bald on record:

SL46 (00:37:48,458 --> 00:37:51,458)

Put that thing down, OK?

SL47 (00:44:50,041 --> 00:44:51,666)

Hurry! Jump!

The datum above is uttered by Clancy, in the scene of SL46 Clancy asks Kevin *to put the stuff* that Kevin took from his mom secret room because the stuff that Kevin took is dangerous. And also in scene of SL47 Clancy and her friends want

to escape from the water police because they are on the boat and no one has a licensed to ride the boat while the police called them by using siren to warn them, but they have to save their mom so Clancy decided to swim across the sea to go to the port then Clancy ask her partner to jump together into the sea. While the police closer Clancy says “*hurry!! And jump!!*”

2. Discussion

a. Directive utterance in main character of The Sleepover movie

The results of the analysis of the movie The Sleepover show the use of 3 directive statements. This chapter presents a discussion of the results of the analysis.

According to the research results, the command is the most used technique in the directing speech of The Sleepover movie. Based on research findings, Bald on Record is the most used strategy in the directing statements The Sleepover Movie. Indeed, the characters mostly give clear and concise commands and questions to other characters.

Bald on Record, as defined by Brown and Levinson (1987), is the most successful approach for uttering an expression directly, simply, and plainly. This is supported by Similarly, Nur (2019) analyzed the politeness strategies in directive utterance in Big Hero 6 movie. The researcher noted that The speech act of ordering is the most important directive speech act in this film. The speech act of ordering has the highest frequency of use among all types of the directive speech act. The directing act can be found in utterances that contain words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. Tira's (2019) analysis reveals that the film "Koi Mil Gaya" features a directive speech act with three components: command, request, and suggestion. In this study, roughly 165 data points are primarily used by command.

b. Politeness Strategies of the main character in The Sleepover Movie

Four politeness tactics are used, according to the analysis of the film The Sleepover. The discussion of the analyses' findings is presented in this chapter's subsection. According to the research findings, positive politeness is the most commonly utilised method in sleepover movies, as explained by Aryani and Nurhasna (2017). This method is used to demonstrate intimacy to interlocutors who are not close to the speaker. To facilitate the engagement, the speaker attempts to give the impression of sharing the same fate and having the same want as the interlocutor, and is regarded as a shared desire that is actually desired together. This is focused directly at the speaker's positive face, so that the speaker's wish is considered a shared desire between the speaker and the speaker and works as an enhancer of social ties with others. By employing it, the speaker demonstrates that he indicates to the listener that the speaker wants to learn more about them.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

This study concludes that there are 4 type of directive speech act used in the sleepover movie: commanding, suggesting, requesting, and instruction but in this research there only 3 types found, the type mostly used in directive speech act is commanding Then in this research found 4 politeness strategies are Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record. The most using politeness strategies type is positive strategies.

It is advised that future researchers compare their findings with this research by examining directive speech acts and politeness techniques in various types of utterances and objects, such as speeches, books, novels, or movie scripts. about directive speech act and politeness strategies.

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