

SPEECH ACT OF CONDOLENCE TO QUEEN ELIZABETH'S DEATH

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini membahas tentang tindak tutur belasungkawa yang digunakan oleh orang Kanada atas kematian Ratu Elizabeth. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tipe dan mengidentifikasi belasungkawa yang dibuat oleh orang Kanada kepada Ratu Elizabeth. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan analisis isi menggunakan framework Kuang dan framework Kreidler. Data – data diambil dari website pemerintah Kanada. Pengumpulan data menggunakan metode analisis dokumenter yang dilakukan melalui empat tahap berdasarkan teori Miles et al., yaitu: pengumpulan data, kondensasi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat empat tipe belasungkawa yang digunakan oleh orang Kanada, yaitu ungkapan simpati dan sanjungan sekaligus, sanjungan untuk almarhum, ungkapan simpati, dan ungkapan penuh harapan. Selain itu, peneliti juga menemukan empat variasi belasungkawa berdasarkan analisis yang diturunkan dari teori Kuang (2015), yaitu variasi mengungkapkan simpati, variasi mengungkapkan angsa – angsa, variasi sanjungan untuk almarhum, dan variasi mengungkapkan simpati dan sanjungan pada saat yang sama.

Kata Kunci: pragmatik, tindak tutur, belasungkawa

Abstract

This study discussed condolence speech acts used by the Canadians for the death of Queen Elizabeth. This study aimed to find out the types and identify the intentions of condolence made by the Canadians to Queen Elizabeth. This study employed a qualitative approach with content analysis using Kuang's framework and Kreidler's framework. The data were taken from government website of Canada. Data collection used documentary analysis method which was carried out through four stages based on the theory of Miles et al., namely: data collection, data condensation, data display, and drawing conclusions. The results showed that there are four types of condolence used by the Canadians, namely expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time, eulogy for the deceased, expressing sympathy, and expressing wishful thinking. In addition, the researcher also found four variations of condolence based on analysis derived from Kuang's (2015), namely variations of expressing sympathy, variations of expressing wishful thinking, variations of eulogy for the deceased, and variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time.

Keywords: pragmatics, speech act, condolence

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is our primary tool of communication through which we share our ideas and thoughts with others (Dutta, 2020). This is in line with Sapir, that language represents a distinctive way for humans to express their thoughts, emotions, and desires, utilizing a consciously developed system of symbols that is not inherent or instinctive. Language is a structured system that consists of fixed components that can be organized in a patterned way. This systematic arrangement implies that language is not haphazard or random in its construction, but rather conforms to a specific design. Language is not only a singular system, but rather comprises various subsystems that are unique to each language. These subsystems encompass elements such as phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicon, which differ between languages (Rabiah, 2012). The study of the relationship between languages and their users is called pragmatics.

Pragmatics is the field of linguistics that deals with language use in communicating. Leech (1983) defines pragmatics as the study of how statements convey meaning within specific contexts. Yule (1996) further identifies four distinct areas that are the focus of pragmatics: namely the study of speaker meaning, analysis of speaker meaning, interpretation of contextual meaning, how more gets communicated than is said, and the expression of relative distance. Thus, it means that context affects the meaning in which one must look at the relationships between the utterance and the context when the meaning is interpreted. In an effort to express themselves, people use language not only to construct utterances utilizing grammatical structures and words, but also to execute actions through these utterances (Yule, 1996). These actions are referred to as speech acts.

In pragmatics, speech act is a pragmatic element that encompasses all participants involved in communication, such as the speaker, listener, or reader. Yule (1996) describes speech act as an activity that is executed through spoken or written utterances. Bach (in Hidayat, 2016) states that communication is not only about language but also action since every action in verbal communication has its own message. Yule (1996) divides speech acts into five types of general functions based on Searle's taxonomy (1979). These types include: Declarations refer to speech acts that bring about changes in the world through words; Representatives refer to speech acts that express the speaker's belief of what is true or not;

Expressives refer to speech acts that convey the speaker's feelings; Directives refer to speech acts that are intended to persuade someone to do something; and Commissives refer to speech acts that commit the speaker to future actions.

Condolence is a type of speech act that falls under the domain of pragmatics. Condolence message is written to show compassion in the event of death. Death is considered as a natural part of life, as the entire of living things on this planet will experience it (Williams, 2006). Losing someone we care about causes a profound sense of loss, and speech communities have different ways of responding this bereavement, depending on their traditions. In general, people show sympathy after learning of someone's death otherwise they would be seen as unsympathetic. According to Abdul-Majid & Salih (2019), the word condolence is employed when there is a mourning event over the loss of a loved one. There are many different actions and forms of words in expressing condolences that help the bereaved family find closure and fortitude in the face of loss (Al-Shboul, 2022). Nonetheless, due to the sensitive topic of death, speakers are required to be attentive while offering condolences. The choice of language and emotions in conveying condolence messages must be done appropriately so that the bereaved and other mourners can bear the loss (Bayo, 2021).

There are different types of condolence that the speaker uses in showing sympathy to those grieving. These types can be seen in the utterance "*My condolences on the passing of Queen Elizabeth.*" The speaker's utterance falls under the type of condolences that is expressing sympathy. The utterance implies that the speaker was deeply saddened by the passing of Queen Elizabeth. The intention of the utterance based on illocutionary act is condoling. This utterance is between the writer and the bereaved and is carried out seriously through direct speech. The speaker uses the words to show her sympathy towards the Royal family in regards to the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

The study of condolence has been conducted in recent years but has a different object of research from this study, Abdul-Majid & Salih (2019) use DCTs Questionnaire to Iraqi EFL learners in English language; Cardozo et al. (2020) uses comments from personal blog to describe how native speakers express condolences; Al-Shboul (2022) uses DCTs questionnaires to investigate the condolence strategies expressed by Jordanian students; Hashempour (2016) uses funeral posters to investigate the types of speech acts; Alemi et al.

(2021) use group tasks to find the verbal strategies of condolence used by native speakers of Persian, Iranian EFL learners, and native speakers of English; Nurlianingsih & Imperiani (2020) use DCTs questionnaire to identify condolence strategies, effect of power and distance used by 20 Indonesian adolescents; Utama (2020) uses obituary news to find out the strategies and the intentions of condolence; Kuang (2015) uses Malaysian SMS condolence to know how these messages are constructed; Bayo (2021) uses facebook comments to investigate the condolence comments directed to the former president of Tanzania, Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli; Jawad (2021) uses questionnaire to identify the deviation of Iraqi EFL students; Amartey (2021) uses epitaph inscriptions to analyze condolence writings; Putri & Muhlisian (2019) use WhatsApp messages to examine condolence strategies used by Indonesians lecturers; Sharif et al. (2018) use OQPT and DCT questionnaire to investigate Iranian EFL learners' realization on condolence; Murad (2013) uses e-mail responses to find out the condolence strategies employed by Arab native speakers in Hebrew language; Kuang (2018) uses SMS condolence messages to examine the ethnic variations of condolence messages written by Malaysians.

Based on the explanation above, this research is different from previous research. The difference found in data source. In this study, the data source were taken from the website. In addition, not previous studies have examined variation of expressing condolences, so this study examines not only the types of condolence but also the variations of condolence. Thus, it is hoped that this research can provide an understanding of the types and variations of condolence. This research was conducted because the phenomenon related to people's ignorance in conveying appropriate condolences without offending the bereaved. In this case, the condolence were expressed by the Canadians who are mourning over Queen Elizabeth. The purpose of this research is to find out the types and variations of condolence used by the Canadians to Queen Elizabeth's death. The researcher uses the theory of condolence types by Kuang (2015).

2. METHOD

This study employed a qualitative approach with content analysis method. According to Punch (2013), a qualitative approach is concerned with non-numeric data and seeks to

interpret meanings from the collected data in order to comprehend social phenomena by investigating specific populations or locations. In this research, the researcher examined the types and the intentions of condolence used by the Canadians to Queen Elizabeth's death. The data were taken from the website that contained speech act condolence.

The data were analyzed using the interactive models proposed by Miles et al. (2014) as follows: (1) Firstly, the researcher went to Canada government website to look at the condolence messages written by the Canadians in regard to the passing of Queen Elizabeth, (2) Secondly, The researcher read all the condolence messages on the website, (3) Then, the researcher selected the message and classified based on the types and the variation of each type of condolences, (4) Lastly, the researcher analyzed expressions of condolence to elucidate the types and the variation of each type of condolences.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this section, the researcher presents the results and the discussion based on the result of documentation. This section presents the data related to the types of condolence used by the Canadians to Queen Elizabeth's death and the variation of expression to convey each type of condolences.

3.1 Types of Condolence

This part presents four types of condolence used by the Canadians, namely expressing sympathy, expressing wishful thinking, eulogy for the deceased, and expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time.

3.1.1 Expressing Sympathy and Eulogy at the Same Time

Expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time is an act of offering condolences for a deceased individual, while also acknowledging their positive attributes and accomplishments. It is a way of honoring the person the person who has passed away and highlighting their positive impact on the world. This type of language is often used in speeches, obituaries, and other forms of written or spoken communication.

From the data, the researcher found 40 messages containing expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time. First data that contains this type of condolence is "Thank you for your *many years of service*, you made the world a better place. Sending our *deepest*

condolences and prayers.” The expression is a part of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time. The speakers acknowledge the Queen’s devotion to the world to make it a better place, while also expressing their condolences and offering their prayers to the Queen. This expression of sympathy and eulogy is also related to recalling the Queen’s memory that will never fades and acknowledging that her spirit will always live on in others.

3.1.2 Eulogy for the Deceased

Eulogy for the deceased is an act of speaking or writing in praise of someone who has died. It is typically delivered during the funeral or memorial ceremony and is intended to honor the life of the deceased and to offer comfort to those who are mourning their loss. In the context of linguistics, the study of eulogies can involve analyzing the language used, the cultural and social conventions surrounding the delivery of eulogies, and the rhetorical strategies employed to express sympathy and praise.

From the data, the researcher found 38 messages containing eulogy for the deceased. One example of an eulogy is in the expression “You were *an inspiration and a positive* female role model throughout my life. Thank you for everything.” The expression falls under the category of eulogy. This type of expression highlights the notable attributes and achievements of the deceased. In this case, the speaker expressed her appreciation for Queen Elizabeth’s leadership as a positive female role model and acknowledged that she has been inspired by her throughout her life.

3.1.3 Expressing Sympathy

Expression of sympathy is an expression pity and sorrow to someone who is unhappy about something. The aim of showing sympathy is to show the speaker concern and compassion for the grieving person. The speaker can express how much s/he will miss the deceased or reminisce about a positive memory. The key is to convey that you sympathize with the grieving person and are willing to provide them with support.

From the documentation, the researcher found 21 messages containing expressing sympathy. One of the examples of expressing sympathy is when the speaker utters “My *sincerest condolences* to the Royal family”. From this example, the expression is an example of expressing sympathy. This type of expression is characterized by the use of words “condolence”, “sorrow”, “thoughts”, etc. In this case, the speaker sympathized to the royal

family for the death of Queen Elizabeth. The use of “sincerest” conveys a deep and genuine level of grieving, while the use of “condolences” is to convey a sense of comfort and compassion.

3.1.4 Expressing Wishful Thinking

Expressing wishful thinking is a form of modality, or grammatical category, that is used to indicate a speaker’s attitude towards the likelihood or reality of an action or event. Moreover, wishful thinking modality is also used to express a speaker’s desire or hope that an action or event will happen, even though it may not be likely or possible. This can be done through various grammatical forms, such as the use of subjunctive mood, modal auxiliaries, or modal adverbs.

From 100 messages that the researcher obtained, there was only 1 message containing wishful thinking. The example is when the speaker utters “Rest well. *May* your family carry your incredible light forward.” From this excerpt, it can be seen that the speaker expressed her wish for the Royal family in the future. She hoped that after the death of Queen Elizabeth, her memory will live on through the family and that the spirit and influence she embodied will continue to shine through her loved ones. The use of the word “incredible” highlights the queen’s greatness and the positive impact she had on those around her. The phrase is meant to offer solace and hope to the Royal family, and to let them know that the Queen’s legacy will endure.

Table 1. Types of Condolence

No.	Types of Condolences	Example	Total
1.	Expressing Sympathy and Eulogy at the Same Time	Thank you for your <i>many years of service</i> , you made the world a better place. Sending our <i>deepest condolences and prayers</i> .	40
2.	Eulogy for the Deceased	You were <i>an inspiration and a positive</i> female role model throughout my life. Thank you for everything.	38
3.	Expressing Sympathy	My <i>sincerest condolences</i> to the Royal family.	21
4.	Expressing Wishful Thinking	Rest well. <i>May</i> your family carry your incredible light forward.	1

3.2 Variations of Expressing Condolence

This part presents four variations of expressing condolence, namely variations of expressing sympathy, variations of expressing wishful thinking, variations of eulogy for the deceased, and variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time.

3.2.1 Variations of Expressing Sympathy and Eulogy at the Same Time

Variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy refer to approaches or styles that the speaker uses in honoring the memory of the deceased while also offering comfort and support to family and friends. From the data, the researcher found 4 variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time.

Condolence + tribute eulogy. From the data obtained, the researcher found 32 messages containing both a condolence and tribute eulogy. The first empathy is when the speaker says “*My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She will be missed by so many throughout the world and her legacy will never be forgotten.*” This expression is both a condolence and tribute eulogy. In this case, the speaker offers condolences to the Queen’s family and friend, and recognizing their loss. The expression also acknowledges the significance of the Queen’s life and the enduring legacy that she leaves behind. By stating that her legacy will never be forgotten, the expression implies that the Queen’s impact will continue to be felt and remembered long after her passing.

Condolence + religious eulogy. The researcher only found 2 messages containing both a condolence and religious eulogy. For example, “*My sincerely condolences to the Queen Elizabeth II’s family. God has mercy on her and in her family in this difficult time that they are going through.*” This expression is both a condolence and religious eulogy. The speaker offers his condolences to the Queen’s family and hopes them to find comfort and support. In this expression, the speaker mentions God and expresses a wish for Him to have mercy on Queen Elizabeth II and her family during the difficulty of the situation they are facing.

Sympathy + tribute eulogy. The researcher found 7 data containing sympathy and tribute eulogy. An example of this variation is when the speaker utters “*My deepest sympathy. She was a wonderful human being.*” This expression is both a sympathy and tribute eulogy.

The speaker offers his sympathy, expressing his sorrow for the loss of Queen Elizabeth II and acknowledging the pain and sadness that her family and loved ones may be feeling. This expression highlights the Queen as a “*wonderful human being*,” suggesting that the speaker holds her in high regard and admires her as a person.

3.2.2 Variations of Eulogy for the Deceased

Variations of Eulogy refer to different approaches or styles that the speaker uses in delivering the tribute, typically in honor of the deceased. From the data, the researcher found 2 variations of eulogy for the deceased.

Tribute Eulogy. From the data obtained, the researcher found 37 tribute eulogy. One of them is contained in the utterance “*Thanks for 70 years dedication for all your people.*” This expression falls under the category of tribute eulogy. The speaker expresses his gratitude and appreciation for the Queen’s long and devoted service to her community or country. It acknowledges the Queen’s commitment, loyalty, and impact on others, and serves as a reminder of the positive legacy the Queen leaves behind.

Religious Eulogy. The researcher found 7 messages containing religious eulogy. An example of religious eulogy is when the speaker says “*Godspeed, Your Majesty.*” This expression falls under the category of religious eulogy. The speaker hopes that the Queen’s soul will be guided safely into the afterlife by God’s grace. It can be seen as a way of acknowledging that the Queen’s physical journey in life has come to an end, but her spiritual journey is just beginning.

3.2.3 Variations of Expressing Sympathy

Variations of expressing sympathy refer to different ways of communicating compassion and empathy to someone who has experienced a loss or a difficult time. Expressing sympathy involves offering words or gestures that convey emotional support and understanding. From the data, the researcher found 3 variations of expressing sympathy.

My condolence+ family/etc. The researcher found as many as 14 messages containing this variation. For example, “*My condolences to the family and the nation.*” This expression falls under the category of expressing sympathy through the use of the word “*condolence(s).*” In this expression, the speaker conveys his sympathy and empathy for both the family of Queen Elizabeth and the nation. The speaker acknowledges the pain and suffering they are

going through, and offering comfort to those who are grieving.

Sorry or sorry for ... The researcher found as many as 2 messages containing this variation. For example, “*I am so sorry for your loss.*” This expression is part of expressing sympathy through the word “*sorry.*” The expression shows that the speaker feels regret for the family’s loss. The use of the word “*so*” in the phrase “*I am so sorry*” intensifies the expression of sympathy and emphasizes the sincerity of the message. It shows that the speaker feels deeply for the family and aware of the difficulty they are going through.

3.2.4 Variations of Expressing Sympathy and Eulogy at the Same Time

Variations of expressing wishful thinking refer to different approaches to communicate hopeful thoughts or wishes for the bereaved people, although the hope or desire that is not necessarily happen. From the data, the researcher only found 2 variations of expressing wishful thinking.

May you strong or may god ... The researcher found 2 messages containing this variation. For example, “*May God give the royal family strength and comfort in your time of grief. Yours truly, Debbie Davis.*” This expression falls under the category of expressing wishful thinking using the modal verb “*may.*” In this case, the speaker conveys her hope and desire for the well-being of the royal family. However, the speaker does not have control over whether or not this will actually happen. It is a hope or wish that is based on her belief and value, and it is intended to offer some form of support and encouragement to the royal family during their difficult time.

Table 2. Variations of Expressing Condolences

No.	Variations of Expressing Condolences	Example	Total
1.	Variations of Expressing Sympathy and Eulogy at the Same Time		
	<i>Condolence + tribute eulogy</i>	<i>My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She will be missed by so many throughout the world and her legacy will never be forgotten.</i>	32

	<i>Condolence + religious eulogy</i>	<i>My sincerely condolences to the Queen Elizabeth II's family. God has mercy on her and in her family in this difficult time that they are going through. My thoughts and prayers are with all the Queens Family..</i>	2
	<i>Sympathy + tribute eulogy</i>	<i>My deepest sympathy. She was a wonderful human being.</i>	7
	<i>Others</i>	<i>I am so deeply saddened at the loss of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. I will remember her strength, grace and kindness to Canadians and the world always. God bless.</i>	4
2.	Variations of Eulogy for the Deceased		
	<i>Tribute Eulogy</i>	<i>Thanks for 70 years dedication for all your people.</i>	37
	<i>Religious Eulogy</i>	<i>Godspeed, Your Majesty.</i>	7
3.	Variations of Expressing Sympathy		
	<i>My condolence+ family/etc.</i>	<i>My condolences to the family and the nation.</i>	14
	<i>Sorry or sorry for</i>	<i>I am so sorry for your loss.</i>	2
	<i>Others</i>	<i>My thoughts and prayers are with all the Queens Family..</i>	7
4.	Expressing of Wishful Thinking		
	<i>May you strong or may god ...</i>	<i>May God give the royal family strength and comfort in your time of grief. Yours truly, Debbie Davis.</i>	2
	<i>Others</i>	<i>May your family carry your incredible light forward.</i>	1

The results of this study show that there are four types of condolence, namely expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time, eulogy for the deceased, expressing sympathy, and expressing wishful thinking. The results of this study support the theory proposed by Kuang (2015). Kuang states that there are eight types of condolence, namely expressing concern via directives, expressing sympathy, offering assistance, expressing wishful thinking, explanation before expressing sympathy, eulogy for the deceased, expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time, and expressing uncertainty. However, the results of this study are not in line with the results of Cardozo et al. (2020), Putri & Muhlisian (2019), and Bayo (2021). The difference lies in the number of types of condolence found by the researchers, as well as the possibility of differences in the media used by the speakers. Cardozo et al. (2020) found six types of condolence, Putri & Muhlisian's (2019) found six types of condolence, and Bayo's (2021) found seven types of condolence. Meanwhile, the results of this study found four types of condolence. Thus, the researcher assumes that the results of this study are not in line, probably due to different frameworks. Besides that, probably due to the difference in the platform used by the speaker when expressing condolences. On social media like facebook or personal blog, the speaker uses more abbreviations and the delivery is casual. While on the official website, the speaker expresses condolences in long sentences and tends to praise the deceased.

Furthermore, the results of this study noted four variations of condolence based on analysis derived from Kuang's theory (2015). These variations include variations of expressing sympathy, variations of expressing wishful thinking, variations of eulogy for the deceased, and variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time. Each variation consisted of two or more distinctive forms of the variant. However, the results of this study didn't find variations of expressing concern via directives, variations of offering assistance, variations of explanation before sympathy, and variations of expressing uncertainty. This is due to the limited amount of data taken by the researcher. The writers also tend to highly praise the deceased or comfort them, avoiding offering directives which may come across as dismissive. In addition, there has been no research that examines variation of condolence, so this study is the first. Therefore, the results of this study can provide a new understanding of what are the variation of expression to convey condolences.

4. CLOSING

This study focuses on speech act condolence to Queen Elizabeth's death. This study aims to find out the types of condolence used by the Canadians for the passing of Queen Elizabeth's death as well as to identify the variation of expression to convey each type of condolences. After the data is analyzed, the researcher found four types of condolence from eight types of condolence proposed by Kuang (2015), namely expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time, eulogy for the deceased, expressing sympathy, and expressing wishful thinking. For intentions of condolence, the researcher found four variations of condolence based on analysis derived from Kuang's theory (2015). These variations include variations of expressing sympathy, variations of expressing wishful thinking, variations of eulogy for the deceased, and variations of expressing sympathy and eulogy at the same time. It can be understood that the types and the variations of expressing condolence used by the Canadians on the website are quite diverse. As native speakers, they have the ability to express condolence well. Moreover, the speakers are good at choosing appropriate words, which is not offending those who are grieving.

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