REQUEST STRATEGIES USED IN *TWILIGHT* NOVEL
BY STEPHENIE MEYER (A PRAGMATICS APPROACH)

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Written by

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REQUEST STRATEGIES USED IN TWILIGHT
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ABSTRACT
This study focuses on analyzing the type of request strategy using the theory of request by Anna Trosborg. This study aim at describing the type of request strategy found in “Twilight”.

This research applies descriptive qualitative method. The data are a novel by Stephenie Meyer entitled “Twilight”. The way to collect data is using documentation method. The data analyzed are request strategies found in the novel “Twilight”. The result show that there are 10.86 % or 19 data of hints, 12.57 % or 22 data of ability/willingness, 6.29 % or 11 data of suggetory formulae, 9.14 % or 16 data of wishes/desires, 7.43 % or 13 data of needs/demands, 14.86 % or 26 data of obligations/necessity, 17.14 % or 30 data of performatives, and 21.74 % or 38 data of imperatives.

Keyword: novel, pragmatics, request strategy

A. INTRODUCTION
According to Searle (1969) a request is a directive speech act whose illocutionary purpose is to get the hearer to do something in circumstances in which is not obvious that he/she will perform the action in the normal course of events. Then Trosborg (1995: 187) asserts that request is an illocutionary act whereby a speaker (requester) conveys to a hearer (requestee) that he/she wants the requestee to perform an act which is for the benefit of the speaker.
Therefore by understanding a request, the speaker convinces that the hearer is able to perform the action as what the speaker means.

There has been some research on the use of requests done by previous study. For example Tina (2008) focused request in Harry Potter movie. Suryani (2012) studied request about request in New Moon and its subtitling, then Budiyanto (2008) focused in Spiderman I action movie and many more. Nevertheless research on request used in Twilight novel never been conducted before. This study is to fill in the gap by continuing study on request in novel that is Twilight. The gap here is the writer tries to analyze the request based on other theory of request which found by Anna Trosborg. Trosborg (1995) classifies request into four major categories of directness level, involving eight sub-strategies. The eight sub-strategies here are used by the writer to analyze the data. The eight sub-strategies reveals that all utterance can convey the request depend on the speaker means and the directness level of request. From the problem above, the writer conduct the following abjectives, they are first to classify the type of request strategy in the novel Twilight.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

In conducting this research, the researcher implies descriptive qualitative method. Mardalis (2006:7) states that descriptive research describes the object or the problems and concludes the result of the research generally. While according to Burns (2000: 11), “qualitative forms of investigation tend to be based on recognition of the importance of the subjective, experiential ‘life world’ of human beings.”
The object of the research is request strategies used in Stephenie Meyer’s Twilight novel viewed from pragmatics framework. The data are utterances of request strategies in Twilight novel and the data sources of this research are the utterance used in conversation by characters in the Twilight novel. In collecting the data, the researcher uses documentation method with the following steps: first, identifying the type of request strategies in the novel and underlying them. Second, identifying types of pragma linguistic forms. Third, the intention of request. Fourth, coding the data, for example Dat001/01/TW – S: Bella H: Edward. Fifth is analyzing the data. In analyzing the data, the researcher uses description technique with the following procedure. First, showing the data found in the novel Twilight, describing the types of request strategy with their pragma linguistic form and clarify the intention of request in the novel Twilight. The last, drawing conclusion and suggestion based on the data analyzed.

C. RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter, the researcher describes the type of request strategy form each representative data which is combined with classification of pragma linguistic form. The researcher also describes the intention of request in Twilight.
1. The Types of Request and their Pragma Linguistic Forms

   a. Hints

   Hinting strategies is a request strategy which does not explicitly state the speaker’s request for the desired action. The data which represent of hints are explained as follows:

   Dat004/018/TW – S: Bella    H: Charlie

   "Do you know the Cullen family?" I asked hesitantly.
   "Dr. Cullen’s family? Sure. Dr. Cullen’s a great man."
   "They… the kids… are a little different. They don’t seem to fit in very well at school."

   Context

   The conversation takes place in the living room. The participants are Bella and her father, Charlie. They talk about Bella’s new friend at her new school. Bella asks Charlie about the Cullen family. The Cullen family leaves in near Forks. Carlisle is the head and “father figure” of the family. And their children learn at Bella’s new school. Actually, Bella doesn’t ask about them but indirectly she wants Charlie to tell more about Cullen family. Then Charlie starts the story of Cullen family.

   Analysis of request strategies

   Bella’s utterance is hinting strategy. By making statement “Do you know the Cullen family?”, Bella not only gives a question but also ask something. Indirectly she wants Charlie to tell the story about Cullen family so she is
able to know more about them. It means that request has benefit to Bella as the speaker. Finally Bella gets information about the Cullen family.

b. Questioning/Statements of Ability/Willingness

It is indirect request strategy which refers to the hearer’s capacity/willingness to carry out the desired act. The request strategy of ability considers the hearer’s capacity to perform the desired act. The data are analyzed as follows:

**Dat010/022/TW – S: Edward  H: Bella**

*My assessment was confident." Prophase."*

"*Do you mind if I look?*" he asked as I began to remove the slide. His hand caught mine, to stop me, as he asked. His fingers were ice-cold, like he’d been holding them in a snow drift before class. But that wasn't why I jerked my hand away so quickly. When he touched me, it stung my hand as if an electric current had passed through us.

**Context**

In Biology class, Mr. Banner, as a teacher, gives an assessment to separate the slides of onion root tip cells into the phases of mitosis they represented and label them accordingly. Bella and Edward becomes a lab partner to do this assessment. Bella gets her first turn to separate the slide and identified it as prophase. Then Edward wants to see it, so he asks for permission to certain whether Bella is right or not.

**Analysis of request strategy**

Edward’s utterance is ability structure, especially making request of permission. What he said as ‘‘*Do you mind if I look?*” is Edward strategy to
get Bella’s permission to give him a first slide so he can certain Bella’s answer. Making request of permission could be known by statement “do you mind....”

c. Suggestory Formulae

It is a request strategy which refers to the hearer’s cooperativeness in carrying out the request. There is any condition exist that might prevent the hearer from carrying out the action specified by the proposition. The data are analyzed as follows:

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Dat108/166/TW – S: Billy          H: Jacob

"Jake," he said, still appraising me. "Why don't you go get that new picture of Rebecca out of the car? I'll leave that for Charlie, too."
"Where is it?" Jacob asked, his voice morose. I glanced at him, but he was staring at the floor, his eyebrows pulling together.
"I think I saw it in the trunk," Billy said. "You may have to dig for it."
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Context

The conversation takes place in Bella’s house between Billy and Jacob. Jacob is Billy’s son. They come to Bella’s house to meet Charlie as Billy’s best friend. But they just meet Bella there. All at once, Billy wants to talk about the relation between Edward with Bella. Because there is Jacob, Billy asks him to get the picture out of their car. Billy just does it in order to talk with Bella without Jacob there.

Analysis of Request Strategy

Billy uses a suggestion by saying “Why don't you go get that new picture of Rebecca out of the car?” to express his request. The request which
is used by him is suggestory formulae. He asks about Jacob’s cooperativeness to get the picture out of the car.

d. Statements of Speaker’s Wishes And Desires

The speaker’s desires become the focal point of the interaction. A requester can choose to focus on speaker based conditions, rather than querying hearer-oriented conditions. It places the speaker’s interest above the hearer’s; the request becomes more direct in its demand. The data are analyzed as follows:

**Dat019/031/TW – S: Bella H: Edward**

*As soon as the doctor’s back was turned, I moved to Edward's side. "Can I talk to you for a minute?" I hissed under my breath. He took a step back from me, his jaw suddenly clenched. "Your father is waiting for you," he said through his teeth. I glanced at Dr. Cullen and Tyler. "I'd like to speak with you alone, if you don't mind," I pressed.*

**Context**

Bella is closely hit by Tyler’s van but Edward can save her suddenly. In the hospital which Bella gets her cure, they talk one another. Bella cannot believe how Edward can save her so fast while she saw Edward is in cross of her way before. Bella wants an explanation how it can happen. So she wants to speak with Edward alone to make it clear.

**Analysis of request strategy**

Bella’s request shows a strategy of wishes and desires. By uttering "I'd like to speak with you alone", Bella hopes she can speak with Edward lonely. It is stressed with permission “if you don’t mind” that emphasizes Bella really wants to speak with Edward.
e. Statements of Speaker’s Needs And Demands

It is a request strategy which expresses the speaker’s request more bluntly as a demand. The data are analyzed bellow:

**Dat191/179/TW – S: Bella H: Edward**

"Dammit, Edward! Where are you taking me?"
"We have to get you away from here — far away — now." He didn't look back, his eyes on the road. The speedometer read a hundred and five miles an hour.
"**Turn around! You have to take me home!**" I shouted. I struggled with the stupid harness, tearing at the straps.

**Context**

The conversation takes place inside the car. The situation is threatening. The hunter wants Bella to be their next sacrifice. They begin to find Bella out. Edward takes her away from the town to save his sweetheart, Bella. It also can prevent her to be tracked by them. But Bella doesn’t want it. She gets angry and asks Edward to bring her home.

**Analysis of request analysis**

Bella expresses her request by demanding. She applies her request bluntly as a demand. According to the context, she gets angry since Edward brings her away to leave the town. She shouts "**Turn around! You have to take me home!**" to certain Edward. Bella performs a request strategy of desires/needs.

f. Statements of Obligation And Necessity

It is a request strategy which employs a statement of obligation. The speaker exerts either his/her own authority. The data are analyzed as follows:
"Can't I go back to school?" I asked, imagining Charlie trying to be attentive.
"Maybe you should take it easy today."

Context

The conversation takes place in the hospital where Bella gets a cure after the accident of Tyler’s van. Dr. Cullen treats her in one room. After all of the treat is done, Bella asks whether she can go back to school or not. As a doctor, Dr. Cullen insists Bella by suggesting her to take a little rest till she gets well.

Analysis of request strategy

From the datum above, Dr. Cullen applies a request strategy of obligation. He exerts his authority as a doctor who gives advice to his patient, Bella. Dr. Cullen asks Bella “Maybe you should take it easy today” implies that he wants Bella to take a rest first. So, Bella should take a rest as an obligation that has to be fulfilled.

g. Performatives

It is a request strategy which explicitly states the requestive intent with inclusion of a performative verb, e.g. asks, request, order, demand, command, etc. This request strategy usually uses to ask someone to perform something. In conversation the speaker not always use the performative verb directly. The data are analyzed as follows:

Dat052/075/TW – S: Edward H: Bella

Headlights suddenly flew around the corner, the car almost hitting the stocky one, forcing him to jump back toward the sidewalk. I dove into
the road — this car was going to stop, or have to hit me. But the silver car unexpectedly fishtailed around, skidding to a stop with the passenger door open just a few feet from me.

"Get in," a furious voice commanded.

Context

A group of four men follow Bella when she is lost in Port Angeles. They intend to flirt with Bella. Bella reaches the corner into blind drive. Then the guys approach her. But before they get Bella suddenly Edward comes with his car and save her. As Bella’s sweetheart, Edward commands her get to the car and stay away from that place.

Analysis of request strategy

Edward’s command “Get in” is a request. He applies a request strategy of performatives. Performatives request explicitly mark the utterance as an order. By saying “get in” Edward orders Bella comes in his car and leave out the civilian.

h. Imperatives

It is a request strategy that is directly signaling that the utterance is an order. The order is issued by authority figures that must be obeyed, such as the order from parents to their children, from teachers to their pupils, or from officers to their soldiers, etc. The data are analyzed as follows:

Dat059/080/TW – S: Edward H: Waitress

Hello. My name is Amber, and I'll be your server tonight. What can I get you to drink?" I didn't miss that she was speaking only to him. He looked at me.

"I'll have a Coke." It sounded like a question.

"Two Cokes," he said.
Context

Edward and Bella get dinner in Port Angeles. In the restaurant, they are served by the waitress. After the waitress takes the menu, Edward wants to order two cokes. The relation of conversation is between guests with his server.

Analysis of request strategy

From the utterance above, Edward applies a request strategy of imperatives. He asks “Two cokes” to the waitress means that he wants to order two cokes for the drinks. That utterance is directly signaling as an order. By his own authority as a guest, Edward asks the waitress to obey that request.

2. Discussion

Based on the analyzed data, the researcher finds 178 data of request strategy.

Related to the theory of request by Trosborg, the researcher classified the types of request strategy which is used in utterances of Twilight novel into eight: Hints, Questioning/statements of ability/willingness, Suggestory formulae, Statements of speaker’s wishes and desires, Statements of speaker’s needs and demands, Statements of obligation and necessity, Performative and Imperatives/Elliptical phrases.
The writer discusses the types of request strategy in Twilight novel and finds 175 includes 10.86 \% or 19 data of hints, 12.57 \% or 22 data of ability/willingness, 6.29 \% or 11 data of suggestory formulae, 9.14 \% or 16 data of wishes/desires, 7.43 \% or 13 data of needs/demands, 14.86 \% or 26 data of obligations/necessity, 17.14 \% or 30 data of performatives, and 21.74 \% or 38 data of imperatives. Then there are two types of strategy that becomes the fewest and the most data than the other. Request strategy by using suggestory formulae is fewest while imperatives request has the most number of data.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

1. Conclusion

From 178 data of request strategy, request of suggestory formulae is the fewest than the other types of request and imperatives request has the most of the data. It probably occurs since the participant has his/her main position in action use in each request. It depends on the authority figures and context of situation. Some types ranks the average of the entire data such as statements of speaker’s wishes/desires and statements of speaker’s needs/demands.

2. Suggestion

Based on the research result of the adjective phrase translation in I Am Number Four novel, the researcher gives the following suggestions:
a. To the lecturer or teacher in linguistics, they can suggest their students to analyze language phenomenon by using pragmatics theory, especially in the types of request with their forms and its intentions.

b. To future researcher, the writer hopes this research can be reference to analyze the other research, especially in the same topic. There are many data that can be used to present the analysis of request. The future researcher can take the other source likes movie (especially in aristocratic setting) or real conversation in order to be useful for subsequent research. He/she probably can analyze the type of request by seeing the change of attitude and expression on the face that can’t be found in this research. The writer also recommended analyze in authority figures of each participant of request.

E. BIBLIOGRAPHY


**F. VIRTUAL REFERENCE**


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Naskah artikel tersebut, layak dan dapat disetujui untuk dipublikasikan.

Demikian persetujuan dibuat, semoga dapat dipergunakan seperlunya.

Surakarta, Juli 2013

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