

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

In personal communication people have to consider politeness principle, that is a set or system in conversation when utter the speech. The principle is to maintain or consider the feeling of the hearer. In this case the politeness are needed to reduce the risk of conflict or Face Threat (Brown Levinson, 1987). Polite utterances are often used in asking (requesting), offering, complaining, apologizing because those request tend to threat to other's face.

Politeness in pragmatics is proposed by some experts, they are: Leech (1983), Lakoff (1967) and Brown and Levinson (1987). According to Brown and Levinson (1987), politeness can be defined as a desire to protect self image. A speaker must show awareness of the hearer's face and self image through various strategies. To be successful in interaction, one has to follow some important strategies to be polite. People usually expect their face is respected in social interaction. If a speaker says something that threatens another individual's face, it is described as a face threatening act (FTA). Alternatively if he speaks something that lessens the possible threat, this called a face saving act. A face saving act that is oriented to the person's negative face tends to respect. This is also called negative politeness. Alternatively, a face saving act that concerns with the person's positive face tends to show solidarity. This called positive politeness. On this basis, there

are four main strategies for performing Face Threatening Acts (FTA) are as follows: Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Of Record, and Negative Politeness.

Request is a type of speech act where the speaker (requester) demands from the hearer (requestee) to perform an act which is for the benefit of the requester at the cost of the request. Request is one of classifications of speech act that concern of asking for something or getting someone to do something.

Request can be defined as a face threatening act (FTA). The speaker who makes a request attempt to exercise power or direct control over the intentional behavior of the hearer, and doing so threatens the requestee's negative face (his/her want to be unimpeded) by indicating that he/she does not intend to refrain impeding the requestee's freedom of action. The request also runs the risk of losing face him/herself, as the requestee may choose to refuse to comply with his/her wishes (Trosborg, 1995:188).

According to Tsui (1999: 92) that request are generally considered as polite ways of getting the addressee to do something. Request is means the act of asking for something or something you asked for. Tsui also classifies request strategy into five categories, namely, request for permission, request for action, request for invitation and request for proposal.

Request are very commonly used in plays and movie. The movie which include a lot request in romantic movie. Those romantic movies including Dear John movie, The Vow, and Letter to Juliet are interesting romantic film. The first movie is Dear John is a romantic movie that release

in 2010, it starring by Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried. The film was directed by Lasse Hallstrom and it is an adoption from the novel by Nicholas Sparks with the same title. Dear John tells the story of a soldier (Channing Tatum), he falling in love with a woman (Amanda Seyfried ). The war between the U.S. and Iraqi made the soldiers far apart with the woman (Amanda Seyfried) so that they decide to exchange letter to each other after he is deployed the war. The second movie is The Vow is a 2012 romantic drama film directed by Michael Sucsy, starring Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum. The film is based on the true story of Kim and Krickitt Carpenter. It the story about a newlywed couple recovers from a car accident that puts the wife in a coma. Waking up with severe memory loss, her husband endeavors to win her heart again. The last movie is Letter to Juliet, it is story an American girl discovers a love letter that changes her life in this romantic movie starring Amanda Seyfried and Vanessa Redgrave. The setting is Verona, Italy the city where Romeo and Juliet first met. In Verona, there's a wall where the lovelorn leave notes, hoping that Juliet will answer their inquiries about love. Sophie (Seyfried) is part of a team of volunteers who respond to the letters. When Sophie answers a letter from 1957, the woman who wrote it (Redgrave) decides to seek out the one that got away. Those romantic movies contain a lot of request utterance that want to analyze using politeness strategy by Brown and Levinson' theory.

The example of request utterance in conversation from Dear John movie script:

**DJ/DATA 01/PP**

- Savannah : Hey, John, do you want to...?  
My house is right over there.
- Savannah : We were actually going back right now.  
**Do you want to join us?**
- Savannah : We're having a barbeque.
- John : It's okay. I don't want to intrude on you all.  
My dad's making dinner.
- Savannah : Okay.

The conversation taken place in a beach. The participant involves John, Savannah, Randy and Randy's girlfriend. They take a walk around the beach and take a rest in a hung bridge suddenly Savannah's bag fall down into the beach. John takes savannah's bag and jump and swim into the beach to get it. After get a bag, Savannah feels happy and she feels to have much debt to John because he gets her bag. Savannah said thanks to john for the help. As a thank, Savannah request john to join him to a barbeque party in Savannah's house. But John refuses Savannah's invitation because his father was preparing the dinner in his house. The utterances **"do you want to join us"** belong to Positive Politeness. In this strategy is redress directed to the addressee's positive face that desire by communicating that one's own wants to the addressee's wants. In this case, Savannah invites John to join with them in barbeque party as thanking sign. Savannah also speaks directly with john, so it make john does not pleasant with the condition. The utterance above it also belong to request for invitation because the speaker (Savannah) invite someone (John) to come somewhere (in savannah's house). The addressee may refuse or accept it, and in the case John refuse' it.

During this time there have been many studies on politeness. There are the examples of politeness study; First study was conducted by Irragiliati (2006) study of politeness forms of address and communication. Second study was conducted by Wijayanto (2009) study on politeness principle in the expressive act in the movie of Pearl Harbor. The Next the study was conducted by Brown (2010) study of politeness and second language learning. The other study was conducted by Solikhah (2011) study on politeness in the main Character in Persuasion Movie, etc. But there has never been study on politeness used in request utterances in romantic movies script. Thus this study is to fill in this gap.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writer is interested to analyze the act of request in romantic movie. The request expression in this movie can be analyzed in relation to politeness strategy. From the descriptive above, So, the writer tries to analyze the strategy of politeness in request that found in romantic movie by conducting a research paper entitled **POLITENESS STRATEGIES OF REQUEST UTTERANCES IN ROMANTIC MOVIE SCRIPT.**

## **B. Limitation of the Study**

In this research paper, the writer only focuses on politeness used in request in character in Dear John, The Vow and Letter to Juliet movie script. The writer only limits on politeness in request because in the movie contain the polite utterance of request. The data will be analyzed using Politeness

Theory by Brown and Levinson (1987), Pragmatics by Peccei (1999), The Study of Language by Yule (2006) and Trosborg's Theory of Request Strategies (1995), etc.

### **C. Problem Statement**

In this study the writer proposes a problem statement “ How the politeness strategies of request utterances in romantic movie script?”. To specify the problem statement the writer draws three research question as follows.

1. What are the types of request used in romantic movie script?
2. What are the pragmalinguistic forms of request used in romantic movie script?
3. What types of politeness strategy used in request in romantic movie script?

### **D. Objective of the Study**

In general, the objective of the study is to determine the politeness in request strategy used in romantic movie and the factor contribute to the choice of politeness to answer three point of problem statement, the objective of the study are specified as follows :

1. To describe the types of request are used in romantic movie script.
2. To describe the pramalinguistic forms of request used in romantic movie script.

3. To determine types of politeness strategy used in request in romantic movie script.

#### **E. Benefit of the Study**

From this research, the writer hopes that this study has benefits that are divided into practical and theoretical benefits, they are as follows.

##### 1. Practical Benefit

- a. The study is intended to help the researcher understand more about Politeness in request strategy uses by native speaker in the movie.
- b. The study is intended to give the researcher knowledge how to use Brown and Levinson's Politeness Theory as the analytical tools in the study of politeness.
- c. The study is intended to recognize the types of request are there in the dialog of romantic movie script.

##### 2. Theoretical Benefit

The study is expected to be helpful in serving some more knowledge about polite utterances. The result of this study is expected to be a framework for further study which going to analyze about politeness, especially according Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness. This study also recognizes the type of request that can be used as additional source to understand more about utterance.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

This research paper organization is divided into four chapters.

Chapter I is introduction which is consist of background of Study, previous study, limitation of study, problem statement , objective of study, benefit of Study, research paper organization

Chapter II is underlying theory which is describe pragmatics, context of speech, speech act theory, request theory, politeness theory, and pragmalinguistic form theory.

Chapter III is research method which is consist of type of research, object of research, data and data source, method of collecting data and method of analyzing data

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. The research findings, the type of request, how the linguistic form of request and elaborate the politeness of request used in romantic movie script.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion