

**ETHNOGRAPHY OF COMMUNICATION OF MATT KING IN
THE DESCENDANTS MOVIE (2011)**



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**ETHNOGRAPHY OF COMMUNICATION OF MATT MOVIE
IN *THE DESCENDANTS* MOVIE (2011)**

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ABSTRACT

This research aims for revealing and clarifying ethnography of communication of Matt King in The Descendants movie (2011) using SPEAKING grid. The type of research conducted by the researcher is descriptive method. The data and data source is dialogue of Matt King in The Decendant movie. The method of colection data employed by the writer is the documentation and observation to ward the movie. Based on the analyzed data, the researcher finds (1)Setting or Scene is at pantient room, at staffroom, at schoolyard, at Mrs. Brab's house, at office, at Dr. John room, at the club, at beach, at kitchen, at swimming pool, at yard, kay's house. (2) Participant is the sender and receiver. The sender is as informan, as family member, as husband, as father, and as friend. The receiver is as father, as husband, as family members, as friend and son-in-law. (3) End is to giving information, to geting information, to asking apologize, to giving praise, to persuading, to giving advice, commanding, showing, believing, and exspressing his disappointment. (4) Act sequences is in normal situation, regreds situation, confused situation, intimate situation, wise situation, tense situation, sad situation, rushs situation, slow situation, and disappointment situation. (5) Keys consist of two parts, those are tone and manner. The tone of Matt King is flat, tense, worried, intimidate, emphatic, sad, and amazed. The manner is low intonation and high intonation. (6) Instruments are verbal communication and non-verbal communication. Verbal communication consists of formal style and non formal style, non-verbal communication is hit Alex buttocks and throws the doll on the floor.(7) Genre of Matt King communication in The Decendant movie is dialogue and monologue.

Keyword : communication, speaking grid

A. Introduction

Utterance is often used in daily activity and communication with other people in every situation. Utterance is very important in communication to present what the speaker's intention to the hearers and it is the physical production of linguistic behavior. Finding the meaning of utterance is one of many ways to get the message from the utterances. And in daily activity people have a speech community in their environment. Hymes (1974:52) in Coupland (1997:116) states that speech community is called a group of people who share rule for using and interpreting speech. The term speech event will be restricted to activities, or aspects of activities that are directly governed by rules or norms for the use of speech.

Sociolinguistics refers to a study about relationship between language and society. There are many aspects being studied in sociolinguistics. A discourse analysis is one of the sociolinguistic aspects which is learned generally. Then discourse analysis has several points. Ethnography of communication is one of the aspects of discourse analysis. Ethnography of communication is the approach by Hymes that studied about language and culture. Fauziati (2009:181) states that

the ethnography of communication is an approach to discourse, which is based on linguistics and anthropology. It focuses on a wider range of communicative behavior whose forms and function can represent different ways of life. This approach tries to analyze pattern of communicative practices and such practices are an integrated part of what one knows and does as a member of particular culture.

The writer elaborates two previous studies done by Chotimah (UMS,2010) *Ethnography of Communication of Arthur Dimsdalle in Scarlet Letter Movie by Roland Joffe*. This research aims at finding the ethnography of communication of Arthur Dimsdalle in Scarlet Letter Movie by Roland Joffe. The researcher finds that components of communication of Arthur Dimsdalle are (1) Scene/ Settings, (2) Participants, (3) Ends (4) Act Sequences, (5) Keys, (6) Instrumentalities, (7) Norms, (8) Genres. Based on those components, the writer

finds that ethnography of communication of Arthur is obedient to the religion as the influence of Arthur in communication.

Secondly, the researcher is done by Ray (*Visva-Bharat University, 2011*) *A Study on Ethnography of Communication: A Discourse Analysis with Hymes' SPEAKING Model*. Ethnography of communication relates ethnography, the description and structural-functional analysis of society and culture, with the 'language' – a cultural behavior that navigates and helps to share knowledge, arts, morals, beliefs and everything acquired by man as a member of society. Ethnography of communication is an approach to understand society & culture and its reconstruction of an ethnic group in particular and nation in general. Language carries and transmits social/cultural traits through generations. The role of speech behavior, one of the aspects of language, has always been significant in cultural anthropological research. Ethnography of Communication, the concept introduced by Del Hymes in late sixties, is an active action of human way of life. He and his associates constructed a model of 'SPEAKING model' while tried to understand society and culture of an ethnic group through communication process.

While this article purposes to describe Hymes theory in Matt King communication in *The Descendants* Movie (2011). The components are *setting, participant, end, act, key, instrument, genre* of *The Descendants* movie.

Hymes (1974) in Fauziati (2009:179) has proposed a methodology used to discover communicative events. With this method one can discover communicative acts by classifying the components in which the communication may be potentially comprised. He then, also can discover communicative patterns formed by interrelationships among components. The classificatory grid he proposed is known as the *SPEAKING* grid.

Dell Hymes (1962) in Merrigan (2004:226) is preferred by ethnographer of speaking. Here is what SPEAKING stands for

Scene and Setting (from the perspective of members)

Participants (age, role, gender, ethnicity, etc.)

Ends (goals of the participants and actual outcomes of the event)

Act Sequence (structure and topic of the messages)

Key (tone or manner of the communication)

Instrumentalities (channels of communication, jargon, dialects, etc)

Norms of Interaction and Interpretation (how to make sense of messages)

Genre (categories like poetry, myth, joke, etc)

1) Setting

Fauziati (2009:181) has argued about setting or scene:

setting, scene is all speech events occur at specific time and specific place. This includes not only the physical circumstances but also the psychological setting (scene) of an event – the cultural definition of an occasion as formal or informal, serious or festive. Since very often the festive nature of the occasion conditions the choice of style-the litigants, for example, employ esoteric legal language, often arranged into verse form and sung to the tunes of drinking songs.

Based on the quotation above setting refers to a psycal circumstance and a scene that is used in a conversation that takes place. In one place and another place have a different style of language to communicate.

2) Participant

According to Fasold (1999:244), participants include not only the speaker and addressee, but also the addressor and the audience. The participants include their age, sex, ethnicity, social status, or other relevant categories, and their relationship to one another.

3) End

According to Fauziati (181:2009):

end is all speech events and speech acts that have an end or a purpose, even if occasionally it is only a phatic communion. Sometimes several events shared the same style and are distinguished only by purpose and participants or setting. Hymes observes that the identical to the purposes of those engaged in it. At every language, individuals can exploit the system for personal or social reasons or effects.

Overall end is a speech act that has an aim in each communication delivered by the speaker to the hearer.

4) Act

According to Fasold (1999:44) :

act is message form (how something is said) and content (what is said) together are called the act sequence. Both message form and message content involve communicative skills that vary from one culture to another. Speakers have to know how to formulate speech events and speech acts in ways that their culture values and how to recognize what is being talked about, when a topic changes, and how to manage changes in topic.

According to Fasold above act is a speech act where the speaker must be able to show a specific character in delivering a message to the hearer.

5) Key

According to Fasold (1999:45) key refers to “manner or spirit in which a speech act is carried out: for example, whether is mock or serious, perfunctory or painstaking.”

6) Instrument

According to Fasold (1999:45) instruments refer to” both channels and form of speech. The kind of channels are written, telegraph, and the form of speech; dialect, standard language.”

7) Norm

According to Fasold (1999:45) norm refers to “both of interaction (what proprieties should be observed) and interpretation (including the common knowledge, the relevant cultural presuppositions, or shared understandings, which allow particular inferences to be drawn about what is to be taken literally, what discounted).”

8) Genre

According to Fasold (1999:46), genre refers to “categories like poems, myths, proverbs, lectures, and commercial messages. Genre often coincides with speech event, but have to be distinguished from speech events since a speech genre can occur in more than one kind of speech event.”

B. Research Method

This research belongs to descriptive research. Polit (1999) in http://www.researchproposalsforhealthproffesional.comdescriptive_research1.htm this type of research describes what exists and may help to uncover new facts and meaning. The purpose of descriptive research is to observe, describe, and analyze document aspects of a situation as it naturally occurs. The object of the study is the utterance of Matt King in *The Descendant* Movie (2011). Data and data source

in this research are the dialogues of *Matt King* in *The Descendants* movie. Method of collecting data is watching the movie repeatedly, collecting the data of Matt King utterances or the dialogues, classifying the data based on the criteria. Technique for analyzing is collecting the data of Matt King utterances or Dialogues in *The Descendants* movie , classifying the data or dialogue based on the Hymes theory, analyzing the Matt King utterances by the ethnography of communication, drawing conclusion and suggestion for the data

C. Research Finding and Discussion.

This chapter deals with the analysis the data based on the problem statements in the research. The data are the utterance of Matt King in *The Descendants* movie (2011)

1. Research Finding

The problem statement in this research answered by the analysis bellow :

1. **MATT** : “My friends on the mainland think just because I live in Hawai'i, I live in paradise. Like a permanent vacation we're all just out here drinking mai-tais, shaking our hips, and catching waves. Are they nuts? How can they possibly think our families are less screwed up, our cancers less fatal, our heart attacks less painful I haven't been on a surfboard in fifteen years. For the last 23 days, I've been living in a "paradise" of IVs and urine bags and endotracheal tubes. Paradise. Paradise can go fuck it self.

- a. **Setting or Scene**

The setting of Matt King monologue above is in patient room. Matt waits for Elizabeth in the hospital because she is coma, and he tells about the other people's opinion about Hawaii and the real condition of people in Hawaii. The setting of time is in the morning.

- b. **Participants :**

The participant of Matt King is the sender, because Matt as the informan who gives information about the background of this

movie. Matt tells about the people's condition in Hawaii and he does not agree with the judge of his friends about Hawaiian people.

c. Ends

Based on the previous dialog Matt King gives information to the viewer about Hawaii and the life style there, Hawaii is not only a paradise like the people think but there are also many conflicts in Hawaii.

d. Act

The act based on the Matt King monologue is with normal situation. Matt says with the flat intonation and there is no expression.

e. Keys

The keys of Matt King monologue are with flat tone, because the intonation of Matt King is using low intonation.

f. Instruments

The instrument of Matt king based on the monologue is verbal communication with informal style because the partner of Matt King's Monologue is the audience.

g. Gender

Based on the Matt King utterance, the gender is monologue.

2. **AYASHI** : "We just don't think these photograph sare appropriate for Scottie to be sharing with her classmates. Some of them went home quite disturbed, and wegot some angry calls from parents.

MATT : "Yeah, she's sort of been going to town with the whole picture-taking thing, but I had no idea

THULL : "Mr. King, we see this every day children acting out at school when something's wrong at home. And your family is facing a devastating crisis. Have you been engaging Scottie in really talking about what's going on? Encouraging her to express her feelings? That's crucial

MATT : "Oh, understand"

a. Settings or Scene

The setting based on the previous dialogue is in staffroom. Matt King gets a complaint from Scottie's teacher about Scottie art photograph, she takes her mother picture when she is coma, it makes Scottie friends afraid. The setting of time is in the day, because that time is when Scottie goes home.

b. Participants

The participant based on the previous dialogue above is Matt King as the receiver, it is the father of Scottie who gets complaints from Scottie's teacher about Scottie's art photograph.

c. Ends

The ends from the dialogue between Matt King and Scottie teacher above is getting information, Matt King gets information from Scottie's teacher about Scottie art photograph that makes her friends afraid and their parents complaint to the school.

d. Act

The act based on the dialogue is Matt King getting information from Scottie's teacher and Matt King is in confused situation. Matt never knows about the problem of his daughter before because Matt is always busy with his job.

e. Keys

The tone of Matt King based on the dialogue with Scottie's teacher above is tense tone because Matt is confused with the situation and Matt does not know what he should do toward Scottie problem.

f. Instruments

The instrument of Matt King utterance based on the dialogue is verbal communication with formal style because Matt King has conversation with Scottie's teacher and there is a respect inside.

g. Gender

Based on Matt King utterances with Scottie's teacher above, the gender is dialogue because Matt has a partner in their conversation.

D. Discussion

The writer finds the Matt King utterance is affected by the Hawaiian culture, the Hawaiian culture is calm and the character of Matt King in this movie is calm, Matt King has wise character in every scene, when Matt King knows about his wife's affair Matt King is angry but still wise, Matt King can handle his emotion in front of his daughter, and Matt King still calm. Matt King also the wise husband because Matt King treats his wife when she is coma although his wife cheating on him. In other words the character of Matt King is emphatic as a family member, Matt King is empathic when he is a decision marker. The participant of Matt King based on the research finding above is the sender and the receiver, the sender as informant, as family member, as husband, as father, as friend. The receiver as father, as husband, as family member, as friend, and as son in law.

The dialogue of Matt King contains ends and act sequences, between ends and act sequences has a closely relation. When Matt King talks with someone he has ends of his utterance and has relation with the situation on the act sequences. The end of Matt King is as commander, as husband, as friends, as family member, as father. And the act sequence is with normal situation, regret situation, confused situation, rushes situation, slow situation, and disappointment situation.

The writer finds the utterance of Matt King is using different style, tone, and intonation in his utterance, when he talks with the older man Matt King uses the low intonation and sometime with the formal style language. The formal and informal language style of Matt King is the instruments of Matt King utterance with the verbal communication. Matt also uses non-verbal communication in his utterance for example when he hit Alex buttocks. Then the manner and the tone as keys of Matt King utterance. Matt King uses flat, tense, worried, intimidate, emphatic, sad, and amazed tone for his utterance than low and high intonation to the manner of his utterance. Matt King understands with his utterance, how he has to be. The writer also finds the domination of the Matt King is utterance based on

the movie data is monologue. But the gender of the Matt King utterances is monologue and dialogue

E. Conclusion and Suggestion

1. Conclusion

After analysing the data the writer draws some conclusions as follows :

- a. Setting or Scene of Ethnography of communication in *The Descendant* movie of Matt King dialogues are in patient room, staffroom, schoolyard, Mrs. Brab's house, office, Dr. John room, on the club, beach, kitchen, swimming pool, yard, kay's house.
- b. Participant of Matt King communication in The Descendant movie is the sender and receiver. The sender is as informan, as family member, as husband, as father, and as friend. The receiver is as father, as husband, as family members, as friend and son-in-low.
- c. End of Matt king communication is giving information, geting information, asking apology, giving praise, persuading, giving advice, commanding, showing, believing, and exspressing his disappointment.
- d. Act sequences of Matt King communication is in normal situation, regreds situation, confused situation, intimate situation, wise situation, tense situation, sad situation, rushs situation, slow situation, and disappointment situation.
- e. Keys of Matt King communication consist of two parts, tone and manner. The tone of Matt King is flat, tense, worried, intimidate, emphatic, sad, and amazed. The manner is low intonation and high intonation.
- f. Instruments of Matt King communication are verbal communication and non-verbal communication. Verbal communication consists of formal style and non formal style, non-verbal communication is hit Alex buttocks and throws the doll on the floor.

g. Genre of Matt King communication in *The Descendant* movie is dialogue and monologue.

2. Suggestion

After drawing the conclusions, the writer would like to propose some suggestions as follows :

1. The lecturer of English Department should be able to improve their student's knowledge about discourse especially ethnography of communication and suggest his or her student to analyze the communication utterance using ethnography of communication to broaden the knowledge about linguistics especially ethnography of communication, because linguistics is very broad and complex.
2. Language learners especially students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, should understand the object and the data source to analyze communication utterance using ethnography of communication theory by Hyme.
3. Ethnography of communication have many object to be analyzed not only about utterance but also other object. In this research the object of the writer focuses on the major character utterance in *The Descendant* movie. The writer suggests other researchers to analyze the other objects using ethnography of communication, because language is not simple and has much kind of forms and function.

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