A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF REQUEST STRATEGIES
IN THE NOVEL THE GLASS HOUSE
BY LYNN BUSHELL

Research Paper

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Proposed by:

Reny Irawati
A 320 040 051

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In everyday life, there will always be communication among people. It happens because people need to interact with others to fulfill their needs, their wants, etc. When we talk about communication, our mind is directly pointed to languages. As Foss and Hakes in Purwati (2000: 1) states, "language is surely the most important tool of communication that individuals have their disposal. Many people have claimed that the possession of language is the single most important distinction between human and lower forms of life."

Language is used for human communication and social interaction. One will be able to communicate with others when they have known the language that is used. The social interaction is not used only in one country, but it develops to all over countries in the world.

Many languages exist in this world, but there is only one that is stated as an international 'language, English. English, in Indonesia, is learnt as a foreign language. A foreign language, according to Huebener (1956: 2) presents so many interesting facets that it is the best medium for introducing the student to the history, civilization, and cultural achievement of the foreign people. This statement is supported by Edge (1993: 25) who states that English serves for many people as a bridge into the world of higher education, science, international trade, politics, tourism or any other venture which
interest them.

From the statements above, it can be concluded that English has important role in this globalization era. So, if we want to stay alive in this globalization era, we have to be able to use English. To have a good communication in English, we need to know the correct expressions and how to use them in appropriate context. There will be misunderstanding or misinterpretation if we use inappropriate expressions in communicating our ideas.

As an example, when you are in a foreign country and you get lost, surely you will ask someone to tell you the direction/the way to get back. In this situation, you should use polite expression in expressing your request. For example: Could you show me the way to the “J.W. Marriott Hotel”, please? Using this expression, you will create good impression to the speaker or the person you ask for help. It will be different when you use imperative expression or direct request It is a little bit rude for you to say: Show me the way to J.W. Marriott Hotel” please, to the person you do not know well. Even though the meaning is the same, but we must pay attention to the expression we used. It is because we live in a society and we do not live alone. If we want to be respected by others, we should respect them first. It is okay to use imperative expressions or direct request to the person we already know very well, but not to the foreigner because what we say basically will reflect our personality.

Request strategies are one of Tsui’s classifications of speech act. It is an
utterance which solicits non-verbal actions which give the addressee the option of carrying out the solicited action. Tsui also classifies request strategy into five categories, namely requests for permission, requests for action, offers invitations and proposals.

The Glass House is a novel written by Lynn Bushell where the writer found various type of request strategy employed by the characters. The request strategy will be analyzed based on who performs the prospective action, that is speaker’s action, or the addressee’s action. Furthermore, these will be classified on the basis of whether they are for the speaker’s benefit, or the addressee’s benefit, or the speaker and the addressee’s benefit. The type of sentences used in request strategy is also analyzed.

Based on the phenomenon above, this research is focused on the use of speech act of request strategies found in the novel The Glass House. Therefore, the title of this research is “A PRAGMATICS ANALYSIS OF REQUEST STRATEGIES IN THE NOVEL THE GLASS HOUSE BY LYNN BUSHELL”.

B. Previous Study

In this case the writer takes two previous research about a pragmatics analysis on the written English composition. The first is a research was conducted by Sedah Putri Marianingtyas (2006, UNS) An Analysis of Requestives in a Film entitled Chasing Liberty. This research uses pragmatics approach as the way of analysis while the purpose of this research
are to describes the categories of request strategies and the request strategies form are used in film entitled Chasing Liberty. The researcher finds four categories of request strategies, they are indirect request, hearer oriented condition, hearer based condition and the last direct request. She also finds eight request strategies, they are hints, willingness, suggestory formulae, statement’s of speaker way, Obligation and necessity, performatives, and the last is imperatives. At the end of the research some conclusions were drawn. First, the most requestives used by character in the novel are willingness strategy. Second, the intention which highest number of frequency is hearer oriented condition category in a film entitled Chasing Liberty

The second research is written by Sugiyanti (2007, UMS) entitled a pragmatics analysis on forbidden utterance in the English translation of Al-Qur’an. This research studies about forbidden utterances in the English Translation of Al Qur’an. The object of the study is forbidden utterance. Her goals on that research are to clarify the form based on sentence category, and to describes the speaker’s intention based on the speech act theory to justify the meaning. She finds the inference that related to the form, she gets three form that are imperative, interrogative and declarative. Related to the meaning she also gets three kinds of meaning that are prohibition, inhibition, and ban. The form of forbidden utterance are mostly in imperative.

There are, differences between this research and both of two researches above. Those researches focus on in finding out the speaker’s intention by applying speech act theory, and to describes the form of sentence by using sentence category. However this research deals to describes the form by finds the types of request strategies that are employed and to clarify the implied meaning by performing implicature. The title of this research “A PRAGMATICS ANALYSIS OF REQUEST STRATEGIES IN THE NOVEL THE GLASS HOUSE BY LYNN BUSHELL”.
C. Focus of The Study

Based on the research background, the problem discussed in this thesis can be stated as follows:

1. What type of sentences used in request strategies are found in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell?
2. What are the dominant type of sentences used in request strategies are found in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell?
3. What types of request strategies are used in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell?
4. What are the dominant types of request strategies used in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell?

D. Objective the Study

Based on the problem statements, the writer states the objectives of this study as follows:

1. To explains the type of sentences used in request strategies found in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell.
2. To shows the dominant type of sentences used in request strategies found in the novel The Glass house.
3. To explains the types of request strategies used in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell.
4. To shows the dominant types of request strategies used in the novel *The Glass House* by Lynn Bushell.
E. Limitation of the Study

To make the study clearer, it is necessary for the writer to limit the problem that will be, discussed. The research will only focus on the forms of request strategies employed by the characters of the novel.

F. Benefit of the Study

1. Academic benefits
   a. The result of this study can contribute the pragmatic study, especially in giving description about speech acts theory.
   b. The results of this study can be developed by other researcher dealing with request strategies in different perspective.

2. Practical benefits
   a. The reseacher can get more knowledge in understanding pragmatic especially speech acts.
   b. The reader can use the result of this study as an additional reference in understanding the use of the strategies for request in daily conversations.

G. Research Paper Organization

The organization of research paper is given in order to make the readers understand the content of the papers as follow:

The first chapter contains introduction, it consist of background of the study, previous research, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study. The second chapter deals with underlying theory, it consist of nature of pragmatics, communication, speech act and request
strategies. The third research method, it consists of type of the research, the object of the research, data collection the technique of data analysis. The fourth chapter deals with the Research result. The last chapter draws conclusion and suggestion