A SOCIO PRAGMATICS ANALYSIS OF COMPLAINT
UTTERANCES USED IN ROMANTIC COMEDY MOVIE SCRIPT

RESEARCH PAPER

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by:

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Utterance is the physical production of linguistic behavior. In communication, utterance has important role to present what the speaker’s intention to the hearers. Austin (1998: 1) stated that people do not only produce utterance, but also perform act. When people produce some utterances, it cannot be denied that people need some act (reaction) from the addressee.

Utterances can be examined from the context of situation. Levinson (1983: 5) stated that context is understood to cover the identified participants, the temporal and spatial parameters of the speech event and (as Levinson shall sees) the beliefs, knowledge and intentions of the participants in that speech event, and no doubt much besides.

One thing that commonly happens in a conversation between one person and another in a context of situation is when one of participants (the speaker) expresses negative feeling toward the others because they against the speaker’s interest. Trosborg also defines complaint as an illocutionary act in which the speaker (complainer) expresses disapproval, negative feeling, etc towards the state of affairs described in proposition (the complain able) and for which s/he holds the hearer (the complainer) responsible, either directly or indirectly (1995: 311-312).
Complaint can be expressed in daily life and in various occasions. Complaint can naturally cause offense and highly threaten the social relationship between speaker and hearer. Complaint can be expressed at various level of directness. By choosing a particular level of directness, the complainer is able to decide on the conflict potential of the complaint (Trosborg, 1995: 314).

A number of strategies are available to a complainer who wants to express negative feeling or dissapproval. One of the complaint’s strategies is in the form of blaming. Blame is the act of censuring, holding responsible, making negative statements about an individual or group that their action or actions are socially or morally irresponsible. The complainer passes a value judgment on the complainee.

Meanwhile, there are many romantic comedy movie scripts that present different utterances of complaint. The utterances may show disapproval or negative feeling of the speaker towards someone’s behavior in several ways.

Below is the example of the complaint utterances in one of romantic comedy movie script entitled 10 Things I Hate About You:

EXT. DOWNTOWN STREET-NIGHT

Kat emerges from a music store carrying a bag of CD’s in her teeth, and tumbling through her purse with both hands. She finds her keys and pulls them out with a triumphant tug. She looks up and finds Patrick sitting on the hood of her car.
Patrick: Nice ride, Vintage Fenders.
(Kat takes the bag out of her mouth)
Katarina: Are you following me?
Patrick: I was in the Laundromat. I saw your car. Thought
I say hi…
Katarina : Hi… (She gets and starts the car).

From the quotation above, the speaker employs a direct accusation strategy of complaining. She accuses that the hearer has followed her. She accused directly because she really feels annoyed by the hearer. The implicature here is that the speaker (Katharina) wants the hearer (Patrick) to keep away from her.

Based on the example above, the writer is interested in conducting an analysis of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script under the theory of socio-pragmatics. Eventually the title of this research is A Socio Pragmatics Analysis of Complaint Utterances Used in Romantic Comedy Movie Script.

B. Previous Study

In this research, the writer presents the previous studies that have conducted the same study on the socio pragmatics analysis and complaint utterances.

The first research was conducted by Septi Dewi Siti H, a student from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, in the year 2001. She took “A Socio Pragmatics Analysis of Refusal Utterances in Children Movie Manuscripts”. In her research, she analyzed how polite are the refusal utterances used in children movie manuscripts, what are the meanings of such speaker’s refusal utterance in children movie manuscripts, and what are the reasons of expression refusal by children.
The second research was done by Widyasari, student of Sebelas Maret University Surakarta, in the year 2006. His research paper entitled “Complaint Expressions Used by the Characters in the Film Entitled Runaway Bride (a Socio-Pragmatic Approach)”. She analyzed the strategies of complaint are employed by the characters in the film entitled “Runaway Bride”, the function of the act of complaining uttered by the speaker, and the responses of the complainees toward the complaints.

The writer’s research is not merely the same as the researchers above. Although this research uses the same field that is socio pragmatic, it has different kinds of data. The difference from the first previous study is that the writer will analyze complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script. While, the difference from the second previous study is the writer will analyze the forms, implicature and politeness strategy of complaint utterances. The writer chooses 10 Things I Hate About You movie script, because it consists of many complaint utterances in several forms. As a result, the writer will carry out the study “A Socio Pragmatics Analysis of Complaint Utterances Used in Romantic Comedy Movie Script.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the background the writer tries to formulate the research problems as follows:

1. What are the language forms of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script?
2. What are the implicatures of complaint utterances used in romantic
comedy movie script?

3. What are the politeness strategies of complaint utterances used in romantic drama movie script?

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study intended by the writer are:

1. To identify the forms of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.

2. To clarify the implicatures of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.

3. To describe the politeness strategies of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.

E. Benefit of the Study

There are two benefits, namely academic benefit and practical benefit. They are as follows:

1. Academic benefit
   a. This research is expected to be helpful in giving some more knowledge about complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.
   
   b. The findings of this research will be used in teaching Socio Pragmatics, especially the analysis of complaint utterances found in romantic comedy movie script.
2. Practical benefit
   a. The reader will know the forms of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.
   b. The reader will know the implicature of speaker in addressing complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.
   c. The reader will know the politeness strategy of complaint utterances used in romantic comedy movie script.

F. Limitation of the Study

In conducting the research, the writer focuses on analyzing the complaint utterances taken from romantic comedy movie script entitle 10 Things I Hate About You. In analyzing the forms of complaint utterances, the writer applies theory of linguistic form, the implicature of the complaint utterances by applying Grice’s theory of Implicature and Pragmatic Context by Hymes, and the last, politeness strategy by applying Face Threatening Act's theory.

G. Research Paper Organization

The organization of this research paper is given in order the reader to be able to understand the content of the paper easier. They are as follow:

   Chapter 1 is introduction which consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.
Chapter II is the underlying theory. It deals with the notion Socio Pragmatics, Principles of Pragmatics, Context of Pragmatics, Cooperative Principle, Theory of sentence and clause, Politeness Pattern, Complaint Utterance and felicity condition.

Chapter III is the research method. It consists of type of the study, object of the study, data and data source, method of data collection, and the technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV research result and discussion. In this chapter, the writer will present the data analyzes and discussion of research finding.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.