

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists the background of the study, limitation of the study, research questions, objective of the study, and benefit of the study.

A. Background of the Study

Pragmatics is concern with the study of meanings communicate by speakers (or writers) and interpreted by listeners (or readers). This form of study really entails the interpretation of what people mean in a given context and how that context affects what is stated. This requires considering how speakers organize what they want to say according to who they are speaking to, where, when, and under what circumstances. To recognize how it becomes, Pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning, this method also needs to explore how listeners can make inferences about what is being said in effort to arrive on the speaker's intended interpretation of meaning. This type of study explores how much of what isn't always said is identified as part of what is communicated. Pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distances. As such, we must briefly review its relationship to other regions of linguistic analysis.

Language has a crucial part in communicating in everyday life. According to Poole (1999: 4) stated "Language is purely human and not- instinctive method communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of system of voluntarily produced symbols". Furthermore, as technology advances, individuals no longer only communicate directly face to face, but also use technology such as cell phones to stay in contact with their communities, even if they are not in the same location, they can communicate with one another and this relates to the position of humans as social beings. As a result, language plays a critical role in maintaining positive relationships among community members. According to Dardjowidjojo (2003: 16),

the language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used by members of a community language to communicate and interact between each other, based on the culture they have in common. Humans utilize language to express their feelings, thoughts, and emotions. So, language is an important component in the communication system use by humans.

Humans need to be concerned about their language in order to utilize it appropriately and politely in order to develop or maintain a good relationship. When speaking, speakers must consider the feelings of their excerpt it in speech. In conversation, language phenomena that may occur with one another, such as implicature, overlapping, backchannel, and linguistic impoliteness in speaking. As social beings, almost every day everyone communicates with others using language. There are specific guidelines concerning attitude in communication that must be learned in order to avoid misunderstandings during a conversation. Because they want to speak respectfully, some people are highly conscious of their word choice. They make an effort to talk respectfully in order to gain the respect of others. According to Culpeper (2005: 35), when people conduct impolitely, they also use adverse language to attack others. Even though they are aware that using rude language to mock and threaten others is inappropriate, they do it frequently. So, the difference between linguistic politeness and linguistic impoliteness comes down to intent: whether the speaker wants to support the face (politeness) or attack the face (impoliteness). In conclusion, certain linguistic impoliteness actions are not deemed peripheral in specific settings, but rather an integral component of the communication process.

Film was chosen as the study's subject because it can reflect language phenomena in general. There are many conflicting conversations in the film that trigger facial threats. In communication, the two characters above communicate with speech and/or expressions that are implicitly allowed to attack the other person's face. This makes researchers interested in studying further the phenomenon of linguistic impoliteness in this study. In this case, the researcher choose an American drama film released in 2007 entitled *Freedom Writers* as the subject of analysis. The film based on a true story, and considering several aspects

such as this is a very popular film which is also a phenomenal adoption of a literary work written and directed by Richard LaGravenese, *Freedom Writers* conveys a message of hope and the ability to change one's destiny, that is emotionally and intellectually satisfying, and there are some terms that are not easily understood by most people, moreover even words that contain elements of expressions can be categorized as linguistic impoliteness.

Nowadays many people or teenagers who use impolite strategies in their daily lives and in their communities or groups at least who have not learned English know which words are impolite and should not be used in everyday life. This study conducted by the researcher because linguistic impoliteness behavior in communication is more likely to be comments on and judges by various cultures, judgments often refer to linguistic impoliteness as rudeness. In addition, this research contributes to increasing the number of researches on linguistic impoliteness although there are other studies on linguistic impoliteness but there are still fewer studies on linguistic impoliteness than linguistic politeness. Therefore, the researcher chose the linguistic impoliteness strategy in this study because of the problems above. And each type of linguistic impoliteness strategy has a different meaning. Therefore, this research is important because utterances which containing linguistic impoliteness in films will affect and change society, especially children who have low power in the long run, they must choose the right language in interacting with adults.

The phenomenon of linguistic impoliteness related to the theory of linguistic impoliteness strategy proposed by Culpeper (1996: 356) which says that the strategy of impoliteness focuses on striking and threatening the face of another person or listener. He uses the term linguistic impoliteness to refer “communicative strategies designed to attack face, and thereby cause social conflict and disharmony”. According Culpeper (2011: 214), the items of impolite, rude abusive, offensive, aggressive set with some specific characteristics. The current research examines Culpeper's (1996: 356) linguistic impoliteness methods, which include five super verbal impoliteness strategies that are the polar opposites of Brown and Levinson's linguistic politeness strategies (1987). More deeply, (1) Bald-on record

linguistic impoliteness, the threatening act was performed directly, clearly, and in unambiguous way. (2) Positive linguistic impoliteness was strategy used to attack the hearer's positive face wants, (3) In contrast, negative linguistic impoliteness was proposed to attack the hearer's negative face wants. (4) While, sarcasm or mock politeness was the used of politeness strategy insincerely and thus remain surface realizations. (5) And last, withhold politeness. It would be find because *Freedom Writers* shows various situations that require them used linguistic impoliteness in communication.

There has been a lot of studies on linguistic impoliteness. Mahraani (2017), Wahyuni, et al. (2018), Fadhilah (2018), and Pasaribu (2021) used social media as the data source of the research, were using different person subject. Meanwhile, this research used a movie and script to conduct this research. Another previous study conducted by Al-Majdawi, et al. (2018), Nugroho, et al. (2021), and Zuhra (2021) examined linguistic impoliteness by using talk show as the data source. The subjects of the research conducted by Rabab'ah, et al. (2018), Waliyadin (2019), and Nugroho, et al. (2021), were using different person subject. Meanwhile, this research used the characters in the movie. So, most of this studies try to find out the types of linguistic impoliteness utilized by novel characters, students, or teachers to transmit their thought. Unlike several previous that merely looked at language impoliteness behavior, this research tries to find out not only the types of linguistic impoliteness, but also the function of those strategies in delivering extracts. There must be a reason why someone would act in an unfriendly manner. So, this study expands the results of previous studies.

In conclusion, from previous studies, this study aims to analyze differences in the understanding of linguistic impoliteness strategies as a language phenomenon used by the characters in *Freedom Writers* movie using pragmatic studies and applying Culpeper's (1996: 356) and Culpeper (2011: 214) theory of linguistic impoliteness which will be discussed further in the next chapter. And the researcher also hopes that the readers do not use linguistic impoliteness strategies to be used as jargon, and do not use linguistic impoliteness strategies in everyday life.

B. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the researcher only focus on the impoliteness strategies use by the characters in the film *Freedom Writers*. By utilizing film transcripts that can be obtain freely on the internet, the researcher examines the quotes use by the characters in that movie.

In observing this research, the researcher pays attention to the classification of linguistic impoliteness strategies from "*Freedom Writers*" using Culpeper's theory of linguistic impoliteness (1996: 356) which contains: bald on record, positive impoliteness, negative impoliteness, sarcasm or mock politeness, and withhold politeness. In addition, theory of Culpeper (2011: 214) which contains function of linguistic impoliteness such as affective impoliteness, coercive impoliteness, and entertaining impoliteness.

C. Research Question

Related to the background of the study and focus on the study above, the researcher formulates the problem by making two research questions bellow:

1. What are the types of linguistic impoliteness employed by the characters in the movie?
2. What are the functions of linguistic impoliteness in conveying their ideas?

D. Objective of the Study

1. To identify the types of linguistic impoliteness employed by the characters in the movie.
2. To explains the functions of linguistic impoliteness in conveying their ideas.

E. Significance of the Study

In the significance of the study, this study provides theoretical and practical contributions why this research is important. The theoretical contribution of this research is to generate theory on linguistic impoliteness theory by Culpeper (1996: 356). Practically, the results of this study can be used by other researchers who are interested in examining similar research topic. The results will give them

information about impoliteness. It will help then to define what linguistic impoliteness is and how people have to deal with it.

In practical, this research also will give a reference to understand the people communicate toward their inferior and also can be reference to students who want to do the same research using theory of linguistic impoliteness. It will also help people how to treat and act for somebody that is doing linguistic impoliteness.