

# **SPEECH ACT OF REFUSAL FOUND IN THE NEVER HAVE I EVER SERIES**

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## **Abstrak**

Ekspresi Penolakan adalah respon yang berlawanan dari penerima. Ini adalah kondisi ketika pendengar tidak memberikan tanggapan yang diharapkan, orang umumnya menggunakan kata "tidak" untuk pernyataan pembicara. Penelitian ini membahas tentang jenis-jenis penolakan dan fungsi penolakan yang diungkapkan oleh tokoh-tokoh dalam serial Never Have I Ever. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis dan menganalisis fungsi penolakan. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif. Data untuk penelitian ini diambil dari ucapan penolakan yang dilakukan oleh tokoh-tokoh dalam serial Never Have I Ever. Sumber data untuk penelitian ini adalah transkrip dari serial tersebut. Pengumpulan data menggunakan teknik dokumentasi. Analisis data menggunakan model interaktif milik Miles, Huberman & Saldana. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa karakter seri menggunakan berbagai jenis penolakan, yaitu penolakan permintaan, penolakan penawaran, penolakan ajakan, dan penolakan saran, dan ditemukan enam fungsi penolakan, yaitu menolak permintaan, menolak kemampuan, untuk meniadakan pernyataan, untuk menunjukkan keengganan, dan untuk mengidentifikasi peristiwa yang menghambat.

**Kata kunci:** Tindak Tutur, Jenis Penolakan, Fungsi Penolakan

## **Abstract**

Expression of Refusal is the opposite response from the recipient. This is a condition when the listener does not make the expected response, people generally use the word "no" for the speaker's statement. This study discusses the types of refusal and the function of refusal expressed by characters in the Never Have I Ever series. This study aims to identify the types and analyze the function of refusal. This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The data for this study were taken from the refusal utterances made by characters in the Never Have I Ever series. The data source for this research is transcripts from the series. Data collection using documentation techniques. Data analysis using an interactive model belonging to Miles, Huberman & Saldana. The results of the study show that the series characters use various types of refusal, namely the refusal of the request, refusal of offer, refusal of invitation, and refusal of suggestion, and found six refusal functions, namely to negate requests, to negate abilities, to negate statements, to indicate unwillingness, and to identify impeding events.

**Keywords:** Speech Act, Types of Refusal, Function of Refusal

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Communication through language is vital to both daily life and education. The Oxford Dictionary defines language as a means of communicating thoughts and emotions through gestures, symbols, and sounds. Meaning that anyone can simply convey their thoughts and ideas through language. Interaction and information sharing might take the form of brainstorming, questions, requests, excuses, thanks, agreements, and refusals. Everyone has many ways of expressing themselves in everyday life, including when they apologize, wish someone well, or express gratitude for something. Sometimes, individuals can also object when someone says something rude. This refusal is an example of a pragmatic speaking act.

The study of meaning as it is communicated by speakers (or authors) and understood by listeners is called pragmatics (or readers). As a result, understanding what people mean when they speak is more important than understanding what the words or phrases they use imply (Yule 1996). In other words, pragmatics is a component of everyday communication that can aid listeners in understanding the speaker's intentions when they are murky or ambiguous in terms of context, place, time, etc. Therefore, understanding the speaker's intent toward the other person is essential for effective communication.

Each speaker adopted the refusal method in order to convey their meaning. It is used to negotiate over the refusal of what people feel, which is established through daily conversation, classroom interaction, and communication in public places. The speaker could occasionally not get the desired response from the other person. It occurs when the other person does not understand what we are trying to say.

When a teacher requests students to turn in their assignments after class, for instance, and they object by saying, "Oh no ma'am, give us some more time," that is an example of student resistance. These statements frequently come up during class exchanges. We call that refusing. We must understand that refusal is difficult for a variety of reasons, including one's standing, power, and familiarity. For instance, when our old teacher requires assistance and we are unable to fulfill his requests. However, we do our best to avoid embarrassing them by turning down their request. In this case, we are recommended to gently deny them by making a proper refusal. We have to maintain our good name, so this is significant. Of course, it will be different if we have to decline our classmate's request; in that case, we can state our position clearly by being honest or by providing a brief justification for our refusal. Refusal and refusal are two ways people can express their disapproval of our objectives.

When speaking, people frequently consider several factors. It depends on the circumstances that each person must face. The social rank difference between the speaker and the interlocutor

also affects it. In various contexts, people pronounce words using various utterances. When people are faced with circumstances where they must refuse, a variety of utterances also appear. Refusal is a rude speech behavior the speaker uses when speaking to the other person. This occurs as a result of a person's refusal to follow the speaker's instructions, orders, offers, solicitations, requests, and so forth (Beebe et al., 1990).

Refusal happens regularly in daily life, making it a good topic for study. Refusal is thought to be both universal and culturally unique, like other speaking acts. The activity is available in several languages. But it varies across cultures in terms of where and how it shows up. Research indicates that spoken acts of refusal are cultural (Wijayanto 2019). Politeness is both general and particular. All languages share the idea of politeness, yet they all have different ways of expressing it. Directness might be regarded as polite in some cultures but as disrespectful in others.

Because the speaker either explicitly or indirectly declines a request, invitation, or recommendation from the other person, refusing is challenging. Researchers have become interested in this speech behavior because it is face-threatening. Refusal imperils the recipient's negative side, namely, his or her desire for future freedom in action and speech (Chen 1996:13).

The act of refusing is itself a very complex speech act because how it is realized depends on several normative factors, including cultural norms, the person who initiated the act of refusing, the other person's social standing, the degree of formality, politeness, or facial expression, and pragma linguistic proficiency (Wijayanto, 2019)

When responding to invitations, requests, offers, and suggestions, the expression of refusal is typically employed to indicate disagreement with the speaker's intent (Beebe et al., 1990). Introduced several subcategories that build on the initiation described above, including the refusal of requests, which is further divided into the refusal of requests for a favor, the refusal of requests for acceptance/agreement/permission, the refusal of requests for information, and the refusal of requests for action. In contrast, refusing an offer includes refusal of offers for the opportunity, refusal of a gift, refusal of a drink or food, and refusal of a favor. Additionally, there are two subcategories of refusal to suggestions: refusal to solicited suggestions and unsolicited suggestions. The sort of invitation refusal can further be divided into two types, namely actual invites, and ritual invitations.

Based on this phenomenon, this research focuses on analyzing the types of refusal strategies and the function of refusal used by the characters in the never have I Ever series. So, the title of this study is the refusal strategy found in the never have I Ever series. This series reveals the many statements of refusal needed in this study as data sources. Refusal strategies in the way

of speech when people refuse or reject the other person's offers, requests, solicitations, and suggestions. To avoid a broad discussion, this study focuses on the analysis of refusal strategies used by figures such as refusing speakers to make requests, offers, solicitations, and suggestions based on the theory of Beebe et al (1990).

The refusal has been studied by several researchers in recent years, but the research subjects are different from this study. Several research conducted with research subjects of the characters in the movie Rifandi, Kamil, & Ningksih (2019), Anshari (2021), Hidayati & Rahmaniah (2020), Rosdiana (2018), Lubab (2021), Anggraini & Ambalegin (2020), Permataningtyas & Sembodo (2018), and Charismawati (2013). Furthermore, several research with the subjects of the characters in the series were carried out by Anjani (2020) and Mulyadi (2019). Apart from that, there are many similar research on refusal expression but with different research subjects, such as EFL learners. Such as research conducted by Nufus (2019), Retnowaty (2018), Al-Mahrooqi & Al-Aghbari (2016), Kasih (2020), and Boonsuk & Ambele (2019).

Based on this explanation, this research is different from previous studies. This research includes research on type of refusal and the function of refusal. Then, the difference lies in the data source in this study. So that this research is expected to be able to contribute to explaining the refusal speech act in more detail about the type and the function of refusal. The difference between this study and previous research lies in the theory used to analyze the data. This research tries to expand the previous theory about types of refusal by Beebe et al (1990). In addition, researcher use the function of refusal from Turnbull & Saxton (1997). This study used the Never Have I Ever series as a data source. Therefore, this study aims to identify the type of refusal and also the function of refusal in the Never Have I Ever series. in addition, it is still rare to find research on the function of refusal.

## **2. METHOD**

This research used a qualitative approach because the analysis is in the form of descriptions. The subject of this research was the character in the Never Have I Ever series. The object of this research was the excerpt that contains refusal in the series. This research data were the utterances produced by the character found in the series. The data source of this research was the script of the Never Have I Ever series. In this study, the data were analyzed using an interactive model offered by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014). The put-forward interactive model is divided into four stages, namely: data collection, data display, data condensation, and conclusion (drawing/verifying). The data were analyzed as follows: 1) the

researcher watch the series on Netflix, 2) the researcher read the subtitles in the series, then transcribed them into written form, 3) then, after all the data has been in written form, the researcher selected the character utterances that contain speech act of refusal, and categorized based on the types of refusal and the functions of refusal. Data were analyzed using Beebe et al (1990) theory to analyze the types of refusal and Turnbull & Saxton (1997) theory to analyze the function of refusal.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The researcher divided this section into two parts. They are results and discussion.

#### 3.1 Types of Refusal

The researcher identified the types of refusal based on the data and found four types of refusal based on Beebe et al (1990) theory, namely the refusal of request, refusal of offer, refusal of invitation, and refusal of suggestion. The researcher found 74 utterances of types of refusal in the Never Have I Ever series.

##### 3.1.1 Refusal of Request

Refusal of request is an action that involves making a formal, polite request for something. Moreover, researchers found 27 utterances of refusal of request that were performed by characters in the Never Have I Ever series.

##### 3.1.2 Refusal of Request for an Assistance

From the data obtained, there are 12 refusals of a request for an assistance. Refusal of a request for an assistance means referring to a request for someone to do something. Examples of the excerpt containing refusal of a request for an assistance:

- Devi : Do they want me to go over there? You guys should come with me.  
Fabiola : *No. we will only weigh you down.* This is a journey you're meant to take alone  
(TRR01)

In this excerpt, the conversation between Devi and Fabiola took place at school. Devi asked Fabiola and Eleanor to go together but Fabiola said "*No. we will only weigh you down...*" it means Fabiola refuses Devi's request because the existence of Fabiola and Eleanor would only weigh Devi down.

The following are other examples from the data:

- (1) Fabiola : Can I get little computers?  
Woman : *No, that's ugly* (TRR01)  
(2) Ben : Oh, Maybe I was allergic to the shot, Or uh... Or something. Was there bee pollen in it?

Nalini : *There was not.* (TRR01)

(3) Man : You guys look really young. Can I see some ID?

Devi : *I don't have my wallet.* (TRR01)

### 3.1.3 Refusal of Request for Permission/Acceptance/Agreement

From the data obtained, there are 8 utterances of refusal of a request for permission/acceptance/agreement. Refusal of a request for permission/acceptance/agreement means referring to a request for something about permission/acceptance/agreement to another person. Below are examples of excerpts containing refusal of a request for Permission/Acceptance/Agreement:

Woman : Can my daughter take a photo with you? You look so amazing.

Devi : *No, thanks.* (TRR02)

In this excerpt the conversation between a woman and Devi in a coffee shop. The woman asked Devi for permission so that her child could take a photo with Devi because the woman was amazed by Devi's appearance but Devi said "*No, thanks*" which means Devi refuses the woman's request because she doesn't want to take pictures together.

The following are other examples from the data:

(1) Nalini : Devi, Listen to me.

Devi : *No, I don't want to* (TRR02)

(2) Aneesa : Can I help you prep in the kitchen?

Nalini : *Oh, no, no sweetie, you go upstairs. You enjoy with the girls.* (TRR02)

(3) Nerdish : Paxton, can I get one?

Paxton : *No, sorry.* (TRR02)

### 3.1.4 Refusal of Request for Information/Advice

From the data obtained, there are 2 refusals of request for information/advice. Refusal of request for information/advice is a type of request that asks for help to provide information. Examples of the containing refusal of a request for information/advice:

Shira : Are you talking about your speech? You should do like a sexy dance

Paxton : *Uh, I don't think so, Shira.* (TRR03)

A conversation between Shira and Paxton took place at school. Shira asked Paxton about his speech and Sira advised Paxton to just dance, then Paxton said "*Uh, I don't think so, Shira*" That means Paxton disagree with the request for advice that Shira give.

The following are other examples from the data:

(1) Ben : Oh, Maybe I was allergic to the shot, Or uh... Or something. Was there bee pollen in it?

Nalini : *There was not.* (TRR03)

### 3.1.5 Refusal of Request for Action

From the data obtained, there are 5 utterances of refusal of a request for action. Refusal of request for action to be performed by the recipient to complete specific actions. Compared to a request for help, actions involved in this type of request may not benefit the addresser. Below are examples of excerpts containing refusal of a request for action:

Devi : You should check out where I put it.

Kamala : *No, that's okay. I trust you*

Devi : You shouldn't you should really see the beaver for yourself. (TRR04)

The conversation between Devi and Kamala took place at Devi's house when Kamala asked Devi to put an item in Kamala's room after that Devi asked Kamala to check where Devi kept the item, but Kamala said "*No, that's okay. I trust you*" It means that Kamala refuses Devi's request because she doesn't want to check and she believes Devi.

The following other examples from the data:

(1) Nalini : Devi, Listen to me.

Devi : *No, I don't want to.* (TRR04)

(2) Russia : I want to get drunk with you guys

Ben : *I don't think so, Russia. Even when we're not on campus, we're still representatives of our school.* (TRR04)

(3) Devi : Please sit here, it will be comfortable for you

Aravind : *No.* (TRR04)

### 3.1.6 Refusal of Offer

In the refusal of offers part, the researcher found two subcategories: refusal of offers for favors and refusal of offers for food/drink. Researchers found 25 utterances of refusal of offer that were performed by characters in the Never Have I Ever series. The following is an example of data for refusal expression of offers for favor and refusal of offers for food/drink.

### 3.1.7 Refusal of Offer for a Favor

From the data obtained, there are 19 utterances of refusal of offer for a favor. Offers for favors is an offer addressed to the interlocutor in offering to do something. Below are examples of excerpts containing refusal of offer for a favor:

Manish : Let me help you

Kamala : *No, uh, Manish.* (TRO01)

The conversation between Manish and Kamala takes place at Devi's house when Manish is invited by Kamala to have dinner together when Kamala was preparing food for dinner

together. Manish offers to help Kamala but Kamala said “*No, uh Manish*” It means Kamala refuses the offer because she doesn't want to be helped by Manish to prepare food.

The following other examples from the data:

- (1) Shira : Ew. You have a zit. Do you want me to pop that for you?  
Ben : *I don't want that.* (TRO01)
- (2) Fabiola : You, okay? Want to watch relaxing YouTube on how to make tea?  
Eleanor : *No, this is one of the few situations where chamomile can't soothe my nerves.* (TRO01)
- a. Nalini : if you'd like to go to Eleanor's or Fabiola's house to do something fun, like practice PSATs, you have permission  
Devi : *No, thanks. I don't feel like going anywhere.* (TRO01)

### 3.1.8 Refusal of Offer for Food/Drink

From the data obtained, there are 6 utterances of refusal of offer for food/drink. This type of initiation is related to offering food or drink, such as getting someone a drink. Below are examples of excerpts containing refusal of offer for food/drink:

- Ira : You want any doughnuts with that?  
Devi : *Thank you Ira but No, I'm fasting today.* (TRO02)

The conversation between Ira and Devi while at the coffee shop. Ira offered donuts to Devi to drink with the coffee that Devi ordered, but Devi said “*Thank you Ira but No, I'm fasting today*” It means Devi refuses the offer for the food because Devi was fasting at that time. The excerpt above is about the refusal of the offer of food, Ira offers donuts to Devi and Devi refuses the offer.

The following are other examples from the data:

- (1) Kamala : Oh, devi! I made lunch.  
Devi : *I don't bring lunch on Tuesday. It's square pizza day.* (TRO02)
- (2) Patty : Time for breakfast, my little prince.  
Ben : *No time, Patty. I gotta get to school.* (TRO02)
- (3) Nalini : Do you want a drink or something?  
Noor : *No, we won't be here long.* (TRO02)

### 3.1.9 Refusal of Invitation

In the part of refusal of invitation, the researcher found two types, namely actual invitations and ritual invitations. An actual invitation is an invitation that reveals the sender's sincere intention to treat the recipient. The researcher found at least 12 utterances of refusal of



invitation that were performed by the characters in the series. The following is an example of data for refusal expression for actual and ritual invitations.

### 3.1.10 Refusal of Ritual Invitation

Ritual invites frequently emerge after a conversation. It acts to break up conversations between speakers. Through general solicitations, the inviter conveys their desire to keep in touch with the listener in the future. Below are examples of excerpts containing ritual invitation:

Sharon : What if we do a TikTok dance together? I've seen mothers and daughters doing that

Eleanor : *Oh, No. Sharon, we're not mothers and daughters you're just my stepmom.*  
(TRI01)

A conversation between Sharon and Eleanor takes place at Eleanor's school. At that time, Eleanor's stepmother (Sharon) came to school to bring food, then her mother invited Eleanor to make a TikTok dance video together as other mothers and children did, then Eleanor said "*Oh, no....*" It means Eleanor refuses Sharon's invitation because that Sharon was just her stepmother.

### 3.1.11 Refusal of Actual Invitation

From the data obtained, there are 11 refusals of actual invitation. Actual invitations are an invitation that reveals the sender's sincere intention to treat the recipient. Below are example excerpts containing actual invitation:

Aneesa : So, you guys want to come to cheer me on Thursday?

Eleanor : *Oh, I can't.* (TRI02)

The conversation between Aneesa and Eleanor that took place at school when Aneesa invited her friends to come and cheer Aneesa on her match on Thursday, but Eleanor said "*Oh, I can't*" It means Eleanor refuses Aneesa's invitation. The excerpt above is a refusal of an actual invitation because refused the invitation given by Aneesa directly.

The following are other examples from the data:

(1) Paxton : Sure, maybe... after school, today date my place?

Devi : *Today? That's super soon, which is great. Soon is great. It's just... I have orchestra after school today, so I can't.* (TRI02)

(2) Rhyah : What are you doing tomorrow night? Let's have girls hang

Nalini : *Oh, I don't think I can. Just really busy. Sorry.* (TRI02)

(3) Nalini : Rhyah's coming over for dinner. Will you be joining us?

Devi : *Ugh! No, thanks.* (TRI02)

### 3.1.12 Refusal of Suggestion

From the data obtained, there are 10 utterances of refusal of suggestions, especially unsolicited suggestions. Refusal of suggestion occurs when one person uses speech to suggest some action or at least a change on the receiving end. Refusal of suggestions for unsolicited suggestions is a suggestion that is voluntarily given by the speaker. Below are example excerpts containing unsolicited suggestions:

Dr. Ryan : You must talk with them to make it better  
Devi : *No, I don't care.* (TRS01)

In the conversation between Dr. Ryan and Devi that took place at Dr. Ryan's clinic. At that time Devi told Dr Ryan that Aneesa and her other friends were hostile to her because of Devi's arrogant attitude. Then Dr. Ryan suggested to devi to say with Aneesa and her friend so that their friendship would return to good terms, but devi said "*No, I don't care*" It means Devi refuses Dr. Ryan's suggestion because she didn't care about that.

The following are other examples from the data:

- (1) Ben's father : You have to have a party  
Ben : *No, I don't think so.* (TRS01)
- (2) Nalini : How about that pretty dress I got at Costco while buying our annual supply of toilet paper?  
Devi : *I can't wear that. I mean, something else is better.* (TRS01)
- (3) Ben : You must go to spread your dad's ashes  
Devi : *Nope. I'm not falling for her tricks.* (TRS01)

The types of Refusal can be summarized in the table below:

Table 1. The types of refusal

Fields	Number of cases	Percentages
Refusal of Request	27	36.45%
Refusal of Offer	25	33.78%
Refusal of Invitation	12	16.22%
Refusal of Suggestion	10	13.55%
	74	100%

### 3.2 Function of Refusal

The researcher identified the function of refusal based on the data and found five functions of refusal based on Turnbull & Saxton (1997) theory, namely to negate request, to negate ability,

to negate statement, to indicate unwillingness, and to identify impeding event. The researcher found 74 utterances of the function of refusal in the Never Have I Ever series.

### 3.2.1 To Negate Request

To negate a request is when refusers rule off the option of granting the request, it refers to the direct performance or refusal. Moreover, researchers found 22 utterances to negate requests that the characters in the Never Have I Ever series. Below are example excerpts containing to negate request:

Man : You guys look really young. Can I see some ID?

Devi : *I don't have my wallet.* (FNR)

Conversation between a man and Devi at the hotel where Devi is staying when Devi takes part in an inter-school debate competition. Devi wants to enter into an event at the hotel to party and drunk, then the man says that Devi and his friends look too young then the man asks Devi to show her ID but Devi said "*I don't have my wallet*" It means devi refuses to show her ID and she doesn't bring her wallet.

The following other examples from the data:

(1) Nalini : Devi, listen to me.

Devi : *No, I don't want to.* (FNR)

(2) Devi : Would you want to go to the dance with me?

Paxton : *Sorry, but... no.* (FNR)

(3) Devi : Can we just be even now?

Ben : *No. No, we're not even.* (FNR)

### 3.2.2 To Negate Ability

From the data obtained, there are 18 utterances of to negate ability, A negate ability also blocks the activation of the targeted special abilities. Below are example excerpts containing to negate ability:

Nalini : Devi, don't be rude to your beautiful cousin

Kamala : *I'm not that beautiful.* (FNA)

In the conversation between Nalini and Kamala in Nalini's yard, when Devi annoys Kamala and is rude to Kamala, her mother (Nalini) tells Devi not to disturb and be rude to her beautiful cousin (Kamala) but Kamala said "*I'm not that beautiful*" It means Kamala refuses Nalini's statement because Kamala feels she not beautiful.

The following other examples from the data:

(1) Rhyah : What are you doing tomorrow night? Let's have girls hang

Nalini : *Oh, I don't think I can. Just really busy. Sorry.* (FNA)

- (2) Nalini : So, do you love him? This teacher? Devi's English teacher, Mr. Kulkarni  
 Kamala : *No, I don't love him.* (FNA)
- (3) Nalini : How about that pretty dress I got at Costco while buying our annual supply of toilet paper?  
 Devi : *I can't wear that. I mean, something else is better.* (FNA)

### 3.2.3 To Negate Statement

To negate the statement refers to the refusal of a statement that is inconsistent with the beliefs or circumstances that prevent it. The researcher found at least 18 utterances to negate statements that were performed by the characters in the series. Below are example excerpts containing to negate statements:

- Devi : Dad, am I ugly?  
 Mohan : *what nonsense. I'm looking at you right now. You're the most beautiful girl in the world.* (FIS)

A conversation between Mohan and Devi takes place in Devi's house. She asks his father (Mohan) if she (Devi) is ugly. Then her father says "*What nonsense....*" which means Mohan refuses or negates that Devi is ugly he says Devi is the most beautiful girl in the world.

The following other examples from the data:

- (1) Paxton : So, is part of Ganesh Puja kicking lockers in anger?  
 Devi : *No, that was unrelated. That didn't have... No, I just got mad, which is something I'm working on.* (FIS)
- (2) Sharon : What if we do a TikTok dance together? I've seen mothers and daughters doing that  
 Eleanor : *Oh, No. Sharon, we're not mothers and daughters you're just my stepmom.* (FIS)
- (3) Devi : You finally figured out you're a Gryffindor like me?  
 Fabiola : *No. I'm obviously Ravenclaw, like Eleanor.* (FIS)

### 3.2.4 To Indicate Unwillingness

To indicate unwillingness refers to a lack of desire or willingness to perform or accept an action or her inability to do something or her refusal to assist. The researcher found at least 14 utterances to indicate unwillingness that were performed by the characters in the series. Below are example excerpt containing to indicate unwillingness:

- Devi : But maybe this weekend?  
 Paxton : *I don't know, maybe.* (FIU)

In the conversation between Devi and Paxton that took place at school, at that time Paxton asked Devi to have a date today at his house but Devi refused because there was an orchestra after school, then Devi asked Paxton how about the weekend but Paxton said “I don’t know, maybe” It means Paxton refused and showed reluctance or unwillingness.

The following other examples from the data:

- (1) Nalini : My entire roster of loyal patients isn’t attractive to you?  
 Dr. Jackson : *I don’t need your patients. I’m very successful.* (FIU)
- (2) Woman : Sounds like someone has a crush  
 Fabiola : *No, I don’t have a crush.* (FIU)
- (3) Devi : So, shouldn’t you guys cut me a little slack?  
 Jonah : *I don’t think we can.* (FIU)

### 3.2.5 To Identify Impeding Event

To identify impeding event refers to the refusal to do anything because of an obstructed activity or event. The researcher found at least 2 utterances to identify impeding events that were performed by the characters in the series Below are example excerpts containing to identify impeding events:

- Paxton : Sure, maybe... after school, today date my place?  
 Devi : *Today? That’s super soon, which is great. Soon is great. It’s just... I have orchestra after school today, so I can’t.* (FIE)

The conversation between Paxton and Devi happened at school when Paxton asked Devi to have a date today at his house but Devi said “..... *I have orchestra after school today, so I can’t*” That means there is an event that prevents Devi from dating Paxton today, namely the orchestra.

The following other examples from the data:

- (1) Devi : Both of you guys just come to my house after school  
 Ben : *No, I can’t. that’s when I Zoom with my Mandarin teacher.* (FIE)

The function of Refusal can be summarized in the table below:

Table 2. The function of refusal

Fields	Number of Case	Percentages
To Negate Request	22	29.77%
To Negate Ability	18	24.33%
To Negate Statement	18	24.33%
To Indicate Unwillingness	14	18.99%

To Identify Impeding Event	2	2.77%
	74	100%

### 3.3 Discussion

This section is divided into two sections containing types of refusal and the function of refusal.

#### 3.3.1 Types of Refusal

The results of this study indicate that the researcher found 4 types of refusal, namely refusal of requests, refusal of offers, refusal of invitations, and refusal of suggestions. The results of this study are in line with the results of research by Rifandi, Kamil, & Ningksih (2019) and Anggraini & Ambalegin (2020) who found 4 types of refusal, namely refusal of requests, refusal of offers, refusal of invitations and refusal of suggestions. This is probably because researchers used the same research framework, namely the framework of Beebe et al (1990) which states that there are 4 types of refusal, namely refusal of requests, refusal of offers, refusal of invitations, and refusal of suggestions. Thus, the results of this study support the theory of Beebe et al (1990).

However, if you take a deeper look, the results of this study are not in line with the results of research by Anshari (2021), Permataningtyas & Sembodo (2018), Boonsuk & Ambele (2019), and Lubab (2021). The difference in the results of this study lies in the results found. In the research results, Anshari (2021), Permataningtyas & Sembodo (2018), Boonsuk & Ambele (2019), and Lubab (2021) found 2 types of refusal, namely direct and indirect refusal, in direct refusal there are 2 types of refusal, namely performative and non-performative, and in indirect refusal, there are 3 types of refusal, namely questions, hedging, and suggestions. Meanwhile, the results of this study found 4 types of refusal, namely refusal of requests, refusal of offers, refusal of invitations, and refusal of suggestions. So, researchers assume that the results of this study are not in line, possibly due to the use of different frameworks. In addition, it may be due to the various situations that the speaker faces when making a refusal.

#### 3.3.2 Function of Refusal

The results of this study indicate that the researcher found five refusal functions. The five functions of refusal are to negate requests, to negate ability, to negate statements, to indicate unwillingness, and to identify impeding events. The results of this study support the theory of Turnbull & Saxton (1997). They put forward five functions of refusal namely to negate requests, to negate ability, to negate statements, to indicate unwillingness, and to identify impeding events.

However, if take a closer look, the results of this study are not in line with the results of Mulyadi's research (2019). The difference is in the number of refusal functions that researchers found with the number of refusal functions found by Mulyadi (2019). The results of Mulyadi's research (2019) found seven functions of refusal, namely refusing requests, using performatives, expressing reluctance, expressing obstacles, avoiding decisions, showing good intentions, and suggesting alternatives. While the results of this study only found five functions of refusal, namely to negate requests, to negate ability, to negate statements, to indicate unwillingness, and to identify impeding events. Thus, researchers assume that the results of this study are inconsistent due to differences in the number of apology functions found by researchers. In addition, not many previous studies have investigated the refusal function, so there are not many research results regarding this matter. Therefore, the results of this study can provide a new understanding of what are the functions of refusal when someone conveys refusal to others.

#### **4. CLOSING**

The results of this study indicate that the researcher found four categories of refusal types, including refusal of request, refusal of offer, refusal of invitation, and refusal of suggestion. In these types, the dominant type that appears was the refusal of request. Meanwhile, the least frequently used refusal type is refusal of suggestion. From the second research question, the researcher found six functions of refusal including to negate requests, to negate ability, to indicate unwillingness, to negate statements, and to identify impeding event. The most widely used function is to negate request and the least frequently used in refusal function is to impeding event. From this research, there is a relationship between type and the function of refusal. There were many variations of the initiation acts of refusal or types of refusal and this initiation can influence many variations of the function of refusal. There are implications that can be made from the findings of this study. Students' linguistic abilities can be enhanced by using refusal utterances. Students who study English are able to employ the types of refusal and their function successfully. Because of this, the function of refusal is intimately tied to the situation in which it is made. So that there are no misconceptions while speaking, it is important to understand why someone is refusing something.

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