

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Communication is an activity to deliver information whether it is a message or an idea. Usually, the activity of communication is done verbally so that makes both sides understand each other easier. Communication generally aims to give information or knowledge to people. Communication is the consequences which are further from self-expression. Communication will not be perfect if our self-expression is unacceptable or not understood with the others, and language has an important role as the instrument of communication.

Language is a human ability to communicate with other human being using symbols, such as words and gestures. Language is formed by collections of words that each word has meaning and abstract relation with a certain concept or object that is represented by those words.

According to Gorys Keraf (1997), Language is a communications tool between members of society in the form of a symbol of the sound produced by human vocals organs. And according to Felicia (2001), in the daily, the tool that often used to communicate is language, from spoken language or written language. According to Crystal (1997)

“Pragmatics is the study of language from the point of view of the user especially of the choices they make, the constraint they encounter in using language in social interaction and the effects of their use of language on other participants in the act of communication”

As an aspect of Pragmatics, speech acts can be seen as one of the most fundamental in the study of pragmatics and discourse analysis in general. For that fact, Searle (1976) see it as “a basic unit of discourse analysis” just like the sentences and other linguistic units are to the grammar. Austin (1962) defines the speech act “as actions performed by saying something”.

When people have spoken communication with others, they will use several kinds of speech acts such as requesting, agreeing, and thanking. Thanking is one of the speech acts which has interesting aspects to be investigated because it happens in people`s daily life when people help or give us a kindness or a favor. According to Hornby (1995), *gratitude is the feeling of being grateful or the desire to express*

thankful feeling. Aijmer (1996) states that expressing gratitude is considered a stereotypical speech act because the form of thank you or thanks is almost always used by speakers every time they want to express gratitude. Thanking is one of the speech acts frequently and abundantly utilized in human interactions. People give thanks in an assortment of occasions and situations in their daily life communications with others. For example, when someone helps my brother, my brother will say “Thank you very much”. And someone who helps my brother will say “don’t mention it”. This act called gratitude response to minimize the favor. Furthermore, these expressions and respond can be expressed with different ways depends on the reason of the speaker in uttering it.

“Algoe and Haidt state that Because gratitude expressions are uniquely good expressions that show positive emotion, it motives that benefactor to do good things or make a good relationship with others.” (2008). It means that the receiver had been given an advantage by the benefactor. So the receiver should appreciate the benefactor by expressing gratitude. The statement above is also represented of Einstein and Bodman statement that when the gratitude function is expressed appropriately, it can create feelings of warmth and solidarity among interactions, maintaining and enhancing social cohesion and social bonding in the society. it means that gratitude will create a good relationship among others. Gratitude is the refection of mutual need. Furthermore, gratitude can stimulate the receiver to do more good things.

The phenomenon of thanking is represented in *Going In Style* movie (2017). Movie reflected on human daily life. It has content various kind of communication to analyze. *Going in style* movie was directed by Zach Braff. And this one of kind comedy-criminal movie tells about Lifelong buddies Willie, Joe and Albert decide to buck retirement and step off the straight-and-narrow when their pension funds become a corporate casualty. Desperate to pay the bills and come through for their loved ones, the three men risk it all by embarking on a daring adventure to knock off the very bank that absconded with their money. The main character of this movie (Willie, Joe, and Albert) have the different background of culture, race, and culture that is made this movie is interesting to investigate the gratitude strategies which is contained in the movie. The use of thanking might differ from culture to culture.

'thank you' used in American English is more common as an expression of gratitude while in British English it is more a formal marker (Hymes, 1972, cited in Eisenstein and Bodman, 1993). The problem is typically considered in terms of when and how thanking is an appropriate response to the social situation (Cheng, 2005).

The study of gratitude has been done by so many researches. First *"The Speech Act of Thanking In English. Differences between Native and Nonnative Speaker's Behavior"* By Francisco Javier Diaz Perez from Universidad de Jaen. The purpose of the research is to analyze the certain aspects of the speech acts of thanking in English both as a native and as a foreign language. Those aspects include the selection of the strategy used in the expression of gratitude and the use of external modifiers. The data for this study were collected by means of a discourse completion test (DCT), which was administered among 225 informants. And the results of the research has been shown, probably the most relevant difference between native and non-native speakers of English with regard to the production of expressions of gratitude has to do with the use of colloquial strategies.

Second, *"The Use of Thanking Strategies among Iranian EFL Learners of Different Proficiency Levels"* by Fariba Yasami, Sanaz Rastegar. The study investigated the strategies Iranian EFL learners employed for expressing thanking strategies in one specially designed situation. The participants included 15 Iranian EFL learners studying at a private English language Institute in Sari, Iran. These learners were chosen from different proficiency levels including elementary, intermediate and advanced levels. They were asked to complete a dialogue as a Discourse Completion Task in English. The participants were supposed to imagine themselves in this particular situation and respond accordingly based on their immediate reaction.

The analysis of data based on Cheng's (2005) taxonomy of 8 strategies for expressing gratitude revealed that Iranian EFL learners used thanking strategies especially, "simple thanking" and "thanking mentioning the favor." Therefore, it revealed that there was some degree of relationship between participants' proficiency levels and their choices of thanking strategies. And the result of the research are Considering the first objective of the study, the findings made it clear

that Iranian EFL learners mostly used thanking strategies and its subcategories especially, simple thanking and thanking mentioning the favor.

In conclusion, this research purposes to investigate and understand what are the gratitude strategies used by the characters of the *Going In Style* movie and the function of the gratitude strategies and expressions of gratitude are used by the characters of *Going In Style* movie.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background previously stated above, the identification of the problem of this research is analyzed several kinds of gratitude strategies, the function of gratitude itself, and the expressions of gratitude which is used by the characters of *Going In Style* movie. this research purposes to investigate and understand what are the gratitude strategies used by the characters of the *Going In Style* movie and the function of the gratitude strategies and the expressions of gratitude are used by the characters of *Going In Style* movie.

Based on the identification of the problem, the writer assumes that there are several kinds of gratitude strategies, the function, and the expressions which are used by the characters of *Going In Style* movie.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

In this research, the study is only focused on the gratitude strategies, the functions of gratitude itself, expressions used by the characters of *Going in Style* movie. And the researcher analyzes the context of the utterance to find out the gratitude strategies, the function of gratitude strategies, and gratitude expressions. There are so many theories that explained about gratitude strategies, but in this research, this study only uses the Aijmer's theory for gratitude strategies, Einstein and Bodman's theory for the function of gratitude strategies, Cheng's theory for gratitude expressions.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the assumption above, the research problem is formulated in the form of the research question, as follows:

1. What are the gratitude strategies used by the characters of *Going in Style* movie?
2. What are the functions of the gratitude strategies used by the characters of *Going in Style* movie?
3. What are the expressions of gratitude used by the characters of *Going in Style* movie?

1.5 Objective of the Research

In order to be able to reach the purpose of the research, the analysis steps are conducted in the following ways:

1. To explain the gratitude strategies are used by the characters on *Going in Style* movie
2. To explain the functions of the gratitude strategies are used by the characters on *Going in Style* movie
3. To find out what are the expressions of gratitude are used by the characters on *Going in Style* movie.

1.6 Benefit of the Study

This research expected can be beneficial. This research can be used by the readers especially the student of English department to give a valuable contribution to the gratitude strategies, the function of gratitude itself, and expressions. And they are expected to understand the various kind of gratitude strategies, the function of gratitude itself, and expressions in order to know the intention. And the student will understand how to analyze gratitude strategies using Aijmer, the function of gratitude strategies using Einstein and Bodman, gratitude expressions using Cheng. Finally, this research will give the information for the next researcher that is interested to conduct the same research.

1.7 Methods of The Research

This study uses descriptive qualitative method to explain the used of gratitude strategies, the function of gratitude itself, and expressions used by the characters of *Going in Style* movie. Chaterine and Rossman (2006:5) said that “ *qualitative researches pay close attention to their work as a representation of the relationship*

between them and participants”. And this study also used a pragmatic approach to analyze the meaning, context, and communication of constructed utterances in a hypothetical context.

The main data is the movie itself. The form of the data is dialogue. The writer also uses the movie subtitle to find the dialogue, then the writer watches the movie to adjust the subtitle and the utterance used by the character in the movie. This study also takes some references such as journal, books, websites to support the main data. The method of collecting data in this research, this study uses documentation since the data are collected from the movie itself. First, the researcher watches *Going In Style* movie intensively and look for the subtitle on the internet. Then the writer adjusts the utterances in the movie and the subtitle. Then the researcher checks the subtitle with watching the movie to get one comprehension the utterances and understand the content of the story. Then the researcher gathers the data and reduces the data which are not suitable with the research question.

1.8 Systematic Organization of the Research

Paper organization is used for this research. The paper organization is explained as follow:

CHAPTER 1

: INTRODUCTION

It begins with Chapter one is an introduction consisting of background, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, significance of research, framework of theories, methodology of research, literature review, and systematic organization of research

CHAPTER 2

: FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

Chapter 2 consisting of fundamental theories containing definitions and elaboration of theories and ideas about pragmatic, speech acts, politeness,

gratitude strategy, the function of gratitude and gratitude expressions.

CHAPTER 3 : AN ANALYSIS OF GRATITUDE STRATEGIES, THE FUNCTION OF GRATITUDE, AND THE EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE USED BY THE CHARACTERS OF *GOING IN STYLE* MOVIE

Chapter three examines the data in order to answer the formulation of problem mentioned in chapter one. The analysis will be examined through theories mentioned in chapter two.

CHAPTER 4 : CONCLUSION

Chapter four concludes the analysis of this Research.

