

**THE APPLICATION OF POLITENESS THEORY THROUGH SPEECH
ACTS IN *(500) DAYS OF SUMMER* FILM: A PRAGMATICS STUDY**

TERM PAPER

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requirements for obtaining the Strata One (S-1) Degree**



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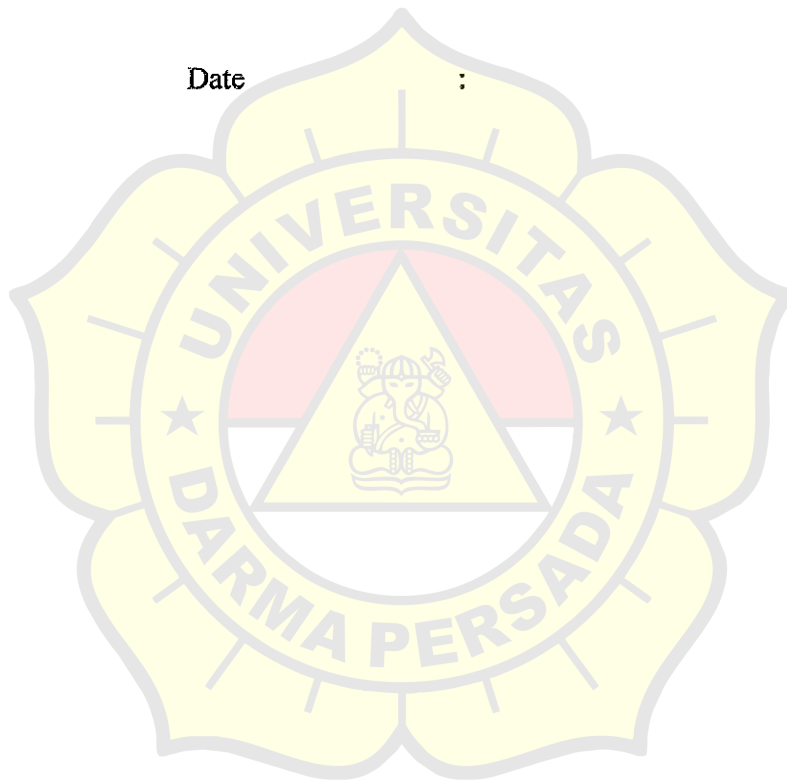
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Preface

Alhamdulillah, all praises be to Allah SWT. who has been showering her with his mercies and blessings, without him the writer cannot complete this term paper. He gives her some inspirational things and everything the writer needs to complete this term paper. This term paper will not accomplish without some supports from many people. The writer wants to give sincere gratitude to many people who give her endless support and help.

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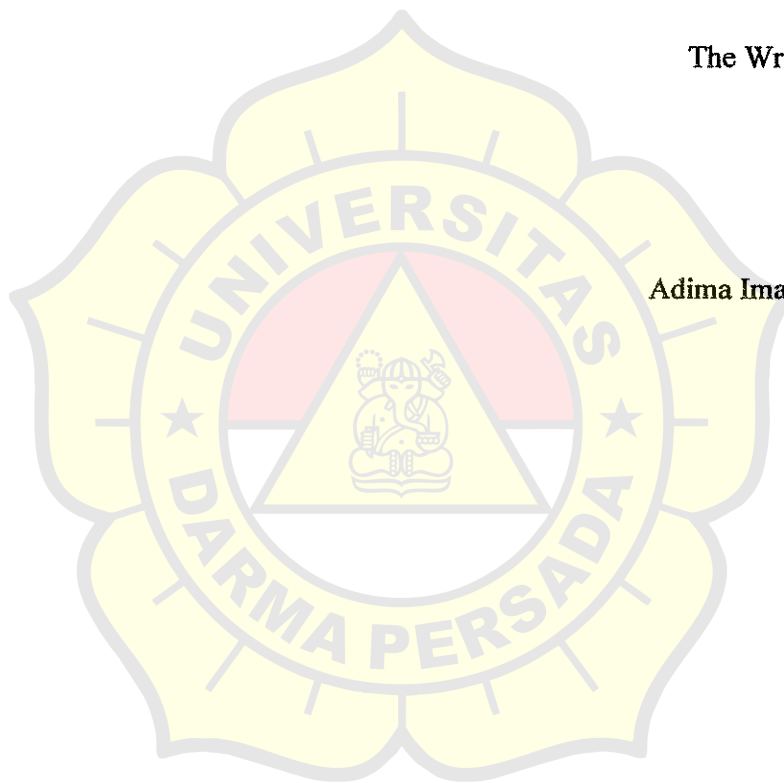
Jihan, Fikar, Bowo, Wahyu, Dadi and those are who cannot be mentioned one by one. They all are crazy. Sometimes they support me to complete this term paper but sometimes they are just like bluebirds. The point is I love them all. They become my second family.

The writer realizes that this Term-Paper is far from perfection. There are some errors in writing this term paper. Therefore, suggestion and constructive criticism are welcomed to improve this term paper.

Jakarta, July 5, 2013

The Writer

Adima Imaningsih



Abstrak

Nama : Adima Imaningsih

Judul : THE APPLICATION OF POLITENESS THEORY
THOUGH SPEECH ACTS IN (50) DAYS OF
SUMMER: A PRAGMATICS STUDY

(500) days of Summer adalah film Amerika bergenre drama komedi yang dirilis tahun 2009. Film ini ditulis oleh Scott Neustadler dan Michael H. Weber, disutradarai oleh Marc Webb. Cerita ini berbeda dari film lainnya karena film ini disajikan dalam cerita yang nonlinear. Ini dikarenakan film ini selalu berpindah-pindah hari secara tidak beraturan dalam 500 hari hubungan percintaan Tom dan Summer. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan naskah film *(500) Days of Summer*. Data-data yang telah diteliti dikelompokkan ke dalam klasifikasi tindak tutur oleh Searle dan strategi kesantunan oleh Brown dan Levinson. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori kualitatif yang menggunakan buku-buku sebagai referensinya. Klasifikasi tindak tutur yang ditemukan dalam naskah film ini adalah *directives, representatives, expressives, commissives* dan *declarations*. Strategi kesantunan yang ditemukan dalam naskah film ini adalah strategi *bald on record, strategi positive politeness, strategi negative politeness* dan *strategi off record*. Para tokoh dalam film ini cenderung menggunakan strategi kesantunan melalui tindak tutur berdasarkan latar belakang situasi. Namun tidak semua ujaran yang ada di film *(500) Days of Summer* menggunakan strategi kesantunan.

Kata kunci: *(500) Days of Summer, Klasifikasi tindak tutur, Strategi kesantunan, wajah, konteks*

Abstract

Name : Adima Imaningsih
Title : THE APPLICATION OF POLITENESS THEORY
THROUGH SPEECH ACTS IN (500) DAYS OF
SUMMER FILM: A PRAGMATICS STUDY

(500) Days of Summer is a 2009 American comedy drama. It was written by Scott Neustadler and Michael H. Webber, directed by Marc Webb. The story of this film is different from others because it presented in nonlinear narrative, as it jumps from various days within the 500-day span of Tom and Summer's relationship. In this study, the writer uses script from (500) Days of Summer's film. The data which have been observed are classified into classification of speech acts by Searle and politeness strategies by Brown and Levinson. The study uses qualitative method which uses books as references. Classification of speech acts that is found are directives, representatives, expressives, commissives and declarations. Whereas politeness strategies that is found are bald on record strategy, positive politeness strategy, negative politeness strategy and off record strategy. The characters in this film tend to use politeness strategy through speech acts based on situational background. However, not all the utterances in (500) Days of Summer film apply politeness strategy.

Key words: (500) Days of Summer, Classification of Speech Acts, Politeness Strategies, Face, Context

Table of Content

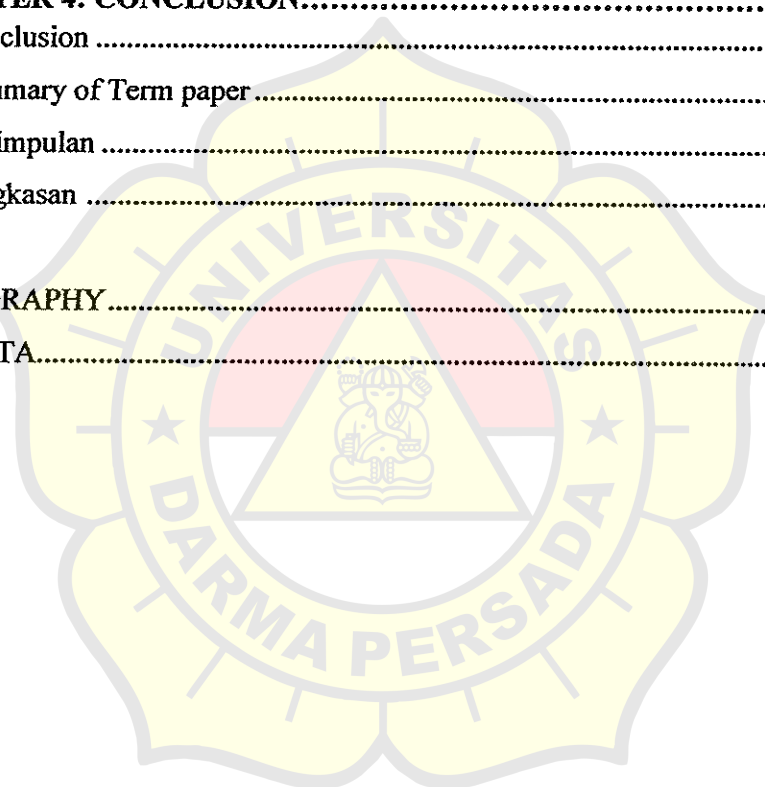
PAGE OF THE TITLE.....	
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT PAGE	i
TEST FEASTBILITY APPROVAL PAGE	ii
APPROVAL PAGE.....	iii
PREFACE.....	iv
ABSTRAK.....	vi
ABSTRACT.....	vii
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	viii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of The Problem	1
1.2 Identification of The Problem	3
1.3 Limitation of The Problem.. ..	4
1.4 Statement Of The Problem.....	4
1.5 Objectives of The Research	4
1.6 Framework of Theories.....	5
1.7 Method of Research	5
1.8 Benefits of Research.....	5
1.9 Systematic Organization of The Research.....	5
CHAPTER 2: FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES.....	7
2.1 Pragmatics Theory	7
2.2 Classification of Speech Acts Theory.....	9
2.2.1 Directives	9
2.2.2 Representatives	9
2.2.3 Expressives.....	9
2.2.4 Commisives.....	10
2.2.5 Declarations	10

2.3 Concept of Face	11
2.4 Face Threatening Acts	11
2.5. Politeness Strategies.....	12
2.5.1 Bald on Record Strategy	12
2.5.2 Positive Politeness Strategy	12
2.5.3 Negative Politeness Strategy.....	13
2.5.4 Off Record Strategy	13
2.6 Context.....	14

**CHAPTER 3: THE APPLICATION OF POLITENESS THEORY
THROUGH SPEECH ACT IN (500) DAYS OF SUMMER:
A PRAGMATIGS STUDY**

3.1 Searle's Classification of Speech Acts in (500) Days of Summer Film.....	16
3.1.1 Directives.....	16
3.1.1.1 Requesting.....	16
3.1.1.2 Ordering	18
3.1.1.3 Suggesting.....	20
3.1.1.4 Inviting	21
3.1.1.5 Advising.....	23
3.1.2 Representatives.....	24
3.1.2.1 Asserting.....	24
3.1.2.2 Complaining	27
3.1.2.3 Informing.....	30
3.1.2.4 Claiming	31
3.1.2.5 Conclusion	33
3.1.2.6 Predicting.....	34
3.1.3 Expressives.....	36
3.1.3.1 Statement of Praising	36
3.1.3.2 Statement of Pleasure (enjoyment)	38
3.1.4 Commissives.....	39

3.1.4.1 Promising	39
3.1.5 Declarations	40
3.2 Brown and Levinson’s Politeness Strategies in (500) Days of Summer Film.....	42
3.2.1 Bald on Record Strategy	42
3.2.2 Positive Politeness Strategy	44
3.2.3.NegativePoliteness Strategy	52
3.2.4 Off record strategy.	56
CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION.....	58
4.1 Conclusion	58
4.2 Summary of Term paper	59
4.3 Kesimpulan	60
4.4 Ringkasan	61
BIBLIGRAPHY.....	
BIODATA.....	



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

In our daily life, language becomes important because as a tool, language can deliver the messages we send. It becomes harder when we communicate with language we do not understand. Therefore, language is created (based on agreement) to deliver the messages. Language brings us to the society of others. Through language, we can understand people's thought, desires, needs and so on. In other hands, language has a power. It proved with the expression of sadness, happiness, anger, embarrassment and so on. For instance, if someone we love says something such as "I love you," we must be happy. It is because those words come from the one we love. But if it is not, we will not feel the same way. In other words, language is so affecting how people treat us.

Language is part of communication. Communication is always two ways which means there are always two participants, speaker and hearer or addresser and addressee. When we communicate to each other, we always see the context or the situation in order to make good communication. Context is important because context is the background knowledge that speaker has to know before he or she utters something. Some of the time the speaker speaks something implicitly. The speaker wants the hearer to interpret what they mean. So, the hearer has to be able to interpret what the speaker means. Those things bring us to Pragmatics study. Pragmatics is the study that is more concerned with utterance meaning than the objective meaning of words. Pragmatics is an interesting study because we have to analyze what people say and find out what their intended meaning is. In Pragmatics, we can also learn about Speech acts and Politeness. Speech acts and Politeness are interrelated.

According to Yule (Pragmatics, 1996: 47) that speech acts are actions which are performed through utterances. In English, those have specific labels, such as

apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or request. In *How To Do Things With Words*, Austin offers Ordinary Language Philosophy concept. In this concept Austin states that human utterance in communication is often far from ideal, seeing from the structure or the meaning. He also assumes that human utterances are not just utterances. There is action in human language. That is what he calls as performative. For instance, when your boss says, "You are fired", you are automatically no longer his employee. But if those words are said by your partner, it does not change anything. This is what we call *Speech Act*.

There are two philosophers who proposed this speech acts theory, namely J. L. Austin and John Searle. J. L. Austin came first in publishing his book, *How to do things with words*, 1962. Inspired by Austin, Searle developed this theory. He published his book in 1969, *Speech acts: an essay in the philosophy of language*. He classified five types of speech acts. There are declarations, representatives, expressives, directives, and commissives. These functions are able to occur if there is speaker who is supported by situation. Some of the time we say something that is unconsciously is part of speech acts. For example, when the priest says, "I now pronounce you husband and wife." It is one of general functions of speech acts that we call declarations. We always hear that utterance in wedding ceremony. At that time, the priest changes someone's status through language (utterance). Another example is when judge says "I sentence you 10 years imprisonment." It changes someone's life too. This kind of functions relates to a special institutional role in a specific context.

As the writer mentioned above, context becomes important when communication occurs. Context, speech acts and politeness are interrelated while communication occurs. When we speak to someone we have to know with whom we speak. It is because as human we have *face*. According to Brown and Levinson, face is self-image which owns by people in the world. The meaning of face in this case relates to social and emotional meaning that other people should know. Politeness Strategy is proposed by Brown and Levinson in 1987. There are four strategies, *Bald on record* consist of two sub-strategies, *Negative Politeness* consists of fifteen sub-strategies, *Positive politeness* consists of ten sub-strategies and *Off*

record consists of fifteen sub-strategies. Politeness strategy is used to minimize face threatening acts that speaker does to the hearer.

In social interaction sometimes we say something in implicit way. We tend to try to make people discover what we actually mean. We do that sometimes in purpose in order to be more get communicated. There are some differences while communicating among friends, teachers or family. It is because there are some distances between them. As the writer mentions above, people has self-image that others have to respect. Therefore, we have to find appropriate words when we want to convey our intended meaning. We do not realize that some of the time we use politeness theory when we use speech acts. We tend to find appropriate words before we talk to our friends, teachers or family in order not to make them offended. It shows that we concerns about their face. We try to maintain their face by doing something that at least minimizes the threat to their face. In this case context also affect the choice of politeness strategy that will be conveys through speech acts.

The writer finds the relation among context, speech acts and politeness. Those are interrelated. Utterances are not only able be found in daily life but also able be found in dialogues of movie. In analyzing context, speech acts and politeness, the writer chooses data from the utterances of (500) Days of Summer movie. (500) Days of Summer is a 2009 American comedy drama film. It was written by Scott Neustadler and Michael H. Webber, directed by Marc Webb. In this movie, there are some utterances describing context, speech acts and politeness. From the utterances the writer is interested to analyze context, speech acts and politeness.

This film is presented in nonlinear narrative, as it jumps from various days within the 500-day span of Tom and Summer's relationship, indicated by an animation that includes the day's number. This film is quite interesting because of nonlinear narrative and unpredictable ending. Besides the story, the writer finds that the utterances the characters express contain speech acts and politeness that occur in the same time. So, the writer chooses this movie and the utterances as data for this research.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

According to the background of the problem, the writer finds the major problem in *(500) Days of Summer* is the application of politeness strategies through speech acts among characters in their social interaction. Therefore, the writer assumes that the characters use different strategy depending on whom they speak with and also depending on the situation they are getting at. They do those things in order to be more get communicated. Also, when we do the speech act sometimes we also use politeness strategy in the same time.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limit the problem only the utterances which contains speech acts that were spoken by characters according to *(500) Days of Summer* movie and the application of politeness strategies to minimize FTAs.

1.4 Statement of the Problem

According to limitation of the problem, the writer formulates the problem into three statements

1.4.1 What types of classification of speech act which are expressed by characters in *(500) Days of Summer* movie?

1.4.2 What politeness strategies which are applied by the character in *(500) Days of Summer* movie?

1.5 Objective of the Research

As mentioned above about the problem, the writer states the general objective of the research in the following:

1.5.1 To analyze types of classification of speech act which are expressed by characters in *(500) Days of Summer*

1.5.2 To analyze politeness strategies which are applied by the characters in *(500) Days of Summer*

1.6 Framework of the Theories

In analyzing this research, the writer chooses two main theories which support the analysis, those are speech acts theory by classification of speech act theory by Searle (directives, representatives, expressives, commissives and declarations) and Politeness theory by Brown and Levinson (Bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, off record and don't do the FTA). The writer uses those theories in conducting this research.

1.7 Method of the Research

Based on framework of theory, the writer uses the qualitative research method that uses text document. Through this method the writer will analyze speech acts and the application of politeness theory in (500) Days of Summer film

1.8 Benefit of the Research

Benefit of the research is the readers can get better understanding about speech acts theory. The readers also know how to analyze speech acts and politeness strategy in movie as material. The writer hopes this research can help the readers who are interested in Pragmatics, profoundly in speech act politeness theory.

1.9 Systematic organization of the Research

The writer organizes this term paper in four chapters which is explained as below,

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the writer explains about background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, statement of the problem, objectives of the research, framework of the theory, methods of the research, benefits of the research, and systematic organization of the research

CHAPTER 2: FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

In this chapter, the writer uses the theory classification of speech acts by Searle in analyzing types of illocutionary acts and the theory of politeness by Brown and Levinson in analyzing politeness strategy to analyze the research and explain this theory clearly.

CHAPTER 3: THE APPLICATION OF POLITENESS THEORY THROUGH SPEECH ACTS IN (500) DAYS OF SUMMER FILM: A PRAGMATICS STUDY

In this chapter, the writer analyzes the research in two sub chapters. The first sub chapters is classification of speech act. The second sub chapter is a politeness strategy.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the result of the analysis in the previous chapter.

