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An Analysis of Politeness Strategies Used by Kit Connor in the Heart Stopper Series

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Abstract. In social situations, people must be able to recognize the faces of others to respond to emotions and maintain relationships. People are supposed to utilize politeness strategies to save their faces. The purpose of this research is to explain the different functions and kinds of politeness strategies utilized by Kit Connor in the television show *The Heart Stopper*. This study falls under discourse analysis and employs Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness strategies. In the form of utterances and words, this data is the script for the television series *The Heart Stopper*. According to our findings, Kit Connor's politeness strategy is used in 37 utterances. She used the baldness strategy 18.9% or 7 times of the time, positive politeness 54% or 20 times of the time, negative politeness 24.4% or 9 times of the time, and informally used 24.4% or 1 time of the time. 2.7% used. Kit Connor's favourite politeness strategy is the "offer and promise" part of the positive politeness strategy. The strategy is employed 18.9%, or 7 times of the time. Generally, he employs politeness strategies in his daily life to maintain and build positive relationships with others.

Keywords: Discourse Analysis, Politeness strategies, Function.

Introduction

Human beings are social creatures who spend their lives with other people. Humans are constantly involved in social interactions, including all forms of communication, as members of society. A language is a necessary tool for human communication. According to Hornby (2000), The spoken and written communication system used by people in a particular country is known as speech. Language, in other words, is the communication system that humans use to communicate or interact with one another. Language and society are closely related.

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Moreover, language serves different functions in society, and so does society. It means that language shapes, social everyday interactions, and is shaped by society. People must pay attention to other people's faces when interacting socially to respond to their emotions and maintain relationships with others. According to Yule (2014), face refers to a person's public self-image. Also, in everyday conversation, you should avoid actions that threaten other people's faces. Brown and Levinson (2012) stated that behaviour that violates the listener's need for self-esteem and respect is referred to as "face-threatening behaviour or FTA". It is said that people use politeness strategies to save and save a person's face. Brown and Levinson (1987) state that politeness strategies have four kinds. Baldness, negative politeness, positive politeness, and covert strategies are examples. Politeness strategies are utilized in real situations to save face. Also, movies are a kind of entertainment that reflects real situations. For this reason, movies and their scripts are ideal for researching the various functions and kinds of politeness strategies. Researchers analysed the politeness strategy utilized by Kit Connor in the series *The Heart stopper*. The purpose of this research was to (1) describe the kinds of politeness strategies utilized by Kit Connor in the series *The Heart Stopper*, and (2) To explain the function of the politeness strategy used.

In everyday life, language is required for people to communicate and interact with one another. Language, in other words, in everyday communication, is an important medium of human interaction. According to Hornby (2000), speech is the spoken and written communication system used by people in certain countries. In short, language is a sound and word-based communication system that people use to express and communicate their feelings, thoughts, ideas, and meanings. In this condition, people need to manage their speech. Indahsari and Surjowati (2021) argues that in doing communication and interaction speakers have to pay attention to some factors which are essential for the success of communication. There are also some aspects in people's interaction. Permadi et.al (2022) argues that there are several aspects in social interaction that influence the way you talk, such as background of education, age, ethnicity, power, gender, and context.

Language and society are inextricably linked. Moreover, social context inspects language as it is utilized by people and the relationship between society and language. The study of language and society is known as sociolinguistics. It implies that language is a social construct. Hudson (1996) stated that the study of language is known as sociolinguistics about society. It means that language should be used appropriately for the situation at hand. In conclusion, sociolinguistics is the study of how social and language variables interact.

People use language in everyday conversation to exchange, communicate, or express each other's thoughts, ideas, meanings, or feelings. According to Yule (2014), When people try to express themselves, they act through speech. Furthermore, Searle (2004) argues that the most fundamental unit of verbal communication is the speech act. Regarding the preceding definitions, The researchers summarize that speech acts are the actions that people present in everyday conversation through their utterances. Furthermore, Austin (1962) argues that when a person utters a sentence, he or she may do something as well as say something. He also divides speech acts into three categories. These are speech acts, speech acts, and speech acts. People use politeness strategy in their communication. Rosari (2016) states that the study of politeness strategy is

basically the study of knowing the way people use a language while they are having interaction or communication

Positive politeness strategies are classified into four kinds, according to Brown and Levinson (1987). The four kinds are bald on record, positively polite, negatively polite, and off record.

1. Bald on Record

On-the-record strategies that are bald rarely try to mitigate the threat to the addressee's face. Brown and Levinson (1987) argue that On-the-record strategies that are bald rarely try to mitigate the threat to the addressee's face. Great haste; speaking as if extreme coherence is required; task-oriented; little or no desire to keep someone's face; alerting; welcoming; offering; and requesting.

For instance:

a) Great urgency (Strategy1)

For instance: *Watchout!*

b) Speaking as if great efficiency is necessary (Strategy 2)

For instance: *Hear me out: ...*

c) Task-oriented (Strategy3)

For instance: *Pass me the hammer.*

2. Positive Politeness

Positive politeness is more common among friends or among people who are reasonably acquainted with one another. Brown and Levinson (1987) argue that the positive politeness strategy seeks to take part in the desires, interests, and goods of the listener. Positive politeness strategies include: attending and noticing the listener; exaggerating; intensifying interest in the listener; utilizing an in-group identity marker; seeking agreement; and avoiding disagreement; assuming/raising/asserting common ground; joking; implying or asserting the speaker's knowledge; explaining that the hearer and the speaker are collaborators. Concerns for the listener's desires; promise, offer be positive; Include both the listener and the speaker in that activity and provide or request a reason; assert or imply reciprocity: fulfilling the hearer's desires; and bestowing gifts on the hearer.

For instance:

a) His Needs, Goods Interest, and Wants (Notice, Attend to Hearer)

What a beautiful vase this is! Where did it come from?

(Brown and Levinson, 1987:103)

b) Sympathy, Approval with the Listener, Interest (Exaggerate)

What a fantastic garden you have!

(Brown and Levinson, 1987:104)

c) Intensify the Interest to the Listener (Strategy3)

I never imagined that there were thousands beautiful girls in Jim's party last night!

(Brown and Levinson, 1987:106)

3. Negative Politeness

Brown and Levinson (1987) explain that positive politeness is "broader and more general" than negative politeness. Negative politeness includes the following: being conventionally indirect; questioning, hedging; being pessimistic; minimizing the imposition; granting deference; apologizing; impersonalizing the speaker and hearer specify the FTAs as a general rule, the hearer should

nominalize and go on record as not incurring debt or being indebted.

For instance:

a) Question, Hedge

Won't you open the door? (Which could be glossed as, "I request that you open the door)

(Brown and Levinson, 1987:145)

b) Minimize the Imposition

Could I have a taste (a slice) of that cake?

(Brown and Levinson's example, 1996:177)

4. Off Record

Brown and Levinson (1987) explain that Off-the-record communication makes use of indirect language to shield the speaker from being imposed. The listener must infer what is intended in this case. Furthermore, it implies that if the speakers intend to keep away from responsibility, they should refrain from speaking about FTAs in which they can employ the strategy. Dropping hints, being vague, and being sarcastic or joking are all off-the-record strategies.

a) Give Hints

For instance: *it is cold in here.*

b) Be Vague

For instance: *perhaps someone should have been more responsible.*

In real-life situations, courtesy strategies are frequently used to keep each other's faces. A movie is also a form of pleasure depicting a real-life condition. As a result, a film, including its script, can be examined in terms of its various politeness strategies. The researchers chose the series *The Heart Stopper* for this study because it depicts everyday problems that people face. In addition, the series' main character, Kit Connor, works as an English Literature teacher at John Monroe High School. The series not only depicts ordinary people's daily lives, but also their educational aspects, particularly in the United States.

Method

Because the data in this research was in the form of sentences and words, the researchers utilized discourse analysis. Discourse analysis, according to Brown and Yule (2006), is concerned with investigating how language is utilized. It is commonly defined as "language beyond the sentence," and it focuses on text and conversational language analysis. Researchers summarize that discourse analysis is the study of the language use of social interactions that appear in written texts and conversations based on the above definitions. In the television series *The Heart Stopper*, researchers utilized discourse analysis to investigate the various functions and kinds of Kit Connor's politeness strategies.

Findings and Discussion

According to the data analysis, there are 37 utterances in *The Heart Stopper* series that contain Kit Connor's politeness strategies. She employs a variety of politeness strategies in different criteria: 1) bald on record strategies including: high urgency 2.7% (once), task-oriented 2.7% (once), welcomes 5.4% (twice), and requests 5.4% (twice). 2) positive politeness strategies include: noticing and attending to the hearer 16.2% (6 times); exaggerating 5.4% (twice);

using an in-group identity maker 2.7% (once); seeking agreement (5.4%); and offering and promising 18.9% (7 times); Once (2.7%), be optimistic; 2.7% (once), including the hearer and the speaker in the activity; and 2.7% (once), use negative politeness strategies including: 4) off-record strategy including; provide hints 2.7% (once).

a) The following are some discussions of the various politeness strategies employed by Claire Peterson Bald on Record- Task Oriented Datum 12 (12/BoR/TO)

Kevin: Oh, no, dude, you don't wanna do that. They call him "The Crusher"

Kit: Is that what they call me?

Kevin: Yes.

Kit: Kevin? Carry your own plate. Clean up all the dishes!

The dialogue takes place after Kit and his family have finished their lunch.

Actually, Kit orders Kevin on the spur of the moment because he is uncomfortable with the topic at hand. Kit's contribution to Kevin is depicted in the datum in a clear, direct, and unambiguous manner. He conveys himself without shying away from FTAs in his face. Kit employs the strategy to assign him the duty of carrying and cleaning up the dishes as soon as possible.

b) Positive Politeness - Be Optimistic Datum 33 (33/PP/BO)

Kevin: Mom, Seriously, come on, tonight has gotta be perfect, all right?

Because Allie Callahan's the most beautiful girl in school and I just never thought she'd actually go out with me. Okay, please, stop.

Kit: Well, she obviously knows quality when she sees it. She'll love it! Come on!

Kevin is getting ready to leave for the party with Allie Callahan when they have the dialogue. During this conversation, Kevin is not assured in his appearance. The datum depicts Kit's offering to Kevin as conveyed through the strategy of optimism. Kit uses this strategy in the conversation to persuade Kevin to be more assured in his appearance.

c) Negative Politeness–Hedge Datum 5 (05/NP/HED)

Kit: Does she still work there?

Garret: Kit, it doesn't matter.

Kit: No, I guess it doesn't matter

The meeting is held in the dining room. In the dialogue, Kit is envious of Garret since he is still working with his new secretary in his business trip to San Francisco. Kit's contribution to Garret is depicted in the datum as expressed through the negative politeness strategy, particularly for the hedging strategy. During the conversation, he says to Garret, "No, I guess it doesn't matter," in order to minimize the FTAs that may threaten his or both of their faces. He can expand the likelihood of Garret's acceptance by employing this strategy.

a) Off Record -Give Hints Datum 23 (23/OR/GH)

Kit: I mean, we're in limbo here

Garret: What do you mean?

The dialogue is taking place in front of the limbo. Kit informs Garret indirectly of their intention to return home. The datum depicts Kit's contribution to Garret as conveyed through the "off record" strategy, specifically the hinting strategy. During this conversation, he says, "I mean, we're in limbo here," implying

to Garret that they should return to their house. In that case, Garret should draw a reasoning to determine about Kit's intention.

Conclusion

According to our findings, Kit Connor's politeness strategy is used in 37 utterances. Specifically, she used the bald head strategy seven times (18.9%), the positive politeness strategy twenty times (54%), the negative politeness strategy nine times (24.4%), and the off-the-record strategy. 1 time (2.7%). The "offer and promise" part of the positive politeness strategy is Kit Connor's favourite politeness strategy. This strategy is utilized 18.9%, or seven times of the time. In general, Kit Connor believes in courtesy if you want someone to do something for you, please someone else, or minimize free trade agreements that might jeopardize the face of your listener to utilize a strategy of volatility. In other words, he employs politeness strategies in his daily interactions with others. increase. Student of English Education. Researchers suggest that students apply politeness strategy theory to everyday conversation. Maintaining good relationships with others is very important for an English teacher. Researchers suggest that English teachers use film dialogue as an interesting medium for learning politeness strategies.

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