

POLITENESS STRATEGIES USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN *FINDING OHANA* (2021) MOVIE

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Abstract

This study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. It was concerned with the description of the data in the form of utterances produced by the main characters in Finding Ohana (2021) Movie. In conducting this research, the researcher (1) found out the types of politeness strategy in Finding Ohana (2021) Movie. (2) described the realization types of politeness strategies in Finding Ohana (2021) Movie. (3) explain the reason why the types of politeness strategies using in Finding Ohana (2021) Movie. The data of this research was the utterances by the main characters in the movie, that was English subtitle.

In the application of the politeness strategies, the Finding Ohana (2021) Movie utterances mostly applied Bald on Record strategy. The result showed that most dominant type of politeness strategies is Bald on Record strategy (43,3%). Consequitely the percentage of Positive Politeness strategy was (36.1%). The percentage of Negative Politeness was (14,4%). The lowest percentage of politeness strategy is Off Record with (6.2%). The reason why the types of politeness strategies using in the Finding Ohana (2021) movie, instead of each politeness strategies has sub-strategies which explained those utterances contained politeness strategies and also influenced by payoffs and sociological variables.

Keywords: *Politeness Strategies, Finding Ohana (2021), Movie.*

INTRDUCTION

Language is defined as a sociocultural construct that rational language users strategically employ in context, considering the perlocutionary effects of their words in terms of politeness, both negative and positive (Brown and Levinson, 1987). Politeness is necessary for our social lives wherever and whenever they occur, as we all know, as a human code for communication and social activities. According to the politeness theory, "our face, as well as our interaction partner's face, is on the line every time we engage" (Goldsmith & Lamb Normand, 2008). Politeness is a social interaction in which someone expresses concern for others (Ryabova, 2015). An act that challenges an interlocutor's face desires is known as a face-threatening act (FTA). Brown and Levinson (1987), Brown and Levinson (1987), Brown and Levinson (1987), Brown and Levinson Face-threatening acts can be directed at the speaker's or the hearer's face, and they can be positive or negative. Some types of activities are innately risky (Brown and Levinson, 1987). When people connect, they employ a variety of strategies to meet positive and negative face needs, avoid engaging in face-threatening activities, and correct FTAs. Politeness Individuals have several options when it comes to FTAs. A bald-on-the-record method entails clear and unambiguous communication that does not strive to meet face-to-face demands (Brown & Levinson, 1987).

Politeness strategies are divided into four categories(Brown and Levinson, 1987), the first is "Bald on Record," which is demonstrated by speaking immediately or responding; the second is "Positive Politeness," which emphasizes confirming oneself or the other person conversing, and the third is "negative politeness," which is intended to avoid imposing or interfering with any of the contacts' negative facial demands. The last one, "Off Record," is the final option, which is either indirect or off record.Finally, by being imprecise and indirect, such as by dropping hints, off-the-record techniques avoid participating in face-threatening acts (Goldsmith & Lamb Normand, 2015). Friends are likely to use one or more of these techniques to control their faces as a result of their frequent cell phone use. One of the phenomena in communication is politeness, which can be found in everyday communication.

The writer chose this film because it was released in January 2021, so it is still popular, and it also wants to be on the IMDb rating with a 6.1/10 rating, despite the fact that the age or release of this film is still classified in a short period of time, so it is still very interesting for those who watch it, and the rating is still obtained from 9.7K viewers, indicating that the ratings will continue to rise. The subject of this film is She grew up with her older brother in Brooklyn, New York, but due to unforeseen circumstances, she was forced to relocate to rural Hawaii to care for her grandfather. Pili was undecided about moving to Hawaii until he discovered a journal that led him to a 200-year-old treasure ship hidden in Hawaii's caves and mountains. In addition, this film received a ReFrame Stamp for Narrative & Animated Feature in 2021, as well as a nomination for the HFCS Award for Best Hawaii Film. These praises are sufficient to justify the writer's decision to investigate this film.

There are also face-saving actions, also known as language politeness strategies, that can be used to reduce the threat of the speech partner's face. The politeness strategy is used to minimize face-threatening actions in order to maintain cooperation among speech participants and achieve the speaker's goals.

Based on the explanation, the writer wishes to examine every expression of polite spoken by the main

character in the movie, because the speech in the movie is nearly identical to our everyday conversation, and the results can be used to aid people in understanding the theory of politeness. And the writer is looking for solutions to the three problems the writer will create.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Theoretical Framework

When conducting research, a theoretical framework is present to explain the study's theories. The terms "Bald on-record," "Positive Politeness," "Negative Politeness," and "Off-Record" are used to explain all terms related to Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory of politeness strategy, specifically the "Bald on-record," "Positive Politeness," "Negative Politeness," and "Off-Record."

1. Pragmatics

The study of "invisible" meaning, or how we understand what is intended even when it is not expressed verbally or in writing, is known as pragmatics. Yule is a term used to describe a (2010) Yule (2010) (Yule, 2010:128) The word "pragmaticus" comes from the Greek word "pragmaticos," which means "pragmatic." Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics in which ancient Greek and Roman academics teach a language based on historical context. In linguistic philosophy, the term "pragmatic" first appeared in the 1930s, directing attention to studies of language symbols, which later evolved into semiology.

2. Politeness

(Leech, 2014) defines politeness as strategic conflict avoidance, and the definition will be that politeness is strategic to avoid becoming embroiled in daily conversation.

Cleanliness, a smooth surface, and polished brightness are all English concepts that can reflect the image of the beholder (Watts, 2003: 33).

"Politeness can be understood to have a wide range of meanings, both for theorists and interactants," writes the author, "and can be used to explain a highly diverse set of behaviors." Mills (Mills, 2003)

Politeness is concerned with how to make others feel more at ease. In relation to a particular social and situational setting, it also includes the appropriate language choice. The topic of civility is inextricably linked to the topic of face. The act of showing awareness of another person's face during a conversation is referred to as being polite. In addition, he asserts that it is frequently used to describe respect and deference to show awareness for another person's face when that order appears socially distant. (Yule, 2010 : 135).

3. Politeness Theory

There are some types used to show politeness. Different author uses different terms for the types. However, they refer to the rule for politeness.

a. Lakoffs' Theory

Lakoff in Watts (2003:60) proposes a hierarchy of politeness types based on the pragmatic well-formedness of utterances, ranging from formal politeness through informal

politeness to intimate politeness, namely:

1). Don't Impose

This type is used for formally situation which the hearer avoid the implicit meaning from the speaker.

2). Give Option

This method allows you to understand what the speaker is saying. With question intonation, tag questions, and the use of hedges when the speaker is unsure of the truth, this action combines the first role.

b. Brown and Levinson's Theory

1) Bald on Record

This was shown by Bald on Record speaking or responding right away. Close friends and family members, as well as other people with whom you are familiar, tend to be bald in public.

4. Movie

The film is an excellent example of how to tell a story using words and images that convincingly bring the visuals to life. A film begins as a literary work with a script before being adapted for the screen. The script serves as a guide, with dialogue, character movements, and scene descriptions included. A page will always be continued on the stage before a movie is made. If the story isn't compelling, believable, and moving, it doesn't matter how much money is spent, how talented the cast is, how impressive the explosions are, or how intricate the visual effects are. A bad script has been known to cause high-budget films to fail, and a bad script almost never results in a successful film. Writing a script takes time and practice, as well as a strong sense of discipline and a thorough understanding of the story (Tomaric, 2011).

5. Finding Ohana (2021)

Finding Ohana is a 2021 American family adventure film directed by Jude Weng and written by Christina Strain. Kea Peahu, Alex Aiono, Lindsay Watson, and Owen Vaccaro star in the film. On January 29, 2021, it debuted on Netflix. In "Finding 'Ohana," Pili (likable newcomer Kea Peahu) races a bicycle through Brooklyn in an exhilarating opening sequence. She's geocaching, a treasure hunt guided by GPS that's similar to an outdoor escape room. "Sorry folks, it's a competition," she says triumphantly as she pushes people and objects aside in a crowded laundromat. We see the race from her handlebars, with lively, kinetic editing that transports us there. Pili's speed isn't the only thing that makes her stand out. She outwits the other competitors with tenacity, superior puzzle-solving abilities, and the capacity to speak to her teammate in Spanish so that nobody else can overhear her solution. She has triumphed! It's a happy occasion. A trip to a geocaching camp, where she can hone her abilities even further, is the reward. This is going to be the best summer ever, the narrator declares.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The descriptive qualitative method was used to conduct this research. To begin with, descriptive research was conducted to gather information about the status of the phenomenon. Its purpose was to ascertain the nature

of a situation as it existed at the time of the investigation. A qualitative method was used to explain and describe the data. This descriptive study attempted to describe the politeness strategies used in the "Finding Ohana" movie. The descriptive method is used to explain, analyze, and classify something using a variety of techniques and tests, according to Fraenkel and Wallen (1993:23).

Because the goal of this study is to describe the phenomena of social media, specifically the politeness strategies used in "Finding Ohana" movie utterances, the researcher used a descriptive qualitative method.

The data comes from the Finding Ohana movie, which was released in 2021. The data was gathered from all of the main characters' utterances in the movie. There are 3 main characters in the movie, namely:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Peahu as Pili | Pili is a smart and quick problem solver |
| Alex Alono as "Loena" | Loena is frequently cruel to his sister |
| Leily Hu as "Leilani" | Leilani is a mother from Pili and Loena |

Brown and Levinson's theory, which is divided into four categories: Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record, was used to analyze the data.

DISCUSSION

This research was carried out using Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness strategies (1987). Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record Strategies are all discussed in this research. Politeness is a crucial principle in communication and language use. It's a way of showing that you're aware of someone else's face (Yule, 2010). It was about how language could be used strategically to support or maintain interpersonal relationships, for example. All of the main characters in this case demonstrate how he can make others have more fun. According to Brown and Levinson's theory, the main characters use strategies to minimize threats to establish good communication without threatening each other. and all actors in the *Finding Ohana 2021* Movie must use politeness strategies because the film's audience is not limited; anyone can watch it, so every actor in the film must use politeness strategies. This research looked at the politeness strategies used by the main characters in the film *Finding Ohana 2021*. The information was gathered from the main characters' statements in the film *Finding Ohana 2021*.

Bald On Record had the most types of politeness strategies in the movie. The dominance of politeness strategies was Bald on Record, which had 42 data (43,3%), implying that the main characters are usually seen in cases of non-minimalism or face threat, or when people who know each other well, such as close friends and relatives. Because the majority of the main characters are best friends who know each other well, they frequently employ the Bald On Record strategy.

The lowest of the politeness strategies was Off Record, which had 6 data (6.2 percent) and meant to keep the conversation going. In this case, the protagonists attempted to minimize the indirect approach. It was worth noting that Off Record was a statement or parable about something without mentioning it directly. Give Association Clues was a popular Off Record to use. It was related to by mentioning something relevant to the act required of the listener, either speaker or listener. Positive Politeness (35.1%) and Off Negative Politeness

(14%) were the other politeness strategies (14.4 %).

The film *Finding Ohana 2021* depicted the realization of politeness strategies, which included four types of politeness strategies: Bald On Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record. Politeness was a strategy for reducing the threat to other people's faces. Brown and Levinson came up with the strategies. Brown and Levinson provide a descriptive analysis of participant strategies for maintaining their perspective faces in social situations. In this strategy, the threats to face are relatively low. There were some kinds of positive politeness : has noticing, exaggerating, intensify interest to H, seeking agreements, joking, asserting or presupposing knowledge, offering or promising, being optimistic, include both S and H, giving or asking for reasons, and giving gift to H. The realization of politeness strategies in the film *Finding Ohana 2021* which consists of four types of politeness strategies, namely Bald On Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness and Off Record. Politeness strategies are strategies for how people reduce threats to other people's faces. The strategy proposed by Brown and Levinson. Brown and Levinson offer a descriptive analysis of the strategies used by participants to maintain their socially-faced perspective. In this strategy, the threats faced were relatively low. In this research, the most common politeness strategy is the Bald on Record strategy, which is frankly where Bald on record is divided into 2 sub strategies, namely: Cases of non-minimization or face threat and Cases of FTA - Oriented Bald-On Record usage. Then there is the Positive Politeness strategy divided into several sub-strategies, namely: paying attention, exaggerating, increasing interest in H, seeking agreement, joking, asserting or presupposing knowledge, offering or promising, optimistic, including S and H, giving or asking for reasons, and giving present. Then, by creating a space between speaker and hearer, negative politeness was used to create a communicative relationship. The findings show that the main characters in the *Finding Ohana 2021* movie used the strategy in their communication. Negative politeness focuses on reducing the burden on the listener. The threat to face is relatively high in this strategy.

Brown and Levinson's final politeness strategy, Off Record, is the one that is used the least in *Finding Ohana 2021*. This strategy makes use of ambiguous language that can be interpreted in a variety of ways. It denotes that when a speaker employs this strategy, he can do so indirectly, leaving the interpretation of his or her words to the listener. Giving hints, giving association clues, using contradiction, and using metaphor are all sub-strategies that work under the Off Record strategy.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

The following conclusions are reached based on the research discussed in the previous chapter:

1. In the *Finding Ohana 2021* film, there were 97 data points on politeness strategies. The most popular politeness strategy is the Bald on Record strategy (43,3 percent). The percentage of people who used the Positive Politeness strategy was high (36,1 percent). Negative Politeness as a Percentage (14,4 percent). Off the Record has the lowest percentage of politeness strategies (6,2 percent).
2. The realization that there are four types of politeness strategies: Bald On Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record, as seen in the *Finding Ohana 2021* movie. Close friends and

families, for example, are more likely to be bald on record because they know each other well and feel at ease in their surroundings. Positive Politeness is a strategy for people to lessen the threat they pose to others. Negative Politeness is used to establish a communicative relationship by creating a space between the speaker and the listener. Off Record is a strategy for showing someone's face wants in an indirect way. It uses indirect language with multiple interpretations.

3. The reasons for the various politeness strategies used in the film Finding Ohana 2021, The use of politeness strategies was influenced by both payoffs and sociological variables. Instead of each politeness strategy having sub strategies that explained those utterances that contained politeness strategies, the payoffs explained the strategies' outcomes. There are Cases of non-minimalization or the face threat and cases of FTA –oriented in Bald on Record. Positive Politenes has noticing, Exaggerate, Intensifying Interest to Herer, Seeking Agreement, Joking, Asserting or Presupposing Knowledge, Offering, Be Optimistic, Include both S and H, Giving gift to H. in Negative politeness has Give Deference, Question using hedge, Minimize the imposition, state the FTA as an instance of general rule, Apologize, Impersonate speaker and H, Being Indirect. And Lastly, Off Record has Give Association Clues, using Contradiction, using Metaphor, and Give Hints.

Suggestions

It is hope for the future researchers may be able to replicate this study by investigating or researching a different genre of film. The researcher suggests that, based on the findings, more research be done, particularly on the concept of politeness strategies.

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