

# **POLITENESS STRATEGY IN REQUEST USED IN JAVANESE WEDDING CEREMONY**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed at analyzing the types of politeness strategy in request which represented in Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony. The descriptive qualitative method used to gain the findings of the data. The documentary transcription from recording that event was the source of the data. From that findings, 25 formed requests from 12 utterances has been analyzed. The data found were 12 utterances in the Peningsetan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony. And from that utterances, 25 sentences classified as requests, which were found throughout transcribing methods, and the results are Bald-on record 4 (16%), and Positive Politeness 21 (84%), and for the Negative and Off-Record Strategy shared 0 amounts. Later on, the positive politeness was the dominant type of politeness since the wedding was a sacred ceremony, the using of positive politeness would be found massively. The instrument of this study was recording the event and transcribing them into list and marking. Positive Politeness dominated because of the events required manners, even in daily life, Javanese used low tones and more polite language to utter the meaning of the speaker.

**Keywords:** *Politeness Strategy, Requests, Javanese Wedding.*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### *Background of the Study*

Language is a central part of interaction and communication. It is something which we need everyday to communicate with the people because without a language we cannot communicate with the others. Bloomfield (1933) states that language plays a great part in our life. The way for expressing our feelings is used language, and language has two types, which are written and spoken.

This study of language that is concerned with meaning of utterances is pragmatics. As Yule (1996) states that pragmatics is the study of what speakers mean, or 'speaker meaning', is called Pragmatics. It is one of the branches of linguistics. By studying meaning of a word, phrase, sentences. We can get the intention of one interaction other than to interpret its meaning.

Politeness strategy is one common strategy appears in communication. Thomas (1995) states that politeness refers to the respect we show to other people by virtue of their higher status, greater age, etc. Similar with Thomas (1995), Pishghadam (2012) states that Politeness is an important factor in developing effective relationships with people, and any misuse of these strategies can hinder the effective communication, leading to individuals` dissatisfaction and indifference.

In a subject of Language, Javanese is the most spoken language behind the National Language of Indonesia because One of the most populated tribe in Indonesia is Javanese. Kuntjara (2001) states that the largest ethnic group in Indonesia is the Javanese who make up 40% of the total population. It has known that Javanese “people” spreaded across this archipelago nations. From Sabang to Marauke, Javanese “language” has spoken in every island, even in other nations. Ramadhani et. al (2014) states that In Javanese culture, it is very sensitive to give orders, advice, show one's dislike upon the addressee, express criticism or to show disagreement. These acts that can threaten face are even more sensitive if they are done by a younger person toward elders/superiors.

As we know, in Javanese marriage, there are some orders for a couple to get married. Each also has its own politeness and yet different from one or another. In order to understand the complexity of politeness from the wedding ceremony. On the other hand, Sawit Seberang is the most populated Javanese in North Sumatera. The rules itself merged to Javanese, Batak, and Malay. By holding on to Javanese origin, the writer believed that it is interesting to analyzed the Javanese wedding ceremony in Langkat Regency and how does it different from Javanese wedding culture in Java Island.

One of the data explained as an example below while the sample itself may not be completed yet, but the source was from another event of the Javanese wedding ceremony as the further data and model to this study.

**Pihak Lanang** : *“Permisi, jalok ijin ngomong karo wong-wong tuo seng bener tak hormati lan poro lawuh seng dimuliake”*.

**Pihak Laki-Laki** : *“Permisi, minta izin bicara kepada orang tua yang baik yang saya hormati, dan semua hadirin yang dimuliakan”*.

**Pihak Wedok** : *Iyo, Insya Allah ijab kabul meniko bade katindakaken ing sasi besar dintenipun Sabtu pon enjang tanggal 17 Januari 2020 saaatipun jam 10.00 pagi*

**Pihak Wanita** : *Insha allah ijab kabul ini akan dilaksanakan bulan Besar, harinya sabtu pon tanggal 17 Januari 2020 jam 10.00 pagi*

In the request example above, the needs to get permission (the act of allowing someone to do something, or of allowing something to happen). The politeness strategy is positive politeness.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

### Politeness Strategy

According to Brown and Levinson (1987), politeness strategies are developed in order to save the hearer feeling. Feeling refers to the respect an

individual face and maintaining self-confidence in public or in a private situation. Usually, a person tries to avoid embarrassing to another person or making him feel uncomfortable. In Brown and Levinson (1987) analysis, politeness involves us showing awareness of other face want in the interaction between speaker keeps and cooperate to respect face themselves. That concept will be different from one culture to another.

Yule (1996) adds that politeness is an intrusion can be defined as the means employed to show awareness of another person's face. Furthermore he says showing awareness for another person's face when that order socially distant is often described in terms of respect or deference.

Brown & Levinson's outline four main types of politeness strategies are Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off Record Strategy. The detail explanation will be described as following.

*a. Bald on-Record Strategy*

Brown and Levinson (1987) say the term "Bald on record" is used when an expression has "one unambiguously attributable intention with which witnesses would concur". They also state that Bald on record is a direct politeness strategy which contains no repressive particle to soften the Face greatinging Act (FTA).

*a. Positive Politeness Strategy*

Brown & Levinson (1987) state that Positive Politeness Strategy is a strategy of speaking which is used less intimacy statement by extend metaphorical

implications. This strategy occurs between strangers to start a conversation, exchange informations and interaction. It is also used to get closer to the hearer. In other words, positive politeness is used as a kind of social acceleration.

*b. Negative Politeness Strategy*

According to Brown & Levinson (1987), Negative Politeness Strategy is a kind of strategy which pressing action addressed to the addressee, meaning he or she wants to have his/her freedom of action unbounded.

*c. Off-Record Strategy*

Off record is a communicative act that is done by unclear speaker's communicative intention in order to give an impression that he did not do something or to avoid the responsibility for doing it and letting the hearer decide how to interpret it.

## **Request**

Requests are acts that the speaker doing for expressing a desire for the hearer to do a particular thing and usually he or she aims that the hearer will do it and even should do it. Blum Kulka (1984) defines that a request is a prevent act that expresses a speaker's expectation about some prospective action, verbal or non verbal, on the part of the hearer. Supporting the theory, Arizah et. al (2021) add that by making declarations of desire, the speaker may ask others to do something in a respectful or formal manner. A request is an act that expresses the speaker's expectations of the listener regarding a good prospective action verbally or non-verbally.

## **The Use of Request in Javanese Wedding Ceremony**

Sukarno (2010) states that In Javanese daily lives, the people are greatly influenced by some concepts which are well rooted in the Javanese culture, namely: *tata krama*, *andhap-asor*, and *tanggap ing sasmita* (the language styles, humbling oneself while exalting others, and being able to catch the hidden meaning). In this section, these three concepts will be introduced and discussed respectively.

1. The phrase *tata krama* culturally means a good conduct or etiquette. Therefore, when Javanese people behave impolitely, for instance when a young man passes in front of his grandparents without asking permission and bowing down his body, he will be credited as an impolite man or one who does not know *tata krama*.
2. The next concept of the Javanese culture is *andhap-asor*. This term is lexically composed of two words *andhap* “low” and *asor* “humble”. Thus, to conduct the *andhap-asor* in Javanese means humbling oneself while exalting the others. This concept dictates the Javanese to be low profile. As a Javanese, one will not complement and praise him/herself. If s/he breaks this rule, as it applies to *tata krama*, s/he will be considered impolite and may get the social sanction. Hence, these two concepts have a close relationship. Being polite in Javanese, one must know how to behave politely or to know *tata krama*, and being polite also means one should have a sense of *andhap-asor*.
3. Finally, as a good Javanese, one should also have a sense of *tanggap ing sasmita* which can be translated as the ability to read between the lines. These concepts are clearly reflected in Javanese, especially as the devices of politeness.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS**

### *Methodology*

This research was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. This study has been analyzed from each speaker from through the utterances in Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony in *Sawit Seberang* by using Penelope Brown and Stephen Levinson’s Politeness Strategy Theory (1987). Thus, these aspects analyzed through the words means and words

from the recording of the wedding from local people in *Sawit Seberang*. Every utterance of the speakers also classified by using the related theory of politeness strategy by using Brown and Levinson Theory (1987). The source of the data was Javanese Wedding Ceremony and the data were the utterances come from the selected ceremony which was Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event of the wedding from Ormansyah Putra and Dina Wagiani wedding held in January 18th 2020 in Kec. Sawit Sebrang, Kab. Langkat Thus, this ceremony classified into politeness strategy. The technique of analyzing data used by the writer as follows.

1. Identifying the types of politeness strategy in request used by Javanese in the Javanese Wedding Ceremony.
2. Classifying the requests into politeness strategy in Javanese Wedding.
3. Explaining the represented types of politeness strategy coded in discussion.
4. Elaborate the conclusion from the result.

#### *Findings*

In collecting the data from the source of data, it was found that there were 25 formed requests from the Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event that indicated the politeness strategy. And from that data, the requests happened to be replies from one to another.

#### **Types of Politeness Strategy in Peningsetan Event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony.**

It was found that there were 2 types from 4 types of politeness strategy used in Javanese Wedding Ceremony Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event based on Brown and Levinson (1987) theory. They were Bald-on Record with 4 amounts which was 16% and Positive strategy 21 which was 84%. The findings percentages could be seen below.

**Table 4.1. Politeness Strategy Amounts and Percentages**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Politeness Strategies</b>	<b>Amounts and Percentages</b>
1.	Bald-On Record	4 (16%)
2.	Positive Politeness	21 (84%)
3.	Negative Politeness	0 (0%)
4.	Off-Record	0 (0%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Realization of Politeness Strategy Types in Peningsetan Event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony.**

*a. Bald-On Record*

*Pihak Lanang : Ora lali wenei syalawat lan salam karo nabi kito salalaah wa allahisalam, sak kluargo, poro sahabat lan pengikute Allahuma solli 'ala Muhammad, Wa'ala Ali Muhammad.*

*Man's Side : (Don't forget Shalawat and Salam to our Prophet Muhammad Shallallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam, his companions, and followers, Allahumma Sholli 'ala Muhammad, Wa'ala Ali Muhammad)*

This request taken from Pihak Lanang or Man Side to all the people in the room. The reason why the writer put this into Bald-On because of the implication of the word “*don't forget*”, which has the stressed in its tone. Also the speaker gave pressure on the pitch to made audience follow what he or she did. Thus, the writer put this request into Bald-on record strategy. Another example of Bald-on strategy explained below.

*Pihak Lanang : Akhirukalam?, Wassalamualaikum Wr.Wb”.*

*Man's Side : (That would be all?. Wassalamu alikum wr.wb)*

This request was taken from Pihak Lanang or Man Side, also the request “That would be all?” was a direct questions that need to be answered at that moment. The request seemed address to the Man Side family too. Thus, the writer also put these into Bald-On Record.

*b. Positive Politeness*



*Pihak Wedok : Sak banjure, opo sampek kene masih eneng seng arep di takoni, Pak?*

*Woman Side : (For the next process, does anyone have a question, maybe you sir?)*

This request was taken from Pihak Wedok or Woman Side to allowing one of the elder to asking something. At this positive politeness words “*maybe you*”. This implied that the risk of rejecting by the hearer would be low. By using positive words, the speakers would gain what he or she wanted by choosing the right words.

*Pihak Wedok : Mbok menowoh wes paripurno enggoheh ngomong lan kanggoh berkaheng ketemon iki, kulo jalok karo bapak al –ustad H. Mangun gelem mimpin dungo selamat, Semonggoh.*

*Woman’s Side : (If this meeting come to the end and for the best for all, we welcome Al Ustadz H.Mangun to lead the prayers, please)*

This request was taken from Woman Side that applied that he or she allowing someone to do something. The positive politeness clearly could be seen in “*Kulo Jalok karo/semonggoh*”. These sentences didn’t have pressing or impulsive gesture. So the writer put this into positive politeness strategy.

## DISCUSSIONS

The study was aimed to find out the types of the politeness strategy that occurred in Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony. The realization centered from the event itself and the speakers. The requests were the keys in this study. While the politeness strategy as the main theory involved to those requests. In this study, there were 12 utterances spoken in Peningsetan/Srah-Srahan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony. Thus, from all the 12 utterances filtered into 25 sentences that classified as requests. And from those requests, which divided by two strategy they were Bald-On record strategy with 4 amounts

(16%) and Positive Politeness Strategy with 21 (84%). The most dominant type of strategy from the requests was Positive Politeness strategy in the event.

## **CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

### *Conclusion*

After analyzing the data, conclusion were drawn as follow. The data found were 12 utterances in the Peningsetan event of Javanese Wedding Ceremony. And from that utterances, 25 sentences classified as requests, which were found throughout transcribing methods, and the results are Bald-on record 4 (16%), and Positive Politeness 21 (84%). Therefore each of requests filtered by using the collective method, later the realization of each findings type has been explained above.

### *Suggestions*

There are several suggestions that the writer could offer to reader towards politeness strategy learning, they were.

1. It is suggested to the next writer who want to make wider exploration on politeness strategy especially in Javanaese Traditional Events, which were important on analyzing words that came up with the ownself conclusion in the beginning until the end of the study.
2. For anyone who read this study, especially student, it is suggested to increase and develope. Because there were still many aspects that can be studied about the characteristics of politeness.

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