



Conversation Analysis of Turn-Taking Technique in “Ellen Show” Talkshow

Resha Febriza Matondang¹, Elisa Betty Manullang²

^{1,2}.English and Literature Department, Universitas Negeri Medan, Indonesia

Correspondence E-mail: eniwatysilalahi@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The research discussed about conversation analysis of turn-taking technique in “Ellen Show” talk show. Everyone should be familiar with “Ellen Show” this is one of the best popular talk show in American. The aims of this study were: (1) to find out the types of turn-taking techniques that used by the host of “Ellen Show” talk show by using Sacks (1974) in Garcia and Jacobs (2010) (2) to find out how the differences of turn-taking between male and female guests in “Ellen Show” talk show by using Pennebaker, J. W. (2007). The descriptive qualitative method is being used in this research. The data were derived from the dialogue script, which was transcribed from the video. The findings of the study revealed that: (1) there were three types of turn-taking current speaker select next, next speaker self-selection, current speaker continue.

The highest frequency was current speaker select next. The host and guests in “Ellen Show” talk show used current speaker select next which appeared 21 times, next speaker self-selection was the second highest frequency which occurred 19 times, then the lowest frequency was current speaker continue produced by the host and guests which appeared 4 times in eight episodes. (2) In all eight episodes, women take more turns in talking seven times than males three times. The researcher recommends that future studies examine turn-taking from a variety of perspectives, such as how turn-taking is used in movies by gender or other factors. The researcher hopes that this study will be valuable to readers and future conversation analysis researchers.

Keywords:

Turn-taking, Ellen Show, Gender.

INTRODUCTION

Humans are social creatures by nature. Humans are social beings that communicate with one another during their lives. These experiences can be observed in everyday activities such as business negotiations, shopping malls, public transportation, at home, at school, and so on. Humans establish contact in their lives through these experiences, and through communication, they have conversations in which language is used. Languages and conversation are inextricably related. When people speak, they use language to help them communicate. A conversation is an interaction between two or more people in which they speak or share information. Conversation is the primary means by which people come together, share information, negotiate, and sustain social relationships, according to Paltridge (2006: 107) in Zaferanich (2012: 2). Humans use language to communicate with one another orally by conversation. This is consistent with Hall's (1968) concept of language in the *International Journal of English Language and Literature Studies* (2016), which notes that languages is the institution through which humans communicate and connect with one another through the use of widely used oral-auditory arbitrary symbols. As a result, language plays an important role in human life as a medium of communication.

Sack et al. created a method of turn-taking organization as a model focused on turn-taking phenomena after performing a turn-taking investigation. In the structure and organization of a turn-taking scheme, there are three options. To begin, current speakers have the option to 'self-select' and continue speaking. Second, the current speaker has the option of choosing the next speaker and third, the current speaker may select another speaker instead of selecting the next speaker:

1. The current speaker A chooses the next speaker B, who then has the chance to talk and take a turn.

2. If A chooses C as the speaker instead of B then C begins to talk.

3. There is also possibility of third situation that A current speaker does not give chance to other speaker to speak and takes over the floor of the discussion.

In this research, the researcher uses *“Ellen Show”* as the object. The *“Ellen Show”* is an American television talk show that was taped in California. It's similar to a daytime broadcast. The *“Ellen Show”* is one of the highest-rated shows in the country, and it has received several Daytime Emmy Awards. Interviews with celebrities and politicians, musical performances, and audience participation games make up this show. The problems of the study were formulated as the following: (1) What types of turn-taking techniques that used by the host of *“Ellen Show”* talk show? (2) How are the differences of turn-taking between male and female guests in *“Ellen Show”* talk show?

1. Conversation Analysis

A conversation is a two-way contact between two or more speakers for the purpose of exchanging information. According to Paltridge (2007:107) communication is the primary means by which people interact, share information, negotiate, and sustain social relationships. People socialize, create, and maintain their relationships with one another through conversation (Liddicoat, 2007). Conversation, according to Wardhaugh (1985:3), is an operation that employs a variety of devices to minimize the danger to participants. A news interview, a

doctor-patient consultant, and a classroom interaction are examples of spoken interaction participants.

Conversation divided into three kinds: face-to-face exchanges, non-face-to-face-exchanges, and broadcast materials (Pridham, 2001:2). Face-to-face exchanges mean that the participants meet up in same place and same time to direct conversation. They are talking about same context with face each other, for examples; conversation in classroom, and family, which included the speaker and the listener. Whereas, non-face-to-face exchanges means that the participants cannot direct face each other to do conversation because they are not in same place, for examples; in telephone conversation, furthermore, broadcast material means that the communication uses broadcast as mediator, they can be face-to-face and non-face-to-face conversation, for examples; talk show in television or radio.

2. Turn-taking

In a conversation, the speaker and the listener alternate roles, with the speaker being the listener and the listener being the speaker. It is calls by turn-taking. The mechanism by which people in a discussion decide who will talk next is known as turn taking. Turn-taking is a verbal communication method that is used to arrange discussions in situations such as interviews, debates, ceremonies, and conversations. This is referred to as a speech exchange device by Sack (Sack et all.1974:696). Based on Harvey Sacks (1974) in Garcia and Jacobs (2010) theory of the turn taking technique, there are three types of turn taking techniques as follow:

Current Speaker Select Next Technique

This technique can be found in all of the conversation's details. When the speaker starts a conversation by addressing the other speaker with the word "you," the other speaker's name, or by asking a question, they normally use this technique.

Next Speaker Self Selection Technique

Self-selection technique is seldom used in smooth conversations with no overlap or disruption.

Current Speaker Continues Technique

The new speaker continues technique is the final technique. When no other party is willing to take the switch, this technique may be used.

3. Gender in Conversation

Gender role is manifested in all kinds of language use, cultural expressions, and practice in communication circumstances. All of these social and interactive experiences are used in various ways to collect and display gender structure discourse, both directly and indirectly. As a result, gender appears to be ingrained in all institutions, acts, ideas, and desires associated with the mapping of language use through communication, interaction, and the formation of social order. The other one Male interlocutors constantly interrupt females and try to dominate talks, according to Pennebaker, J. W. (2007), regardless of community, and women's participation in turn taking is commonly overlooked, to a degree, in discussions.

METHOD

Since the subject of this study is a social phenomenon such as everyday conversation, researcher used a descriptive qualitative approach. The data were

taken from “*Ellen Show*” Talk show on YouTube Channel. According to Creswell (2009:4) qualitative research is research to investigate and understand the meaning that an individual or group assumes as a social or human problem.

RESULTS

The data of this research contain kind of turn-taking techniques from the conversation in “*Ellen Show*” Talk show on YouTube Channel. The instrument for conducted the data were taken from the dialogue script that has been transcript from the video. The sources of the data were be show on the table below.

Guests	Job	Duratio n	Time of Performance
Jenifer Aniston	Business women	5.50	28 October 2019
Charlie Puth	Singer	6.20	29 October 2019
Julia Louis	Actress	4.35	4 February 2020
David Beckham	Football player	5.10	4 March 2020
Kristen Bell	Actress	5.45	25 February 2020
Khalid	Song Writer	4.40	3 March 2020
Chris Patt	Actor	5.30	19 February 2020
Ziwe	Comedian	4.20	2 April 2020

DISCUSSIONS

1. Current Speaker Select Next (CSSN)

Current speaker select next is a phenomenon that occur when the current speaker (S) select the next speaker (N) in the current turn, S is expected to stop speaking and N to speak next. In this research, current speaker select next which appeared 21 times in four episodes. It was still dominated the used of turn-taking in this research. This technique, the speaker usually used when they initiated the conversation by addressing other speaker to takes turn with the word “you”, other

speaker’s name or by delivering question. The following examples of current speaker select next from the dialogues:

Ellen : *You should have done that and acted like nothing was wrong.*

Like,that’s the way you were going to sit.

Jen : *Well, that’s what I did-ish.*

(D.1/T.00.03-00.08)

From the conversation above shows that Jen’s acted on the sofa, and Ellen as the host proposed to Jen as the guest to give response by her acted before. In this case, turn-taking happened when Ellen explained about Jen’s acted by saying “*You should have done that and acted like nothing was wrong. Like, that’s the way you were going to sit*” the word “You” shows current speaker select next

types of turn-taking because Ellen asked Jen directly. Then, Jen was responses bysaying *Well, that’s what I did-ish*, with her smile face.

1. Current Speaker Self-Select (CSSS)

Next speaker self-selection is a phenomenon that occurs when one speaker interrupts one another it can be found in the middle of the data. In this research next speaker self-selection which appeared 19 times in four episodes. The following examples of next speaker self-selection from the dialogues:

Jen : *There was a couple of women that got the award for it.*

Ellen : *Right, but you was... (cut)*

Jen : *But I was one of five, six.*

(D.12/T.00.31-00.35)

From the conversation above discussed about the award that Ellen as the host gave to Jen as the guest then she saw the picture that showed in the screen. In this case, next speaker self-selection happened because Jen proposed to interrupt Ellen by saying “*But I was one of five, six.*”

2. Current Speaker Continue (CSC)

Current Speaker Continue is a phenomenon that occurs when there is no other participants take turn then the speaker continues to speak. This technique rarely used. In this research current speaker continue which appeared 4 times in four episodes. The following examples of current speaker continue from the dialogues:

Jen : *Can I call you from the set?*

Ellen : *Uh-umm...*

Jen : *Mary!*

(D.22/T.03.16-03.21)

From the conversation above discussed about Ellen gave challenged to Jen to be a host the show while Ellen’s day off. Jen answered Ellen by saying “*Can I call you from the set?*” In this situation, current speaker continuation occurred because when Jen asked Ellen a question and Ellen did not respond, Jen continued her speech by exclaiming “*Mary!*” to redirect her question.

MALE	FEMALE
<i>I know what you’re going to say.</i>	<i>But I was one of five, six.</i>
<i>That’s not a natural thing, surely.</i>	<i>It was my pleasure and an obligation.</i>
<i>How’s your neck?</i>	<i>I was giving him time to fix it.</i>
<i>Oh, my god, it’s been three years.</i>	<i>No, the whole point is you guest host, and I’m not here.</i>

	<i>The movie inspired by Swedish film called Force Majeure.</i>
	<i>My younger son is an actor</i>
	<i>No, I already skied.</i>
	<i>Now that baby’s got a 5 o’clock shadow</i>
	<i>The world needs more purple people.</i>
	<i>I think I know, but</i>
	<i>It’s too short. Life is too short.</i>
	<i>The original cast? everybody in it?</i>
	<i>You’re a dream guest.</i>

The table below shows that based on the differences turn-taking between male and female. Women take more turns in conversation than men in all eight episodes. In this study, it was discovered that women do not wait for their turn during a speech. In terms of the strategy discussed previously, whether in terms of asking and speaking, which the speaker uses to yield the floor to the next speaker, or the use of conjunctions, such as, but, as a result, which allows the speaker to keep the floor, and so on. Women, contrary to popular belief, aim to take advantage of the opportunity to dominate the floor.

The researcher addressed the previously reported finding after evaluating and classifying the data analysis of the use of turn-taking. Its goal was to address the research issues that were raised in Chapter I. This section explained the findings of the research stated in the previous section. According to the findings, turn-taking occurs frequently in conversation, particularly in talk shows, which was the subject of this study. In this instance, There were three types of turn-taking, according to Sacks (1974) in Garcia and Jacobs (2010). Next speaker self-selection, current speaker continue, and current speaker select next are the three options.

To begin, the researcher discussed the various types of turn-taking. After evaluating and classifying the data, the researcher discovered that of the three types of turn-taking techniques, the present speaker select next strategy is used the most frequently. In eight episodes of the Ellen Show, the current speaker select next technique was used 21 times. Ellen Show was a discussion show that was present interview program with. It was a humor

discussion show. The participants may easily utilize a lot of current speaker select next strategy of turn-taking since they can wait for the speaker to stop talking and express their opinion, but occasionally the participants cannot wait for the speaker to finish their speaking, so they interrupt the speaker. In addition, Ellen as the host jokes with the female guests more often even though she is actress, comedian, or singer. But when she is talking with male guests, she jokes less and talks more a serious even though he is actor, singer, or songwriter.

Furthermore, this study discovered that women on average take more turns in discussion than men in all eight episodes. In this study, it was discovered that women do not wait for their turn during a speech. In terms of the strategy discussed previously, whether in terms of asking and speaking, which the speaker uses to yield the floor to the next speaker, or the use of conjunctions, such as, but, as a result, which allows the speaker to keep the floor, and so on. Women, contrary to popular belief, aim to take advantage of the opportunity to dominate the floor.

CONCLUSIONS

The researcher draws a conclusion based on the preceding chapters in order to respond to the research challenges posed in Chapter I. The researcher first identifies and describes the types of turn-taking utilized by the host and guests on the *Ellen Show* talk show on YouTube. In eight episodes of this talk show, there are three sorts of turn-taking: current speaker selects next, next speaker self-selects next, and current speaker continues. The *Ellen Show* most common sort of turn-taking is current speaker select next, which appeared 21 times in eight episodes.

Second, the researcher discovered that women take more turns in conversation

than males, as seen by the frequency with which they violate the turns. In this study, it was discovered that women do not wait for their turn during a speech.

In this study, the researcher examined two research questions posed in Chapter I: the types of turn-taking employed by the host and guests on the Ellen Show talk show on YouTube, and the disparities in turn-taking between male and female guests on the *Ellen Show* talk show on YouTube. There are numerous subjects and objects related to turn-taking that can be studied by future researchers. Meanwhile, the researcher recommends that future studies examine turn-taking from a variety of perspectives, such as how turn-taking is used in movies by gender or other factors. The researcher hopes that this study will be valuable to readers and future conversation analysis researchers.

REFERENCES

- Alicia, P. M., & Patricia, G. (2016). *One for You, One for Me: Human's Unique Turn-Taking Skills. Psychological Science, SAGE*.
- Ari, N. (2014). A Study of Turn-taking used in Interview TV Program "Indonesia Now Exclusive Agnes Monica with Dalton Tanonaka" on Metro TV. 2, 1-7.
- Bradley S L John, S. S. (2014, November 2). Daytime television talk shows: Guests, content and interactions. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media Taylor & Francis Group*, 412-426.
- Brown, G., & Yule, G. (1996). *Discourse Analysis*. Sydney: Cambridge University Press.
- Christinemcgahhey (Ed.). (n.d.). Retrieved January 24, 2021, from FluentU Web site: <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/learn-english-conversation/>
- Coates, J. (1993). *Women, Men and language* (3rd Edition ed.). London: Longman Group UK.
- Creswell, J. W. (2009). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, Mixed Methods Approaches* 4th Edition.
- Paltridge, B. (2006). *Discourse Analysis: An Introduction*.

Pridham, F. (2001). *The Language of Conversation*. *Routledge* , 267-269.

Sacks, H. (1974). *Conversation Analysis: Studies from the first generation* (Vol. 125). (A. H. Jucker, Ed.) California.

Sacks, H., A, E., Schelgoff, & Jefferson, G. (1974). A Simplest Systematics for the Organization of Turn Taking for Conversation. 696-735.