

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter discusses the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, and the definition of key terms.

### **A. Background of the Study**

Communication is the way humans interact with each other in the world. The communication tool is language which is used to interact with others as humans are social creatures who need help from other and cannot live by themselves. Communication among humans can deliver and bring the message to and from others. There are two kinds of language; verbal and non-verbal language. Commonly, verbal language is a language that conveys or delivers directly through spoken or written language, whereas non-verbal language is a language that delivers indirectly like using body language or gestures.

Furthermore, language is used to create meaningful communication among human being (Nurhayati & Yuwartatik, 2016). The most common language used by humans is a verbal language which is consider as the easier language to use, facilitate, and accelerate communication among humans. The good relationship among humans can be raised from the communication which runs smoothly. It indicates that communication is very significant in human life. Moreover, humans must communicate politely and cannot recklessly or talking carelessly. In the communication, humans need and must know that there are some important things to do and one of them is politeness.

Based on the expert there are theories talk about politeness. Brown and Levinson, (1988) stated that politeness is an act that can make the hearer feel at ease. They classified the strategy into four types of strategies; bald on-record strategy, positive politeness strategy, negative politeness strategy, and off-record strategy. Bald on record strategy is a strategy where the speakers deliver the message through their utterances clearly.

For instance: “Students, open the book of page twelve”

Positive politeness strategy is a strategy where the speaker is familiar or knowing well to the hearer and they have a close relationship. So the speaker would not be reluctant to say something to the hearer and use a mitigating device to make the speaker utterance being smoothen. It used by the speaker’s to save the hearer’s face and make the hearer feel that they are close.

For example:

A: “Hi Bro, let’s back home.”

B: “For Sure, Let’s go.”

Negative politeness strategy explained as a strategy where the speaker know the hearer’s but their do not have a close relationship. There is also a social distance among them which make them do the communication politely and in polite condition or situation.

For example:

A: “You have to fulfill your task before the end of this month!”

B: “Yes Sir, for sure”

Off record strategy is the strategy where the messages of speaker's utterances deliver implicitly and they usually use hints which make the hearer guess what actually the speakers want to say.

For example:

A: "Friends, it is already a quarter past twelve."

B: "Hmm... let's go to canteen!"

That example illustrates two office mates which are already in break time where one of them, A is feel hungry and it happen in the break time. 'A' says thus utterance with aim to tell the 'B' that 'A' is hungry and hope 'B' will understand the hint and go with 'A' to have lunch. It can be concluded that 'A' hopes that 'B' will go with 'A' to canteen.

The examples and explanation above showed that politeness is very significant thing in doing communication. Because, it can keep the communication run smoothly and save the speakers and addressee from offended. We must remember that, communication is interaction among humans who each of them have minds and feelings. If somebody doing the communication but cannot keep the politeness to other it will hurt and make other offended. The phenomenon brings Brown and Levinson proposed the concept of face which mean as feelings. The concept classified into two; positive face and negative face. Positive face is a desire to be accepts by other, whereas the negative face is the desire to be free and not being imposed by others.

Moreover, we are life in cultural country which very up-hold the etiquette, behavior and politeness which make us aware to communicate with other using politeness strategy. This is very important to keep others' face in communication

by using politeness. The politeness keeps the hearer face from offended. If there is speakers do not careful in communication, it will make the other or addressee feel offended. The acts by the speakers called face threatening acts which can offended, hurt or embarrassed the speaker's or the addressee feelings.

On the other hand, an expert Yule, (1996, p.60-61) stated that face threatening acts is an utterance which can threatened others' hope which is related to the speaker's reputation. Furthermore, Yule stated that there is also face satisfying act, which the speakers' can say something that can subtract the threat. Most people tend to avoid the act which can threaten other's face. But, there is case which happens accidentally that some speakers' threaten the addressee face. This is caused by the behavior and habit personally. However, he educated person may speak carefully and most use the positive way to minimize the threatening face. On the other hand, they are doing communication mostly with their colleagues who are well educated too. So, the politeness is being their habit and embedded into their behavior.

The politeness strategy is employed by everyone during the communication include lecturers and students in classroom interaction. Student use it in communication to the lecturer and friends. It is use by lecturer not only pure for communication but it is use in teaching the students at the classroom interaction such as explaining the materials, asking the questions and giving instruction. Especially in giving instruction, lecturer may employee various politeness strategies. Moreover, male and female lecturers may have difference politeness strategies in giving instruction.

The previous study by Monsefi & Hadidi, (2015); Mulyono et al., (2019); Gunas et al., (2023), revealed that politeness strategies employed by teacher during classroom interaction. There are three strategies namely bald on record, positive politeness, and negative politeness. Female teacher more employed positive politeness than male teacher and it influences students' motivation, interaction and also in their learning process. Moreover, students are employed more positive politeness in classroom interaction mainly in the communication with their teacher.

In addition, there are some studies about politeness strategies used by teacher and student in classroom interaction which result in four politeness strategies. The study conducted by Mukharomah & Sumanto, (2023), Hastuti & Wijayanto, (2023), Sulu, (2015), Sari et al., (2023); Rahayuningsih et al., (2020) stated that teacher applied Bald on record strategy, Positive Politeness Strategy, Negative Politeness Strategy, and Off Record Strategy. Most of the study revealed that bald on record strategy is used more frequently by teacher in English Class. All those studies employed descriptive qualitative methods with recording and transcribing.

On the other hand, there are also previous studies which focus on lecturer and students' politeness in virtual communication as stated by (Manipuspika & Sudarwati, 2017), (Nuramdani, 2023), (Algiovan, 2022). The studies revealed how politeness strategies are used in text messages between teacher and students. The most politeness strategy employed by teacher is bald on record, whereas the students shown the positive politeness is dominantly used in text messages. The study shown both teacher and students have their own way to choose words to convey the message for the addressee.

Furthermore, there are studies about politeness strategies in university level. The study conducted by Fattah et al., (2022); Arif et al., (2018); The studies focus on lecturer politeness strategies in classroom interaction. The research method is qualitative with transcribe and analysis descriptively. Those study revealed there are four politeness strategies employed by lecturer in classroom interaction. Moreover, there is study by Fitriyah et al., (2020) that revealed the politeness strategies use by lecturer in EFL class applying Taxt Maxim. It shown that the lecturers use ten maxim and it influence of students' compliance.

The previous studies explain above shown that there are some weakness such the research method and the object of study. Most of them study about the politeness strategies without reveal the most politeness strategies that dominantly use and the differentiation of politeness strategies do between male and female lecturer. On the other hand, the previous study only talks about politeness strategies in communication and classroom interaction in common. Here, the researcher will conduct the study more focus on the politeness strategies employee by lecturer in giving instruction to the students and the lecture reason perform the politeness strategies.

Moreover, the previous study only ended the research to find the employment of politeness strategy without deeply dig the lecture reasons. Thus, phenomenon makes the researcher interest to know more deeply and conducts a research relate to politeness especially performed by lecturer during giving instruction and their reason applied politeness strategies in teaching the students of English Program. Another researcher reason conducted this study because there was a statement that educational reforms require English college teachers acquire

recent acts and styles of instruction, meaning a skilled expansion practice require lecturers to engage in grwong individual habit (D. A. W. Nurhayati, 2018). The researcher conduct a study about politeness strategy performed by the lecturers in giving instruction during English class in English Study Program of Universitas Islam Negeri Sayyid Ali Tulungagung. The research conduct in English Department because the activity of teaching and learning mostly using English as media of instruction. The title of the research will conduct as “The Politeness Strategies Performed by English Lecturers in Giving Instructions to Students in Universitas Islam Negeri Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung”

## **B. Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study, the researcher is interest in finding answer to the following questions:

1. What politeness strategies are commonly performed by lecturer in giving instruction to the students during the English Class at English Department of Universitas Islam Negeri Sayyid Ali Rahmatullah Tulungagung?
2. Why politeness strategies performed different between male and female lecturer in giving instruction to the students?

## **C. Purposes of the Study**

The purposes of the study are to find out:

1. To identify the politeness strategies which are commonly performed by lecturer in giving instruction to the students during the English Class at

English Department of Universitas Islam Negeri Sayyid Ali Rahmat  
Tulungagung.

2. To identify the reason of the male and female lecturers performed different politeness strategies in giving instructions to the students.

#### **D. Significance of Study**

##### 1. Students

From the result of the study, the students are expected to recognize about the politeness strategy which use by lecturer or students in interaction and communication.

##### 2. Lecturer

The teacher or lecturers are expected to using politeness strategies in teaching, interacting, and communication the learning materials with the students.

##### 3. Next Researcher

There is hope to next researcher can take the advantages of this research and this research becomes appropriate references for other researchers who will conduct similar research.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

The scope and limitation focuses on following points:

1. The objects of this study are English Lecturer and student of English Department.
2. The Author focuses to analyses the Politeness Strategy used by English lecturer in giving instruction to the students during English Class



3. The Author focuses to analyze of thy types of politeness strategy commonly used by the lecturer in giving instruction during English Class.
4. The author focuses on the different of male and female lecturer in using politeness strategy in giving instruction during the English Class.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

The last part of this chapter is to provide the definition of key terms used in this study in order to explain the key terms clearly make the easy to understand.

1. Politeness: According to Brown and Levinson (1987) stated that politeness is a verbal attitude which could make an addressee feel at ease.
2. FTA: According to Brown and Levinson, (1987)stated that FTA is an act which challenges the face wants of the addressee or speakers or an interlocutor. They also proposed face into positive face and negative face. Negative face threatening actions like suggestion, request, command, advice, warning etc. Moreover, positive face threatening can be found in actions like criticism, degrading, disagreement, anger, complaint and etc.
3. Politeness Strategies: The Strategy used to avoid or minimize the FTA (Face Threatening Acts which the speakers make to express the focus for the addressee feelings. According to Brown and Levinson, (1987)said that Politeness strategies are developed in order to save the hearers “face”. There are four politeness strategies namely Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Off-Record.
4. Giving Instruction: The way used by person or speakers (here is the lecturer) to give command to do something as what the speakers want to

the addressee (here the Students). The give instruction is activity in the classroom interaction include the command or ask by lecture for students to do something based on the lecture wants.

5. **Speech Acts:** The theory of speech act is a theory in the philosophy of language which rigorously attempts to systematically explain the language work. The term of speech acts proposed by Austin in his book entitled 'How to Do with Words', he stated that an utterances cannot be performative unless it is issued in the appropriate circumstance Austin, (1962). The performative utterances identification with explicit ways performing speech act enable us to see that contextual requirements for the felicity of performative utterance also hold for speech acts performed by using sentences that do not contain explicit performative formulas.