

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Refusal theory is one of the subjects studied in pragmatics. Refusing is a speech act that is often used in daily interactions, and it's cannot be separated from the interactions of everyday life. It can be said that refusal speech acts are a way to convey feelings of disagreement with an expression.

Refusal is a speech act performed that shows people rejection some invitations, suggestions, offers, and requests of the other. Refusal is usually characterized as a speech act to interact with people, who come from different cultures and languages. It is not wrong to state that the statement of refusal is used without offending the interlocutor. Refusal requires a strategy to avoid misunderstanding in an interaction relationship. In refusal, there are direct and indirect strategies used and the direct refusal is used when a speaker says explicitly, he or she does not accept an order, and the indirect refusal is used when a speaker does not want to give responses since the expression has a possibility of offending the interlocutor.

When there is an invitation, request, or request for help from other people, it is not always the invitation or request for help that can be fulfilled, so it is must convey rejection. Besides, rejection can also be said when something is not approved.

Not all that we gave to the interlocutors have good feedback. Sometimes, people disagree or even reject our thoughts. This phenomenon is called rejection. Rejection is often used in everyday human life. Rejection can be defined as the disapproval of the reader.

Refusal can be expressed directly and indirectly. It is said to be a form of direct rejection if the meaning of the sentence conveyed can be understood as rejection. Misunderstanding will arise if one does not have proper knowledge of pragmatics. Although one may have a wide range of vocabulary and information on grammar. Rejection is an act of not accepting. Rejection is a response in which the speaker's speech act is followed by a movement that can be understood by the interlocutor. From a sociolinguistic perspective, rejection is very important because it relates to the social environment such as gender, age, education level, and social distance.

The first study of refusal strategy by Guo, (2012). This study investigated both the Chinese and American act of refusal from the perspective of intercultural communication using a modified version of speech completion developed by Beebe et al. the result indicates that there are more similarities of differences between the Chinese and both groups preferred to use indirect rather than direct strategies and preferred reason, alternative statement, and regret strategy.

Second is by Dewi et al.,(2019). This study investigated the use of refusal strategies by multi-Nationality students. This descriptive qualitative study aimed to explore refusal strategies used by the students of the primary level of Gandhi Memorial Intercontinental School Bali in requesting, offering, inviting, and suggesting. The students involved as the subject of this study were multi-nationality male and female students of the third, fourth and fifth grades which

were determined using the purposive sampling technique. Data collection was conducted through observation, recording, and note taking employing a video recorder, camera, and field note as the instruments of the data collection. Data analysis in this study was done through four concurrent activities covering data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion.

The result shows that, in the context of requests across nationalities, view from the frequency shows direct refusal is highly used by Russian while it is the lowest by Indonesian students. On the contrary indirect strategy, is more often used by Indonesian students.

While (Damanik, 2020) conducted research with the title requesting and refusing politeness expression used by teacher in teaching and learning process. The purpose of this study is to describe the request and refusing polite expression when teacher instruct students. The participants of the study are 24 male students and 30 female students. The writer used the theory of Brown and Levinson about politeness strategy to do this research. To collect the data, the writer joins the class and then record the activities when teaching and learning process. In this research, the writer finds out that there is politeness used in requesting and refusing by reasoning to make the good interaction between teacher and students.

Seeing the previous studies above, in this study focus on the refusal strategy used by teachers, especially English teachers of senior high school in Adonara Timur in responding to requests in outside of the classroom. It is important and interesting to conduct the study because with this research, we can understand how English teachers of senior high school in Adonara Timur refusing a request in English in various situations. Besides, in the English teaching curriculum, various

expressions in response to an action are also taught. So, it is very important for teachers of senior high school to be able to know this so that it can be applied to students.

1.2 Research question

Based on the background above, the writer identifies one problem, formulated in question what are the refusal strategies used in outside of the classroom by English teachers of senior high school in Adonara Timur to responding requests?

1.3 The objective of the study

Related to the problem above, the objective of the study is to find out refusal strategies used in outside of the classroom by English teachers of senior high school in Adonara Timur in responding to a request.

1.4 Significance of the study

This study is expected to give theoretical, practical, and pedagogical significance. Theoretically, this study aims to determine the refusal strategy used in outside of the classroom by English teachers of senior high school in Adonara Timur to responding a request and also the expressions used in refusing a request.

Practically and pedagogically, this study provides two benefits for readers. First, it is hoped that this research can provide an understanding of the refusal strategy, so that misunderstandings do not occur when communicating. Second, this study can add and expanding knowledge in English, especially broadening the teacher's horizons, both for teaching or self-development to respond to a request.

