CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains some information related to background of the study which consists of background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, and the definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is very important for people's communication. Language is used to make interaction between a person and others in society. Language is communication of thoughts and feeling through a system of arbitary signals, such as voice sounds, gestures, or written symbol (Fooley, W. 1997). People's identity could be also identified from their language because every social group has their own language to interact among the members and it differs with other societies.

Language is something which is very meaningful. People use it for various purposes. They use it for conversation, make an agreement, ask question, ask for help, etc. Furthermore, we always communicate to others by using it in our daily life to make interaction, for example when we want to make a cooperation with other people. In making interaction, we intend to cooperate with others by having communication. Because of it, when having communication with others, we exactly utter something to make the language properly used. In other words, we usually use the utterances to show the cooperation to addreesse.

The branch of linguistics which deals with how the speaker conveys messages and how the addressee receives the messages from utterances is called pragmatics. Specifically, Pragmatics deals with verbal act because it concerns with the intended meaning of language (Leech, 1983), and one of the products of the verbal act is utterance.

Sometimes, people use the utterance to deliver some specific puposes, and they use certain techniques in uttering their purposes. They would soften their utterances to make the addressee feels not offended, and it is called "Politeness". Politeness is a kind of verbal language or verbal attitude that could make an addressee feels at ease (Choyimah, 2012). Brown and Levinson in their book of politeness (1987) state that politeness proposes the concept of face. In general, people cooperate in maintaining face in interaction. Thus, politeness is important for people to have appropriate language in having interaction. But in some occasions, they sometimes do not pay attention to the addressee's *"desire"* or called *"face"* when they are asking something, declining statement, or refusing request. This act is called " Face-Threatening Acts (FTA)". People certainly have rights to maintain their own faces. Some want to be relaxed, others do not want to be under-pressure, even some people want to be respected. If someone is doing FTA, it means that the speaker threatens the addressee's face, so the addressee's face could not be fulfilled.

We can find so many FTAs in our life not only in our daily conversation but also in many aspects of entertainment. Movie or film is one of entertainment aspects which many people like most. Nowadays, movie is the easiest thing we

can find in the modern era because there are so many films produced annually. Besides, we can see it anywhere, such as television, theater, *dvd,* computer, internet, and so on. There are also many themes in movie, such as drama, action, horror, thriller, comedy, science fiction, etc.

300 is a war-action movie which was released in 2007. The movie which was directed by *Zack Synder* is starring *Gerard Butler (King Leonidas), Rodrigo Santoro (Persian God-King Xerxes), Lena Headey (Queen Gorgo), David Wenham (Dillios)*, etc. It tells a true story of a struggle of Spartans to defend their nation from the threat of colonialism destruction by Persia. Persian kingdom which remain their power by having a third of world population want to strengthen their power in the world by making effort in conquering Greece to be their affiliation. However, Sparta as a big kingdom in Greece firmly refuse to surrender to Persia. Then the Spartan King, Leonidas, decides to choose Spartan 300 best warriors to be ready for war. Their best warriors will face the world biggest force in that time in a great battleship. This is a story of 300 Spartans best warrior fight against more than 10.000 Persian and they are ready to die for Sparta.

The writer is interested in conducting research on *300* movie because in this movie, people from Persia threaten Spartans with conquest, darkness, destruction, and war. Consequently, there are so many Face-Threatening Acts performed in this movie because it delivers interactions which the main character of the movie, *King Leonidas* tries to defend his authority from his enemy. This

aspect makes the utterances important to be researched because there are definitely purposes and meanings intended in people's utterances.

By conducting this study, the writer hopes that people should not only watch the movie at a glance but also need to pay attention to certain messages that the movie brings to the audience. By this study, people would know the concept of performing Face-Threatening Act in the daily conversation.

1.2 Problems of the Study

1. What utterances containing Face-Threatening Acts are found on main character's utterances of *300* movie?

2. What FTA strategies are used by the main character's utterances of *300* movie?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To find out the utterances containing FTAs on main character's utterances of *300* movie

2. To find out the FTA strategies used by main character's utterances of *300* movie

1.4 Definition of Key Terms

1. **Face** is a positive image or impression of oneself that one shows or intends to show to the other participants. (Richard and Scmidt, 2002)

2. **Face-Threatening Act** is an act which cause damage to the speaker's or hearer's face.

3. **FTA strategy** is a strategy or technique in performing FTA to mitigate the damage to hearer's face.

4. **Politeness** is a verbal act which is performed to establish, maintain, or save face during the conversation.

5. **Utterance** is something produced when speaker says which is the product of verbal act (Leech, 1983)

6. **Movie** is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at the cinema/movie theater (Wehmeier, 2007)

7. **Main Character** is the major character in the movie which determine the plot of the story.

8. *300* is a war-action movie which was released in 2007, directed by Zack Synder tells a true story of a struggle of Spartans to defend their nation from the threat of colonialism and destruction by Persia. (wikipedia.org)