

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with background of the study, the problems of the study, the objectives of the study, and the definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is one of the most vital aspects in this life. It is a tool for communication and interaction anywhere. We cannot live without language as it becomes the only way to deliver and catch the message, idea, feeling, and whatever both speaker and hearer are intended to.

We are demanded to have good skills in communication, and the language itself is the significant means to accomplish it. Therefore, language and language skills are badly needed and inevitable aspect in communication. One of the aspects of language is politeness. Politeness is the best expressed as the practical application of good manners. Politeness is the common phenomenon in various societies and communities, so it is important to respect and show politeness to others when we have communication. By understanding the term of politeness, we know how to make a good conversation and we always keep our addressees feel at ease. We try to avoid any threat when we talk. This also teaches us how to have good skill in communication in reaching our goals and by being polite. We also show that we have quality talk as said by Yule (1996) “in interaction, politeness can be defined as the means employed to show awareness of other person’s face”.

It is explicitly saying that when we have communication with others, we are dealing with others' faces and dealing with how we will threaten them. The degree of politeness is, of course, different between if someone is dealing conversation with other who are not really close in social relationship with those who have close social relationship. Generally, politeness is applied to those who have not really close relationships, who have different age, gender, and different level of social class. For instance, the way students talk to their teachers is quite different from the way how they communicate with their friends. They tend to use much higher degree of politeness to their teachers rather than their friends. Most people know how to deal with others surrounded in the same society and culture. However, not all societies have the same principle of politeness.

Talking about politeness, there is a theory that is attached to it and it is Face Threatening Acts (FTAs). Utterances that disrupt the balance of face maintenance are called Face Threatening Acts (FTAs). Face work or the managing of one's face and that of others is essential to lessen the impact of these threats. Unless FTAs are mitigated, the balance of face maintenance is disrupted and communication breakdown might happen. In a communication, FTAs occasionally happen between the speaker and the addressee. The speaker and the addressee can threaten each other's face by not fulfilling the desires they want, either to be respected or to be free. However, to save both faces, there are two strategies used by the writer. They are positive politeness strategy and negative politeness strategy.

Related to the theory, the researcher desires to conduct this research about Face Threatening Acts and the politeness strategies as appear in the main character of 'UP' film. The writer analyses the conversation based on Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness strategies as he wants to know how politeness strategies are applied to minimize the threat if FTAs cannot be avoided and how relationship between speaker and the addressee could impact the use of politeness.

This movie is a 2009 American computer-animated comedy-adventure film produced by Pixar Animation Studios and directed by Pete Docter. This movie is about Carl Fredrickson, a little boy and a dreamer who idolizes the adventurer Charles Muntz. When he meets Ellie, who also worships Muntz, they become close friends. However Charles Muntz falls into disgrace, accused of forging the skeleton of the monster of Paradise Falls. He travels in his blimp to South America to bring the monster back alive but is never seen again. Eventually Carl grows up and marries Ellie. They promise each other that they would travel together to Paradise Falls and build a house there. Many years later, Ellie dies and Carl, who's lonely, refuses to move from their house despite the offers of the owner of a construction company. When Carl accidentally hits a worker that damaged his mailbox, he is sentenced to move to a retirement home. However, he uses many balloons to float his house in order to travel to Paradise Falls. The conversations are natural in this movie. It provided the use of politeness strategy either influenced by relationship or not. Because of those issues, therewith the researcher conducts the research entitled, "FTA and Politeness Strategies Used by Carl Fredrickson in the Movie *UP*."

This research is not conducted merely for the benefit for the researcher himself, but this study is also conducted to be a scientific study for others. Thus, the result of the study is aimed to give wholesome benefit for the researcher himself, the reader in general, and the reader in particular in this case is students of Study Program of English. For the researcher, he could notice what kinds of politeness strategies are commonly used in conversations, what impacts of politeness strategy usage are given by the relationship between speaker and addressee. Therefore, he could gain more about the knowledge dealing with politeness strategy in conversation. While for English students, the result of the study will give them more information about politeness strategies and FTA that occur in conversation and is expected to be the guidance for doing the next research and for producing a better result. Then, for the reader in general, this research will give them more understanding about how to be polite in conversation and not threatening each other's face.

1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the researcher intended to figure out the answers of the following questions:

1. What Face Threatening Acts (FTAs) are performed by Carl in conversation occurring in the movie "UP"?
2. What types of politeness strategies are performed by Carl in conversation occurring in the movie "UP"?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In relation to the previous questions, the researcher declared the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To identify Face Threatening Acts (FTAs) which are performed by Carl in conversation occurring in the movie “UP”?
2. To find out the types of politeness strategies which are performed by Carl in conversation occurring in the movie “UP”?

1.4 Definition of Key Terms

1. **Face Threatening Act** : An act that causes a threat to hearer’s positive and/or negative face (Brown and Levinson, 1987).
2. **Politeness Strategy** : A strategy used to formulate messages in order to save the hearer’s face when face-threatening acts are inevitable or desired (Brown and Levinson, 1987).
3. **UP** : UP is a 2009 American computer-animated comedy-adventure film produced by Pixar Animation Studios and directed by Pete Docter (Wikipedia.org).
4. **Carl Fredericksen** : Carl Fredericksen is the main character in the movie UP (Wikipedia.org).