

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Background of the study

We converse with a lot of people in our daily lives. In other words, we communicate with others in the daily lives. We produce utterances to express our intention to others within our communication to express our needs, to ask something, to have someone to do something, to invite someone and others. We will make others angry if we simply reveal our intention without paying attention to *politeness*. That is why; *politeness* has important roles in our communication.

In our daily lives, it is found that, regardless of the fact that the speaker has tried to be polite to the hearer; the hearer still might get angry. In my own experience, I often hear people reveal their intention with some utterances politely to others but the others still respond to it angrily. For example: There are two people, one is a man and the other is a woman. They happen not to be socially close but have similar status. He says to her, “*Give me that!*” The woman becomes angry to the man because the man threatens her *face*. The man should

not have uttered the utterance because such an utterance only fits for a man who has power over the woman or if the man has a close relationship with the woman. According to Brown and Levinson, *Face* is the public self-image of a person. When a speaker reveals his or her intention to a hearer, there is a possibility of threat to the hearer's *face*. This is usually known as Face Threatening Act or can be called FTA. In order to avoid the threat to the hearer's *face*, one needs to apply the appropriate *politeness strategy*. (Thomas 168-169)

For that reason, I would like to know further and analyze which appropriate *politeness strategies* to perform to the hearer in order to minimize or to avoid the possibility of damage to the hearer's *face*. If the speaker chooses to perform an inappropriate *politeness strategy* to the hearer, the hearer will feel his or her *face* threatened, regardless of the speaker's effort to be polite. The hearer usually becomes angry to the speaker. It is because the speaker is not primarily concerned about which *politeness strategies* to apply; consequently, the hearer may become angry. Actually, that occurs due to the speaker's unawareness of the Weightiness of the FTA. The speaker needs to calculate the Weightiness of the FTA. The Weightiness of the FTA is based on three parameters: Power (P), Distance (D), and Rate of Imposition (R). The formulation will be $W(FTA) = R + D + P$. After the speaker has calculated the Weightiness of the FTA correctly, he or she can choose an appropriate *politeness strategy* to minimize or to avoid damage to the hearer's *face* (Thomas 169). Hopefully, having finished my thesis, the readers and I will be more aware of the Weightiness of the FTA so that we can be more polite to reveal our intention.

The corpus of the data for my analysis is speech events in Twenty Four movie series. Twenty Four are action movie series. They are concerned with Counter Terrorist Unit (CTU) and politics. These movie series present a lot of tense atmospheres. The tense atmospheres are built by gun fight, physical combat, betrayal, terrorist's threat, time limit, conversations and others. Yet, in my thesis, I want to specifically analyze the conversations that lead to the occurrence of tense atmosphere in the movie series. I choose these movie series because in the movie series, I can find statements in which a speaker miscalculates the Weightiness of the FTA. The miscalculation results in the speaker's applying the *politeness strategy* inappropriately, which means that although the speaker has chosen a certain *politeness strategy* to apply to the hearer carefully, the hearer's *face* is still threatened. This gives rise to the tense atmosphere of the characters in the movie series. Although the miscalculation of the Weightiness of FTA is not the main elements to result in the tense atmospheres, the miscalculation is one of the elements which gives rise to the tense atmospheres in Twenty Four movie series. Therefore, my thesis topic is "The miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA in Twenty Four".

My topic belongs to Pragmatics. Pragmatics is meaning in interaction. This definition is formulated from the process of speaker's meaning. Pragmatics as the study of speaker's meaning means message produced by a speaker and interpreted by a hearer. The specific theory I use is *politeness strategy* and the management of *face*. According to Jenny Thomas, *politeness* means that one shows awareness to another person's *face* and try to avoid damage to the hearer's *face*. *Face* means the public self-image of a person. (Thomas 2, 22)

Statement of the problems

1. Who are the participants involved in the speech events?
2. How does the miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA appear in the speech events?
3. How does the miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA help to the occurrence of tense atmosphere to the story?

Purpose of the Study

1. To know the participants involved in the speech events.
2. To know how the miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA appear in the speech events.
3. To know how the miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA help to the occurrence of tense atmosphere to the story.

Methods of Research

The source of data is conversation in Twenty Four movie series. I want to find out some utterances which contain miscalculation of the Weightiness of the FTA in the movie series. First, I watch Twenty Four movie series and then I analyze some conversations in the movie series. Afterwards, I look for the theory from the Internet and read some books at library concerned with *politeness*. I look for the theory from Meaning in Interaction: an Introduction to Pragmatics book and Pragmatics book. Finally, I write the research report about the *politeness strategy* in Twenty Four movie series.

Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter is the Introduction, which consists of the Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two contains the theories used to analyze the data. The discussion of the Weightiness of the FTA is put in Chapter Three. Chapter Four is the Conclusion. The thesis ends with the Bibliography and Appendices.