

# **THESIS**

# STUDY OF PHATIC COMMUNION IN COUCHSURFING APP

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#### STUDY OF PHATIC COMMUNION IN COUCHSURFING APP

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This research studies phatic communion used by speakers in the application of Couchsurfing (Couchsurfing app). Couchsurfing application is an application that is connected to backpackers with local guides. The application provides a message feature for stay requests and is widely used by westerners backpackers who want to travel to Indonesia. The backpackers (speakers) communicate with the guides in English. The study is focused on the forms and functions of phatic communion used by the speakers. The aims of the study are to find and describe the forms and functions of phatic communion. To get reach the aims of the study, the study applies a qualitative method based theory of phatic communion. The results of the study are that the speakers use various forms of phatic communion in English. To respect the guides, some speakers use the forms of phatic communion in Indonesian and their language mixed with English. The forms for example are sorry, nice to meet you, hope to meet you, Venerable Ranti!, etc. The speakers use the phatic forms to apologize, accept, hope, thank, respect, etc. The speakers use the phatic functions to build and maintain social relationship with the guides.

**Keywords**: Phatic communion, Couchsurfing app, Backpacker

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#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Research

Phatic communion is a form of language which is frequently used by people in daily communication either in spoken or written form. The talk is a part of language that is used as a medium of communication. Language in everyday social life both spoken and written appears in two modes – thinking mode and social mode (action mode) (Malinowski, 1923, Arimi, 1998). Interest in this research emerged from discussing the problem of Indonesian language culture in the environment, both oral and written now there are many communication access to send messages to each other, such as whatsapp, line app, email, messenger etc.

In this study the author wants to research about an application called the Couchsurfing application, this application is an application that is connected to a backpacker with a local guide, which of course is widely used by westerners who want to travel to Indonesia, this application provides a message feature for stay requests. from the backpacker to the guide who provides. Of course, in a message request, backpackers have studied Indonesian culture first with more or less visitors, usually they will use some of the languages commonly used by Indonesians. They contain various messages for examples of thank you, hope, rejection, apology, praise, regret, approve, remind, etc.

The application of Couchsurfing is followed by people form various countries in the world. Because of coming from different countries, the people have other different national languages, rather than English. Data show that they use various forms of phatic communion with various functions. Since the followers are coming from many countries with different national languages, it is very interesting and important to study the phatic communion they use in order to find out the forms and functions of the phatic communion. The findings are useful to create and maintain social relationships with people from different nations. Phatic communion has social communicative functions to build and maintain the

relationship (Elfiondri, 2020). The function and importance become the reasons of this research to be conducted.

#### 1.2 Limitation of the Problem

There are many examples of phatic communion that can be found anywhere, in person or in writing, but on this occasion the researchers will only focus on data taken in an application called the couchsurfing application. Then the researcher will analyze the data that includes the stay request message feature, in this feature the researcher can find examples of phatic communion in the form of a text or message, this research focuses on data taken from 2019 - 2020 which only discusses stay request messages from backpackers.

### 1.3 Research Questions

Talking about phatic communion, it can be found in daily activities both in oral and written form. The vocabulary is polite words and does not offend someone, even phatic communion sometimes takes the form of a question that doesn't really need an answer, the goal is to approach someone emotionally. From the background of the research above, I want to respond to the following research questions:

- 1 What are the form of phatic communion at stay request messages at Couchsurfing application??
- 2. What is the function of phatic communion at stay request message at couchsurfing application ??

# 1.4 Purposes of the Research

This study has several objectives to find out what phatic communion is used daily but can also be found in the stay request message at Couchsurfing application. There are several important points, namely:

- 1. To find out the kinds of phatic communion in a stay request message at couchsuring application
- 2. To analyze the function of phatic communion in Indonesian culture which is applied to English.

# 1.5 Significance of the Research

This research is expected to be able to contribute both to students and other researchers. This research is expected to be a solution for other researchers to evaluate about phatic communion. Researchers will find out how to use phatic communion in everyday life, especially in a message or email. It is also expected to be a resource for students to learn and understand more about the value of politeness in language, especially in everyday life.