



**AN ANALYSIS OF ADJACENCY PAIRS AS SEEN IN *OPRAH WINFREY'S* TALK
SHOW**

THESIS

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Abstract

This paper deals with adjacency pairs that indicate “preference structure and the patterns of adjacency pairs” as seen in the *Oprah Winfrey’s talk show*. The writer used the conversation analysis approach to support the research in analyzing the data. Conversation analysis (CA) is the natural conversation that has participants two or more. Then, CA has structure and process of social interaction. Sacks, H. (1992) defines conversation analysis (CA) is a method for investigating the structure and process of social interaction between humans. It focuses primarily on talk, but integrates also the nonverbal aspects of interaction in its research design. The writer expects that the result of this research can give a contribution to linguistic studies especially in pragmatic field. In this research, the writer used qualitative research and the data were taken from internet. Qualitative research is procedure to get the descriptive data both of spoken and written data analysis in language society (Djajasudarma, 1993:10). The writer analyzed the data by using the concept stated by Yule, G. (1996) in terms of preference structure and the patterns of adjacency pairs. The result of the research, the writer found assessment (agree-disagree) and request (accept-refuse) and the various patterns of adjacency pairs. The writer only found two preference structure in five preference structure in adjacency pairs and the writer also found the words that use to express the expression in the conversation that include to assessment (agree-disagree) and request(accept-refuse)

Keywords: adjacency pairs, preference structure, patterns.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Problem

In having conversation, there are rules can be obeyed. According to Grice (1975), when we communicate we assume, without realising it, that we, and the people we are talking to, will be conversationally cooperative, we will cooperate to achieve mutual conversational ends. Then, conversation analysis refers to the natural conversation in order to discover what the linguistic characteristics of conversation are and how conversation is used in ordinary life. Conversation is also as a way of using language socially, of doing things with words together with other persons. In having conversation, there are two patterns stated by Richards, J.(1985) namely turn taking and adjacency pairs.

Furthermore, Richards, J.(1985) says that Turn taking is speaker and listener change constantly. The person who speaks first become a listener as soon as the person addressed takes his or her turn in the conversation by beginning to speak, while adjacency pairs is a sequence of two related utterances by two different speakers. The second utterance is always a response to the first and in adjacency pairs also has preference structure; a first part that contains a request or an offer is typically made in the expectation that the second part will be an acceptance. An acceptance is structurally more likely than a refusal. So, this structural likelihood is called preference .Preference structure divides two parts. They are preferred and dispreferred social acts. Preferred is the structurally expected next act and dispreferred is the structurally unexpected next act.

In addition, adjacency pairs has eight types. Each type has the pairs such as question-answer, offer-acceptance, invitation-acceptance, assessment-agreement, proposal-agreement,

greeting-greeting, complaint-apology, and blame-denial (Cutting, J.2002). The writer tries to explain each of the types. First “question-answer” in this type the sequence can be expected, unexpected, or can be question then question back. Second, “offer-acceptance” the sequence of this type can be agree, disagree, or refuse with reason. Third, “invitation-acceptance” in this type the sequence can be an acceptance, acceptance with condition, or rejection. Fourth, “assessment-agreement” and “proposal-agreement” the sequence can be agree and disagree. Fifth, “greeting-greeting” the sequence can be expected or unexpected act. Sixth, “complaint-apology” the sequence can be agree or disagree and the last “blame-denial” the sequence also can be agree or disagree. Although, adjacency pairs has eight types but in this research the writer only focuses on question-answer. In this type can found the various pattern sequences in the conversation such as the first part is giving the question then the second part giving question too, the first part is giving the question then the second part is ignoring it or talking others topic, and there is also have the first part do answering then the second part do answering too. Because of that the writer is interested to analyze adjacency pair. This is an example of “question-answer” of adjacency pairs:

(1) A: what time is it?

B: about eight-thirty

Based on the example (1), The speaker or the first part is asking to the listener or the second part, then the listener or the second part replied the question. The sequence is expected next act by listener.

Furthermore, in this research the writer selects talk show as a source or data to support the writer’s idea. According to Mifflin, H.(2011) talk show is a television or radio show in which noted people, such as authorities in a particular field, participate in discussions or are interviewed

and often answer questions from viewers or listeners. In the talk show the researcher can analyze the conversation such as turn taking, adjacency pairs, conversational inferences, conversation and speech acts, cohesion and coherence, conversational style, conversation and race, interactional sociolinguistics, exchange moves and IRF, and many others but in this research the writer only focuses on adjacency pairs. Adjacency pairs has two participants or more in doing conversation and it can happen a conversation between the first part and the second part, then the second part will creating an expectation of the second utterance in the same pair like happening in the talk show, sometime both them change constantly in conversation .The talk show will analyzing of the writer is Oprah Winfrey. In this talk show have three participants namely: Oprah Winfrey, Michael Jackson and Elizabeth. They are talking about Michael Jackson's life, Oprah Winfrey be a speaker and Michael Jackson and Elizabeth are be a listener. In this talk show the researcher finds the various pattern sequences like the writer said before. According Yule, G.(2009) automatic sequences are called Adjacency Pairs. They always consist of a first part and a second part, produced by different speakers. As Yule, George's theory then this is one of the example that given by him, as follow:

(2) First partSecond part

A: what's up? B: nothin' much

A: how's it goin'?' B: jus' hangin' in there

A: how are things? B: the usual

A: how ya doin'?' B: can't complain

The example (2) shown that each parts has each pairs and in the example also shown that many various responses that given by second part or listener. So in a conversation is not all

second parts will given a response that expected by first part. Sometimes, the second part gives irrelevance response.

Besides, Yule, G.(1996) adds the example about the patterns in adjacency pairs, as shown in the example (3):

(3) Agent: do you want the early flight?(=Q1)

Client: what time does it arrive?(=Q2)

Agent: nine forty-five(=A2)

Client : yeah-that's great(=A1)

The example (3) shown that, the pattern of the conversation can take Q1-Q2-A2-A1 (Q= question and A=answer) and Q2-A2 as an insertion sequence or the middle pair. Q2 should be an answer or response by first question but in fact, Q2 also gives a question to first question and this is an evidence that not all second part given the expected response by first part and in example (3) also shown the preference structure of preferred “agree” with using word “yeah-that’s great” .

So, in the conversation the second part (listener) does not always give an expected response but sometime, there is irrelevance response given by second part. The first part or speaker does not know what the response will give by second part or listener.

1.1 Identification and Limitation of The Problem

Talking about conversation analysis many aspects can be analyze, such as turn taking, adjacency pairs, conversational inferences, conversation and speech acts, cohesion and coherence, conversational style, conversation and race, interactional sociolinguistics, exchange moves and IRF style languages, politeness principles, implicate meaning.

After the writer found the problem that can analyze in the research then, the writer classified the problems and finally the writer limits the problems. The problems can be analyze in this research is about adjacency pairs especially “question-answer”.

1.2 Formulation of The Problem

In this research the writer has formulated the problems, as follows:

1. What are the preference structures of adjacency pairs found in Oprah Winfrey’s talk show?
2. What are the patterns of adjacency pairs found in Oprah Winfrey’s talk show?

1.4 Purpose of The Research

The purposes of this research as follows:

1. To find the preference structures of adjacency pairs in Oprah Winfrey’s talk show
2. To analyze the patterns of adjacency pairs especially question-answer in Oprah Winfrey’s talk show

1.5 Significant of The Research

The significance of this research is the writer expects that the result of this research will give contribution to linguistic fields, especially for conversation that focus on adjacency pairs of “question-answer”. The writer also hopes that the result of this research can enrich our knowledge about adjacency pairs of “question-answer”.