



**AN ANALYSIS OF POSITIVE POLITENESS AS SEEN IN THE
MOVIE *DIVERGENT***

THESIS

By:
VIRA AFRIZA ROSDIANA DEWI
NPM 1110014211003

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PADANG
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SURAT PERNYATAAN

Yang bertanda tangan dibawah ini:

Nama : VIRA AFRIZA ROSDIANA DEWI

No. Bp : 111014211003

Jurusan : SASTRA INGGRIS

Judul : An Analysis of Positive Politeness As Seen in The Movie *Divergent*

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Vira Afriza Rosdiana Dewi

AN ANALYSIS OF POSITIVE POLITENESS AS SEEN IN THE MOVIE

DIVERGENT

Vira Afriza Rosdiana Dewi¹, Yusrita Yanti², Nova Rina²

¹English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Bung Hatta University

E-mail : viraafrika_rosdianadewi@yahoo.com

Abstract

This study aims to describe positive politeness based on conceptual theory proposed by Brown and Levinson (1987). Politeness strategies are ways chosen to convey the utterances as polite as possible. This research discuss about what are the strategies used by actros to express positive politeness in the movie “Divergent” and what is mostly frequent strategies of positive politeness that used in the movie “Divergent”. Data were taken from the movie “Divergent”. From the data analysis, the writer finds ten strategies of positive politeness. They are (1) notice, (2) exaggerate, (3) use in-group identify makers, (4) avoid disagreement, (5) Joke, (6) offer and promise, (7) be optimistic, (8) include both speaker and hearer in activity, (9) tell or ask for reason, and (10) give gifts to hearer. in addition, the writer also finds the strategies of positive politeness that mostly frequent in the movie Divergent such as in-group identity makers and include both speaker and hearer in the activity.. The method used is qualitative method state by Moleong (2007). All of the findings will be discussed in this thesis.

Keywords : politeness principles, context, positive politeness strategies

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

In communication, politeness is very important. The purpose is to maintain the familiarity between speaker and hearer. Because when talking politely, the hearer feels valued and respected. Not only that, politeness also used when talking to whom and where the speaker talked. According to Brown and Levinson (1987), “be polite it was a concern for the face, both belonging to the speaker and hearer belong”. Brown and Levinson in Stockwell (2002:23) divide “the face into two parts: negative face is the want of every ‘competent adult member’ that his actions be unimpeded by others, and then positive face is the want of every member that his wants be desirable to at least some others”.

Talking about politeness, it refers to develop in order to save the hearers “face”. Brown and Levinson (1987) argue that “the two fundamental motivations behind politeness are *negative face* want: the desire not to be impeded, and *positive face* want: the desire to be approved of”. Face refers to the respect that an individual has for him or herself maintaining that “self-esteem” in public or in private situations. Usually person tries to avoid embarrassing to other person, or make them feel uncomfortable. Face Threatening Acts (FTA’s) are acts that infringe on the hearers need to maintain his self-esteem, and be respected. Politeness strategies are developed for the main purpose of dealing with these FTA’s. There are four types of politeness strategies, described by Brown and Levinson that sum up human “politeness” behavior. The strategies are based on

record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record-indirect strategies. they are chosen to analyze considering that when the speaker doing the FTA's, they will reflect to the speaker's feeling and influencing the speaker's responds.

In politeness, context is also important. Context is particularly important in pragmatics, which is regarded as a "science of language seen in relation to its users" (Mey 1993: 5). Context has been the central tenet of pragmatics research since its beginning. For instance, Levinson (1983: 24) states that "pragmatics is the study of the ability of language users to pair sentences with the contexts in which they would be appropriate." Other definition about context, according to Mulyana (2005:71) "context is situation or background of the occurrence of communication". Context in Mulyana's (2005) theory has four kinds, such as linguistic context, epistemic context, physical context, and social context. From this research, the writer uses the theory to make it easier to analyze the data.

Back to previous discussion about politeness strategies, the writer chooses positive politeness to analyze the data. Positive politeness is the need to be accepted, even liked, to be treated as member of the same group, and to know that his or her wants to be shared by others. According to Brown and Levinson (1987:101), "positive politeness is redress directed to the addressee's positive face, his perennial desire that his wants (or the actions/acquisitions/values resulting from them) should be thought of as desirable".

According to Brown and Levinson (1987) that one of the main types of positive politeness strategy is claiming common ground. Speaker can do this by attending to the hearer's interests, wants, and needs. Look at the following :
example :

(1). *I know you hate parties, Jen, but come anyway. We'll all be there, and it'll be cool seeing if Ally is with Andrea! Come on – get a life!*

(Brown and Levinson, 1987)

The example (1) contains many solidarity strategy – knowledge of personal information, nicknames, shared dialect and slang, and gossip. The inviter claims common ground by including her in a common activity, exaggerating the interest predicting that the party will be ‘cool’ and by using in group identity makers: her familiar nickname ‘Jen’ and young people’s in-group: the inviter is saying, ‘I know that you know about them, just like we do’. In the addition, the speaker here is optimistic that the hearer will accept the invitation.

In this research, the writer found positive politeness strategies in the movie *Divergent*. *Divergent* is a 2014 American science fiction action movie directed by Neil Burger, based on the novel of the same name by Veronica Roth. The movie was a financial success as it reached the #1 spot at the box office during its opening weekend. The story takes place in a dystopian post-apocalyptic version of Chicago where people are divided into distinct factions based on human virtues. Beatrice Prior is warned that she is *Divergent* and thus will never fit into anyone of the factions and soon learns that seemingly perfect society. This movie tells also about teenagers, family, and community of human. In environment teenagers, family, or in community of human when they want to interaction, they should say politely in order to maintain good communication. Especially in a environment is unknown. As in this movie, one of the figures named Beatrice who must interaction with her new fiction. She must maintain a way of communication to be good interaction. Therefore, new interaction ensued. To interact in a new

environment, the speaker should keep the speech to the hearer that the creation of ongoing communication. In this case, politeness strategies is very important to keep the communication to the hearer. So, The writer tries to find the data that contain one type of politeness strategies that is positive politeness.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

There are number of aspects can be studied. Many aspects of language can be analyzed politeness strategies such as the bald on record strategy, the positive politeness strategy, the negative politeness strategy, and bald off record strategy in Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory. But in here, the writer only focus on positive politeness as seen in The Movie *Divergent*.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

From a number of things that can be studied, the researcher limited analyze interm of positive politeness by Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory in the movie *Divergent*.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

In this research, the writer formulates the problem of this research as follows:

1. What are the strategies used by the actors to express positive politeness as found in the movie *Divergent* ?
2. What is the mostly frequent strategies of positive politeness that used in the movie *Divergent* ?

1.5 The purpose of the Research

The purpose of the research of this research as follows :

1. To find out the strategies used by the actors to express positive politeness as found in the movie *Divergent*
2. To find out the mostly frequent strategies of positive politeness that found in the movie *Divergent*

1.6 Significant of the research

Based on the purpose of the study, the writer is interest to know about politeness especially Brown and Levinson theory in conversation. A study on Politeness is very interesting and challenging because it is one of the aspects of the language. The writer hopes, this research will give contribution in linguistic fields for next who want to analyze about politeness especially about positive politeness and also it will give an additional knowledge to them who are interested about positive politeness. And, it can increase knowledge between the writer and the readers in studying linguistics especially in pragmatic and sociolinguistic.