

ENGLISH ADDRESS TERMS USED BY THE FOURTH YEAR STUDENT
OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ANDALAS UNIVERSITY

A Thesis

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membedah beragam penggunaan kata sapaan dalam bahasa Inggris (*address term*) dalam strategi kesantunan berbahasa (*politeness strategy*). Riset ini dilaksanakan secara acak pada 40 mahasiswa sastra Inggris untuk mengungkap sejauh mana ketepatan penggunaan kata sapaan dalam beragam dimensi sosial (*social dimension*), yakni usia (*age*), kekuasaan (*power*), dan tingkat pembebanan (*rank imposition*).

Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menggunakan questioner yang di dalamnya terdapat tes ilustrasi tertulis (*Discourse Completion Test*) untuk meneliti kemunculan tipe-tipe kata sapaan berupa ujaran permintaan, dan nantinya dikalkulasikan untuk mendapatkan pola apa saja yang sering digunakan oleh mereka. Analisis data dilakukan dengan menggunakan teori Brown and Levinson dan Wardaugh.

Temuan yang diperoleh dalam penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dari ketiga faktor yang dikemukakan Brown and Levinson tentang aspek-aspek yang mempengaruhi penutur dalam strategi kesantunan berbahasa, khususnya pemakaian kata sapaan berdasarkan perbedaan tingkat usia, kekuasaan, dan tingkat pembebanan, diperoleh hasil bahwa pemakaian kata sapaan oleh sebagian besar mahasiswa/i tahun empat di Sastra Inggris Unand sangat dipengaruhi oleh faktor usia. Pola yang terbentuk pun dipengaruhi oleh bahasa Indonesia, hal ini terlihat dalam kata sapaan yang digunakan diawal ujaran dengan frekuensi satu kali dalam setiap ujaran permintaan tersebut.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Research

Language is an essential tool of communication for human being. It is used to transfer our knowledge, idea, and even to express our feeling. Fromkin and Rodman (1988) states that "to understand our humanity we must understand the language that makes us human" (p.4). It means that we have to recognize languages in order to understand humanity.

English as an International language have the great potentials to be used and learned by people across the globe. They can use it in the real conversation as their alternative media for communication. Since communication has important role to build the relationship with other people in the society, the use of language should take account the choice of word itself. It is intended to control the tools such as lexical item and vocabulary in order to make appropriate way in conversation. It means that as a speaker, he/she not only tries to produce message but also to consider the rules of speaking and the term of appropriateness to the social process. It happens since communication not only transfers the messages but also makes the social process builds the interpersonal relationship between the participants (speaker and addressee).

Speakers have their own behavior toward language and language choices. They try to build infinite numbers and diversities of meanings, intentions, thoughts, and items of information. Word choices convey information about the social relationship among people in a society, and it reflects certain norms of

languages. People usually use the most appropriate ways in accordance with the choice of words used for the person they are talking to, as well as the topic of discussion and the setting of the communication. It is obvious that language and society may influence each other.

Actually in a good conversation, the interlocutors fulfill the realization of transferring the messages in wider context which include the speech that meets appropriate norms to various events, people, and settings. This relationship gives the concept for the language learners that it is necessary for them not only to know the linguistic tools used for the communication but also the potential information or knowledge in wider context such as the values of politeness in pragmatic features and the awareness of certain social factors.

The most obvious points that social factors influence the use of language are in the selection of addressing terms. Address terms become an important part in our daily communication strategies, because addressing is needed to start a communication and to confirm whether the communication will be continued or not. The use of appropriate terms will show that one knows how to communicate and to interact with other people in a good way. People often have different kinds of names for someone when they are addressing them. In fact, it is caused by the social class, age, sex, profession, marital status, politeness and other related aspect as the kind of basic rules of address system.

Address term has different forms in many languages, for instances, the term *Bapak, Ibu, Mas, Mbak, Koko, Om, Uni* etc in Bahasa Indonesia gives different reactions and nuances. In certain occasion, someone may get hurt to be called as

ibu because it reflects the marital status and gives impression that she looks older than the real she is. In other hands, someone might be called as *mbak* even she does not have any ethnic possession to that term (as we know that *mbak* is commonly used by Javanese ethnic as their address term toward female addressee),but then good impression of the respectful addressing term can be gained by the speakers. For instance; in a Minang's restaurant, the customer needs extra sugar by asking to one of the waitress there

"mbak, gulanya habis, bisa ambilkan tambahannya untuk saya?"

Mbak, here, does give any chance to be insulted because the term of *mbak* refers to appreciation of the speaker toward addressee and picture the movement of ethic term into general term to address people in respectful one. Thus there is no ethnic possession to the address form "*mbak*".

Studying a good conversation, nobody needs to be hurt and treated under the wrong way of addressing someone. Thus, many languages have many aspects of appropriateness to the best option as one of the strategy in politeness of the communication. The term itself not only occurs in certain languages between native and native but also native and non native. It is proven that many learners get some difficulties when they need to communicate in good way because of the lack of knowledge about the tools and also the social address terms appropriateness.

American, one of the English speaking societies, applies a style of speech in their daily communication of addressing. In addressing, the speakers usually use address terms to call each other during the conversation. The speaker also uses

different styles in addressing someone. The address terms that are recognized, for instance; the title (for example: "Mr.", "Mrs.", "Miss", etc), the title plus last name (for example: "Mr. John", "Mrs. Maria", etc), first name (for example: "David", "Jason", etc), and sometimes multiple names, could be a nickname (for example "Bob", "Jim", etc). Furthermore, the example below can show address term that is used by the fourth year students of English Department of Andalas University as one of the language learners communities especially those who acquired English.

A: "let me introduce her, she is Hellen Pearse, she is one of the exchange student and she will be your room mate in this dormitory

During the preparation to stay there, suddenly

B: "Miss Hellen, Look we want to buy new fan, would you mind to accompany me to go to market, Miss?

The example above suggest that the acquisition of the address terms have not been successfully used since it is used in the incorrect rules (Miss + first name). The speaker and addressee expect that they will not make any mistakes by hurting and making uncomfortable feeling to the opponent speaker. However, the strange impact and unexpected response cannot be avoided. Therefore, knowing and understanding the forms of address terms in communication is definitely important for the speakers in order to determine the most appropriate language use. It gives the consideration that the potentials of using appropriate address term will be treated as pragmatics capability that are concerned with the term of politeness strategies in different social dimensions.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

4.1 Conclusion

After distributing the questionnaire and identifying the learners' addressing behavior, there are 33 address forms used by the participants found. The age becomes the most significant factor which influences the speaker in choosing address form in communication while the power and rank of imposition do not get much attention from mostly senior students. All the "Title" terms are used to address such an older with or without power. It happens since the speaker have imposed in speech act of request. Those 33 address forms can be categorized into four kinds of address terms.

The first kind is Title which is later called as respectful address terms. It is used to address people who have an older age and power (role and social status in certain community). The second one is Nick Name, in the term of endearment, to indicate the intimacy and casualness. The third is Combination of Title and Last name/First name, and the last one is Zero. The use of address forms give different signs in determining social status and respect at the same time by choosing the most appropriate address terms. Unfortunately, the existence of the power, age, and rank of imposition cannot be considered as valuable factor in communication by few of them. First, the problem of appropriateness and the problem of absence of address form. The inappropriateness found in applying all the kind of terms "title", "first name", combination title + first name without considering the social status, age, situation, and the interlocutor. The absent of address form, then, is called as "zero" shows that

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