

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of some subchapters. They describe background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Each part in subchapter explains about this study in general.

1.1 Background of the study

In the social life, people cannot be separated from conversation and communication because communication is one of the important aspects to achieve goal. By doing communication, people can speak and listen each other so that their intention can be delivered smoothly. A particular utterance in a communication cannot stand alone. It means that in a communication the participants are more than one person. There must be a pair to build a communication each other, the second part participant utterances depend on the production of the first part participant of an adjacency pair.

Discussing about conversation, every conversation must have a topic of discussion that will be discussed from beginning to the end, and it is possible for the participants to talk about more than one topic. In a conversation usually occurs topic shifts from one topic to another, back to earlier topic and sometimes also a mix of topic.

So, topic shifting becomes the most important thing in the conversation. The speaker can manage and change the roles. They become either the current speaker or listener in the conversation. In other words, either speaker or listener must be able to manage topic shifting correctly to make the conversation go smoothly, such as in talk show.

The talk show is a type television shows in which members of the public or celebrities are filmed living their everyday or undertaking specific challenge. In a talk show usually consists of two participant elements, the host and the guest

star. Nowadays, television should not only show formal program. Viewers also need entertainment program which has educational aspect.

One of the entertainment programs is talk show. There are many talk show programs. One of talk show which has a great popularity is The Ellen Show. Related to this study, the writer chooses The Ellen Show because this talk show is one of the American talk shows which hosted by Ellen DeGeneres she is a producer, television host, writer, actress, and a comedian, television. This talk show was first broadcasted on September 08, 2003. It is produced by Tele pictures and airs in syndication, including stations owned by NBC Universal in the United State and Canada. This Talk show is one of the most famous and popular talk shows following the Oprah Winfrey Show. She creates not only his talk show which achieves the biggest ratings but also his evidences that she is an outstanding host.

The writer of this study is interested in analyzing topic shifting theory. Because in the talk show there are many topics discussed. And in some of these topics there is certainly a marker in each move from the first topic to another topic. Everyone needs to know topic shifting in order to occur a smooth conversation. Topic shifting is an important thing to be learned by a speaker and listener, to understand how topic shifting and the technique are applied by a host in a talk show correctly. Topic shifting also improves either the speaker or listener's knowledge that is can be applied not only in talk show communication but also in daily communication in order to avoid miscommunication and misunderstanding.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study there are two research questions, they are

1. What are the types of topic shift found in The Ellen Show?
2. How are the strategies as clues for topic shift expressed in The Ellen Show?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Related to the statement of the research problems above, the major objectives of study are:

1. To explain the types of topic shift that is found in The Ellen Show.
2. To explain the strategies as clues for the topic shift expressed in The Ellen Show.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give contribution both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, by reading this study the researcher hopes that it can give important contribution to the field of linguistics for the next researcher who will analyze the same source of data or using the same theory.

Practically, this study helps the speaker and listener to give more understanding about the types of topic shift and found the strategies as clues for topic shift expressed in the talk show correctly. This study improves either the speaker or listener's knowledge about topic shifting which can be applied not only in talk show communication but also in daily communication in order to avoid miscommunication and understanding.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the study

This study focuses on the types of topic shifting found in The Ellen Show by using the theory proposed by Crow (1983) and the strategies as clues for topic shift as clue proposed by Reichman (1978). The limitation of this study is the utterances in conversation between Ellen DeGeneres and her guest in The Ellen Show.