

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five subchapters, namely, background of the study, statements of the research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Those subchapters are important to be explained since they help the readers to understand deeper this chapter.

1.1 Background of the Study

When people communicate with each other, they do not only chit-chat, discuss, or debate but also ask or offer for help, and request for something, or offer a help. In requesting situations, they do not always accept the request because of some reasons. Sometimes, they refuse the offer or request in various ways in order to keep respecting the hearer.

Refusal is one of speech acts in which communication problems likely to happen. Refusal is negative response to requests, invitations, suggestions, offers, and the like which are frequently used in daily communication. Refusal has been one of the most studied topics in pragmatics.

Chen, Ye and Zhang (1995) defined refusal as “a response to an initiating act and is considered as speech act by which a speaker fails to engage in an action proposed by the interlocutor. It means that refusal may be categorized a negative reaction towards an invitation, request, or offer from the speaker to the hearer in communication. When people communicate with others, they sometimes have

different opinion, idea, argument, and others related to what they are talking. In order to make it sounds smoothly, they sometimes use refusal strategies.

The use of refusal strategy is often sounded in the daily communication. One of the phenomena of the use of refusal strategy that makes the writer interested to analyze occur in Yanbu'ul Hikmah Islamic boarding school which is located in Langkap Bangkalan, East Java. Yanbu'ul Hikmah is the biggest Islamic boarding school in Langkap. It has a group of traditional music which is called Banjari. It always conducts shows in many regions in Madura especially in Bangkalan.

In Yanbu'ul Hikmah Islamic boarding school, the students who are studying there are always taught to communicate politely in daily lives. When the students communicate with their teacher, they must communicate politely. This positive teaching can be seen in the ways the students of Yanbu'ul Hikmah still respect their teacher when they refuse what their teacher suggests, commands, etc by using polite refusal strategies. The use refusal strategy in order to make their refusal sounds polite. Many refusal strategies used by the students in this boarding school. The following is one of the examples.

- Guru : Ansori, hedêh kan noro' banjari. Degguk hêdeh noro' nabbu.
 Teacher : (Ansori, don't you join the banjari! Tomorrow you join the show)
 Murid : menabi ngereng banjari kadinto, bekto kauleh sobung
 Student : (if I join the banjari, I'm afraid that I do not have a spare time.)

The dialogue above happens between a teacher and a student in Yanbu'ul Hikmah. The teacher asks his student to follow the Banjari show. The teacher expects

his student to follow the show. However, his student refuses what he commands. The student refuses the teacher's command by giving hints. The student refuses it by saying that he has no spare time to join it. Hence, he says *if I join the banjari, I'm afraid that I do not have a spare time*. He does not mention explicitly that he refuses it but he just gives hint to his teacher indicating that he refuses to join it. Based on the explanation above, we can see that this subject is interesting to study. Based on this reason, the writer takes this subject as the writer's study.

There are a number of related previous studies about refusal strategies. The previous studies mostly analyze the types of refusal strategies in the movie such as what has been done by Nikmatin Hasanah (2015) and Deviani and Gunawan (2013). Both of them use similar theory of refusal strategy which is proposed by Bebe et al. None of them talks about refusal strategies used in Islamic Boarding School. Therefore, the writer of this study is interested in analyzing the systems and the types of refusal strategies that occur in the conversation of student in Yanbu'ul Hikmah Islamic boarding school.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

Related to the explanation of the background of the study above, the writer formulates the following problems as the guidance of this study. Those are;

1. What are the systems of refusal strategies used by the students of *YanBu'ul Hikmah* Islamic Boarding School, Langkap Burneh?
2. What are the types of refusal strategies used by the students of *YanBu'ul Hikmah* Islamic Boarding School, Langkap Burneh?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems above, the objectives of study are:

1. To explain the systems of refusal strategies used by the students of *Yanbu'ul Hikmah* Islamic Boarding School in Burneh.
2. To explain the types of refusal strategies used by the students of *Yanbu'ul Hikmah* Islamic Boarding School in Burneh.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The theoretical benefit that can be taken from the results of this study is the contribution to the development of pragmatic theories. It also expected to help the further studies by giving a theoretical source.

Practically, this study can be used by the readers to apply refusal strategies in their lives. The readers can have many alternatives to use many expressions to refuse politely an offer, request, command, etc.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is pragmatics. This study is concentrated on the refusal strategies applied in Islamic boarding school.

The writer limits the data only on the refusal strategies that is used by the students to their teacher in *Yanbu'ul Hikmah* Islamic Boarding School which is located in Langkap Barat, Burneh village, Bangkalan regency, Madura, East Java, Indonesia. The data are the refusal utterances produced by the students there.