

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a tool used to communicate with other people, either written or spoken. Because humans are a social creature, they always need to interact with others. Through communication, they can exchange information, thoughts, and, expressing ideas. Conversation is one of the forms of communication. Conversation is an activity in which two or more participants take turns at speaking (Yule, 2010, p. 145). Yule (1996, p. 71) states the basic pattern of ‘I speak—you speak—I speak—you speak’ as the structure of conversation and use most often. In short, in conversation, normally when one participant speaks another participant listens in order to transfer the message from the current speaker completely and comfortably.

Sacks et al. (1974, p. 700) state that one participant speaks at a time. It means only one person can hold the floor for a certain period of time, it is the basic rule of turn-taking. However, in practices, not all conversation runs smoothly. For example, the next speaker can possibly begin his/her speech when the current speaker is in his middle talking. As a consequence, the current speaker feels bothered because the other speaker disrupts his/her turn. In this case, a violation of the turn-taking rule takes place, and a common term to refer to that violation is interruptions.

Interruption is a common phenomenon happens in daily conversation that usually goes on briefly. Many people think about interruptions negatively because it disrupts the flow conversation and it should be avoided in order to create smooth conversation. Even Zimmerman and West (1975, p. 115) state that interruption is an “error” and “violation” of turn-taking rule, and considered as disregard for the current speaker because interrupts the current speaker’s right to complete a turn. However, sometimes interruptions can be a benefit for both speaker and listener because the function of interruptions is not only as dominance behavior but it also appears to function as healthy functional communicative acts, i.e. to confirm the speaker. That is why the writer interests to analyze interruptions to reveal how it happens in the conversation and what the functions of interruption.

Interruptions not only occur in real life conversation but also in any media that involves communicative activities, for example, in a movie. Most stories in the movie are adapted based on the actual event occurred in the real life, either the behavior or the utterance of speakers in the real situation. Therefore, a movie can be a good source to analyze interruptions since it reflects the real-life events. Based on this, the writer chooses *Girls Trip* movie as the source of data of this study. This movie is an American comedy movie directed by Malcolm D. Lee and written by Kenya Barris and Tracy Oliver. The story of this movie is based on Kenya Barris, Tracy Oliver and Erica Rivinoja own experiences with their female friends. This movie tells about Ryan Pierce with her three female best friends, the “Flossy Posse”. They are on holiday to New Orleans to attend the Essence Music

Festival in order to reunite because they have not met for five years. This movie has won 4 wins and 24 nominations Awards (Wikipedia, 2017).

The other reasons why the writer chooses *Girls Trip* movie as the source of data of this study are because this movie was released in 2017, so maybe there is no one has studied this movie yet. Also in this movie, interruptions happen a lot during a conversation between the characters. Below is the example of interruption found in the movie:

RYAN: Oh, you can tell you got <i>ones, which ones?</i>	{	<i>an eye</i> for sweet. You can tell <i>which</i>
JULIAN: it all.		<i>I-I... listen, I got a... I got an eye for</i>

In this conversation Ryan thinks that Julian got someone he likes among his fans and Ryan wants Julian to tell who the woman is. It is just to tease Julian. Julian Interrupts Ryan's utterance to gives a clarification that he is still looking for the right woman for him. In this interruption, Ryan can complete her utterance even Julian interrupts, so this interruption is categorized as overlap.

From the example above, it shows that in this movie there are interruptions. There are also other types and functions of interruptions which will be explained further in the next chapter.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the issues presented in the background of the study above, there are some questions that need to be answered through this research, those are:

1. What are the types of interruptions applied by the characters in *Girls Trip* movie?
2. What are the functions of interruptions uttered by the characters in *Girls Trip* movie?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In line with the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study are:

1. To explain the types of interruptions applied by the characters in *Girls Trip* movie.
2. To explain the functions of interruptions uttered by the characters in *Girls Trip* movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, the writer hopes this study gives contribution as a reference for the further study that analyzes the same source of data or using the same theory. Also, the writer hopes this study will give a better understanding about interruptions that happen in *Girls Trip* movie and gives some information to the reader about the types, also the functions of interruptions in a conversation.

Practically, this study helps the writer and the reader to understand what types of interruptions included in the conversation and what the functions they used interruptions. This study also is able to become an alternative way to create a successful interaction with other people by paying attention to interruptions that probably occurs involuntarily in conversation.

1.5 Scope and Limitations

The scope of this study is pragmatics which concerns interruptions found in *Girls Trip* movie. This study uses theories proposed by Ferguson (1977) and Kennedy and Camden (1983) to analyze the movie. Therefore, the limitation of this study is the utterances that contain interruptions in *Girls Trip* movie.