

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the reason of why this study being conducted, the research problem, the objective of the study, the significance of the study and the scope and limitaion of the study. All above divided into sebchapters in the chapter one. They are background of the study, research problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitaion.

1.1 Background of the Study

Human is a social creature who need other human to survive and develop their extansion. Therefore, interaction among human is important, in order to make a communication. In communication, language is an important thing because it is a tool which is used to deliver something in people mind to some other people, so the other people will be able to understand.

A communication of human with other human using language would be called as conversation. Conversation needs more than a person because there must be the first pair part and second pair part participant in the conversation. For example, the first part utters a question, the second part utters the response of the first part's question. It means conversation involves an utterance and response. This unit is called adjacency pairs in conversation.

Adjacency pairs as a sequence of two utterances , produced the different speakers, ordered as first part, second part (Paltridge, 2006, p.115). First pairs part, includes the utterance types such as question, request, offer, invitation, and announcement which initiate certain exchange. For the second pair part, it is

response to the action of the prior turn. It covers the utterance type such as, answer, grant, refuse, accept, decline, agree or disagree, acknowledge. Refusal is one kind of responses. Before it comes to a refusal, there should be an utterance which triggers the refusal coming up.

Refusal is a negative reaction towards an invitation, request or offer. Chen, Ye and Zhang (1995 p. 121) also 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 interlocutors. According to Beebe, (1990) there are two main refusal strategies, they are direct refusal and indirect refusal. In direct refusal, usually expressed by using performative verbs “I refuse” and non performative verbs “I can’t”. While, indirect refuse, there are some ways to indicate the refusal utterances, namely 1) expression of excuse, reason, or explanation, 2) using statement of alternative, 3) attempt dissuade interlocutor, 4) non-verbal. For better explanation we can see the following example:

A : Would you make me a cup of coffee?

B : No, I’m busy now

The speaker A said “ would you make me a cup of coffee?” for the request, that he or she wants the hearer to make a cup of coffee and the response of the speaker B is doing refuse by uttered refusal statement. Based on the example above the hearer or addressee directly refuses the speaker’s request.

This study focused on analyzing the response of the conversation which is belongs to refuse statement. The writer will choose to analyze refusal strategies because sometimes people do not realize that when he or she refuse someone

request, invitation, offer, sometimes it makes the speaker feel disappointed if the refuse utterances are not polite. So it will be better if people know how to refuse some invitation, request, offer without violating the speakers by knowing and using the refusal strategies.

In this present study, the writer deals with the refuse utterances which used by students of English Department who come from different ethnic backgrounds. The different ethnic groups which will be analyzed are Madurese students and Javanese students of English Department. Both of them have different cultural backgrounds which influence them in using language.

The writer chooses Madurese and Javanese students of English Department of the University of Trunojoyo Madura as the object of the study because they have different cultural background. So it can be predicted that both of them will use different strategies of refusal depend on their habitual language which influenced by their cultural background. Madurese people known as stubborn people, loud, hard worker, and consistent. While Javanese people known as graceful people, hide the actual attitude of expecting others regard the subject as someone who has a quiet personality, and authoritative. So, it will be interesting to analyze the two different backgrounds in uttering the refuse statement.

Furthermore, this study will analyze about the similarities and differences between Madurese and Javanese students in refusing something whether they use direct or indirect one of the refusal strategies.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

In line with the background of the study, the writer has research problems as follows:

1. What are the refusal strategies used by Madurese students of English Department in the University of Trunojoyo Madura?
2. What are the refusal strategies used by Javanese students of English Department in the University of Trunojoyo Madura?
3. What are the similarities and differences in using refusal strategies between Madurese and Javanese?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are related to the statement of the research problem, they are:

1. To describe what the refusal strategies used by Madurese students of English department in the University of Trunojoyo Madura.
2. To describe what the refusal strategies used by Javanese students of English department in the University of Trunojoyo Madura.
3. To explain the similarities and differences between Madurese and Javanese students of English Department in using refusal strategies.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Theoretically, by reading this study the researcher hopes that this study can be give contribution for the next researcher who will analyze the same field. Furthermore, this study aimed to give more understanding about refusal strategies and how people use it. The writer sincerely hopes that this thesis can be very

useful to the students of English Study Program and can help them develop or become aware of the sociolinguistics competence in learning the language of different cultural background. Indeed, there is no right or wrong when it comes to the difference in the sociolinguistics rules between languages, but those rules will enable language learners to interpret rather than misunderstand, and will make their own meaning clear rather than miscommunicate.

This study can be an example for cross cultural understanding. The students in English Study Program or reader will not be shocked by the culturally different responses and will not misunderstand other people from different cultures if they realize that they have different rules of speaking. However, if they ignore those cultural differences, they will hurt or even have disappointed about the expectation.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is sociolinguistics because it deals with language in its relation to society. To limit his research, the researcher takes refusal as the main study because he is interested to find out in how Madurese and Javanese students refuse the interlocutor's request. To limit this research, the researcher studies the strategies used in refusal based on the ethnicity, considering Madurese and Javanese are different ethnic of speakers, the way respondents pronounce or give intention in the refusal expression will be conclude. Furthermore, the researcher also limits the subjects into 20 Madurese and 20 Javanese students in English Study Program in the University of Trunojoyo Madura.