

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This Chapter contains the background of the research, questions of the research, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation which cover Politeness Strategies. It also presents definition of special terms and the last is organization of the research.

### **1.1 Background of the research**

In human life, language contributes very important role for people to communicate each other. It means that language is used by people to communicate an information. According to Gee (2005:1), language presents great functions, which are to give and get information. Language is to communicate whatever it can communicate. Based on Damon et.al's statement (1966:2), language is man's big act which is hardly reasonable that an educated man's notions about the nature, the structure, and the language using should be, as they often are, a bundle of uncritically received ideas and demonstrably wrong guesses. Language is an instrument which guides people to observe, react, and express themselves in a special way (Damon et.al, 1966:13).

The language is a system, arbitrary, vocal, symbol, human feeling, and parts of communication (Wardhaugh in Suhartono, 2010:11). Based on those statements above, it can be concluded that language is the way for people to give and to get information to and from each other, which can make an activity that is called communication in daily life. People as social human always communicate

to each other in their life such as their parents, their family, their friends, their neighbors, and all of the people who are around them.

Communication is an activity which uses language to get the point of what the people want. It means that language is very important in people life as social creature. According to Gamsriegler (2005:1), communication is a part of everyday life which is important at all times. It means that by communication, people may express their idea to each other. On the other hand, communication also has function to show and express what people wants, needs, feels, and expects. In their communication, people can express their happiness, their sadness and the other feelings by using the utterances. Besides, those can be concluded that language is a part which is used in communication, While communication is an activity which needs language. In addition, people who communicate to each other always expect some things such as feedback and redress or reaction.

Austin in Cutting (2002:16) said that actions which are performed by saying something are called speech acts. Speech act is the thing people do with language when they communicate. As the speaker, they do something with their language or utterances. People say that language not only shows the meaning of the utterance itself, but also shows some acts which are performed behind. Austin in Paltridge (2006:55) said that there are three levels of speech acts. They are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. So, speech acts are the product of people who communicate with others and shows the purpose of the utterances.

Speech acts often can be found in many conversation, such as comics, movie, novels, and short story. One of the movies that contains politeness

strategies in different culture is The Karate Kid movie. The Karate Kid movie is one of the movies which is produced by Harald Zwart in 2010. The main characters in this movie are a child who has name Dre Parker who is enacted by Jaden Smith and a maintenance man who as master of Kung Fu who has name Mr. Han that is enacted by Jackie Chan. As far as the researcher knows that Jaden smith and Jackie Chan are the popular actors. Jaden Smith who has known as the son of popular actor, who is Will Smith. Besides, Jackie Chan is also popular actor who is expert in Kung Fu or other self defense.

This movie tells about a child who has name Dre and his mother that have to leave America because of his mother's career move and they have to live in China. Firstly, Dre disagree with his Mother's option to live in China, because he thinks that China is an ancient country which is not interesting things. The first and for some days, Dre has a problem with the language and cultural differences, so Dre feels difficult to create a good communication and he feels that make a friendship is an impossible thing there. Because of those differences, the problem is happened. Dre makes a problem with a boy who is name Cheng. Cheng is a boy who is expert in Kung Fu. Cheng and his friends always bully him many times. In a day, Dre fights with them badly. Dre gets some pain and can not fight them again. Suddenly, there is a person who is known by him as a maintenance man who has name Mr. Han. Mr. Han helps him to get up and helps to fight them. Han is a master of Kung Fu. So, Dre learns a real Kung Fu from him. In the process of learning, Dre gets much things. One of that things is politeness or good attitude. The moral values can be got by watching and analyzing this movie.

In the other hand, as far as the researcher's knowledge, the research that analyze the politeness strategies of the main characters in The Karate Kid movie in term of discourse analysis are still difficult to find. This research therefore is linguistically important in term of linguistics in general and discourse analysis in particular.

The researcher collects some utterances which contain illocutionary act to identify politeness strategies which are used by Dre and Mr. Han as the main characters in the movie. The researcher chooses to analyze the illocutionary act on this movie because the researcher wants to draw attention to the illocutionary occurring in the conversation of daily communication and to know how the illocutionary act worked.

By analyzing speech act, especially the illocutionary act in The Karate Kid movie, the researcher can identify and analyze the utterances which have tendency into politeness strategies in different cultures. Those are the reason of the researcher uses theory of speech act and politeness strategies in different cultures to analyze the utterances.

## **1.2 The Questions of the research**

Based on the background description above, the research questions are formulated as follow:

1.2.1 What kinds of politeness strategies which are used by the main characters in

The Karate Kid movie by Harald Zwart?

1.2.2 How are the politeness strategies used by the main characters?

1.2.3 Why are the politeness strategies used by the main characters?

### **1.3 The objectives of the research**

Based on the statements of the problems above, the objectives of the research are formulated as follow:

1.3.1 To find out the kinds of politeness strategies which are used by the main characters.

1.3.2 To describe how the politeness strategies are used by the main characters.

1.3.3 To describe why the politeness strategies are used by the main characters.

### **1.4 The significances of the research**

The researcher expects that this research can be one of references in analyzing a movie by using speech act and politeness strategies theory. This research contributes in both theoretical and practical. In theoretical, it can add knowledge of the reader about the theory of discourse analysis, pragmatics, contextual features, speech act, and politeness strategies. Then, in the practical, the reader can understand the words deeply which include speech acts, and politeness strategies. The reader can also practice of using politeness strategies in the daily life. Besides, it can be used by the lecturers and students to have a better understanding of how people use language which contains speech act and politeness strategies.

### **1.5 The scope and limitation**

The scope of this research is discourse analysis. Besides, the scopes of this analysis is to the statements of Mr. Han and Dre which use speech act and politeness strategies. This research is limited to focus and discuss four politeness strategies which are used by the main characters. They are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record.

## **1.6 Definition of key terms**

To understand the meaning of difficult words in this research, these are some definitions of key terms that would like to be given as below.

### **1.6.1 Speech act**

Speech act is the actions which are performed by people in saying something (Austin in Cutting, 2002:16)

### **1.6.2 Illocutionary**

Illocutionary act is the intention of the speaker in uttering the words (Paltridge, 2006:55).

### **1.6.3 Politeness**

Politeness is a regardness as a restraint apart from being a mean to an end. Some kinds of social norms is imposed by the conventions of the community of which as members (Huang, 2008:97).

### **1.6.4 Politeness strategies**

Politeness strategies are used to minimize or avoid the Face Threatening Acts (FTAs) that a speaker makes (Brown and Levinson, 1987:91).

## **1.7 The organization of the research**

This research was started from chapter I, that is Introduction. Chapter I tells about the background of the research, questions of the research, objectives of the research, significances of the research, scope and limitation, definition of key terms, and the last is organization of the research. Then, there is Chapter II. Chapter II contains review of the related linguistics, which consist discourse

analysis, pragmatics, speech acts, and politeness strategies theory. The third chapter contains the method of the research in Chapter III. Chapter III consists the nature of the research, the source of the data and data, data collection and data selection, and steps of data analysis. Next, the analysis of data is presented in chapter IV. The last is Chapter V that contains conclusion.