

## 2. Review of Related Literature

This chapter contains explanations concerning literary theory as the main theory and the supporting theories. All these theories are needed to find out the answer of the research questions that are mentioned in this study.

### 2.1 Review of Main Theories

In a general definition of Searle (1969) about request, It is explained that request specifically as an act which counts as attempt to get hearer to do an act which speaker wants hearer to do, and which speaker believes that hearer is able to do and which it is not obvious that hearer will do in the normal course of events or of hearers own accord. (Searle 1969, P.66)

In theory of Blum-Kulka et al., (1989), stated that requests usually include reference to the requester, the recipient of the request, and/or the action to be performed. One way for the speaker to minimize the imposition is by employing indirect strategies rather than direct ones. The more direct a request is, the more transparent it is and the less of a burden the recipient bears in interpreting the request. A request may vary in strategy type and level of directness. The scale of directness can be characterized according to the following three strategies:

- Direct Strategies: This includes forms which convey requestive forced by purely syntactic means, such as grammatical mood or an explicit performative verb.

Examples: I'd like to ask you to clean the kitchen.

You'll have to clean up the kitchen.

There are five types of direct request strategies:

1. Mood derivable (The utterance uses verb in the imperative form).

**Leave** me alone.

**Clean up** this mess, please.

2. Explicit performatives (The utterance explicitly contains the illocutionary force such as asking, requesting)

**I'm asking you** to clean up the kitchen.

**I'm asking you** not to park the car here.

3. Hedged performatives (The utterance contains the illocutionary force (ask, request); however, there is use of modal verb and pattern (I would like to) before the naming of the illocutionary force).

**I'd like** to ask you to clean the kitchen.

**I'd like** you to give your lecture a week earlier.

4. Obligation statements (The utterance contains certain pattern like you have to, that signifies the obligation for the hearer to do the act).

**You'll have to** clean up the kitchen.

Ma'am, **you'll have to** move your car.

5. Want statements (The utterance contains the speaker's intention that the hearer will do an action with the use of relevant modal verb and pattern such as I want/wish).

**I really wish** you'd clean up the kitchen.

**I really wish** you'd stop bothering me.

- Conventionally indirect strategies: This comprises indirect formulas that are conventionalized in language as a means of requesting.

Examples:     How about cleaning up?

                  Could you clean up the kitchen, please?

There are two types of conventionally indirect strategies:

1. Suggestory formulae (The utterance contains suggestion to do something)

**How about** cleaning up?

**Why don't you** get lost?

**Why don't you** come and clean up the mess you made last night?

2.. Query preparatory (The utterance contains certain modal, such as can/could/would/may that show the ability/willingness of the hearer to do the act or the possibility of the act to be performed).

**Could you** clean up the kitchen, please?

**Would you mind** moving your car, please?

- Non-conventionally indirect strategies (hints): an indirect request form that is not conventionalized in language and hence requires more inferencing activity for the hearer to derive the speaker's requestive intent.

There are two types of non-conventionally indirect strategies (hints)

1. Strong hints (The utterances contain partial reference to object or to elements needed for the implementation of the act, directly pragmatically implying the act)

You have left the kitchen in a right mess.

→ It still refers to "the messy kitchen" and hints that the hearer should clean up the mess in the kitchen.

2. Mild hints (Utterances that make no reference to the request proper or any of its elements but are interpretable through the context as requests, indirectly pragmatically implying the act)

I'm a nun (in response to a persistent hassler)

→ It does not have any reference to the request of the nun not to be disturbed by the hassler. It is a mild hint and the meaning may not be caught by the hearer.

The request patterns considered as the most direct or transparent are the ones in which requestive force is either marked syntactically or indicated explicitly as in Mood derivable (imperatives) and Hedged performatives. The least direct

patterns are considered to be those in which requestive force is not indicated by any conventional verbal means and hence has to be inferred, as in hints (strong and mild). In between those two extreme patterns that derive their relative transparency, either from conventions regarding the semantic contents which, by social convention, count as potential requests, such as Obligation and want statements and suggestory formulae. Then Query preparatory is characterized both by conventions of means (since there are strong conventions regarding the kinds of contextual features habitually referred to in any language for making the request) and conventions of form (compare “*can you*” to “*are you able to*”).

### Supporting Theories

#### Male and Female’s speech Theory

In differentiating request from various other kinds of speech acts, there should be a rule that will interpret utterances as a request as stated by L.R Politzer (1980) as follows: “There must be a need for an action that would not occur in the absence of request. The person to whom the request is addressed must have the ability to perform the action and has the obligation to perform it. The person making request has a right to tell the person to whom the request is addressed to perform the requested actions”.

Holmes (1992, 11-13) points out gender has an important role in communication, the speakers have to be concerned with whom he/she talks to whether male or female. Also in all communities, women and men tend to use contrastive linguistic forms; it can be the differences in quantities or frequencies of using the forms. She also states that women tend to use more standard forms of language while men tend to use more vernacular forms of language.

According to Kuntjara (2003, p.43-44), Asking something from someone or asking someone to do something usually needs to be spoken politely that can be accepted by the hearer to do something which is asked to him. The request can be

done directly or indirectly. Because the status of females is lower than males, makes most females use indirect strategy of request.

According to Poynton (1989), men tend to speak in direct, clear and unambiguous way. The use imperative word when they ask somebody to do something in contrary, women's speech is highly elaborated for politeness. Women are more likely to express their requests in the form of questions or to use words, which are more polite such as using "please" or "if you would be so kind"

## 2.3 Previous Studies

### 2.3.1 Research done by Grace Dianita (2006) entitled "The Request Strategies Used By the Male Superior and the Female Subordinate Before and After Having Close Relationship In The Film *Two Weeks Notice*"

This study deals with request strategies between the male superior and female subordinate before and after they have close relationship. This study also examined the request strategies produced by different gender that particularly deal with different status and distance of when the familiarity and the less familiarity exist. In this study, Grace Dianita as the writer of this study used *Two Weeks Notice* movie as the source of data then the writer used two situations, which are before the two main characters in the movie have close relationship and after they have close relationship. This study helped the writer to found out the differences of request strategy because of relationship. The findings of this study are the main male superior character and the female subordinate character mostly used indirect strategies before they have intimate relationship and it might be caused by the less familiarity that exists. Then, when the familiarities exist, both of the characters used direct request strategies. The writer of this study used the theory of Ervin-Tripp (1976) in classifying the request strategies.

### 2.3.2 Research done by Yuni Riana (2001) entitled "The Different Forms of Request Used among Male and female Students of Petra Christian University"

In this research, the writer used interview as the method to get data. This research examined the request form used by male and female student of Petra Christian University, in which the writer put several examples as the cases of requests among friends, who are categorized as having a high level of solidarity or intimacy. This research helped Yuni Riana as the writer to understand the differences of request in the level of intimacy. The writer found that the female students tend to use imperatives among friends, while the male students use the same type as used by the females.