

## **2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this study, the writer mentions sources of literature which consist of the theories that support her study. The theories are used to help the writer in analyzing the data.

### **2.1 Review of Related Theories**

This study is based on some theories that used for analyzing the request expression, to understand and to do analysis further in requests utterances. Firstly, the writer has to understand the request itself. The writer uses the definition of request by Maloni (1982) that request is an expression or an act of asking an addressee to do something for the speaker or an addressee to do something if the speaker can't do something. Sciffin (1994) mentioned that request can occur in these forms: imperatives (e.g. Come here), declaratives (e.g. I need water), interrogatives (e.g. Can you pass the salt?) or performative (e.g. I request you to...).

Then, the writer also uses Ervin-Tripp's theory of types of requests in order to help her to understand more about the classification of types of requests.

#### **2.1.1 Request Theory**

In order to understand more about what request is and classify the types of requests produced by children to their parents, the writer uses Ervin-Tripp's theory of request. Ervin-Tripp found that if the form of the request is inappropriate to the context, the directive may not be interpreted as a directive at all. He mentioned also that request is a function of language, which from the utterance of the speakers; the speaker would be the beneficiary of action requested. This theory is concerned with the social factors of the speaker and the hearer. There are six types of request in Ervin-Tripp's theory of request:

##### **1. Need Statements**

The form of this type of request is:

I + want/need/would like +Object.

For example: “I need a glass of water” and  
 “I want a slice of cake”.

This type can be occurred to superiors in age in the family setting or by superiors in work setting. It is also used by the family members who have intimate relationship.

## 2. Bald Imperatives

The form of this type is:

Verb + object

For example: “Turn off the lamp”

This type also occurs between the family members. It is used when the participants have a close relationship and known each other well. In addition, if the context of action is clear, the speaker may eliminate the verb. One of the examples is “A cake with ice cream!”. Here, the situation is that a cake with ice cream is on the table and the older person is near the table. Therefore, the speaker can say “*a cake with ice cream*” instead of “*give me a cake with ice cream.*”

## 3. Embedded Imperatives

The form of this request is:

Modal + You + Verb + Object?

This types of request is usually marked by modal: “could/ would”

This type of request occurred when there were two people who did not know each other well and they did not want to express his request directly. There are three possibilities why this type is used:

1. when the task is especially difficult, and
2. when the speaker is the beneficiary of the requests.

The existence of the words “could/ would” make this type of request sounds more polite than the Bald Imperatives. In this type of request also used hedges or mitigators, such as: Would you do me a little favor and open that door?. The use of “please” is also occurred in this type.

## 4. Permission Directives

The form of this request:

Modal + I + Verb + Object ?.

For example: “Can I have more sugar in coffee?”

The difference with the embedded imperatives is the subject that is in this types used *I*, but in the embedded imperatives used *You*.

This type of request used when:

1. asking someone else to give permission to the speaker to do something.

2. the activity requested includes action by the addressee

It is usually used to superior in family. This type seldom happens and it is the most elaborated of all directives.

The usage of “please” and hedges also occurred in this type of request, such as: Could I maybe leave early tomorrow?

#### 5. Non-explicit question directives

The form is in interrogative sentence.

This type of request has exactly the same form as an ordinary informative question. For example:

“Are we going out of coffee?”

It is used when the speaker wishes to make a request indirectly.

#### 6. Hint directives

The form of this type of request is declarative statement. This type is the most indirect request. It is happened when:

1. it is within closed networks between the participants
2. shared knowledge between participants is the greatest,
3. familiarity or solidarity between the participants is greater, and
4. the task requested is most special
5. the relationship between the participants are close or far

Thus, the hearers can realize what the hints means

For example: “The garbage really smells”

It means that the speaker wants the addressee to take the garbage out.

Another example is “It’s hot” (There is a fan in that room). It means that the speaker expects the addressee to turn on the fan in that room.

According to Poedjosoedarmo (1993), there are several types of making requests based on the linguistics structure that constitute the requests forms. He classified it to two kinds of request based on their level of formality that is constructed possessed by each requests category:

### A. Asking people to do things

#### 1. Casual request

It uses imperative as its forms, for examples:

- In English : “Turn off the light”  
(V+O)
- In Indonesian : “Matikan lampunya”  
(V+O)

#### 2. Less Formal request (with or without reason)

It uses ‘Could you...’, ‘Would you...’, ‘Will you...’ these forms are same as ‘*tolong*’ in Indonesian language. These words are used to mark the level of formality, for example:

- In English : “Would you turn off the light?”  
(Would+S+V+O)
- In Indonesian :”Tolong lampunya dimatikan”  
(Tolong+O+V)

#### 3. Formal Request (with or without reason)

In this level, it is use “please” that is the same as ‘*minta/mohon/harap*’ in Indonesian language. It is used to mark the level of formality and soften the request forms, for example:

- In English : “Would you please turn off the light?”  
(Would+S+please+V+O)
- In Indonesian : “Saya minta agar Anda mau mematikan lampunya”  
(S1+minta agar+S2+mau+V+O)

### B. Asking for permission

#### 1. Casual request

It uses the imperative forms, for instance:

- In English : “I borrow your book!”  
(S+V+O)
- In Indonesian : “Pinjam bukumu!”  
(V+O)

## 2. Less formal request (with or without reason)

It uses ‘Can I...’, for instance:

- In English : “Can I borrow your book?”  
(Can +S+V+O)
- In Indonesian : “Saya pinjam bukumu!”  
(S+V+O)

## 3. Formal request (with or without reason)

It uses ‘Could I...’ or ‘May I...’ which is same as ‘Bolehkah saya...’ in Indonesian language, for instance:

- In English : “Could I borrow your book?”  
(Could +S+V+O)
- In Indonesian : “Bolehkah saya meminjam bukumu?”  
(Bolehkah+S+V+O)

According to Bing (1989), requests often occur in questions forms by using the modals such as ‘Can’, ‘Could’, ‘Will’ and ‘Would’, but the request in this forms do not need any answer from the addressee. She stated that usually request with modals is more polite than a request without modals. The modals like ‘Can’, ‘Could’, ‘Will’ and ‘Would’ are usually used to ask about general rules. The modals ‘could’ and ‘would’ made the requests become more polite. The modals ‘may’ also used in requests for asking individual permission.

The writer uses these theories of request categories to help her in translating the data and analyzing the forms of requests.

### 2.1.2 Request and social distance

The writer also uses the theory of request by Janet Holmes (1992). Holmes classified request into two categories: direct request, which includes: need statement and bald imperative; and indirect request, which includes: embedded

imperatives, permission directives, non-explicit question directives, and hint directive. Direct request is usually used between people who know each other well or the task being requested is routine, but indirect request is usually used between those who are less familiar with each other. This theory helps the writer in analyzing and comparing the relationship between children and parents whether they can be considered close or not.

## **2.2 Review of Previous Studies**

### **2.2.1 A study done by Herwinda Maria (2004),**

The title of this study is “*A study of request used by Chinese Indonesian female employers to their younger and older female servants.*” This study has given a lot of contribution for the writer in understanding the theories and the application of the theories. This study is about the request based on power and age of the addresses. Maria found that Chinese Indonesia female employers showed their power in polite way and the age of addresses and power distance has played more important role than the age of the addressee. The similarities between Maria and the writer’s study are the writer uses the same topic about request, the same theories and the same subject. Maria and the writer use Ervin-Tripp’s theories of request types (1976) because it is the basic theory of request and the subject is about Chinese Indonesian. The difference from these two studies is about the factors that influence the types of requests. In Maria study, she investigates request based on power distance and age of the addressee, but in the writer’s study, she analyzes types of request based on level of intimacy.

### **2.2.2 A study done by Yuni Riana (1998)**

The title of this study is “*The Different Forms of Request Used among Male and Female Students of Petra Christian University.*” This study has also helped the writer in enriching her knowledge in study about request. Riana analyzed the request based on the level of intimacy such as request to friends or to strangers. There are some differences in requests by males and females. Males use the same type of request when they talk to stranger and to friends,

but females produce different type of request. When females make request to friends they use bald imperative, but if they make request to strangers they use embedded imperatives. In addition, the writer gets more knowledge in understanding deeper the request and their classification.

### **2.2.3 A study done by Ether Kuntjara (2001)**

The title of this study is “Women and Politeness: *“A Sociolinguistic Study of Two Chinese Indonesian Mother-Daughter Pairs in Surabaya”*”. This study also helps the writer to understand about requests, especially requests that produced by Chinese Indonesian family. Kuntjara discusses about politeness and speech act which includes compliments, requests, and apologies. She mentions that mother and daughter tend to use direct requests to show their intimacy, but these kinds of requests are not considered as impolite. This study has enriched her knowledge about request in Chinese Indonesian family which can give the writer some input in doing the interpretation.

These three previous studies have helped the writer in understanding about request which give her a lot of contribution for doing analysis and interpretation of the data in chapter 4.