CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Humans as social creatures, always communicate and interact with each other using known as language. Language is often seen as a vehicle of thought, a system of expression that mediates the transfer of thoughts from one person to another. [1] Every day, as humans we communicate with each other in many ways to give information, share our thoughts or feelings. It is happens in various environments such as in the family, community, or in the learning environment, especially in class. In daily learning activities in class, Students always interact with each other in various ways. Whether it's just working on assignments, discussions, asking questions about homework, asking for help, asking for information about schedules, and so forth. It is also happens between teachers and students. Interdependent and inseparable is reciprocal relationships. As students we always communicate with teacher about anything, especially regarding learning. This interaction is carried out through communication and conversation. In conversations students often do various expressions. for example offers, requests, invitations and so on. For example, a student asks his friend to get his book

---

[1] Finnegan,et al. *language and it's structure*. New york : longman, 1992.

on the table, or a student offers help to a friend who forgets to bring a pen. Or even a teacher asks students to immediately attach a picket schedule. On various occasions maybe we can fulfill their requests. Oftenly we cannot fulfill their requests because something important and cannot be abandoned. Finally, we were forced to reject.

Refusal in English is not easy. Even though students have been taught how to refuse to use English, it is still difficult. Because rejection is a negative response and unpleasant by many people. If the people misinterpret the rejection, it can be bad even hurt the other person or feel offended. Therefore refusal not only involves linguistic knowledge, but also pragmatic knowledge. A person can have a variety of good grammar and knowledge of grammar, but misunderstandings can still arise if we cannot apply pragmatic competence appropriately. [2] One word can have many meanings.

Refusal also is very important. Because some time, it is central of communication. Occasionally people communicate at length with other peoples, which is essence to wait for answers whether they are willing or not with our offering. In everyday conversation sometimes what people say is not the same as what they mean. On several occasions, when other people talk the listener understand what they mean, but on the contrary the

---

[2] Phuong, N.T.M. Cross-culture pragmatics : *Refusals of requests by Australian Native speakers of English and vietnamese learners of english*. Dissertation. University of Queensland, 2006.

interlocutor also have experienced that cannot understand or capture the hidden meanings other people say, so there is a misunderstanding. The hidden meanings in a word that can cause some effect. Effects arising from words Or when someone talks and tries to cause an effect or action is referred to as speech act .

Finnegan says that "speech acts are actions carried out through language". [3] Yule also added that "in trying to express themselves, people do not only produce words that contain grammatical structures and words, they do actions through those utterances". [4] A Speech act is an action performed by means of language, such as requesting something, complaining about something, or refusing something. Austin stated "a speech act is functional unit in communication". [5] It can be concluded that speech act is action that result from utterance which is performed in requesting, complaining, and refusing.

According to Bebee et [al], "There are two kinds of refusal categories : direct and indirect refusals". for the direct refusal, it can use performative verbs such as I refuse, or non performative verbs such as a direct "No" or

---

[3] Finnegan,et al. *language and it's structure*. New york : longman, 1992.

[4] Yule,george.*Pragmatics*. Oxford : Oxford university press, 1996.

[5] Austin,J.L.*how to do things with words*. Oxford : oxford university press,1962.

[6].Beebe, L. M., Takahashi, T, & Ulliss-weltz, R. *Pragmatics Transfer in ESL refusal*. In R. Scarcella, E. Andersen, S.D. Krashen (Eds.), On the Development of Comminicative Competence in a second language. (pp 55-73). New york: Newbury House. 1990.

negative willingnes/ability such as I can't/I won't/I dont think so. For the indirect refusal can use : statement of regret, wish, excuse, reason, explanation, statement of alternative, set condition for future or past acceptance, promise of future acceptance, statement of principle, statement of philosophy, attempt to dissuade interlocutor, acceptance that functions as a refusal, and avoidance. Interlocutor can also use adjuncts to refusal such as statement of positive opinion/feeling or agreement, statement of emphaty, pause fillers, and gratitude/appreciation, there are the examples of refusals in English speech.

So the writer interest to take the Analysis Refusal Strategy Used by students of MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang, with the different instrument and the more spesific space in English speaking class.

B. Identification of Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher concluded that sometimes in everyday conversation, especially in the refusal to use English there is still a misunderstanding between the speaker and the listener. What the speaker means sometimes does not match what the listener understands. And it can cause various effects. The researcher is interested in examining what type of rejection is usually used by MA Al-MIZAN students during speaking learning in class. As known that in giving rejection is not only

concerns knowledge about grammar, but requires knowledge about pragmatic as well.

C. Limitation of the Problem

The scope of this study covers is sociopragmatic, because Class is a social scope consisting of a large number of people and sociopragmatic also deals with language in relation to society. To limit the research, the writer only discusses the strategies that people use in refusing. Furthermore, the writer also limits the subjects 25 students from the Students of MA AL_MIZAN Pandeglang. The Data were analyzed using pragmatic theory in terms of the direct and indirect strategies used to express refusals. The refusals were then classified into direct and indirect strategies proposed by Felix-Brasdefer.

D. Statement of The Problem

In this study, the writer intends to find out the preferred strategies which are used by students of second grade MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang in expressing their refusals in English Speaking Class. In order to answer, the following are the research questions to find out the preferred strategies:

1) What are the Refusal Strategies most frequently used by students in refusal's response at the second grade of MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang?

2) What are the factors influnced those different refusal strategies used by student at the second grade of MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang ?

E. Objectives of the Study

There are several objectives in conducting this research. Those objectives are stated as follows:

1) To Analyze the refusals strategies most frequently used by students when they refuse at the second grade of MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang.

2) To Investigate the factors that influenced refusal strategies used by students at the second grade of MA AL-MIZAN Pandeglang.

F. Significance of The Study

After conducting the Study, hopefully will be usefull for :

1. **Teachers**

The Researcher hopes this study will be useful for teachers as educators and facilitators to more understand the character of their students in expressing refusal strategy.

2. **Students**

This study is expected to be useful for students to prefer use a good and appropriate refusal strategy, as we know that rejection is an expression that is very unpleasant and not liked by everyone.

3. **Researcher**

To enrich the Researcher's knowledge about refusal strategy.

G. Previous Study

There are many studies from refusal strategy :

1. One of them is conducted by Hiroko Tsuiki Moaveni about the ***Refusal strategies used by American and international students at an American University***. The main objective of this study is to investigate the difference in refusal strategies between american and international college students as well as gender variation. Using a written Discourse Completion Task, six situation were developed and grouped in two stimulus types eliciting refusals to an invitation and request. The result of this study suggest that when using email, all group demonstrated preference for direct refusal. American females preferred expression of gratitude and stating positive opinion, whereas American male provide reason and alternative.

2. Fajar Priyambada Setiono shows in his study about ***English Refusal Strategies by English Department students of Universitas Gadjah Mada to English Native speaker's Request***. The data of this research were taken through DCT (Discourse completion test). The result shows that in expressing refusals in english, the students tended to make an apology, then explained their reason for why they could not fulfill the request proposed by the natives.

3. The last is ***Refusal Strategies In English Speech*** created by Yuliyani Kusuma Putri in her Thesis. The objectives of this study are to find out and explain types of refusal classification, refusal strategies, and refusal process. This study uses qualitative descriptive method, the researchers

chooses document analysis research technique in analyzing data. The researches describe and analyzes utterances which are uttered by the characters from Ugly Betty serials based on the theory Beebe, Gass and Houck.

H. Organization of Writing

In this study, The Researcher Divided into five chapter to more comprehend. The followings are :

Chapter 1 is introduction. In this chapter consist of the background of study, the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significant of the study, the limitation of the study, and the writing organization.

Chapter 2 is the literature review. This chapter discusses about theoretical framework that the first consist of the Pragmatic theory, speech act, Speech Event, Refusal, Classification of Refusal, and Refusal Strategies.

Chapter 3 discusses about research Methodology. Which consists of method of the research, place and time, the sample, instrument of the research, technique of data collecting and data analyzing.

Chapter 4 is Findings and discussion. It consists data description that writer describes the research data and data analysis that she also finds out the result of the research.

chapter 5 discusses about conclusion ad suggestions. that are completed by bibliography and appendices.