



The Realization of Leech Politeness Maxims Between the Host and His Guests' Interaction in Jimmy Kimel Talk Show

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Abstract

This study is conducted to determine the realization of the politeness maxim using Leech's (2014) theory of politeness on Jimmy Kimmel Talk show. There are two categories of politeness maxims namely pos-politeness maxim and neg-politeness maxim. Additionally, pos-politeness maxims consist of generosity, approbation, obligation S to O, agreement, and sympathy. Meanwhile, neg-politeness maxims consist of tact, modesty, obligation O to S, opinion reticence, and feeling reticence. This study employed a descriptive qualitative method in the form of pragmatic analysis to examine four episodes from the utterances between the host and his guest stars' interactions. The classifications of utterances were analyzed and classified based on (Bogdan & Biklen, 2007). The findings of this study show that the host and his guest stars employ all pos-politeness and neg-politeness maxims during their interactions. Both the host and his guest stars employed tact (28.63%), opinion reticence (17.34%), agreement (14.54%), generosity (14.11%), approbation (9.27%), sympathy (4.03%), obligation S to O (4.03%), modesty (4.03%), feeling reticence (2.42%), and obligation O to S 4 utterances (2%).

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INTRODUCTION

Communication is a tool for people to convey their ideas, thoughts, and emotions in society and it includes the use of signs (Santoso & Nuraini, 2021). Oral and written interactions between speakers and hearers carrying linguistic symbols to transmit meaning can be divided into two categories. When people understand one another and give and receive feedback, communication is successful. It may carry implicit meaning, or it just intends to be taken literally without any other intention.

Being polite is a way to soften the meaning of communication and a way to demonstrate awareness of another person's face (Yule & Stalnaker, 1996). Communication is a necessity for both understanding meaning and interacting. However, someone can miscommunicate or misinterpret a conversation during the interaction. Each sentence's meaning must be clear to the listeners. Maintaining good relationships with others requires the use of politeness technique during communication, whether in a formal or informal situation (Black & Barron, 2018). Good communication is also important for politicians to win voters during electing days (Grebelsky-Lichtman & Katz, 2019). Politicians must choose their words carefully during campaigns because it could influence how many voters they receive.

Maintaining a positive relationship between students and their teachers or lecturers requires an importance on politeness. Farida and Yuliana (2019), and Flores-salgado and Castineira-benitez (2018) investigated the methods of communication between students and their teachers. These studies analyzed the use of politeness strategies in the request part of teachers' and students' interactions.

The previous studies on the use of politeness in interpersonal communication has been conducted by Wang and Taylor (2019); Caballero et al., (2018); and Beeching (2019). Those studies were concerned about the use of interpersonal communication among Europeans to employ impoliteness. These studies discovered that mock sarcasm was frequently employed. Meanwhile, the study of impoliteness is also conducted by Fukushima and Haugh (2014). In that study, they

examined impoliteness strategies in Taiwanese and Japanese with two different generations.

Previous research on politeness in movies has been conducted by Aristyanti et al., (2020); Syafitri et al., (2016); Mu (2015); and Omar (2021). These studies were concerned about the use of the utterances among the characters in the movie. Similar to this study, the realization of politeness in talks show was also conducted by Ruansyah and Rukmini (2018); and Dharmayanti et al., (2018). Both studies examined the same talk show namely Ellen DeGeneres talk show and the analysis of the host and guest stars' utterances revealed four types of politeness strategies.

METHOD

This study designed a descriptive qualitative method which is in the form of pragmatics analysis. Descriptive qualitative is a type of qualitative research in which data collection is not an experiment, and the researcher writes down the interpretation data (Creswell, 2012). This research is aimed to find out the realization of politeness strategies by the host and his guest stars.

The subjects of this study were videos conversation between the host and the guest stars in Jimmy Kimmel Talk Show. The videos of Jimmy Kimmel were limit into four videos with different guest stars. Each guest star had various backgrounds such as an actress, a former the first lady of the United States, a singer, and a news anchor. Meanwhile, the objects of the study were taken from the utterances between the host and his guest stars. The utterances referred to a product of human language in interaction, such as a string of grammatically structured sounds in a language (Croft, 2001). The data of the utterances were analyzed and classified based on the category by Bogdan and Biklen (2007).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Politeness is a guide of social interaction and communication in order that individuals are able to engage and maintain positive social relationship (Santoso & Nuraini, 2021). Politeness deals with self-oriented and others-oriented. Self is represented as a speaker and other is represented as hearer (Leech, 2014). Additionally, he proposes

some types of politeness maxims such as pos-politeness maxim and neg-politeness maxim. Based on the analysis, the data were taken from the utterances between the host and his guest stars in which those data are realized in chart 1:

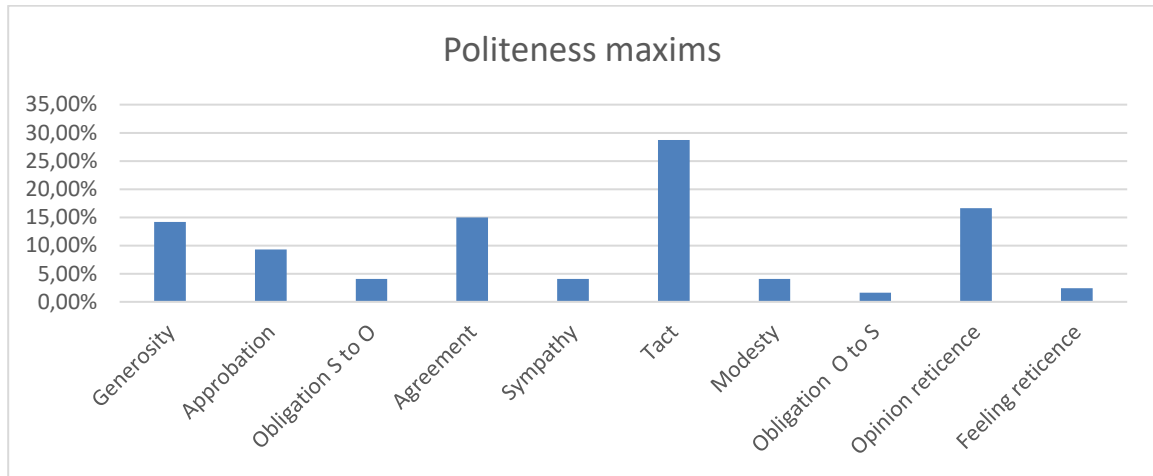


Chart 1: The identification of politeness maxims

The chart of the findings shows that tact maxim 71 utterances (28.63%) as the most frequently used followed by opinion reticence 43 utterances (17.34%), agreement maxim 36 utterances (14.54%), generosity maxim 35 utterances (14.11%), approbation maxim 23 utterances (9.27%), sympathy maxim 10 utterances (4.03%), obligation S to O maxim 10 utterances (4.03%), modesty maxim 10 utterances (4.03%), feeling reticence 6 utterances (2.42%), and obligation O to S 4 utterances (2%).

Generosity maxim, approbation maxim, obligation S to O maxim, agreement maxim and sympathy maxim are classified into pos-politeness maxim. On the other hand, tact maxim, modesty maxim, obligation O to S, opinion reticence maxim, and feeling reticence maxim are classified into neg-politeness maxim. Furthermore, for detailed explanations of pos-politeness and neg-politeness the researcher will elaborate in the following sections.

Generosity maxim

Speech events like invitations, promises, and offers are conceived of as maxims of generosity. The aim of generosity maxim is to maximize hearer benefit. There speech events comprise the generosity maxim, and during each one, speakers try to accomplish a variety of goals that will be helpful to audience. An invitation is a gesture of

offer made within a context of friendliness. Invitations could be for a meal, a party, a stay at speaker’s house or something else.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	122	Could I mix this with tequila?
GP	123	sure okay

In the excerpt 1, the host asked the guest star to combine tequila and the super drinking cleanse. The guest star gave him permission to drink tequila and the supplement. The host also said, “Could I mix this with tequila?”. The word “this” referred to drinking supplement and he offers to mix it with tequila. In light of the host’s perspective, it might be more drinkable.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
GP	98	I had to pull the car door open and barf on the street.
JK	99	and did you finish it with a middle of finger?
GP	100	always
JK	101	That’s why I do all my drinking in the shower. um we we will be right back with Gwyneth Paltrow.

The second excerpt was taken from Jimmy Kimmel with Gwyneth Paltrow. In this episode, when the host asked her about her experience

barfing in public area, she explained narrated the event to him and gave the middle finger to signify completion. The host uttered “We will right back with Gwyneth Paltrow” after hearing her story of barfing in public place. After commercial break the host promised to continue the show.

Approbation maxim

A compliment is a kind of word or expression which places the spotlight on someone else rather than the speakers. It is the scope of approbation maxim. Giving someone compliment is a way to express your respect or gratitude. It may be presented to somebody in appreciation of their good looks, actions, achievements, or other favorable traits. Additionally, approbation maxim places high value to hearer’s quality.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
SH	257	Yeah, well good luck homie because you know valentine's come every year. So, I don't know I don't know if you know how this works or not but I don't know but good luck partner.
	258	It was really nice what he did you know.
	259	I'm happy for him he's a great guy. I met his father. Uh that was a lot that was a lot.
JK	260	Do you think it's a good idea for someone who's dating one of your daughters to read your relationship book?

In the excerpt 1, it was mentioned that Steve Harvey complimented someone who had dated one of his daughters. A man named Michael B. Jordan dated Steve’s daughter.” He uttered “nice and great” to praise him. He employed the adjectives “nice and great” to characterize his personality. These terms are categorized as adjectives words.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	516	That is my dad and this is no joke this is not something he's done for effect. He is a very big fan of yours.
	517	He informed me of this about a year ago in fact he texted this to me heard my bud post is on the show tomorrow say hi for me just listening to circles.
PM	518	What a legend! Yes sir. He's a badass. My dad's a big fan of yours as well.

The host mentioned to Post Malone as his guest star in excerpt 2 how much his father admired him as his idol. The guest star responded to the host’s father by uttering “what a legend!”. The utterance “what a legend!” was employed to praise the fans of the guest star even though the fan was older than the idol.

Obligation S to O maxim

This speech event deals with apologizing and thanking. Expressing regret for past action is the act of apologizing. It is a way for admitting that you were wrong. Conversely, saying “thank you” is an act of showing gratitude for something you have received from someone. It is an expression of gratitude for other people’s kindness and gesture of appreciation for their actions. Thanking others improves communication between speaker and hearer and preserves positive relationship.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	625	All right, I'm hoping don't worry. If you get a visit from the authorities, just call my dad and he'll help you out.
PM	626	Hehehe, thank you so much. I'm happy I got you

In the excerpt 1, the guest star expressed thanking to the host. The host advised assisting him by calling the host’s father in case the authority showed up at the guest star’s home. Additionally, the utterance “just call my dad” was also employed as an imperative. The phrase “thank you so much” uttered by the guest star was the expression of thanking and it was a part of obligation S to O maxim.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	629	Hollywood's bleeding is the album. It is out now and you can see the bud light seltzer session presents New Year's Eve 2021 December 31st live streaming on Instagram Facebook twitter and YouTube Post Malone everybody
PM	630	Thanks man

In the excerpt 2, the host informed the audiences that the guest star's new album would be broadcasted on social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. The guest star replied, "Thanks, man" to show his appreciation. It indicated that the utterance gave high value to S's obligation to O.

Agreement maxim

Hearers frequently disagree with speakers during conversations about social interaction. Agreement maxim takes place when speakers offer their ideas and the response is either agree or disagree.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
PM	550	Yeah, so we get up get out of bed go straight to Costco. I got my membership card.
	551	It's the worst picture on the back. I've ever seen but it's a beautiful place like heaven
JK	552	It is. I I could not possibly agree with you more.

The discussion in excerpt 1 referred to Costco as a lovely place. The utterance "I could not possibly agree with you more" intended that the host agree with the guest star's statement regarding Costco. The response "it is" was an agreement then the host gave additional response by uttering "I could not possibly agree with you more". There was unanimous agreement about how lovely Costco was in relation to both speakers.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
PM	567	Yeah, he's he's the biggest buffest dentist I've ever seen in my entire life. It's mind-blowing
JK	568	I agree with you

In the excerpt 2, the guest star praised his dentist because he had never ever in his life encountered a dentist with such biggest buffest. The presenter said "I agree with you" which meant that he agreed with the guest star's opinion of his dentist. The term "agree" in this usage conveyed an agreement between the host and the guest star.

Sympathy maxim

We frequently express our sympathy to others when we are interacting with them. Sympathy is an act of showing care or empathy for others. This mean that people employ language to show care, or support for the ideas and feelings of other in order to develop a social relationship. Additionally, sympathy maxim includes speech event like congratulating, wishing, welcoming, and condolence.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	2	Hello Gwyneth how are you?
GP	3	I'm good. You made me laugh already

In the excerpt 1, the host expressed greeting about the guest star's wellness in the opening talk show by asking "how are you?". This statement was seen as a greeting and suggested that the host was feeling sympathy for his guest. The guest said, "I am good," after that she continued by saying "you made me laugh already". It reflected because the host performance in the opening show.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	628	Have a great day. Have a great Christmas.
	629	Hollywood's bleeding is the album. It is out now and you can see the bud light seltzer session presents New Year's Eve 2021 December 31st live streaming on Instagram Facebook twitter and YouTube Post Malone everybody
	630	Thanks man
PM	631	Thanks jimmy

In the excerpt 2, the host expressed two good wishes to his guest. Good wishes expressions were categorized as sympathy maxim. The host wished his guest a wonderful day and a wonderful Christmas by saying, "Have a great day and have a great Christmas." These showed his concern for the guest's happiness.

Tact maxim

Tact maxim associates with neg-politeness. This maxim emphasizes on speech events with directive. Directives themselves have number of strategies. Direct, off-record indirect strategies, and on-record indirect strategies are those strategies used in tact maxim.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	314	It gave me license to have a messy and disorganized office because my wife upset.
MO	315	Was it like that before?
JK	316	It's a disaster but now I feel like, the president does that too.
MO	317	Good. Clean up your office.

Michelle as a guest star expressed the utterance "Good. Clean up your office." and it was an imperative sentence. An imperative sentence was employed to prompt someone to accomplish something. Because her husband office was messy and disorganized, she in this case ordered him to tidy up his office.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	623	Are you able to get the real bud light or do you have to drink the Utah version of bud light?
PM	624	Hehe well whatever i can't get here. I can smuggle it from Wyoming

In the excerpt 2, the host and his guest discussed about real bud light. His guest replied, "I can smuggle it from Wyoming". This utterance which served as directive as well and it was a element of ability statement. A statement of ability, as opposed to an imperative, may not immediately impose the speaker's will on the hearer. The modal "can" was an essential tool for communicating.

Modesty maxim

This maxim contributes to politeness by encouraging people to minimize their own achievements or status in order to avoid appearing arrogant and big-headed. In this maxim, self-devaluation is the speech event.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	149	Are you at home right now?
SH	150	Yeah, everybody is at home except you.
	151	I am a man cave and you know because you know the pandemic. I gotta do my radio show from home right now.

In the excerpt 1, the host asked the position of his guest star. The guest star answered at home like everybody else except for the host and he continued by uttering "I am a man cave". That utterance was self-deprecating, indicating that he stayed at home like others during the pandemic.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	308	What is he doing?
MO	309	My husband?
JK	310	Yess.
MO	311	Oh, he's probably in his hole in our new house.
JK	312	In his office?
MO	313	Yes, writing. He's working on his book.

In the second excerpt, the host questioned about the husband of his guest. She replied, “he is probably in his hole in our new house”. The phrase “in his hole” in this sentence was a part of self-devaluation because she was picturing his workplace in her new home. Her husband “Obama” currently stayed in his office for writing his own book.

Obligation O to S maxim

Obligation O to S maxim attempts an effort to respond to the expressions of thanking and apologizing. This maxim aligns well with obligation S to O maxim. The answer of thanking and apologizing are intended to manage face and avoid threatening face of others.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	288	Well, Steve I always love having you on. It's great to see you. Thanks for being with us Steve on watch comes back with new episode on Facebook watching later this year. Steve Harvey everybody.
SH	289	Thank you, Jimmy. Thanks man

The host expressed gratitude to his guest star for appearing on this episode of the show in excerpt 1. He was thanking his guest when he said, “thanks for being with us.” That utterance indicated thanking statement to his guest. Steve as his guest on this show answered by saying “thank you Jimmy. Thanks man.” These utterances demonstrated respect for others while also expressing an appreciation for the host’s statement.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
GP	139	Never I would never I would never breach anyone's privacy ever
JK	140	Okay good. Thank you very much. Gwyneth Paltrow everybody.
GP	141	Thanks for having me

In the excerpt 2, the host uttered thanking to his guest for appearing on this episode of his show. He expressed his gratitude to his guest by saying, “thank you very much.” As his guest on this episode, Gwyneth Paltrow replied, “Thanks for

having me.” The utterances demonstrated respect for other people and suggested that the speaker was thanking the host for their kindness.

Opinion reticence maxim

Opinion reticence maxim refers to the act of using a hedge to soften someone’s opinion or thought. The hedge may be used to avoid inconsistencies and provide high value to the hearer. Hedge words like “I think,” “I guess,” and “I do not suppose” can make someone perceive you as being more polite.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	260	Do you think it's a good idea for someone who's dating one of your daughters to read your relationship book?
SH	261	I think it's better if my daughters can make decisions on their own.
	262	I'm just happy that I can at least one.

In the excerpt 1, the host questioned his guest about a man who had read his book relationship. The guest replied to let that he would let his daughter to make her own decision about her romance. The utterance “I think” indicated utilizing the hedge of opinion reticence maxim.

Excerpt 2

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	32	And how's that going? Are who's taking it the worst this being cooped up?
GP	33	I think Moses my 14 years old son is having the hardest time with it. He, I mean what's great is that he's a skateboarder so he can do a lot of just like solo outside exercise and work on skills and tricks and stuff like that.

In the excerpt 2, the guest star uttered her opinion about her son “Moses,” who turned 14 years old and she acted as though she was letting him out and doing as he pleased. She had a faith in her son’s ability to exercise and work hard for himself. She also believed her son could pick up some skills and tricks in skateboarding.

Feeling reticence maxim

Feeling reticence maxim endeavors to convey their emotions to other unhappy individuals. People have an occasional tendency to express their negative emotions to others.

Excerpt 1

Speakers	No. of data	Utterances
JK	10	How did you celebrate New Year's Eve, did you?
GP	11	Oh my god. We are so pathetic. I think I was asleep by 9 or 10.

In the excerpt 1, the host questioned about the host's New Year Eve activities. She replied, "Oh my God. We are so pathetic. I think I was asleep by 9 or 10." She expressed the utterance "so pathetic" to describe her disappointment at not being able to celebrate new year like other people.

CONCLUSION

The result of this research demonstrates that the host and his guest stars employ all politeness maxim, whether those are pos-politeness maxims or neg-politeness maxims. In this study, the most frequently used of politeness maxim is tact maxim, which may be influenced by the many types of tact maxims. In addition, the use of Leech's theory by future researchers is still novel, and it is still rarely employed to examine politeness education, movie or even in talk show.

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