

AN INVESTIGATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN'S POLITENESS PRINCIPLE

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Abstract

Politeness principle is part of pragmatics study, and it takes place as the youngest in a branch of linguistics. By the time children's politeness getting lesser because of the lack on parental guidance and assistance to the children on the use of smart phones, television program and through internet. Children on preoperational phase of 2-7 years of age need assistance and also emphasized on politeness compensation from their parents. This study uses qualitative descriptive method supported by distributing questionnaires and interview as an instrument to collect data and will be used as a main data. Samples were children 2-7 years old who are in school Yayasan Bina Amal at Jl. Kyai Saleh No. 8 Mugassari Semarang. They are students who are in Kindergarten and Primary school 1. Stage activities are starting with the implementation of the pre field, field, analysis and preparation of reports. The purpose of this study is to see the extent to which children in the age in politeness compensation preoperational as the development of pragmatic science studies. The result is the use Leech politeness principle got quite fulfilled. Discretion maxim usage among others (12%), politeness maxim (10%), praise maxim (20%), modesty maxim (18%), loyalty maxim (20%), sympathy maxim (20%). In addition to the percentage of the use in maxim, the closeness between mother and child greatly affect in parenting and the impact on the ability to perform speech.

Keywords: pragmatics, politeness, preoperational, early childhood

Introduction

The study of speaker meaning, context meaning, and utterance meaning is separated from the branches of linguistic science and commonly called by Pragmatics. Purwo (1990, p. 16) defines pragmatics as a study of utterance meaning through context-bound meanings. While treating the language pragmatically by considering its context and communication usage. Purwo, (1990, p. 31). The essence of communication is the existence of a language with main purpose where the message can be conveyed by the speaker and understood by the addressee without reducing or exaggerating the contents of the message. Language is an arbitrary and conventional system of symbolic sounds and articulated (generated by speech) instruments used as a means of communicating by a group of humans to express feelings and thoughts Wibowo (2001).

Another opinion is also expressed by Keraf Smarapradhipa (2005) which suggests that language as a means of communication between people or group of people in the form of sound symbols produced by the tools of human speech. Moreover language as well as a communication system that uses vowel symbols (speech sound) Arbitrary. From some opinions that have been exposed can be concluded that the role of language is vital in achieving complete communication.

Language and pragmatics are linked each other because pragmatics is the study of speech itself while language produces a speech that produces meaning. From daily conversations there are many kinds of variations in speech either in formative, declarative, or other types of speech. The pragmatic study includes deixes, presuppositions, speech acts, and implicatures so that conversations that can be used every day can be used as research study materials.

Naturally language are obtained by humans since they were being born in the world. According to some experts language acquisition divided into 4 phases. The first is the motor sensory phase, occurring at the age of 0 to 2 years. The second is the preoperational phase, occurring at the age of 2 to 7 years, the third is a concrete operational phase, aged 7 to 12 years. And the last is the formal operational phase, occurring at the age of 12 to 18 years. Of the four phases, the second stage is very important to do guidance and mentoring because the child has not been able to fully use the rules of language and children are in the golden age which of course parents will give the best at that time.

Pragmatic has several sub-discussion such as maxim, deixes, cooperative principle and politeness principle. In correlation with the second phase language acquisition named preoperational phase, The children who are in the golden age need to be given knowledge, guidance, and appropriate model from their parents such as from daily conversations, good habits and the implementation of politeness principle. There are so many bad influences for children coming from internal and external factors then resulting wrong parenting. At this time clearly shown from the way how children interact to parents and their friends, there were less politeness. That is why parents, teachers and the environmental should concern to create positive conditions based on politeness principle.

The main problems of research are: 1. What kind of politeness principle appear in preoperational phase? And 2. How parents overcome to the violation in their children politeness?

Pragmatics

Pragmatics is the youngest field of study after, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantic. This branch of science was introduced by a philosopher named Charles Morris. Pragmatics is the study of sign relationships with those who interpret the

sign (Morris, 1938, p. 6 in Levinson, 1997, p. 1). Some pragmatic experts define different terms, such as Pragmatics definition from Geoffrey Leech (1993, p. 8) is the science of intent in relation to speech situations (speech situation). The process of speech acts is determined by the context that accompanies a speech. In this case Leech calls it with aspects of speech situations, among others.

Politeness Principle

Politeness can be said as a tool used to show awareness about the face of others, in the form of personal person in society that produces threatening face (Brown and Levinson, p. 1987) another opinion also expressed by Wijana (1996) revealed that pragmatic science is a branch of languages science that examine the meanings of lingual units externally.

Maxims in Politeness Principle

The politeness principle has several maxims: maxim wisdom (tact maxim), maxim of generosity maxim, maximal acceptability, maximal modesty, maxim agreement, and maxim of sympathy maxim. The principle of modesty is related to two participants of the conversation, namely self (self) and others (other). The self is the speaker, and the other person is the opponent of speech (Wijana, 1996). There are several forms of speech used to express the above maxims. The form of speech in question is a form of speech impositive, commissive, expressive, and assertive. The form of komisif speech is a form of speech that serves to express a promise or offer. The probability is the utterance used to declare a command or order. Expressive expression is the utterance used to express the speaker's psychological attitude to a situation. Assertive assertion is a common utterance used to express the truth of the proposition expressed.

1. Tact Maxim

This maxim is expressed in the letters of impositive and commissive. This

Maxim outlines every participant in the narrative to minimize other people's losses or maximize profits for others. In this case, Leech in Wijana (1996) says that the longer a person's speech the greater the person's desire to be polite to the other person. Similarly, speech expressed indirectly is usually more polite than the spoken words directly.

2. Generosity Maxim

Generosity Maxim mention that speaker's participants to maximize respect for others, and minimize disrespect to others.

3. Approbation Maxim

Approbation Maxim is expressed with commissive and impositive sentences. This maxim requires each speech-participant to maximize the loss for himself, and minimize his own advantage.

4. Modesty Maxim

Modesty Maxim is self-centered. This maxim requires every participant to maximize self-respect, and minimize self-respect.

5. Agreement Maxim.

Agreement Maxim mention that speaker and hearer to maximize their compatibility, and minimize incompatibility between them.

6. Sympathy Maxim

This maxim is expressed by assertive and expressive speech. Sympathy Maxim requires every participant to maximize sympathy, and minimize the sense of antipathy to the hearer. If the hearer speaks for success or happiness, the speaker is obliged to give congratulations. When the hearer said to get distress, or misfortune speakers deserve grief, or expressed condolences as a sign of inferiority.

Methodology

This study uses qualitative descriptive method supported by distributing

questionnaires and interview as an instrument to collect data and will be used as a main data. Samples were children 2-7 years old who are in school Yayasan Bina Amal at Jl. Kyai Saleh No. 8 Mugassari Semarang. They are students who are in Kindergarten and Primary school.

Findings and Discussion

Pragmatics learns about how human language is used and determining by context society with some condition. In other word pragmatics also discussing about speaker meaning, contextual meaning, principle and expression. politeness principle is is part of the language learning process as children interact with friends, parents and teachers. Giving model of politeness must be taught from an early age, starting from simple things like greeting, asking permission and saying sorry. As good parents, right manner in politeness is not only from school's responsibility, but also to synergize with parents. politeness principle is is part of the language learning process as children interact with friends, parents and teachers.

Tact Maxim minimize costs to others and maximize profits on the other. Through children's habits by saying goodbye before leaving home and coming back home from school. Greeting to other friends, parents and teacher are also take the tact maxim. The following are the example:

"Zinzo I have to go school now ma, Assalamualaikum."

Every child almost always greets to their parents wherever they will go, because this behavior has been taught both from their parents and from their school. How important are permission and greetings when children going out and go back to home. Habitual greetings are also required to use while entering in class, meet their teachers, an their friends.

Generosity maxim will maximize profit on others. One of the example is when classmates forget to bring lunch they will sincerely share their lunch. How noble the attitude of these children, they will easily

help to other friends. Examples are as follows:

- A : Let's break, buying snack
B : I don not have money, my mother did not give me money
A : Come on we buy with my money
B : Thank you

On the dialogue above shows generosity between two friends. When one of their friends does not carry an allowance the other friend is willing to share.

Approbation maxim is maximize praise to others. But in this research finding includes the violation of approbation. Shows by children when buying toys, snacks outside their usually calling the seller with "Lik" not Pak / Bu. Though it should be called as mas, pak, or bu for more respect.

Agreement Maxim minimize disagreement with oneself and maximize compatibility with others. It appears when children struggle to get toys with other and his friend admite to another.

Sympathy maxim minimize anticipation between self and others and maximizethe sympathy between oneself with others. Described by the children when one friend won competition and other give congratulation.

Modesty maxim minimize self-esteem and maximize praise to others. Children never show their new thing such as new bag or shoes to other.

Conclusion

The result is the use Leech politeness principle got quite fulfilled. Discretion maxim usage among others (12%), politeness maxim (10%), praise maxim (20%), modesty maxim (18%), loyalty maxim (20%), sympathy maxim (20%). In addition to the percentage of the use in maxim, the closeness between mother and child greatly affect in parenting and the impact on the ability to perform speech.

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