

POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN DAISY'S UTTERANCES IN *THE GREAT GATSBY* NOVEL BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

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ABSTRAK

Teori kesopanan digunakan dalam percakapan sehari-hari untuk menghindari adanya kesalahpahaman dalam komunikasi. Dalam teori ini ada beberapa macam strategi yang bisa digunakan untuk mengungkapkan sesuatu maksud tertentu. Salah satu karakter yang menonjol dalam novel yang ditulis F. Scott Fitzgerald ini adalah perempuan bernama Daisy. Beberapa ucapan Daisy dalam novel *The Great Gatsby* ini mengandung strategi kesopanan. Penulis memilih karakter Daisy karena ia memiliki kepribadian yang unik. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui kegunaan strategi kesopanan dan sebab ia menggunakannya.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif yang sistematis dan akurat. Dalam pengumpulan data, penulis menggunakan Simak Bebas Lihat Cakap karena penulis hanya membaca novel tanpa terlibat dalam penulisan novel tersebut. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan *taking note* pada setiap kalimat yang diucapkan Daisy dalam novel tersebut.

Hasil penelitian ini adalah sebagian besar ucapan Daisy menggunakan strategi kesopanan, yaitu *social distance*, *social closeness*, *bald on record*, *off record*, *face threatening act*, *face saving act*, *positive politeness*, *negative politeness* dan *pre-sequences*. Ia menggunakan strategi kesopanan berdasarkan pada keadaan sosial dari lawan bicaranya.

Kata kunci : teori kesopanan, novel, kesopanan positif dan negatif

Introduction

The Great Gatsby is a 1925 novel written by American author F. Scott Fitzgerald that is to tell the reader about some characters living in the fictional town of West Egg in 1922. The story tells about the young and mysterious millionaire, Jay Gatsby, and his obsession for

the beautiful and rich woman, Daisy Buchanan. The theme of *The Great Gatsby* novel is idealism, resistance to change, social problems, and the potrait of reaching American Dream.

In this research, the writer analyzes the kind of politeness strategies on *The Great Gatsby* novel. The novel tells about a very complicated love story, rich people, American life style in 1920 and also the culture of America in that time. The main character is Jay Gatsby and the supporting character is Daisy Buchanan. Daisy becomes the object of the analysis because she has very important role in this novel. Besides, Daisy has her own characteristics, such as rashly taking a decision, quite, shy and honest.

The writer would analyze Daisy's utterances in the novel that show politeness strategies theory because in America in 1920, what and how women say are really organized. Furthermore, there are big differences in what women say and what men say. There are some words that women cannot use it and there are certain expressions that only men can use it. This research will focus on that situation. So, the reader will know that certain politeness strategies can represent someone's characteristic and the writer hopes that this research will be useful for the reader about the use of politeness strategies, especially for women. The purposes of this research are to find out the politeness strategies which are used by Daisy Buchanan and explain why she used those politeness strategies.

Methodology

This research is a descriptive qualitative research because the purpose is to describe systematically the facts and characteristics of a given population or an area of interest, factually and accurately (Isaac and friends, 1987: 42). The utterances which consist of politeness strategies by Daisy Buchanan in *The Great Gatsby* novel are the samples of this research. Those utterances are collected using purposive sampling method because the writer collects the data based on certain purposes. The writer uses *Simak Bebas Lihat Cakap* method because the writer only read the novel without participate in writing the novel. (Sudaryanto, 1993: 133) The writer also uses note taking technique after reading the novel, so that the writer is easier to analyze the data. In analyzing the data, the writer uses *Padan Pragmatic* method because the determiner instruments are outside of the language, which are the speaker and the hearer, not a part of it (Sudaryanto, 1993: 26). Moreover, the writer uses *Agih Translational* method because the data in this research is the language itself.

Data Analysis

Social Closeness

Daisy: Here, dearis. (she groped around in a waste-basket she had with her on the bed and pulled out the string of pearls) Take 'em downstairs and give 'em back to whoever they belong to. Tell 'em all Daisy's change' her mine. Say 'Daisy's change' her mine!'.

In those utterances, Daisy said to Nick Carraway, who is her relative and they are in the same age. Considering this situation, Daisy could say to Nick using informal language. So, there is no social distance between them. In this case, Daisy showed positive politeness because there is a relationship and no distance. Moreover Daisy expressed negative face because she wanted the other person to know what she desired.

Daisy: Come back in an hour, Ferdie.

In the sentence above, Daisy said to her chauffeur named Ferdie whose age is older than Daisy. Eventhough there is distance or deference between them, in this case is the age, Daisy asked Ferdie using less polite sentence. Daisy did not using 'please' terms in her utterance. 'Please' is usually used by someone to show respect to the others because there is social distance. Here, Daisy did not use polite terms because in fact, Ferdie is her chauffeur which is the social status is under Daisy who is his employer. So, Daisy chose to use impolite utterance.

Daisy: Is this absolutely where you live, my dearest one?

In the utterance above, Daisy used address form. It shows that Daisy has a relationship with the one she was talking to, here, it was Gatsby. The address form is enough to show the closeness between Daisy and Gatsby.

Social Distance

Daisy: Did we interrupt your exercises?

Daisy said the question politely to Mr. Klipspringer who is a boarder in Jay Gatsby's mansion and sometimes he plays the piano. She just met Mr. Klipspringer for te first time when she asked that question. So, Daisy used polite expression because she gave her respect to him.

Daisy : I will. Good night, Mr. Carraway. See you anon.

In that utterance, Daisy chose to use address term 'Mr.' to Nick even though Nick has the same age and social status with Daisy. She aims for respecting Nick Carraway.

Bald On Record

Daisy: Come here QUICK!

Daisy asked Gatsby to come to her as quick as possible and without any polite expression. She thinks that she really knows Gatsby and they have special relationship. So here, polite expression is not needed because there is no distance between them and this utterance can be concluded as bald on record regarding Daisy used imperative sentence.

Daisy: Open another window.

In that utterance, Daisy asked someone directly to open the other window. This act is called bald on record. This imperative form of sentence is interpreted as a command. Such direct command as a bald on record expression is considered appropriate among social equals. It means that there is no distance.

Daisy: Open the whiskey, Tom. And I'll make you a mint julep. Then you won't seem so stupid to yourself... Look at the mint!

Daisy asks to Tom Buchanan to open the whiskey. She doesn't use polite expression to ask him because Tom is her husband.

Tom Buchanan : Mr. Gatsby! I'm glad to see you, sir... Nick...

Daisy : Make us a cold drink.

In the conversation above, it can be seen that Tom is greeting Gatsby and Nick Carraway, but Daisy straightaway orders Tom to make her a drink whereas he have not been talking to Gatsby and Nick. Same with the previous conversations, Daisy uses imperative sentences without polite expression.

Off Record

Daisy: To be continued in our very next issue. Ten o'clock. Time for this good girl to go to bed.

That utterance was said when Daisy was with Nick Carraway. They were having a long conversation before finally ended up when Daisy needed to take her daughter to bed.

Instead of asking Nick to go, Daisy was using a phrase 'to be continued'. It means that Daisy wants to end the conversation and they will continue when they meet again.

Nick Carraway: Don't bring Tom.

Daisy: What?

Nick Carraway: Don't bring Tom.

Daisy: Who is 'Tom'?

In those conversation, Nick were having a call with Daisy and informed Daisy to come to Gatsby house to have some tea. Nick asked Daisy not to come with Tom because Gatsby wanted to meet Daisy alone and had a good quality time after the very long time they hadn't met. In answering Nick's demand, she did not use 'okay', 'yes' or the other words to obey it, but she used 'Who is Tom?' which means she will not bring Tom with her.

Face Threatening Acts

Gatsby : I told you I went there.

Tom Buchanan : I heard you, but I want to know when.

Gatsby : It was nineteen-nineteen, I only stayed five months.

Tom Buchanan : It was an opportunity they gave to some of the officers after the Armistice. We could go to any of the universities in England or France.

Daisy : Open the whiskey, Tom. And I'll make you a mint julep. Then you won't seem so stupid to yourself... Look at the mint!

The conversation happened when Gatsby, Tom, Daisy, Nick and Jordan were in the same room. Tom who hates Gatsby because Gatsby has an affair with Daisy, felt curious about what Gatsby's education background is. So, Tom asked Gatsby the detail about his education. Knowing Gatsby in difficult situation because of Tom's question, Daisy was infuriated at Tom's attitude and she is sort of switching the conversation.

Face Saving Acts

Tom Buchanan : I'd like to know who he is and what he does and I think I'll make a point of finding out.

Daisy : I can tell you right now. He owned some drug stores, a lot of drug stores. He built them up himself. (go away)

The conversation above contains face saving act. In this case, Tom as the speaker and daisy as the hearer. Tom threatened Gatsby's face by saying that he will find out who is Jay Gatsby and what Gatsby really does for living. Daisy actually did not want Tom to

investigate Jay Gatsby. She did not want know the fact who is Gatsby before he became rich and how he got the wealth by saying that Gatsby owned a lot of drug stores. So, in this conversation Daisy saved Gatsby's face and after saying that, Daisy went away and left Tom Buchanan. It proves that Daisy does not want to follow Tom's desire and does not care about what Tom's feeling.

Daisy : Where are we going?
Tom Buchanan : How about the movies?
Daisy : It's so hot. You go. We'll ride around and meet you after.

There is face saving act in the conversation above. This conversation happens before they go. Daisy is in the car with Gatsby, while Tom is in another car with Nick and Jordan. By using the reason "It's so hot.", Daisy is hiding the fact that she wants to have a time with Gatsby without involving Tom, her husband.

Daisy: Well, I've had a very bad time, Nick, and I'm pretty synical about everything.

Daisy used the term 'pretty' before the word 'synical' in purpose of saving her face so that Nick, as the hearer, was not thinking that Daisy is a sensitive person by giving sort of negative view about anything because of her tough life.

Pre-sequences

Daisy : Where are we going?
Tom Buchanan : How about the movies?
Daisy : It's so hot. You go. We'll ride around and meet you after.

The second sentence showed pre-request. However, Daisy rejects the request using polite expression. She gave a reason to Tom that in that time the weather was so hot. It showed that Daisy is unable to accept the request.

Daisy: Who wants to go to town?

That utterance contains pre-invitation and pre-request. Daisy actually wants to go to town, but she does not directly ask the others. Instead, she asks first who wants to go to town.

Positive Politeness

Nick Carraway : *The whole town is desolate. All the cars have left rear wheel painted black as a mourning wreath and there's a persistent wail all night along the North Shore.*

Daisy : *How gorgeous! Let's go back, Tom. Tomorrow!*

Daisy : *They're such beautiful shirts. It makes me sad because I've never seen such—such beautiful shirts before.*

In positive politeness, it is considered to be polite if the speaker gives attention or notice to the hearer condition or what hearer is saying. Those two utterances can be the example. This first utterance shows that Daisy is talking to Nick Carraway and Tom Buchanan. Nick explains about Chicago and then Daisy give a positive comment about what Nick has described by saying 'How gorgeous!'. While in the second utterance, Daisy was talking to Gatsby that showed his shirt in his room. After looking at those shirts, Daisy gave compliment by saying 'They're such beautiful shirts.' and she really mean it.

Miss Baker : *Things went from bad to worse.*

Daisy : *Yes. Things went from bad to worse until finally he had to give up his position.*

These conversation shows seeking agreement. In positive politeness, when the speaker says a statement, the hearer can agree the statement by repeating what the speaker says instead of only 'yes' or 'no'. Here, Daisy repeated Miss Baker's statement to show her agreement.

Nick Carraway : *Is she from New York?*

Daisy : *From Louisville. Our white girlhood was passed together there. Our beautiful white—*

Nick asked something to Daisy and his question contains presupposition. However, his presupposition is wrong and Daisy avoid disagreement by giving the right answer. Instead of saying 'no', she said 'from Louisville'.

Daisy: *I certainly am awfully glad to see you again.*

In the compliment Daisy gave above, it contains exaggeration. She used the phrase 'certainly' and 'awfully' to stress how glad Daisy to meet Gatsby. She used those terms because she has close relation with Gatsby. So, it can be included in positive politeness.

Negative Politeness

Daisy: Well, I've had a very bad time, Nick, and I'm pretty synical about everything.

It is included in negative politeness because Daisy used the terms 'pretty'. She did not directly said 'I'm synical' but she inserted the words 'pretty'. She can use this to deny responsibility for the truth of the utterance and it is considered more polite than saying 'I'm synical about everything.'

Daisy: You see I think everything's terrible anyhow. Everybody thinks so—the most advanced people. And I KNOW. I've been everywhere and seen everything and done everything.

Here Daisy used 'you see I think' to complete the sentence. It can lessen the threat of cooperative interaction. She express her opinion about things to Nick without being threatened by what Nick's will think about Daisy. It can be considered as negative politeness because she still give distance to their conversation and she was not speaking bluntly.

Daisy : Good night. Wake me at eight, won't you.

Nick Carraway : If you'll get up.

Daisy : I will. Good night, Mr. Carraway. See you anon.

Daisy spoke to Nick Carraway using more polite sentence. She called him 'Mr. Carraway' instead of 'Nick'. It shows they still have distance, so Daisy give respect to Nick.

Conclusion

Based on the result of the analysis, the writer found that Daisy almost used all of the politeness strategies in her utterances. There are three utterances contain social closeness, two utterances contains social distance, five utterances use bald on record, three utterances use off record, two conversations show face threatening acts, three conversations show face saving acts, two utterances use pre-sequences, nine conversations use positive politeness and three utterances use negative politeness. The writer also analyzed the data based on the situation when the conversations between Daisy and the other characters happen. The aim is that to know why she uses those kind of strategies.

It can be concluded that Daisy Buchanan understands how and when she has to use the politeness strategies. In her utterances, she mostly uses bald on record instead of off record because the person she talks to is her husband and her friends who are close to her. Therefore, she can directly ask any favor without using polite sentences. She also prefers to use positive politeness than negative politeness because the addressee she is talking to is her friend, so she does not use many of negative politeness. Daisy also wants to keep Gatsby's and her self-image by showing face saving act when she is threaten by Tom's saying. She chooses to use pre-sequences when she invites Tom and her friends to go together.

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