

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Communication is important to create social relationships with the community. Through communication, interactions occur in society that connect people to each other. In interaction, there are variations in communication that indicate the attitude of the speakers expressed in their talk. One of them is impoliteness in conversation. Impoliteness itself refers to a set of negative attitudes that are present in response to certain specific behaviors in a particular conversational context (Culpeper, 2011). Impoliteness shows the variety of ways a person communicates to others, even though it is expressed in a negative way.

A speaker can use impoliteness in various types of conversational contexts, such as talk shows, speeches, small talk with neighbors, or dialogue between characters in movies and dramas. As long as a conversation takes place between two or more people, impoliteness can be generated. Impoliteness is used when a speaker attempts to respond to an interlocutor by using negative attitudes, such as using mockery, ignoring the interlocutor, or changing the subject. These methods are used in certain circumstances and are usually influenced by factors such as differences in race, class, or the origin of the speaker. Despite leaving a bad impression, impoliteness plays an important role in interpersonal relationships and communication in society.

Dialogue between characters in a movie is one of the media that allows the use of impoliteness. Film itself is known as a medium that not only emphasizes the actors' performances and visuals, but also the dialogue conducted by the actors while performing various scenes. Movies themselves capture and communicate culture and issues in society (Lorimer, 1995). This means that movies present people's daily lives presented through stories

and roles played by actors. The dialogues in the movies themselves often use impoliteness to express the free and unbounded formality of people's daily conversations. The characters played by the actors use impoliteness in various ways. In this study, the impoliteness that is examined is the impoliteness strategy used by the main character in the movie *In Time* (2011).

In Time (2011) movie, directed by Andrew Niccol, is an American science fiction film that describes a dystopian life in which time is the official currency of the world. The movie takes place in a future where aging has been eradicated and humans have clocks on their arms that show the duration of life as well as a substitute for money. The movie also brings up the issue of social class inequality. The main characters in this movie, Will Salas and Sylvia Weis, come from two different social classes. Will Salas comes from the lower class who works as a factory laborer. Meanwhile, Sylvia Weis is the daughter of a rich businessman. The difference in social class between the two affects the way they communicate. Especially the way how people from the lower class express their thoughts through their speech acts to people from the upper class.

This study was conducted to explore the application of impoliteness strategies in the context of conversations conducted by movie characters. Impoliteness is important because it has a big role in constructing utterances. Furthermore, this research delved the impoliteness strategies used by the main character in *In Time* (2011) movie. The selection of this movie as the object of research is due to the main issue raised in the movie, namely the social class gap. The difference in social class, namely the lower and upper classes, indicates differences in the way of communicating so as to support conditions where impoliteness strategies can be applied in conversation. For this reason, Culpeper's (2011) theory of impoliteness strategies were applied to reveal how impoliteness strategies exist and used by the main characters in the movie *In Time* (2011).

1.2 Research Questions

By referring to the topic of impoliteness strategies used by the main character in *In Time* movie, this research answered:

1. What are the impoliteness strategies found in the main character's utterances in *In Time* (2011) movie?
2. What are the purposes/functions of using those impoliteness strategies by the main character?

1.3 Objective of the Research

The purpose of this research is to investigate the impoliteness strategies used by the main character as expressed through utterances in *In Time* movie by applying Culpeper's theory of impoliteness strategies. Therefore, the objectives of this research are:

1. To identify the impoliteness strategies found in the main character's utterances in the said movie.
2. To identify purposes/functions of using those impoliteness strategies by the main character.

1.4 Focus of the Research

The main topic of this study is impoliteness strategies in utterances by using main character's utterances in *In Time* movie as the primary data. The primary data used consisted of all utterances expressed by the main character in the said movie which indicate impoliteness strategies. Therefore, this research only focused on the investigation of impoliteness strategies in the said movie by analyzing and identifying the utterances of the main character. Moreover, Culpeper's theory as the main theory will be used to analyze the collected data.

1.5 Method of the Research

A descriptive qualitative method was employed in this research. The primary data were all utterances as spoken by the main character in *In Time* (2011) movie. Specifically, the collected data were all utterances that indicate impoliteness strategies expressed by the main character of the movie. In addition, the secondary data were also involved to support the analysis by using articles of journals, websites, book, and other relevant sources.

The object of this research was the movie *In Time* (2011), directed by Andrew Niccol, with a total duration of approximately 109 minutes. The analysis focused on the utterances spoken by the main character, Will Salas, as the primary source of data in this study. The movie was accessed through the Netflix streaming platform, and the official English subtitles provided by Netflix were used to assist the researcher in accurately identifying and transcribing the utterances. The use of the official subtitles was intended to ensure data accuracy and consistency, particularly in analyzing impoliteness strategies employed by the main character.

Data Collection

In qualitative research, the form of data is words without involving any number or statistics and is analyzed descriptively. According to Baral (2017), data consists of raw information which is then interpreted and processed into useful information. Data has an important role in conducting a study because data is information that is analyzed in a study. In this study, the primary data is *In Time* (2011) movie which only focus on the utterances expressed by the main character, Will Salas. The movie is chosen as the primary data because it talks about the interaction between different social class and the main character of this movie belongs to the lower class. The existence of social class in this movie indicates different ways in expressing language leading to the use of impoliteness in conversation. Through the character of Will Salas, the data is collected in the form of utterances that contain impoliteness

strategies performed by the main character when communicates to others. The secondary data involves articles of journals, websites, book, and other relevant sources to help the analysis in this research.

Certain tools or instruments are essential in collecting the primary data. This study utilized two instruments used by the researcher in the process of collecting data on the utterances spoken by the main character in *In Time* (2011) movie. The researcher used a laptop to download the movie and conducted observations by watching the movie to collect data and a notebook to record data in the form of utterances found in the movie.

After determining the data to be used, the data must be collected so that it can then be analyzed. The primary data were collected from a movie titled *In Time* (2011). There are three procedures that were carried out by the researcher in collecting data on this movie:

- a. Firstly, the researcher downloaded *In Time* (2011) movie.
- b. Secondly, the researcher observed the main character's utterances by watching the movie. The utterances must contain impoliteness strategies.
- c. Finally, the researcher recorded the utterances spoken by the main character by making a transcription.

Data Analysis

Data analysis is a series of methods used to reveal the important meaning contained in the raw data (Ely et al., 1991). In analyzing the collected data in *In Time* (2011) movie, there are several steps that were taken by the researcher, namely:

- a. Identifying the utterances. The researcher analyzed the utterances spoken by the main character to reveal and identify the type of impoliteness strategy used by the character by applying Culpeper's (1996) theory. The collected data were categorized based on the categories of impoliteness strategies and putting them into a table.

- b. Classifying the utterances. The researcher classified the data based on the type of impoliteness strategies and identify the function of each strategy used.
- c. Organizing the data. The researcher used a table to display the data. This stage also provided percentage of each categorize to show the most and least dominant strategies used by the main character found in the utterances.
- d. Interpreting the data. The researcher interpreted the data describing the data contextually by associating them with the impoliteness strategies applied in the utterances.
- e. Draw a conclusion. After analyzing by interpreting the data, the researcher concluded the findings of the research descriptively.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Here are some definitions of key terms found in this research., including:

- a. **Impoliteness:** one of the studies in pragmatics related to negative attitudes that are used to threaten certain behaviours in a conversation.
- b. **Impoliteness Strategies:** certain strategies used by a speaker by employing negative attitudes to threaten the hearer's behaviours.
- c. **Utterance:** a form of language produced by a speaker and a hearer both spoken and written used in a certain conversation.
- d. **Movie:** a story that is played by actors with a certain scenario, created and recorded by a camera, and usually shown in cinema or television.
- e. **Main Character:** a protagonist of a story; a central character whose journey and experiences are played in a story.