

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In a society, it is common for people doing communication. People interact with others to express their intentions, goals, and feelings through the spoken language. It means that language is a tool of communication. Meanwhile, communication is not an easy thing. It is not only exchanging information but also understanding the emotion and intention behind it. People may need to learn communication skills such as giving commands, refusing, making requests, and expressing apologies in an appropriate way. It is because language can determine whether someone is polite or impolite, educated or uneducated, and others.

An apology is a part of speech act that frequently produced when people want to express his or her regret for doing something wrong to someone else. It is aimed at maintaining a good relationship between the speaker and the hearer. However, when people express an apology, sometimes it is just for formality without feeling guilty and regrets for making a mistake that hurts others. Their goal is not to admit the mistakes, but they want to be recognized in society. That is why the apology strategies are usually applied in performing apology action to make a polite apology.

Everyone apologizes in different ways. It depends on the culture, the level of the offence, the situation of the interaction, and the closeness of the individuals. In Indonesia, people usually use “*maaf*” as a simple way of asking for an apology.

Sometimes they add some utterances to support their apology to make the hearer know that he or she regrets for doing a mistake. Otherwise, English people have many ways to apologize. As Blum-kulka & Olshtain (1989) state that in English the common way to produce an apology is by saying “*sorry*” or “*apologize*”. However, they have other ways of doing that. It can be providing an explanation, an acknowledgment of responsibility, offer of repair, and a promise of forbearance. For example, when a girl talking with her friend, and suddenly she hiccupped in front of her. Then she says, “*I hope it will not disturb you*” (Trosborg, 1995, p. 380). In this case, she does not say “*sorry*” to her friend, but she does an apology in indirect ways.

An apology also happens in a situation where people offend other people. It is not only happening in life but also happen in the world of entertainment. This is proven by a show in impractical jokers. Impractical Jokers is an American hidden camera reality game show. This show premiered on truTV on December 15, 2011, starring the four members, they are; Joseph “Joe” Gatto, James “Murr” Murray, Brian “Q” Quinn, and Salvatore “Sal” Vulcano.

An episode of Impractical Jokers is a series of competitive games of dare. In this games, one joker is a challenge to embarrass himself to do the craziest things in the public. He should speak up to the stranger and receiving commands from the other jokers who are arranging the scenario from behind the scenes with covert recording equipment. He should say or do whatever the other jokers tell him to do. If he refuses to do the challenge, he loses. Every time a joker fails to complete a challenge, he will receive a red thumbs down. A joker with the most thumbs down

after the series of challenges is the loser. Then, he has to complete an extremely embarrassing or difficult challenge in which the jokers cannot say no.

During this challenge, the joker may offend people with their actions or their utterances. Therefore, they must apologize to the person. This show is interesting because they are showing how English people doing an apology to people they don't know. Thus, this research aims to find out the form strategies of apology used by native speakers in expressing their apologies.

1.2 Research Questions

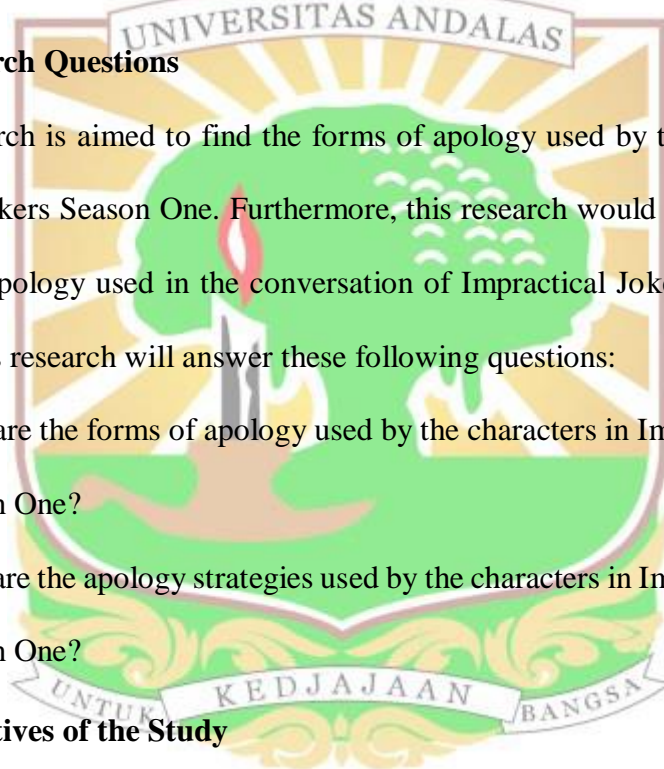
This research is aimed to find the forms of apology used by the characters in Impractical Jokers Season One. Furthermore, this research would also analyze the strategies of apology used in the conversation of Impractical Jokers Season One. Therefore, this research will answer these following questions:

1. What are the forms of apology used by the characters in Impractical Jokers Season One?
2. What are the apology strategies used by the characters in Impractical Jokers Season One?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In general, this research is aimed to analyze the forms and strategies of apology used by the characters in Impractical Jokers Season One. This thesis is written in order to find two main things:

1. To find out the forms of apology used by the characters in The Impractical Jokers Season One.



2. To find out the apology strategy used by the characters in *The Impractical Jokers Season One*.

1.4 Scope of the Study

This research is conducted in the framework of pragmatics, which focuses on the speech act of apology. Furthermore, the data used in the study are taken from the utterances used by all the characters in *Impractical Jokers Season One*. The research focuses on the form and the apology strategies used by the characters in *Impractical Jokers Season One*.

1.5 Methods of the Study

1.5.1 Source of the Data

The data of this research are taken from <http://94.130.23.244/TV%20Shows%20A/Impractical%20Jokers/Season%201/>. This website contains all episodes of *Impractical Jokers Season One*, which consists of 16 episodes. The data of this research are all utterances produced by the characters in *Impractical Jokers Season One*, specifically those that contain apology strategies which are already transcribed into a subtitle. The consideration why *Impractical Jokers* were chosen is because the conversations were natural, not scripted. The characters have no idea about the situation. Their reaction and the expression used by the jokers also natural. They do not plan this before or maybe they planned before. However, it can changes because of the situation, and they do not have a script to think about it. Since they have eight season so far, this thesis only take the first season. The reason is because the first season is the original

version of this show. Therefore, the jokers have no experience how to doing the challenge.

1.5.2 Data Collecting Procedure

In collecting the data, there are several steps to be conducted. The first step is the writer downloaded all episodes of Impractical Jokers Season One. The second step is the writer watching the video and making ortographic trancription of the video. Thus, the writer pays attention to the utterances containing speech act of apology. After that, all the data that is considered as speech act of apology are bold. Then, the writer identified and classified the utterances based on the form and strategies of apology. In selecting the data, if the jokers used the same form or strategy of apology, this research only take one data for each classification to be analyzed. For instance, there are 4 utterances that contained of the verb “sorry”. However, the writer only analyzed one of them, because it represents how the jokers apologizes using the same strategy.

1.5.3 Data Analysis

After the data being collected from the transcription. Then, the data were grouped into the table based on its functions. In analyzing the data, form of apology were analyzed by using theory proposed by Blum-kulka (1989). Furthermore, the forms of apology for each utterance were categorized according to its types, which are direct and indirect form. Then, the writer analyzed the strategies of apology by using theory proposed by Trosborg (1995). The writer classified all of the data according to the theory. After that, the writer extracting each sample for qualitative analysis.

1.5.4 Presenting the Result of Analysis

After analyzing the data, the results of the analysis were presented into tables. In explaining the data, the writer will descriptively explain and interpret the data into sentences. The tables were used to show the percentage of apology forms and strategies used by the characters in Impractical Jokers Season One.

