

ABSTRACT

This research study is entitled *Phatic Expressions Between Indonesians and Foreigners in the Casual Conversations*. This study is focused on utterances in casual conversations among three couples of Indonesians and foreigners. The Indonesians are an interpreter, an employee, and a student while the foreigners come from Libya, Wales, and Germany. The speakers are divided into three group of conversations. The first group contains of an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan's conversation, the second group is an employee and a Wales' conversation, and the last group includes of a student and a German's conversation which has been taken on July 11th, 2012 at the place where they were.

By using a descriptive qualitative method, the researcher's purposes are concerned to describe the topics which appear in the conversations, to identify the different ways to sustain communication, and to identify the functions of phatic communication used among Indonesians and foreigners in English casual conversation.

From the analysis, the topics which appeared in conversation between Indonesians and foreigners are country, occupation, business, study, family, customer, closing, planning, introduction, domicile, opinion, food, ability, comparison, duration, hobby, activity, asking agreement, movie, and politic. There are 11 functions of phatic expression which are found from the data. They are to sustain or keep the talk, to make chit-chat, to express solidarity, to express friendship, to express hospitality, to break the silence, to make gossip, to create harmony, to create comfort, to start the talk, and to express empathy.

Keywords: *Casual Conversation, Native and Non-native, Phatic Communication, Phatic Expressions, Topics*