PHATIC EXPRESSIONS BETWEEN INDONESIANS AND FOREIGNERS IN THE CASUAL CONVERSATIONS

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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. The three Indonesians and foreigners' conversations all used showing interest, easing communication, and finding a point of agreement to sustain communication, so there is no any different ways in sustaining communication. 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*

Penelitian ini berjudul "Ekspresi-Ekspresi Fatis Antara Pelafal Indonesia dan Pelafal Asing pada Percakapan Sehari-hari". Penelitian ini berfokus pada ujaran-ujaran pada percakapan sehari-hari antara tiga pasang pelafal Indonesia dan pelafal asing. Pelafal Indonesia terdiri dari seorang penerjemah Bahasa Inggris, seorang karyawan, dan seorang murid sedangkan pelafal asing terdiri dari seorang Libya, seorang Wales, dan seorang Jerman. Para pelafal dibagi menjadi tiga kelompok komunikasi. Kelompok pertama terdiri dari percakapan seorang penerjemah Bahasa Inggris dan seorang Libya, kelompok kedua adalah percakapan seorang karyawan dan seorang Wales, dan kelompok terakhir meliputi percakapan seorang murid dan seorang Jerman yang diambil pada 11 July 2012 ditempat dimana mereka berada saat itu.

Dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif, peneliti bertujuan untuk menjelaskan topic-topik yang muncul pada percakapan, untuk mengidentifikasikan cara-cara yang berbeda dalam menjaga percakapan tetap berlangsung, dan untuk mengidentifikasikan fungsi-fungsi komunikasi fatis yang digunakan para pelafal Indonesia dan pelafal asing dalam percakapan sehari-hari.

Dari analisis, topic-topik yang muncul pada percakapan antara pelafal Indonesia dan pelafal asing adalah negara, pekerjaan, bisnis, keluarga, pelanggan, penutup, perencanaan, perkenalan, domisili, pendapat, makanan, keahlian, perbandingan, durasi, hobi, aktifitas, mempertanyakan persetujuan, film, dan politik. Ketiga semua percakapan pelafal Indonesia dan pelafal asing digunakan untuk menunjukkan ketertarikan, untuk mempermudah komunikasi, dan untuk menemukan poin persetujuan untuk menjaga percakapan agar tetap berlangsung, sehingga tidak ditemukan cara yang berbeda dalam menjaga agar percakapan tetap berlangsung. Ada 11 ekspesi fatis yang ditemukan didalam data, yaitu untuk menjaga agar percakapan tetap berlangsung, untuk membuat percakapan, untuk mengekspresikan solidaritas, untuk mengekspresikan persahabatan, untuk mengekspesikan keramahan, untuk memecah kesenyapan, untuk membuat gossip, untuk menciptakan harmoni, untuk menciptakan kenyamanan, untuk memulai percakapan, dan untuk mengekspresikan empati.

Kata Kunci: *komunikasi kasual, pelafal asli dan bukan pelafal asli, komunikasi fatis, ekspresi-ekspresi fatis, topik*

INTRODUCTION

Language is an important role in human society as a tool to interact among people. It is a human system that uses arbitrary signals and symbolic device, such as voice sounds, gestures or written symbols. Arbitrary signal is a process to choose any sound to mean anything. Symbolic device is a language symbols to represent any kind of objects structurally. These language symbols are different from one language to the others. Language is an effective ways for communicator to share his or her feelings, ideas or attitudes. It also maintains social relation among society.

Language is base aspect to do communication. Communication is a process of sending and receiving information among people. An American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, National Joined Committee(NJC), (1992: 2) concluded that "communication is any act by which one person gives to or receives from person information about that person's needs, desires, perceptions, knowledge, or affective states." Communication is needed to arise good social relations and avoid a misunderstanding between speaker and hearer.

In general, there are two types of communication. They are spoken and written communication. Spoken language is a human natural language in which the words are uttered through mouth as organ of speech. It is also called as oral language because of its communication process is happened through of this organ of speech.

The communication of spoken language is spontaneous and ungrammatically because it is communicated directly between speaker and listener. This spoken communication between two people or more is called conversation. This understanding is related with the meaning of conversation by Francesca Pridham in her book The Language of Conversation. She argued that "conversation, therefore, is any interactive spoken exchange between two or more people and can be face-to-face exchanges . . ." (2001: 2). Conversation is an ideal form of communication because speaker can reveal his or her meaning sense completely with body language and intonation even though silence and laughter.Speaker can make sure the massage is understood by addressee's feedback when he or she does conversation face-to-face.

There are two types of conversation. They are formal and casual conversation. Formal conversation is designed for used in situations in which natural language is unsuitable, for example lawyer to judge, goal setting between manager and employee, or parent-teacher conversation. Casual conversation is the most type of conversation which is used in society and it is called everyday talk. Suzanne Eggins (1997: 8) argued that ". . . casual conversation is the kind of talk we engage in when we are talking just for the sake of talking." Casual conversation is daily talk and it has no tie to grammar rule. It connects social bonds and maintains relationships and friendship with other people.

Casual conversation is usually followed by small talk. Small talk is social conversation which the main purpose is for managing interpersonal distance. It avoids awkwardness by doing chit-chat with common topics like about weather, current

event, hometown or entertainment. Small talk is also called as phatic communication or phatic communion. Richards et al. (1992: 214) assumed that phatic communion is a communication which is not for finding or sending information, but it is a communication which has social function to make steady or maintain social contact.

In this research, the researcher prefers to choose "Phatic Expressions Between Indonesians and Foreigners in the Casual Conversation" as the title of this thesis because it is interesting to analyze and important to add readers' knowledge, especially who has English as the second language. English learner can improve his or her knowledge about phatic and practice it better in everyday talk since English learner has relation with foreigners and speak English as the language communication. Indeed, this result of researching can prove the truth of theory of phatic where phatic phenomenon itself most appears in casual conversation. Based on the research idea, she especially wants to observe this phenomena which is happened among Indonesians and foreigners in their casual conversation who use English as the tool of communication.

The topic or styles of small talk are different in each countries. It is based on one reason that every country has different cultures and customs. This reason causes the researcher inquisitive sense is appeared to observe and analyze phenomena of phatic communication among Indonesians and foreigners. Then, she chose different speakers nationalities to find the phatic communion in casual conversation by each of the speakers where they have different national backgrounds.

By this research, the researcher hopes the readers who use English as their second language can interact with foreigners using phatic communication better and apply it in many purposes to create a good relationship to other people.

RESEARCH METHOD

Data and Subjects

The data of this study were the casual conversations between an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan, an Indonesian employee and a Wales, and an Indonesian student and a German as the subject of the study.

Unit of Analysis

The data that were analyzed related to the topics which appear in the casual conversations between Indonesians and foreigners, the differences of the ways to sustain communication and the differences of the functions of phatic communication among

Indonesians and foreigners in casual talk. Therefore, the unit of analysis is utterances which were used in casual conversation.

Technique of Data Collection and Analysis

Before analyzing the data, the researcher collected the data as the media of doing this research by searching them. The researcher recorded the casual conversations between an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan, an Indonesian employee and a Wales, and an Indonesian student and a German and then classified the conversations into utterances.

In doing the analysis, first the researcher found out the topics which appeared in the conversations. Second, the researcher identified the different ways to sustain communication in their conversations. Third, interpreted the data and finally drew the conclusion.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The first step before the reseacher analyzed the topics, the different ways to sustain communication, the functions and interpreted Indonesians and foreigners' conversations, she had been segmented the dialogues into utterances. In the casual conversation, the utterances present the turns of the speakers.

In the Indonesians and foreigners' casual conversations, there are 382 utterances which had been produced. An Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan created 149 utterances, an Indonesian employee and a Wales produced 159 utterances, while an Indonesian student and a German created 75 utterances. Each group of utterances has phatic and non-phatic utterances. It can be shown in table 4.1 that gives details about the classification of phatic and non-phatic utterances.

Table 4.1   The Classification of Phatic and Non-phatic Utterances

No	The Conversation of	Number of Phatic Utterances	Number of Non-Phatic Utterances	Total Utterances
1	An Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan	102	47	149
2	An Indonesian employee and a Wales	102	57	159
3	An Indonesian student and a Germany	37	38	75

It can be seen in table 4.1 that an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan produced 102 utterances of phatic communication and 47 utterances of non-phatic communication. An Indonesian employee and a Wales created 102 utterances of phatic communication and 57 utterances of non-phatic communication. Then, an Indonesian student and a German produced 37 utterances of phatic communication and 38 utterances of non-phatic communication. The couples of Indonesian interpreter-Libyan and Indonesian employee-Wales' conversations produced the highest number of phatic utterance because each speakers responded very well when the addressees asked questions or needed comments or even gave descriptions. This is purposed to create a good social relationship among them. In other hand, the couple of Indonesian student-German had more non-phatic utterances because each speaker did not respond well, especially by the Indonesian student. She did not give enough entail to respond what the German's topic. It is seemed on the conversation when she changed easily the topic after explanation by asking another topic while the first topic had not yet finished talking.

From the data, researcher also found certain topics which is used by the speakers since those are their first meeting. It was not found the using of some too privacy topics. They used most general topics to take interaction each other. The segmentation of the topics which is generally appeared can be shown in table 4.2 below.

Table 4.2 The Topics' Segmentation

No	Topics of Phatic Communication	An Indonesian Interpreter and A Libyan's Utterances	An Indonesian Employee and A Wales' Utternces	An Indonesian Student and A Germany's Utterances	Total
1	Country	44	31	32	107
2	Occupation	9	3	14	26
3	Business	0	22	0	22
4	Study	20	0	0	20
5	Family	20	0	0	20
6	Customer	0	17	0	17
7	Closing	6	9	2	17
8	Planning	6	10	0	16
9	Introduction	4	4	8	16
10	Domicile	0	15	0	15
11	Opinion	0	15	0	15
12	Food	12	0	0	12
13	Ability	10	0	0	10
14	Comparison	0	8	1	9
15	Duration	2	4	2	8
16	Hobby	0	0	7	7
18	Activity	2	0	4	6
19	Asking agreement	6	0	0	6
20	Movie	0	0	5	5
21	Politic	4	0	0	4
22	Partner	0	4	0	4
	Total	145	149	75	362

It can be shown in table 4.2 that there are 22 types of topic which has been appeared. An Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan produced 145 topic utterances which are classified in 44 utterances about country, 9 utterances about occupation, 20 utterances about study and family, 6 utterances about closing, planning and asking agreement, 4 utterances about introduction and politic, 12 utterances about food, 10 utterances about ability, 2 utterances about duration and activity.

An Indonesian employee and a Wales produced 149 topic utterances which are classified in 31 utterances about country, 3 utterances about

occupation, 22 utterances about business, 17 utterances about customer, 9 utterances about closing, 10 utterances about planning, 4 utterances about introduction, partner and duration,15 utterances about domicile and opinion, and 8 utterances about comparison.

An Indonesian student and a German produced 75 topic utterances which are classified in 32 utterances about country, 14 utterances about occupation, 2 utterances about closing and duration, 8 utterances about introduction, 1 utterance about comparison, 7 utterances about hobby, 4 utterances about activity, and 5 utterances about movie.

It can be seen in table 4.2 that the highest total of the most topic appears in the conversations between Indonesians and foreigners is about country. Topic about country happened because they came from different country and it was their first meeting so they did not know before each other. They have different background and culture. That is why each speaker wanted to know about their each addressee by putting the topic country as the top topic.

Beside topic, phatic communication also talks about how people sustain and make sure the conversation runs smoothly and longer. In table 4.3, reseacher summarized the classification of ways to sustain communication between Indonesians and foreigners in the casual conversation.

Table 4.3 **Ways to Sustain Communication Between an Indonesian Interpreter and A Libyan, an Indonesian Employee and a Wales and An Indonesian Student and a German**

No	Ways to Sustain Conversation	An Indonesian Interpreter and A Libyan's Utterances	An Indonesian Employee and A Wales' Utternces	An Indonesian Student and A Germany's Utterances	Total
1	To ease the communication	118	125	58	301
2	To find a point of agreement	29	30	13	72
3	To show interest	3	4	2	9
	Total Utterances	150	159	73	382

Based on the table 4.3 above, it can be seen that an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan produced 150 utterances which contains of 118 utterances to ease the communication, 29 utterances to find a point of agreement and 3 utterances

to show interest. An Indonesian employee and a Wales produced 159 utterances which are classified into 125 utterances to ease the communication, 30 utterances to find a point of agreement and 4 utterances to show interest. And Indonesian student and a German produced 73 utterances which are included of 58 utterances to ease the communication, 13 utterances to find a point of agreement, and 2 utterances to show interest.

It can be seen that the most used way of Indonesians and foreigners took to sustain the conversation is by easing the communication. It means both of the two side of the speakers sustained their talk to be longer by giving comments or asking some questions. The second way they were used is finding a point of agreement by avoiding debate and tried to find the same opinion or thought. The most rarely way is by showing interest then to bring into the circle of the communication. It is used when speaker wants to take his or her addressee's attention by greeting or asking something.

In a conversation also can be found 11 functions of phatic communication which are included 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. They can be seen in table 4.4 below.

Table 4.4   The Function of Phatic Communication Based on an Indonesian Interpreter and a Libyan, an Indonesian Employee and a Wales, an Indonesian Student and a German's Conversations

No	Functions of Phatic Communication	An Indonesian Interpreter and A Libyan's Utterances	An Indonesian Employee and A Wales' Utternces	An Indonesian Student and A Germany's Utterances	Total
1	To sustain or keep the talk	69	64	25	157
2	To make chit-chat	8	11	6	25
3	To express solidarity	7	6	1	14
4	To express friendship	5	4	0	9
5	To express hospitality	5	3	1	9
6	To break the silence	1	4	2	7
7	To make gossip	0	4	0	4
8	To create harmony	2	1	1	4
9	To create comfort	0	3	0	3
10	To start the talk	2	2	1	3
11	To express empathy	3	0	0	3
	Total Utterances	102	102	37	238

It can be shown in table 4.4 that an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan produced 102 utterances which are classified in 69 utterances are used to sustain or keep the talk, 8 utterances are used to make chit-chat, 7 utterances are used to express solidarity, 5 utterances are used to express friendship, 5 utterances are used to express hospitality, 1 utterance is used to break the silence and to start the talk, 2 utterances are used to create harmony, and 3 utterances are used to express empathy.

On the other hand, an Indonesian employee and a Wales produced 102 utterances which are classified in 64 utterances are used to sustain or keep the talk, 11 utterances are used to make chit-chat, 6 utterances are used to express solidarity, 4 utterances are used to express friendship, to break the silence and to make gossip, 3 utterances are used to create comfort, 2 utterances is used to start the talk, 1 utterance is used to created harmony, and no utterance can be found for expressing empathy.

The last conversation by an Indonesian student and a German produced 37 utterances which are classified in 25 utterances are used to sustain or keep the talk, 6 utterances are used to make chit-chat, 2 utterances are used to break the

silences, 1 utterance is used to express solidarity, to express hospitality, to create harmony and to start the talk, and no uttereance is used to express friendship, to make gossip,to create comfort and to express empathy.

The highest total function of phatic communication in the conversations between Indonesians and the foreigners is used to sustain or keep the talk. It happened because the Indonesians actually tried hard to make their talk became longer and used phatic communication as a mean of sustaining their dialogues. Especially for Indonesian interpreter and Indonesian employee, the using of sustaining or keeping the talk, they made the conversations more active than when conversation happened by the Indonesian student. It is signed from the three conversations that an Indonesian student'sconversation is most 'using pause' conversation. While, from the foreigner's speakers, the Wales used the more active speaker than the Libyan and the Germany. It can be seen from the Wales' conversation that he produced more questions than the other foreigner's speakers in order to keep the conversation longer.

Then, the smallest total function of phatic communication in the conversations between Indonesians and foreigners has been found in creating comfort, starting the talk and expressing empathy. The each three types of phatic function above is found only 3 utterances. The using of creating comfort is founded in the conversation between an Indonesian employee and a Wales since they tried to clarify an agreement for somethig and to give praise as the feedback for what the first speaker was talking about. Then, the using of starting the talk is happened in the all kinds of conversation between Indonesians and foreigners. Starting the talk can be found in the all beginning as the opening of the conversation by asking name or greeting title where these are a good way to show politeness before having a talk. In other hand, the using of expressing emphathy is only happened in the conversation between an Indonesian interpreter and a Libyan where it produced expressions which showed sympathy to the addressee for what he was facing.

CONCLUSION

Based on the result of the data of her study, the researcher can conclude that the topics which appear in the conversations 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. The most topic appeared is country.

The researcher found no any different way to sustain communication in the conversations between Indonesians and foreigners. All conversations used to show interest, to ease the communication, and to find a point of agreement.

There were 11 phatic expressions which are used in the conversations between Indonesians and foreigners. They used 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.

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