

Abstract

Lamondji, Hasna. 2013. An Analysis on Modesty and Agreement Maxim Used in “Dear John” Movie: A qualitative study was analyzed in Dear John Movie which directed by Lasse Hallstrom. Skripsi. English Education Study Program. Faculty of Letters and Culture. State University of Gorontalo. Advisor: (1). Dr. Suleman Bouty, S.Pd, M.Hum, (2).(Farid Muhamad S.Pd. MA).

This research is a descriptive research using pragmatics approach, particularly, the politeness principles. Politeness principles is a series of maxims, which Geoffrey Leech has proposed as a way of explaining how politeness operates in conversational exchanges. The six maxims proposed by Leech are tact, generosity, approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims. This research took conversations consisting of Modesty and Agreement maxims used in “Dear John” movie as the data. This research was aimed to describe the modesty and agreement maxims employed in the conversations of the movie “Dear John”, and describe the aspects that make the utterances of the participants less or more polite in relation to Leech’s politeness principles. The results of the analysis can be seen as follows: First, the employment of modesty and agreement maxims by the participants in “Dear John” Movie that there are 11 conversations employing modesty maxim, and 5 conversations employing agreement maxim. Modesty maxim minimizes praise of self and maximizes dispraise of self. This maxim is applied in *assertive/ representative* and *expressive* like the approbation maxim and agreement maxim maximize agreement with hearer and minimizes disagreement with hearer. These maxims occur in *assertive/ representative* illocutionary act. Second, there are three aspects that make the utterances of the participants less or more polite in relation to Leech’s politeness principles. The first aspect correlates with the scales of social relationships, the second aspect correlates with the degree of language used by the participants in delivering the utterance including the degree of indirectness and the degree of optionality, and the last aspect correlates with the way they are speaking by seeing the context of situation.

Key word: Modesty, Agreement Maxim, Politeness Principle.