



## An Analysis of Politeness Strategy in Pitch Perfect 2 Movie

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### Abstract

The politeness strategy is a phenomenon of language that is based on the form and purpose of each of them. Politeness strategies are used to convey communication with meaning and purpose to be conveyed and interpreted properly. This study aimed to identify and analyze the politeness strategy used in the Pitch Perfect 2 Movie script. This study used a qualitative descriptive approach in research. And the movie script of Pitch Perfect 2 movie is used as a data source in this research. The theory in this research used by Brown and Levinson about the types of politeness strategies. The data politeness strategies were found in the movie script which were four main strategies: Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald on Record, and Off-the Record.

**Keywords:** *pitch perfect 2 movie, politeness strategies, types of politeness.*

### Abstrak

Strategi kesopanan adalah fenomena bahasa yang didasarkan pada bentuk dan tujuan masing-masing dari strategi kesopanan itu. Strategi kesopanan digunakan untuk menyampaikan informasi serta komunikasi dengan makna dan tujuan yang untuk disampaikan dan ditafsirkan dengan baik. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dan menganalisis strategi kesopanan yang digunakan dalam naskah Pitch Perfect 2 Movie. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Dan naskah film Pitch Perfect 2 digunakan sebagai sumber data dalam penelitian ini. Teori dalam penelitian ini digunakan oleh Brown dan Levinson tentang jenis-jenis strategi kesopanan. Strategi kesopanan data ditemukan dalam naskah film yang merupakan empat strategi utama yaitu: Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald on Record, dan Off-the Record.

**Kata kunci:** *pitch perfect 2 movie, strategi kesantunan, jenis kesantunan.*

### Introduction

Language is tool of communication that is used by people to share their opinion, information and also express their feelings to each other. Therefore polite words are really important to be used in communication. Therefore Politeness is a form of interaction that takes into account the feelings of the listener, so that the speaker can apply a type of communication interaction that remembers calculations using good words ((Murliati, 2013). In social politeness becomes a very important aspect, more

specifically when the individual communicates. Submission of inappropriate strategies will lead to misunderstandings and make communication produce failed products, and not achieve satisfaction from speakers and listeners (Pishghadam, 2012). Usually in communicating we have to control the type of words we use by paying attention to the atmosphere and the relationship between the speaker and the listener by using politeness strategies. Therefore, when communicating, you should use good words with their appearance appropriately, as well as eliminate the use harsh words, as well as intonations that cause misunderstandings. When communicating in a social environment each individual is very important to use good communication, therefore the use of politeness is very important. Prerequisites for human cooperation and the production of social order area the basis and basic decency (Brown and Levinson, 1987). How to know the identity of each individual also be seen from the Politeness of how to speak and use his language in communicating. According to Chaer and Agustina (1995), language and communication is also a product of the human mind. Therefore, it is very important for individuals to understand and know aspects of language as well as awareness of the surrounding environment that cannot be changed or permanent. If decency is applied by the individual in social life, therefore individual can present a more peaceful and harmonious social life. Individuals can also be known as individuals who are polite in speaking and behaving. Therefore, individuals need strategies to convey politeness in communicating. The strategy of politeness can also be found in large environments, not only in real life but also in virtual life such as social media and others. One of the phenomena of politeness strategies is usually use also applied in movies. Beyond real and everyday life, the strategy of decency is used within the scope of literary works. Especially when referring to drama genre works in a movie, generally taken from true stories or stories of people's daily lives. Movies present a variety of genres, such as drama, horror, comedy, politics, all of which reflect real and actual life around the world. It is interesting and important to identify and analysis the strategy of politeness in literary works that are close to real-life situations, so that literary enthusiasts, in this case movies, can learn and use appropriate strategies of politeness to apply in their life case movies, can learn and use appropriate strategies of politeness to apply in their life and social conditions. In Brown and Levinson's theory (1987) states that humans can work together because of the role of decency in communication between people. Thus, misunderstandings would rarely occur if each individual applied the proper strategy of decency.

As well as politeness into two types: positive politeness and negative politeness. Positive politeness is defined as the desire to get a positive face from the listener. It also refers to the desire to know desire to know and manifest what the listener wants. Negative politeness is a form of getting a negative facial appearance for the listener. Meanwhile, they also continue to put forward the strategy of politeness into four forms: Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald-on-Record, and Off Record which will be the focus of this research.

Pitch perfect 2 movie is an American musical comedy film directed by Elizabeth Banks. Pitch perfect 2 movie is a film that tells the story of the vocal group the Barden Bellas trying hard to regain their reputation after a chaotic performance at Lincoln Center. Now they are ready to compete in an international competition. It became an interesting film to analysis its use of politeness strategies. The researcher

chose this movie because the researcher felt that it was interesting to study because the genre was close to the course of daily life.

According to Goody (1980) politeness strategy is a form of communication that aims to save face of the speaker as part of communication. When communicating facial expressions are very much needed by each individual, because face also refers to the identity and respect that the individual has towards his opponents. Politeness strategies are speech acts that express for others and minimize to self-esteem (face) in particular social contexts. In Brown and Levinson's theory (1987) classifies the strategy of decency into four types: Positive politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald-on Record, and Off Record.

In this research, the researchers used two research related to directive acts. Which was analyzed by Dwiyanti et al. (2019) an analysis about of directive utterances in the movie the theory of everything by Jane Hawking. Najladiva and Puspita Sari (2022) elaborate about analysis of politeness strategies in movie Flipped. Luh Putu Ayu Adhika Putri (2013), about choosing in politeness strategy in "Oprah" Winfrey's talk show with Ricky Martin as guest star. Tinatin Kurdghelashvili (2015) about speech acts and politeness strategies in an EFL classroom in Georgia and Esfahlan (2020), about A Pragmatic analysis of politeness strategies used by Iranian EFL students in Persian and English request. Meanwhile, the current research is to use the script of the movie "Pitch Perfect 2" as a source of data and the focus of this research on politeness strategies.

Positive politeness is a strategy in politeness that has the aim of providing satisfaction to the interests owned and demonstrated by the listener. This refers to inviting listeners to participate and make an impression in the form of communication and convey things or forms of communication that can please listeners.

According to the theory of Brown and Levinson (1987), negative politeness is a form of strategy that generates a negative face from the listener. This strategy is generally used during more formal activities, usually communication will feel awkward because it is proposed by communication participants who are not too close and know each other. Brown and Levinson (1987) claim that the primary reason for bald on record usage may be generally stated as whenever the speaker wants to do FTA with maximum efficiency more than she/he wants to satisfy hearer's face, even to any degree, she/he will choose the bald on record strategy. This strategy is used to see the individual's face when conveying information and how the listener and give facial expression.

Brown and Levinson's final politeness strategy is the off-record or indirect strategy. This strategy involves some serious indirectness; the speaker typically avoids saying the potentially face-threatening act altogether. Instead, the speaker's intentions are implied, and it is up to the listener to interpret them. In this situation, the speaker can get credit for not imposing on the listener, and the listener is given a chance to

present themselves as helpful or generous. However, this strategy relies heavily on pragmatics to convey the intended meaning.

## Method

In this study the researcher used a qualitative descriptive approach as the method used in the study. According to qualitative research is research that use interpretive or theoretical frameworks in conducting the study research problems to understand and explore the meaning of individuals or group which is the cause of social or human problem. Therefore, in this study will focus on the politeness strategies found in the movie script of *Pitch Perfect 2 movie*. As the basic theory of the results and discussion of this research using the theory of politeness strategies espoused by Brown and Levinson (1987). The steps taken to collect researcher's data using the pitch perfect 2 movie script by retrieving it from the YouTube. Then, the researchers will use observer as a participant or non-participant in collecting data, which is taken from the theory of Creswell and Poth (2018). Then classify and sort the politeness strategy data as the main focus of research.

Then, the researchers will group them into frequency tables in finding, analysis and discussing, and then conclusion. Thus, the researchers applied the pragmatic identity method proposed by Sudaryanto (2015). In analysis the data, this study applies the pragmatics identity method theorized by Sudaryanto (2015).

## Result and Discussion

### Result

This study found that there 5 politeness strategies found in the script of the Pitch Perfect 2 movie, including 4 positive politeness, 2 negative politeness, 6 bald-on records, and 3 off record. Here is a table of the distribution and total frequency of the overall courtesy strategy.

Types	Utterance	Frequency
Positive Politeness	<i>"Mom, I'm late. It's orientation.</i>	1
	<i>You Gotta let me go. "</i>	

<b>Negative Politeness</b>	<i>“ A German group whose skill is matched only by its professionalism.”</i>	
	<i>“In other words, they’ll keep their pants on.”</i>	
	<i>“So.....we can’t hold any defend our title, we can’t tour..... “</i>	<b>4</b>
	<i>“ And you can’t hold any auditions. We don’t need your ranks to grow like a fungus.”</i>	
<b>Bald-on Record</b>	<i>“ I’m sorry that this disciplinary action has shocked you, especially since all of you are seniors. But the truth is, you’re just women”.</i>	<b>1</b>
	<i>“And you all be pregnant soon.”</i>	
<b>Off Record</b>	<i>“Dude. Explain yourself.”</i>	
	<i>“I completely blacked out. How’d I do, man?”</i>	<b>3</b>
	<i>“Honestly? I’ve seen you do worse.”</i>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>9</b>

## Discussion

### Data 1

#### Positive Politeness

Pitch Perfect 2 movie: Emily, a super-cute eccentric freshman, strolls arm-in-arm with her mother, KATHERINE.

Emily : *Mom, I’m late. It’s orientation.*

*You Gotta let me go. ( page 1)*

The politeness strategy used in this speech is positive politeness, if we examine it carefully here the most striking words are when Emily tells to her mother allowed her mother to have her go as soon as possible to campus as the time was too late therefore she had to leave quickly. The use of the word used by Emily shows that she is trying to avoid the impression of being her delay to her mother, so that her mother would understand and allow her to leave immediately. As we saw there she politely told her mother " *You Gotta let me go*" which means that the speaker is trying to make the listener understand she belated time.

The factor that influences the politeness of the dialogue above is the genre of Pitch Perfect 2 movie is the comedy genre movie. From the communication above it means, they have to be more polite, respect and understand each other. That is why the most dominant politeness strategy in Pitch Perfect 2 movie is a positive politeness strategy.

## **Data 2**

### **Negative Politeness**

Pitch Perfect 2 Movie:

Gail : *A German group whose skill is matched only by its professionalism.*

John : *In other words, they'll keep their pants on.*

Chloe : *So.....we can't hold any defend our title, we can't tour.....*

Dean : *And you can't hold any auditions. We don't need your ranks to grow like a fungus. (page 1)*

By looking at the conversation above we can conclude that it is part of a negative politeness strategy. it's said that way because as we saw when Dean's character say that "We don't need your ranks to grow like a fungus". Here we can see that the word used by Dean when he responded to Chloe, there was a way when he responded to it with a negative politeness strategy. Because he uses the word "Don't need your ranks" the words means that he does not take care of the feelings of the interlocutor by directly expressing his dislike of what is said by Chloe. It should be in conversation if not close friends that we should use a more polite word, therefore it is very important for them to use a positive politeness strategies.

### Data 3

#### Bald-On-Record

Pitch Perfect 2 Movie:

John : *I'm sorry that this disciplinary action has shocked you, especially since all of you are seniors. But the truth is, you're just women.*

*And you all be pregnant soon. (page 1)*

As a result, the politeness strategy that is utilized in this speech is known as the bald-on-record. As a result, the politeness strategy used in this speech is known as bald-on-record. if we look carefully and analyze in detail we can see that what john said is very disrespectful by saying that the Bellas are just a woman, and everything will be conceived later. Here it can be interpreted that he thinks that women mean that they cannot work and can only conceive. it should be speech like we shouldn't have expressed when talking to someone. If we see a friend or someone else trying or struggling, we should provide support so that the person can rise up and always be enthusiastic. This is the reason why the use of positive politeness strategies is very much used in this movie.

### Data 4

#### Off Record

Pitch Perfect 2 Movie:

Jesse : *Dude. Explain yourself.*

Benji : *I completely blacked out. How'd I do, man?*

Jesse : *Honestly? I've seen you do worse. (page 2)*

The strategy of politeness in this conversation is an direct appraisal because when Benji ask his friend Jesse about it relates to what the solution he would practice when he blacked out. But there it was not that Jese gave the best solution but he instead mocked Benji with the word " I've seen you do worse". This speech can be said to be contradictory. Jesse should have given support to Benji who needed a solution from his friend, not even had to be catalyzed as he said above. The factor that influences the politeness of the dialogue above is the feeling of the characters in the movie affected the use of politeness strategy. In Pitch Perfect 2 movie, the characters are youth. So, it is the reason why the characters in this movie dominantly used a positive politeness strategy.

## **Conclusion**

The strategy of politeness exists for the purpose that the communication system, processes and the final result can be the comfort and cooperation that each participant wants to achieve in the communication process. In this study, researchers have identified and analyzed the politeness of the strategy and described the results and their discussion. Later in this study researchers found 4 data containing four types of politeness strategies proposed by Brown and Levinson (1987). And the results of the study also showed that there were: positive politeness as much as 1 data, negative politeness as much as 4 data, bald-on record as much as 1 data, and off record as much as 3 data. Therefore it is very important for everyone to use positive politeness strategies. As well as that must be applied in making movies, especially in communicating. And this research is very important for researcher who want to continue the same research and apply politeness theory.

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