CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces the main topic which will be discussed by the researcher. This chapter deals with background of the study, problems of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope of the study and the last is the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Politeness is one of the characteristics of human communication whether in verbal communication or nonverbal communication. Politeness occupies a central place in linguistic pragmatics. It has been suggested by Brown and Levinson that politeness is another level to conversational interaction besides the rules of the cooperative principle.[1] According to Brown and Levinson theory of politeness strategies are developed in order to save the hearer's "face". Face refers to "the public self-image that every member wants to for himself". Face Threatening Acts (FTA's) are acts that infringe on the hearers need to maintain his self-esteem and be respected. Politeness strategies are developed for the main purpose of dealing with FTA's.[2] So that, Brown and Levinson classified four types of politeness strategies, those are bald on record strategy, positive politeness strategy, negative politeness strategy and off record strategy.

In our daily life human always interacts with their environment. Human uses language to interact with other human. The language that used is oral and gesture (body language). Oral is the language that the speaker spoke. It is the important kind of language that used by human

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[1]Brown, P., & Levinson, S. *Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage,* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1987

[2]Brown, P., & Levinson, S. p.1. as quoted in Monsefi and Yaseer Hadidi, "*Male and Female EFL Teachers' Politeness Strategies in Oral Discourse and t   ects on the Learning Process and Teacher-Student Interaction*", *IJSELL Journal,* Volume 3, Issue 2, February 2015

because it is easy to understand by the conversationalist. The language that used by the speaker represents what the speaker feels. So that it is important to use language in our daily life.

In speaking a language, human needs a rule and also strategy to control what they speak. The conversation will be smooth if the conversationalist uses strategy that can prevent misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer. In our daily life, some people talk what they want to talk unconditionally. This case makes the speaker and the hearer are debating and disputing. For instance, when someone asks about a lesson with their partner and then the partner speaks too loud and answer it shortly by using bad expression it will make the hearer has face threatening act (FTA).

In the fact, many people do not keep their action and control what they want to say. People prefer to outspoken when they have conversation with their partner. People need more rules and strategies to control their utterance. In order to make their conversation smooth, people should practice the politeness strategies more.

Started in the middle of 1990s, researches on teachers have been carried on by many western scholars. Undoubtedly this trend shows that teachers play an important role in language teaching and learning. In China an ancient scholar Han Yu defined the role of teachers as "knowledge spreader, skill instructor, and problem solver". The advent of twenty-first century does not change the role of teachers intrinsically, but it requires the teachers to develop more qualities and traits. More specifically, the role of teachers is supposed to be a patient motivator, a helpful facilitator and a positive counsellor.[3] Flanders mentioned that teaching activity as "acts by the teacher which occur in the context of classroom interaction".[4]

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[3]Liu Peng, Fang Xie ,LinglingCai, *"A Case Study of College Teacher's Politeness Strategy in EFL Classroom"*, *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 1, pp. 110-115, January 2014

[4]Flanders, N. A., Analyzing *Teacher Behavior. Reading,* MA: Addison-Wesley, 1970

Teacher is the important element in the process of teaching learning in classroom. In teaching their students, teacher needs more patience and always keeps what teacher wants to say to their student. As the fact, in the teaching learning process teacher considers that they have different position with the students. Teacher feels older and has decision and also rule which should be obeyed and practiced by the students. Teacher gets angry and says something rudely when they found their students do not do what teacher has instructed. In the fact, there is still found teacher who feels that they should be appreciated and they are free to say anything to their students.

Teacher should have effective manner in handling classroom interaction with their students for some reasons. The first reason is because teacher is the real example for their students. Their action will be imitated by their students, if teacher educates their students politely. It means that whatever the condition and situation teacher should keep their action well. In fact, teacher prefers to show their anger in front of their students in order to make their students understand that the teacher dislike on what student's do. The second reason is because students will always remember what teacher speaks. In the classroom interaction, teacher should speak softly. It is because students will always impress on what teacher speaks. In the fact, teacher forgets to control their language when she/he is angry. Teacher speaks to their students rudely when she/he finds their students do not obey the rule that given.

In teaching learning process the researcher has passed, the researcher knows that there are some differences between the results of teaching learning that conducted. The result comes from the teacher's language which used by the teacher. The smooth language sometimes makes the students are easy to understand the topic which is given. Soft language which used, it makes the students feel they are appreciated by the teacher. Teacher needs to have good politeness while

they are in school and conducting the students in the class. It can be proved by the language and also attitude which the teacher is said and also done.

Islamic senior high school (MA) should treat the students with good politeness in order to save the hearer's face. The researcher wants to conduct the observation in MA Ar-Rahmah because Islamic senior high school sometimes tends to apply politeness more. So that, the researcher will analyze the type of politeness which is used by the teacher there and also the researcher will know the good way in speaking a language while the teaching-learning is running.

Based on the statement above, the researcher is interested in conducting research entitled **"The Analysis of Politeness Strategies Used by English Teacher at MA Ar-Rahmah".**

B. The Problem of the Study

To clarify the problem that is going to be analyzed, the problem of the study in this research is focused on "How are politeness strategies used by English teacher at MA Ar-Rahmah?"

C. The Objective of the Study

The main objective of this study is to analyze the type of politeness strategies are used by English teachers at MA Ar-Rahmah.

D. The Significant of the Study

The findings of this research are expected to both theoretical and practical contribution. Theoretically, the findings of the research are expected to give explanation about the analysis of the politeness strategies that used by English teacher while they have interaction with their students. Practically, the result of the research will be beneficial for those who want to know

more about the politeness that should be applied in having conversation and wants to practice the politeness that should be practiced especially for them whom work in education world.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

There are many senior high school in Kediri but in this research, the scope of the study is focused on politeness strategies that used by English teacher at MA ARRAHMAH. The researcher wants to analyze the politeness strategies that applied at Islamic Senior High School (MA) Ar-Rahmah.

Also, in this research, the researcher limits the discussion only about the conversation within the dialogue that used politeness strategies conducted by Brown and Levinson's theory. It is classified into four types of strategies, they are bald on-record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record strategy.

F. Definition of Key Terms

1. **Politeness strategies :** Politeness strategies are kinds of communication strategies that emphasize on the politeness words in action. It uses four strategies of Brown and Levinson theory: positive politeness, bald-on record, negative politeness and off record. (Brown and Levinson 1987).

2. Positive Politeness : One of strategies of politeness which is intended to avoid giving offense by highlighting friendliness.

3. Negative Politeness : politeness strategy which is intended to avoid giving offense by showing deference.

4. Off Record : politeness strategy which has purpose to take some off of the hearer.

5. Bald on Record : Strategy which does nothing to minimize threats to the hearer's face.