

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher explains some aspects related to the topic studied. It contains background of study, the problems of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

#### A. Background of Study

Literature and pragmatic are necessary for this research. To understand the utterances used by the speaker, the researcher needs to study the pragmatics. Pragmatics deals with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by a listener or reader. According to Yule, pragmatic is the study of contextual meaning, the exploration on how listeners make inferences about what is said in order to arrive at an interpretation of the speaker's intended meaning.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, literature is related to writing in expression and form. There are some kinds of literature; such as poetry, novel, history, biography and essay. It is very interesting to study.

Communication is the basic phenomenon that includes all human interactions in daily life. Human create form of communication in their life. They create and share some informations about their idea, thought and

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<sup>1</sup> George Yule, *Pragmatic* (London: Longman, 2000) 3-8.

feeling. Moreover, a communication will be successful when there is no misunderstanding and misinterpretation.

Request strategy is a significant part of communication. The form of direct and indirect request strategies will be useful to make a good communication. When someone speaks to another, the speaker must be aware and more careful to what is being talked, and the hearer must concentrate on a conversation or utterance. Therefore the hearer must have good concentration.

Direct and indirect requests are parts of speech act. According to Searle, speech acts are the basic unit of linguistic communication.<sup>2</sup> When people utter a sentence, it is not just to saying things but also actively doing things: making requests, giving orders and making questions.

Direct and indirect requests often used in a conversation on the movie, because the utterance or conversation in movie is part of the human communication. Sometimes a story and conversation in movie uses daily communication. In this research, the researcher chooses a movie to analyze about direct and indirect request strategies as object of the research because part of conversation in a movie uses direct and indirect request strategies. Moreover, the people use request strategies in daily communication, and therefore the researcher want to analyze a movie in this research.

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<sup>2</sup> Searle, *Speech Acts: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language* (Cambridge, Eng: Cambridge University Press, 1969) 16.

In this research, the researcher chose *City of Ember* movie as an object of research because in *City of Ember* movie the researcher found some interesting phenomena dealing with the use of direct and indirect requests in the conversation. Moreover, *City of Ember* movie is a 2008 American science fiction fantasy film. It was directed by Gil Kenan, This movie is very successful and popular, so researcher wants to analyze conversations which related to direct and indirect requests in this movie.

Furthermore there are some reasons of choosing this movie. First of all, *City of Ember* movie is very popular. This movie is very interesting because this movie based on the 2003 novel *The City of Ember* by Jeanne Duprau. The second one is because this movie shows interaction that used in direct and indirect request used by people in daily communication. The third one is because there are many direct and indirect request strategies used in *City of Ember* movie.

Requests that consist in some various situations which it has connection between speaker and hearer. According to Trosborg, a request is an illocutionary act where a speaker or requester conveys to a hearer or requester that he or she wants the requester to perform an act, which is for the benefit of the speaker.<sup>3</sup>It means that people make requests in daily communication to someone to do something. It happens between speaker and hearer. When people make some requests in a way communication with others, they must know the situation when they want to ask

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<sup>3</sup>Anna Trosborg, *Interlanguage Pragmatics: Requests, complaints, and Apologies*. (Berlin New York: Morton de Gruyter, 1995) 187.

something. Sometimes when request happened in uncertain situation, it will make the message does not deliver to the listener and request does not happen if the listeners misunderstand about it.

The request used in the movie is the representation of the real conversations in society and daily communication. The language used in this movie is made up as natural as the real life. The language used in movies and daily communication is different because movie has script and daily life has no script. Movie has a relation with human interaction. It also has social context. Someone uses a request as the way to talk with other people. It creates a good relation. Request in movie is based on script.

Direct and indirect request are used by human. It is often found in daily communication because people used request when they talk to others. Therefore, the researcher tries to conduct a study entitled **An Analysis of Direct and Indirect Request in *City of Ember* Movie.**

#### **B. The Problems of the Study**

The researcher only focuses on analyzing direct and indirect request strategies in *City of Ember* movie. Therefore, the research problem in this study is as follows: "What are the kinds of direct and indirect request strategies found in *City of Ember* movie?"

#### **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the research questions above, it is necessary for the researcher to state the purpose of the research as follows: To describe the

kinds of direct and indirect request strategies found in *City of Ember* movie.

#### **D. Significance of the Study**

The significance of the study is to increase the study about pragmatic, especially about direct and indirect request strategies. Hopefully this research give contribution all people, especially in education. The result of this research could be useful for the students of English Department and the further researcher.

##### **1. For the students of English Department**

This study could be useful for the English Department students. It can gives explanation about request strategy. Moreover, the students can get good knowledge of direct and indirect request strategies and they get new examples about direct and indirect request.

##### **2. For the next researcher**

The next researchers will get some information about direct and indirect request strategies. Therefore, this study will be useful to help the further researchers, because the next researchers need knowledge and references as the consideration and they will get large knowledge about direct and indirect request from this study.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

In this research, the researcher focuses on direct and indirect request strategies taken from the movie dialogues in *City of Ember* movie by Gil Kenan, and the varieties of categories of direct and indirect request

strategies used in *City of Ember* movie. It is because requests have many categories.

This research only focuses on Blum-Kulka, House, and Kasper theory. There are three categories of request, such as direct request, conventionally indirect request and non-conventionally indirect request. Then, each category has sub-categories.

#### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

This research has some key terms which are related to analysis of direct and indirect request strategies. The key terms are speech act, request, direct, conventionally indirect, non-conventionally indirect and movie. The following terms are definitions of the key terms.

##### 1. Speech acts

According to Austin, speech acts as acts performed by utterance such as giving order, making promises, complaining, requesting, among others.<sup>4</sup>

##### 2. Request

A request is a speech act which expresses the speaker's desire to the hearer to perform an action with the added proviso that the hearer takes this expesed desire as the reason to act.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Austin, How to Do Things with Words. In A.Jaworski & N. Coupland (Eds.), *The discourse reader* (New York: Routledge, 1962). 65.

<sup>5</sup> Bach & Harnis, *linguistic communication and specch act* (Crambidge, MA: MIT Press, 1979). 89.

### 3. Direct

Direct is a request was coded as a directive if its meaning was directly determinable from its linguistic content alone.<sup>6</sup>

### 4. Conventionally Indirect

Conventionally Indirect request is an utterance was described as conventionally indirect if its meaning was interpreted through its linguistic content in conjunction with contextual cues.<sup>7</sup>

### 5. Non-conventionally indirect

Non-conventionally indirect request is a request was considered non-conventionally indirect if its illocutionary force was dependent upon contextual inference.<sup>8</sup>

### 6. Movie

Movie is a story or event recorder by a camera as a set of moving images and shown in a theater or on television (*a motion picture*).

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<sup>6</sup> Blum-Kulka, S., House, J., & Kasper, *Cross-cultural Pragmatics: Request and apologies* (Norwood, NJ: Ablex. G, 1989), 273-294.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.