Impoliteness in Daily Conversation of Javanese: A Case Study of Students at Sahid University of Surakarta

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Abstract:
This study aims to find out the impoliteness strategies used by students of Surakarta Sahid University. It employed qualitative research by applying the descriptive analysis. Observation and documentation were used to collect the data in this study. Furthermore, Culpeper's theory was used to categorize and analyze the types of impoliteness strategies that the students used in their daily conversations. The result showed that five impoliteness strategies were found. The strategies are 1) bald on record impoliteness, 2) positive impoliteness, 3) negative impoliteness, 4) mocking others, and 5) withhold impoliteness. Moreover, the most dominant strategy used by the students was bald on record impoliteness.

Keywords:
communication, impoliteness strategies, Javanese language

JEL: A30, A31, B00

INTRODUCTION

Communication is an everyday activity of human beings. It has a broader concept than language. Using communication, people can share ideas, deliver a message, and also keep relationships with others. Every person has different ways of communication. (Kapur, 2020) stated that communication is divided into two categories based on the situation, namely formal communication and informal communication. Of course, the way it is applied is different. Formal or official communication is easily found in professional lives, such as official meetings, speeches/ presentations, and lectures. However, informal communication mostly happens spontaneously and is free-flowing without a formal structure. A conversation between siblings and classmates is an example of situation which use informal communication. Furthermore, (Kapur, 2020) mentioned types of communication based on the way it delivers, namely oral communication (face-to-face), oral communication (distance), written communication, non-verbal communication, grapevine communication, feedback communication, visual communication, and active listening. Shortly, verbal or oral communication has the most chance of triggering someone's impoliteness during the communication process. In communication there are two kinds of communication. They are polite and impolite communication. Polite communication is usually called as politeness and impolite communication is usually called as impoliteness. The two kinds of communication cannot be separated into human life. It happens in all over the world in any kind of language. One of many languages that also use polite and impolite strategies is Javanese.

The concept of Javanese culture cannot be separated from politeness communication. (Nuryantiningsih, 2018) observed that the Javanese language fulfils fascinating the values such as politeness, friendliness, and respect which teach about human values. There are definite rules that must be followed by Javanese people when they interact each other, particularly in language usage. Again, (Nuryantiningsih, 2018) concluded that Javanese language is divided into four types, namely *ngoko lugu, ngoko alus, krama, lugu,* and *krama alus. Ngoko lugu* and *ngoko alus* are commonly used to communicate among people (younger-elder) whose kinship is very close. Meanwhile, *krama lugu* and *krama alus* shows higher politeness level than *ngoko.* Those languages are commonly happened among persons to

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respect the listener-it does not matter whether the listener is younger or elder. However, both types of languages have a difference in their usage. *Krama lugu* is used by persons in informal speech, while *krama alus* is used by persons in formal speech. Those deal with (Magford, 2008) that communication is influenced by several factors, namely age difference, social status, gender, a social distance of familiarity, and situation.

Furthermore, impoliteness can be found in many situations, not just when talking to someone at that moment. However, it can also be found nowadays while watching movies, in commercials, or during religious events on television or YouTube. People will encounter words that use inappropriate language even when they share an opinion with others, without considering whether the language is abusive or not. There are many researchers conducted about politeness strategies in communication but there are still a few research that talk about impoliteness strategies in Javanese. The researcher is very interested to conduct research about impoliteness in Javanese. Javanese is mother tongue of the researcher and used in daily activity. Sahid University of Surakarta is one private university in Surakarta which all students use Javanese as the first language. It will make the researcher feels easier to get the data of the research. The researcher wants to know how the students use the impoliteness strategies in their daily activity.

Regarding those phenomena, this study aims to investigate the impoliteness strategies used by Javanese students. In this case, the discussion about impoliteness strategies is proposed by Culpeper's theory, namely bald on record impoliteness, positive impoliteness, negative impoliteness, mock impoliteness, and withhold impoliteness.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to (Culpeper, 1996), impoliteness strategies were used to attack the interlocutor's face and create social disruption. Furthermore, (Culpeper, 2005) identified five types of impoliteness, namely bald on record impoliteness, positive impoliteness, negative impoliteness, mock impoliteness, and withhold impoliteness. Bald on record impoliteness is an action to threaten the listener's face directly, clearly, unambiguously, and irrelevant. For example, "*Stop asking*", said by an employer to employee. Positive impoliteness is designed to damage the listener's positive face wants. It can happen in some ways, such as mentioning other people's names, using taboo words, and using inappropriate identify markers. For example, "*Hih, you only pretend to be a good listener*", said a newly married woman to her husband. Negative impoliteness is the opposite of positive impoliteness. It is designed to damage the listener's face. This strategy can be done by attacking other's party space. For example, "*You should have told it me, shouldn't you be truthful*?", said a mother to her daughter. Mock impoliteness happens when a speaker says politely, but his/her meaning is the opposite. For example, "*It's funny you didn't pass the international science competition, isn't it? A student with many achievements. A student like you".* Withhold impoliteness is designed with silence. It means that the speaker does not show the politeness act that the listener expects. For example, *A:" Thank you for coming" – B: ((silence)).*

This research wants to get the impoliteness strategies in Javanese. Because of the reason we must understand what the Javanese language is. Javanese language is one of many languages which has friendliness, politeness values, and respecting. We can look those values in the usage variation of Javanese language as a tool of communication. Javanese language has characteristics in its speech level system (*undha usuk*). The values in level of Javanese language speech teaches about humanity values, which are *andap asor*, *empan papan, aja dumeh,* and *tepa seliro.* Speech level system of Javanese language is an important sign of politeness which the relationship system of Javanese people (Poedjosoedarmo, 1979). Nevertheless, not all of Javanese people understand about the Linguistic Politeness. This happens because not all people understand and proficient in using speech level (*undha usuk*) well in terms of communication

Today's language impoliteness is intentionally and contains inappropriate words or unpleasant language. This issue, of course, makes listeners uncomfortable. In addition, several studies on impoliteness have been carried out. (Ezra, 2018) examined the impoliteness strategy haters on Instagram commentators using a pragmatic approach. It aimed to find out

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the type of impoliteness strategies. The study analyzed 200 comments of male and female artists. Based on Culpeper's theory, the users mostly used positive impoliteness from the five strategies. Another study was conducted by (Alias, 2019), which analyzed 254 impolite comments. The data was taken from the commentary box of two drag queens' music videos posted on YouTube and Instagram. Bald on record impoliteness, negative impoliteness, and mock politeness appeared in the study. The result showed that the most dominant strategy was negative impoliteness. Furthermore, (Novalia, 2022) found bald on record impoliteness as the most dominant impoliteness strategy in her study. After knowing those previous study, almost all impoliteness strategies can be found easily in the communication process in the form of spoken or written.

METHODOLOGY
This study used qualitative research design by applying descriptive analysis. Observation and documentation are used to collect the data. The data collected were in the form of verbal expressions. The data source was taken from students in the English class of Sahid Surakarta University. Culpeper's theory identifies the type of impoliteness strategies employed in the class. Besides, Miles and Huberman's model was used for analyzing the data, namely data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing.

RESULT & DISCUSSION
Most students at Surakarta Sahid University are Javanese people. Of course, the Javanese language is mostly used in their daily conversation. Based on Culpeper's theory, 21 utterances were captured in a classroom that employed 30 students. The findings are highlighted in Table 1.

Table 1. Data of impolite strategies

No	Impolite Strategies	Total
1	Bald on Record Impoliteness	7
2	Positive Impoliteness	5
3	Negative Impoliteness	4
4	Mocking Impoliteness	5
5	Withhold impoliteness	2

According to Table 1, the most dominant strategy was bald on record impoliteness. Positive politeness and mocking politeness were the second-highest strategies used by the students. Then, negative impoliteness was not so much appearing in the classroom conversation. Next, the least used strategy was withhold impoliteness.

Here are examples of expression of impoliteness strategies used by students found in the classroom while learning English.

Bald on record Impoliteness

Table 2. Bald on record impoliteness dialogue

A: "*Fandik, tasmu kok elekmen, sing tuku neng endi?"*
("Fandik, your bag is ugly, where do you buy it?)"
B: "*Ngece, iki tas larang yo"*
("Oh, come on, it is very expensive, bro")
A: "*Halah imitasi"*
("That must be imitation")

According to the conversation, it shows that bald on record impoliteness strategy was used. The utterance "…your bag is ugly…" shows the way how A shared his opinion directly and concisely about B's bag. The word ugly refers to A's thought that B's bag was awful. The utterance emphasizes how A threats B about his bag. Furthermore, A did not seem to believe what B said about the bag's price. It can be seen from A's utterance, "That must be imitation".

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Positive Impoliteness

Table 3 Positive impoliteness dialogue

A: "*Kui kuping po centelan, Cuk*" ("Is that real ears or decoration?") B: "*Menengo*" ("Shut up")

The dialogue happened in the classroom while the teaching learning process, particularly at forum group discussion. The speaker and listener are close friends. Looking at the dialogue, in fact, A did not feel angry at B. A just wanted to damage B's cheerful face because of A's disagreement. Even though A was being impoliteness through his words, B was not angry either.

Negative Impoliteness

Table 4 Negative impoliteness dialogue

A: "*Kowe wes garap PR Bahasa Inggris durung?*" ("Have you done the English homework?") B: "*Durung e, lah kowe?*" ("Not yet. How about you?") A: "Uwes lah, kesetmen kowe!" ("I've done. How lazy you are!")

Table 5 Negative impoliteness dialogue

B: *"Kowe iso nerangke meneh materine wingi?"* ("Would you mind to repeat the last material?") A*: "Bodomen kowe, gampang banget yo."* (How fool you are! It's so easy.")

A negative impoliteness strategy is utilized to damage the opposing face of the listeners. The two dialogues above happened in the classroom when the students discussed the homework and the previous material. In dialogue 1, A looked to belittle B explicitly because B had not finished his homework yet by saying, "…How lazy you are!". Also, in dialogue 2, A underestimated B because B still did not understand about the material. Whereas, according to A, the material is very easy to understand. Looking at the utterance, A also compared B with himself indirectly.

Mocking impoliteness

Table 6 Mocking impoliteness

A: "*Drijimu njelei men koyo pitik. Mbok diketok?*" ("Your fingernails are too nasty. That must be cut") B: "*yo yo mengko*" ("Ok, later")'

From the dialogue above, the utterance "Your fingernails are too nasty" makes the listener unhappy. This made the listener uncomfortable because he had been mocked. Having that mock, he was considered a person who did not care about health and cleanliness.

Withhold impoliteness

Table. 7 Withold impoliteness

A: "*Jon, tulung sisan jupukke bukuku?"*
   ("Jon, please, take my book")
B: ((diam saja sembari membawakan buku)
   ((silent))
A: "*Nuwun yo wis jupukke"*
B: ((still silent)

Withhold strategy does not do strategy politeness as expected. Based on the dialogue above, B also belonged to an impolite person. It is because he did not answer or give respond to A. Whereas, A needed his help to bring his book, and A was waiting for B's answer whether he was willing to help him or not. Furthermore, when A thanked him after B handed the book to A, B was silent and just walked away.

CONCLUSION

Impoliteness can happen to anyone who uses a language, especially Javanese. It cannot be removed from our social interaction. It has become a phenomenon in our society's attitude. Moreover, this is done by all groups, namely students, teachers, and others. Many factors influence impoliteness strategies, such as age, social status, gender, a social distance of familiarity, and situation. And, this study had investigated five strategies based on Culpeper's theory, namely bald on record impoliteness, positive impoliteness, negative impoliteness, mock impoliteness, and withhold impoliteness. Even though adopting impoliteness has frightful consequences in a relationship, in fact, many people still do that. On the other hand, the impoliteness phenomenon that occurs in society can also be used as learning language that need to be avoided by every person.

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