Investigating EFL Students' Language Politeness in Their English-Speaking Practices: A Study on Grade X Students of SMA 1 Parangloe Gowa District

Nurfathana Mazhud[1], Ihramsari Akidah[2]
[1,2] Universitas Muslim Indonesia
[1]nurfathana.mazhud@umi.ac.id

Abstract

The importance of language politeness is not just refining words but conveying things that honestly reflect the pattern of civilized society. Language politeness is a very important aspect in shaping students' language and character. Assessment of language politeness is the ability of children to speak and with whom they speak. Speaking skills in students' language politeness can be seen when they communicate daily in both formal and non-formal environments. The age of children at the high school level is a period when thinking is full of idealism, so that this period requires personality formation to achieve positive behavior change, one of which is good communication behavior in the surrounding environment. Therefore, research on speaking skills in fostering language politeness among class X SMA Negeri 1 Parangloe becomes very meaningful for saving, habituation, and developing character values in realizing a civilized nation. This study aims to determine the language politeness of class X students of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe during their learning interactions in class. The data analysis technique used with a qualitative approach is literature study to analyze the results of the student's conversation transcription in the learning process. Based on the results of research and discussion, it can be concluded that 1) The learning process at SMA Negeri 1 Parangloe, in general, students have high self-confidence to speak in public so that vocabulary is needed to be balanced with language politeness. 2) The most typical form of language behavior occurs during face-to-face conversations between people who come from the same culture so that the principles of politeness are applied in the learning process.

Keywords: Speaking Skills, Language Politeness, Senior High School

INTRODUCTION

The speech became a discussion in an activity that has been conducted by the Language Development and Development Agency, Ministry of Education and Culture, at the end of 2015 with thetheme " Refresh of Indonesian LanguageSkills". The purpose of the implementation of the activity was presented by the Head of the Language Development Center at the opening of the activity which suggested that "dneeda sense of speech so that we become a civilized nation. Politeness is not a euphemism or smoothing it out, tell the truth, because it is also part of the impression" *(Badanbahasa.kemdikbud.go.id online* news on November 24, 2015). The importance of speaking is not just the refining of words, but conveying things that honestly reflect the pattern of civilized society.

For a long time, civilized people knew a language that was polite and polite, but often found many children or people today to say words that are considered disrespectful so that there needs to be a sense of language in encouraging the smoothing of expressions

and the delivery of the real thing. The change in the sense of language reflected in the pronunciation of words is one indicator of a shift in character values as a form of mutual respect between each other. There needs to be a difference in the pronunciation of words in communicating with peers, older and elderly people, leaders, and so on.

Also presented by President Jokowi on National Teacher Day 2015, namely "Guru Mulia because of Karya, the president asked Indonesian teachers to continue to work and produce creative learning models so as to encourage students to be creative children. Character education is done in schools as a learning arena for children in character formation. Teachers have a strong influence in shaping their protégé's character so that it can start by making it a habit in the classroom." Similarly, with language guidance, speaking skills need to become a positive habit by using polite words in daily communication.

When communicating with speech partners, speakers must establish good interaction through a variety of speech, in order for the speaker to understand then one must understand the intricacies of good communication. One of them is by using polite language. The size of the language impression is determined by other factors such as: accuracy and clarity of speech, mutual adheres to and mutual respect of the other party. The impression of language can be done because of the encouragement of mutual respect and mutual respect so as to produce effective communication as desired.

This shows that the government's attention in realizing a civilized nation through the impression of language can also begin in the world of education. Speaking skills in the impression of language are the initial capital of the formation of students' character in realizing a civilized nation. The change in the use of language shows that there has been a change in certain values and ways of thinking that seem to enjoy freedom of expression as the times progress that encourage some people to do their best by conveying things without filters first. Febriasari and Wenny (2018:141) "With the rise of slang in the community, the child has the assessment that by using the language, he can be accepted by his friends who follow *the trend* in hisneighborhood". lingkungannya

Speaking skills in the language will be obtained through discussion activities during the learning process in the classroom. The language impression stipulated is interesting to apply among students grade X of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe. This is due to the following reasons. *First,*historically, history has shown that the changes that occur in today's society are inseparable from the role of language used as a means of communication. *Secondly,*there are often frictions and conflicts in the community, whether in school environments, family environments, or between ethnicities. The age of the child at the high school level is a time of the emergence of idealistic thinking so that today it is necessary to establish personality to achieve positive behavior changes, one of which is with good communication behavior in the surrounding environment. Such destructive behaviors, often caused by physical conflict horizontally or vertically, are assumed to also manifest in their language behavior. Therefore, the research of speaking skills in fostering language impressions among students of Grade X of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe becomes very meaningful for the rescue, habituation, and development of character values in realizing the civilized.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The community is a society that arises from communication meetings or symbolic integration, while respecting the communicative capabilities of its speakers. This is in line with the success of setting social interaction through language are strategies that take into account the status of speakers and speech partners. The successful use of these strategies

creates an atmosphere of language that allows social transactions to take place without embarrassing speakers and speech partners (Ismari, 1995:35).

The effect of language is one of the objects of pragmatic study. Pragmatic itself is a branch of language science that discusses the use of language in the communication process (Levinson, 1962). Therefore, pragmatic theory is considered suitable for understanding problems, analyzing data, and describing the results of data analysis on how to behave politely, including how to behave politely in minimizing the compulsion of speakers to speakers.

Austin (1962) grouped the acts into three, namely the lokusi, ilokusi, and perlokusi. Alokusi is a speech action performed by a speaker to convey a message that the speaker's message is the same as the lexical meaning or grammatical meaning of the words used to express the speech. In other words, the lokusi is used to convey the speaker's message literally. Ilokusi is a speech action used to convey the speaker's message implicitly. In the ilokusi, the speaker's message is hidden behind a literal statement. To understand the message in the ilokusi, speakers need to connect speech with the context of the speech. Perlokusi is a speech action used by speakers to get certain effects from speakers.

The theory of language is influenced by the *concept of face (face)* put forward by Brown and Levinson (1987). According to Brown and Levinson, the face refers to self-image. A person's face or self-image can fall. Therefore, the face needs to be guarded or protected. In order for the face not to fall, the face needs to be guarded by both the owner of the face itself and others who are communicating. One of the factors that has the potential to drop the face of the perpetrator is the speech action, the speech action needs to be equipped with a face saving device in the form of a language effect.

The concept or principle of language impressions has been widely expressed by experts. The basis of expert opinion on the concept of language impressions varies. There is a concept of impression formulated in the form of rules, some are formulated in the form of strategies. The concept of language impression formulated in the form of rules forms the principles of impression, while the concept of impression formulated in the form of strategy forms the theory of language impression (Rustono, 1999:67-68).

As for the previous research related to this research, namely research from Nurhayati, (2009) entitled "Realization of Language Impressions among Students in Interacting with Lecturers and Employees" the results of his research, among others: *First,* the form of language impression includes (1) impression in pleading, (b) the impression of asking, the impression of guidance in inviting; (2) the effect of being welcome; and (4) the effect of refusing. *Second,* deviations of the principle of decency include, (1) deviations against maksim wisdom; (2) deviation from the concentration maksim; (3) deviation from the maksim of generosity. *Third,* the scale of language impressions is formulated with three types of speech, among others the level of impression of the most polite type up to the most unsansized speech.

The similarities of this study are equally researched in terms of language impressions, while the difference is nurhayati research examines the impression of language among students and this research examines the impression of language among students that is the conversation in the learning process takes place.

Furthermore, previous research on language impressions has been conducted by Master of Language and Literature Education students of Indonesia, Rohmah Tussolekha with the title "*Prinsip Cooperation and Manners on Communication of Junior High School Students Muhammadiyah 1 on Facebook Social Network and Its Implications for Indonesian Language Learning in Junior High* School". The research covers two different realms of principle, between language and cooperation in conversational principles. The

research that will be conducted focuses on the realm of language impressions, in which case the researcher will present a description of the impression in the form of maksim-maksim which is closely related to the attitude of speakers of the language. Therefore, the content of language impressions in this study can be applied in polite speech.

METHOD

This study employs qualitative descriptive research with *grounded theory* strategy (theory from below). In this study, the strategy is intended to start the research by analyzing the results of the evaluation of students' speech skills, analysis of transcription of discussion conversations during classroom learning with the application of language guidance in the discussion to the achievement of the learning results of grade X students of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe.

Grounded *theory strategies are* used by researchers, as they are supported by Creswell's opinion (2010:20) which suggests this research strategy, in which researchers "produce" general and abstract theories of a process. The draft requires researchers to undergo a number of stages of data collection and filtering of categories for information obtained. The general theory intended in this study is a combination of the opinions of several experts who explained the analysis of the principles of student speaking principles in a discussion so that researchers can make their own conclusions based on a combination of expert theories. Furthermore, evaluate the learning results related to the results of the discussion by adjusting the competency standards taught so that it can be obtained the final conclusion of the student's grades by referencing the Minimum Completed Criteria (KKM) at Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe.

This research is qualitative research with descriptive methods. Semi (1993:23) states qualitative research is conducted by not prioritizing numbers, but using the depth of delusion against interactions between concepts that are being empirically reviewed. A descriptive method is to describe the data obtained as is. The goal is to describe the data or provide a systematic picture (Semi, 1993: 24). Methods are a way for researchers to find understanding in line with the focus and goals set. The method used in this study is a descriptive method of analysis. The data obtained is presented in the form of a description followed by analysis, namely describing the learning process through the results of discussion and observation recordings, as well as a description of the results of the evaluation of the learning.

The data in this study is grade X students of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe and teachers in the field of Indonesian studies. Teachers and researchers collaborate in the implementation of speech skills learning planning by habituation of the use of language in communication both formal and nonformal. The data source in this study is the result of transcription of students' conversations with certain learning themes tailored to the textbooks used in the school.

The data analysis technique used with a qualitative approach is a library study to analyze the transcription results of students' conversations in the learning process through discussion and simulation methods. To analyze the data in this study used interactive model data analysis techniques as Miles and Huberman put it (1992: 15-20). This interactive analysis model has two prominent features: analysis during data collection and after data collection. Data in the form of transcription of student conversations that become primary data is a recording of conversations obtained during the learning process in the classroom in accordance with the learning planning in achieving the standard of learning completeness in speaking skills. The results of the study were also used as data from the study to find out the extent of the improvement of children's speaking skills by habituation

and application of language principles in classroom discussions. Secondary data in this study was observations during the learning process related to the movement of the child's body/attitude when speaking at discussion forums so that it can be used as nonverbal data to facilitate researchers in analyzing students' speaking skills.

In analyzing qualitative data (adopted from Moleong, 2009: 247) various measures are used, as follows.

1) Study all available data from various sources, i.e. based on reading results or literature studies.
2) Conduct data reduction done by abstraction. Abstraction is an attempt to make a core summary of student conversation*transcription.*
3) The next step is to arrange the data in units that are then categorized while *coding the* data.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The main problem of this research is the effort to activate the learning process in the classroom and know the ability of students to speak with the application of language principles. The writer focuses on one class only, which is done in grade X$_2$ of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe. With the application of the principles of speaking language learning skills were carried out in two meetings. Based on the Learning Implementation Plan (RPP) that has been made, research has been carried out at Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe Grade X in accordance with the measures that have been prepared. Here is data on students' speech results when discussing in class so that they can be further analyzed the various words and sentences conveyed in relation to the student's language impressions.

The plan in this class action study is to make the preparation of the learning process. The preparation is carried out in the form of Learning Implementation Plan (RPP) with the action of the teacher checking the presence of students and the formation of groups; students prepare to take lessons; the teacher explains by giving aperception of the steps in determining the shared theme; students are given the opportunity to determine the topic, material purpose before discussing; students are given the opportunity to prepare a list of questions and follow-up questions; students are given time to discuss the selected topic and then create a list of questions; students are divided into both *pros and cons groups* on selected topics; students begin discussions with debate models on the topic; teachers act directly as moderators; and at the end of student meetings with teachers conclude subject matter.

The learning process in the classroom is active and smooth by carrying out the entire learning set/steps that have been compiled in RPP. Various topics of conversation that arise based on group discussions divided into 5-6 people and the selection of topics that are most chosen by students to be discussed further with the debate model that students are divided into two groups namely agreeing and disagreeing with the topic, namely "Internet Use among Adolescents". The results of the discussion are transcribed into the following sections of the conversation.

1. **Conversation Piece A**

    Student A : "I am here eee,,, as a pro group or agree to the use of the internet for teenagers so as to facilitate us, let alone in doing tasks, eeehh, tasks that you are tau. Yes, it used to be an opener" (accompanied by alternating hand movements).

    Student B : "Thank you for the opportunity given, I disagree with what the group said earlier, eeehh,,, which says that the internet makes it easier for us, because

there are so many negative impacts given, that we are given the sense that we have to do the work from various sources of reference books."

From the data of conversation A, it can be known that the intent of the two students to argue in accordance with the division of the group agrees and disagrees with the theme of "Internet Utilization for Youth". Students' confidence when expressing opinions is starting to be seen, there are some words that are used not yet classified as standard words and in accordance with effective sentences, such as "the task you are tau" more precisely "unknown task" and the phrase "eeee" indicates that the student is still thinking about the sentence to be delivered. The form of his language impression on conversation piece A is considered to be a result in inviting and rewarding the opportunities given to him. Both students expressed opinions with positive impressions and negative impressions using speech as is.

2. **Conversation Piece B**

Student C : "What do you do if you run into obstacles in obtaining books?

Student D: "We see with technological sophistication, we can make good use of it, eee adds knowledge."

Student B: "I'm very understanding of what friends are saying, it's just that eee we see right now, eee the number of crimes committed easily over the internet, eeeemmm let alone teenagers nowadays sometimes forget tasks and HOMEWORK because busy playing HP play internet."

In conversation B, it is clear that students C speak politely by being influenced by the background of the area "ta" which means "we" with a polite phrase for bugis community and "kan" will be more formal if conveyed in other words e.g. "don't". The word "and" is used in conjunction with the word "with" indicating the waste of the word that should be used only because both are conjunctions. Students who speak always use the word "eeee or eemm" indicating behavior or pause to think about what to say. This is certainly related to the language impression of the student's self-image so that it does not look awkward when speaking they fill the pause with the word "eeee" which will one day disappear by itself if accompanied by good mastery and vocabulary treasury.

3. **Conversation Section C**

Student E: "Me! (holding hands). If I, many tasks and information sent through BBM quickly as many people eee classmates, there is a task can be reminded because friends tell stories *in the* group so others also know, hence the benefits of the internet very much".

Student F: "All right, our friends see mi now, a lot of people are busy with other people's affairs, bickering in his comments, so a lot of people know so the problem is so big, that's the impact as well".

As classroom learning progresses, many students have become active by showing enthusiasm for arguing about what their friends are arguing about. Student E refers to the word showing nonverbal language without having to cut off the conversation of another friend who is arguing, after which he is welcome to start speaking. This indicates the impression of begging or asking to be welcome without having to interrupt or other behavior that would interfere with the discussion. Student F also when arguing is influenced by the regional dialect which is the phrase "mi" which means "already or this". The use of Indonesian language used by students is far from as effective as it should be but the way it is delivered has been heavily influenced by the impression of language so that it sounds more polite and does not offend others with the language it uses.

4. **Conversation D**

Student G: "Thanks for the opportunity, many opinions of friends, this is how the internet is now very easy to obtain or access but a lot of the impact, if I'm more siding with friends who don't agree, for example just the same me, parents or moms at home often scold when things or jobs are given but just answer 'wait a minute, just wait a minute', so this will have a negative impact".

Student H: "Thank you also for the opportunity given, it means not the internet is wrong but eee friend is abusing technology and not according to the time and place, if you are looking for lessons or material on the internet, surely you are not angry and keep doing the work given by parents. This is certainly very useful to add insight".

The conversation above shows that student G has a good enough speaking ability in terms of pronunciation and good use of words, not forgetting that the student also expressed gratitude for the opportunity given to him. This is a polite speech with maksim appreciation by not degrading the opinions that have been expressed by his friends as well as the sampling that is conveyed still related to his own life. Student H follows the same way of speaking as previous friends did, without denigrating the previous opinion, which is conveyed in the form of intermediary advice that intends to argue but is conveyed with a simple speech image with the exposure of the benefits obtained in the use of the internet as needed and as it should be.

5. **Conversation Piece E**

Student I: "Very true, everything friends say. Here I would like to add that the various impacts we all get, I am more into the positive benefits because with the sophistication of technology, the internet can be used at any time to know the situation outside through *online news* quickly. Not only that, eeemmm (while seen thinking or remembering the next sentence) we are also not considered outdated because do not know using technology well, so a friend that I can say first".

Student A: "I would also like to say that the internet is now easy to use but because of the sophistication that many misused so much that it negatively influences, that's what we should know together".

Moderator: All right, brothers, thanks for the various opinions expressed earlier, although still have to stick with the group agree and disagree with internet technology today. But, it all comes back to each other, how do we make the most of it? All aspects of life are always faced with positive and negative impacts that expect us younger generations to be good at filtering or filtering information with technological sophistication so that it can be utilized best".

E's conversation is the final part of the discussion with the debate model. Student I is classified in maksim wisdom and agreement with various opinions that have been put forward before. Basically students are still very difficult to be liberated by the regional dialect that often the phrase "mi" is present at the end of the word used, but the words remain in the corridor of impression despite violating the standard rules of Indonesian language in the formal sphere. The moderators at the end of the discussion delivered conclusions without siding with the group that agreed or disagreed by the theme chosen to be debated by all students of Grade X of Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe.

Discussion

Based on the results of the above research, it can be clearly explained various forms of activity instruction carried out during the learning process in the classroom. Various examples of sentences that show the impression of language are conveyed by researchers by explaining based on the teaching materials that have been prepared before. "There is a concept of impression formulated in the form of rules, some are formulated in the form of strategies. The concept of language impression formulated in the form of rules forms the principles of impression, while the concept of impression formulated in the form of strategy forms the theory of language impression" (Rustono, 1999:67-68). By providing an understanding of students regarding language impressions is the initial capital for students to actively argue but remain in the corridor of impression.

It is conveyed that either agree or disagree still show mutual respect by denying every opinion using polite language. The principle stipulated by Brown and Levinson revolves around the face, namely (a) a positive face that refers to the self-image of the person wishing for what he or she does, what he or she has, or what are the values that he believes to be recognized by people as a good, pleasant, appreciated, etc.; and a negative face is a face that refers to the self-image of a person who desires that he be rewarded by the way the speaker leaves him free to do his actions or leaves him free from having to do something.

The instructions given to all students are the following.
1. Form a group of five each!
2. Each group will trigger one selected topic by exposing whatever is present in the student's mind and selecting one topic based on a mutual agreement and considered capable of further development, both in the form of questions and statements related to the selected topic with the details of each of the following groups.
   a. The Role of the Internet for Youth Life
   b. The Dangers of Drugs for Teenagers
   c. The Rise of Free Association
   d. Internet Abuse Among Today's Teens
   e. Benefits of Reading For Students
   f. Reduced Student Learning Interest
   g. HP, Is a Necessity or Just An Appearance
   h. Illegal Logging
   i. The Number of Students Who Often Break The Rules
   j. More Female Students in Male Appeal

Of the many topics written by each student, the most dominant topic chosen was "The Role of the Internet for Youth Life" so it was agreed together to further discuss the topic by dividing students into groups agreeing and disagreeing with the topic.

The atmosphere of the discussion was smooth and almost all had an interest in expressing his opinion. The majority of students come from the same culture that is Bugis Makassar because the students who attend Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe are native to the area so there is no gap and awkwardness because the dialect and intonation of the voice is almost the same by all students who are often presented when discussing in the classroom. This is related to Crystal's opinion, (1969:56) that in linguistics it is common to use the term intonation for patterns or sound contours which are the main components of verbal functioning to distinguish one form of word from another and then form an integral part of the verbal component. The most typical form of language behavior is what occurs during face-to-face conversations between people from the same culture, and this is what "normal language behavior" means. All other uses and manifestations of language, both written and spoken, are derived in one way normal

language behavior is understood in this sense. This is in line with the opinion expressed by Jauhari (2017: 117) namely "Strategies using group identity markers. The use of this strategy is done by using markers that show the similarity of identity between speakers and speech partners".

3. The systematics of the talks in discussions relates to the following.
    a. What is the nature or scope of the theme?
    b. What's the matter?
    c. What are the contributing factors?
    d. What is the solution or conclusion?
4. Each member of the group should be actively involved in the discussion!

Linguistics is common to use the term intonation for patterns or sound contours which are the main components of verbal functioning to distinguish one form of word from another and then form an integral part of the verbal component. The most typical form of language behavior is what occurs during face-to-face conversations between people from the same culture, and this is what "normal language behavior" means. All other uses and manifestations of language, both written and spoken, are derived in one way normal language behavior is understood in this sense.

Normal language behavior as it has been known has verbal components and nonverbal components. Nonverbal components consist of nonvocal and vocal as well as phenomena; and the vocal parts of the nonverbal component include prosodic and paralinguistic parts. Communication is not just a process, but a communication as a generation of meaning. When communicating with others, at least the other person understands the intent of the message conveyed by the speaker, more or less precisely in order for the communication to be carried out then a message must be created in the form of a sign (language, word). The messages that are conveyed encourage the opponent to create meaning for himself that is related in some ways to the meaning created in the message. The face-to-face form between students when arguing and looking at each other is a form of nonverbal communication related to the impression of language.

In the speech of the sentence delivered by the student is more alot when each student already wants to express his opinion so that there is a high intonation that indicates a seriousness and confidence in responding to the speech heard suggesting the intonation of the speech issued higher than before the intonation of the previous student. The high intonation of the speech as a way of convincing opponents of speech. In addition to high intonation as a means of speech to convince opponents of speech, high intonation is also used by the responder as a response to the information conveyed by the opponent of speech.

In addition to the high intonation in speech or statements delivered by students, there are also low intonations that are often used. Low intonation is used as a speech that he or she receives or uses speakers to give advice or reassure those who are persuasive and agree with previous opinions. Every word that is thrown during a conversation informs the listener. Furthermore, the response by other speakers (other students) indicates that "what previous speakers have expressed is communicative and informative so that other speakers respond by agreeing to the opinion. Based on this, it was also suggested by Rustono (1999: 70) that "The selection of the strategy depends on the small number of threats to the face. The smaller the threat to the face the smaller the number of strategic options and the greater the threat to the face then the greater the next strategy option number".

The movement of the body, according to John Lyons is paralinguistic that appears with the aim of revealing the verbal component. As Crystal (Lyons, 1979:40) has said that

"a tendency has expanded to the point where it becomes almost unhelpful". That is, body movements that appear when communication with others, sometimes according to what the speaker stipulates. However, sometimes it is not useful because it has been communicated in verbal form. Body movements that appear when conducting communication and with the intonation of different voices become a supporting factor for conveying the intent of opinion.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion, it can be concluded as follows. Speaking skills in the sense of language are one of the early capitals of the formation of students' character in realizing a civilized nation. The effect of language is the object of pragmatic studies that have been widely expressed by experts. The learning process that took place during the research at Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe, many students who have high confidence to speak in public so that the need for mastery of vocabulary is offset by the impression of language. By applying the understanding of language impressions in the learning process shows students to be more confident to express their opinions whether agreeing or not to a statement, but still delivered politely. The atmosphere of the discussion was smooth and almost all had an interest in expressing his opinion. The majority of students come from the same culture that is Bugis Makassar because students who attend Sma Negeri 1 Parangloe are indigenous people of the area so there is no gap and awkwardness because the dialect and intonation of the voice is almost the same by all students who are often active when discussing in the classroom.

The most typical form of language behavior occurs during face-to-face conversations between people from the same culture so that the principles of language guidance are applied in the learning process by collaboration of discussion and simulation methods for students of Grade X sma Negeri 1 Parangloe showing more active and effective interaction of learning process. All other uses and manifestations of language delivered in the simulation of learning, both written and oral derived in one way normal language behavior is understood (commonly used) and means a lot for the rescue, habituation, and development of character values in realizing civilized society (students). The delivery of sentence after sentence during the discussion has been clearly conducive to the use of more polite sentences based on the examples presented before the discussion began.

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