

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter is the introductory section of the research. In this chapter the researcher will elaborate background of the research, statement of the problem, purposes and significances of the research, procedure of writing, synopsis of the movie and definition of the key terms.

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Language is the most important thing in human's social life. There is no other communicative way as effective as it. Human can express their feeling, transform their ideas, or send their messages using language. However, sometimes there are many miscommunications in their social interaction caused by misinterpretation towards knowledge about the use of language in everyday contexts. Therefore, human have to learn about language usage in whole contexts of conversations. The study which applies language in daily conversations is pragmatics. Griffiths (2006: 1) stated that "Pragmatics is about the interaction of semantic knowledge of with our knowledge of the world, taking into account contexts of use".

Furthermore, in their daily social interaction, human often make mistakes either intentional or unintentional. Therefore they had to apologise either each other or one another in order to keep a good relationship. There are many apology strategies that appear either in real life or in movies. In this research, I want to

conduct one of linguistics' studies; pragmatics. Therefore this research categorized into linguistics research.

Apology is one of speech act that used to keep a good relationship between two parties in daily social life. Leech stated (as cited in Trosborg, 1994: 373), "The act of apologizing is a convivial speech act, the goal which coincides with the social goal of maintaining harmony between speaker and hearer."

Concept of apology was existed since 380 BC while Socrates made a speech act in front of his disciples. At that time, Socrates tried to make an account in order to defend his self towards impiety that he had done to youth. It was an actual record. This actual record then called by Plato, a disciple of Socrates, as words of Socrates' speech (Ho, 2005: 1-2)

Apology occurs when someone recognizes that he/she has performed an action or an utterance which has insulted other person, such as offending someone else, neglecting his or her duty, or causing trouble That will damage one's relationship. In Social interaction, someone may hurt other person's feeling unintentionally. This incident may cause misunderstanding. Trosborg (1994: 373), assumed that "apologies are expressive illocutionary acts which can be differentiated from complaints, which are also expressive acts, by being convivial in nature".

Furthermore, Ho (2005: 1-2), said that apologies are a previously unstudied social institution integral in the maintenance of relationships within society. It means that apology is one of expressive acts used by apologizer in order to rebuild a good relationship after he/she makes mistake to someone else,

or just makes polite manner in social interactions without indicating whether he/she has a mistake to someone else.

In Islam, the concept of forgiving someone in order to maintain the relationship and brotherhood between us and our society (horizontal relationship) has been mentioned in the Holy Qur'an (Al-Baqarah. 263): "Kind words and the covering of faults are better than charity followed by injury. Allah is free of all wants and He is most forbearing."

From the verse above, it could be affirmed that forgiveness is something ordered by religion. Giving other person forgiveness brings much rewards from Allah (the one and the only God), because it creates good circumstances in human being's environment. Therefore, it means that forgive each other is the most prestigious thing in social interaction according to Islamic perception.

This research focuses on apology strategies used by the characters in *Rush Hour 1* movie using Trosborg's apology strategies theory. The researcher chooses the movie because it contains more utterances consists of almost all of Trosborg's apology strategies than *Rush Hour 2* or *Rush Hour 3* for example. In *Rush Hour 2*, there are 26 utterances containing 10 apology strategies, in *Rush Hour 3* shows only 15 utterances containing only 7 apology strategies, whereas in *Rush Hour 1*, there are 56 utterances containing 16 apology strategies. Therefore, the movie is the most representative to be analyzed using Trosborg's theory of apology strategies.

The explanation above leads the researcher to put a title onto this research named "Apology Strategies in *Rush Hour 1* Movie".

## 1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the explanation of background of the research above, the researcher is interested to analyze apology strategies in *Rush Hour 1* movie. The reason for choosing *Rush Hour 1* movie as the object of the study is that because the movie provides situations describing how the apology strategies used. The movie also contains a lot of incidents showing the damage of relationship and the use of apology strategies to maintain the relationship. And the researcher's questions then are:

1. What kinds of apology strategies used in *Rush Hour 1* movie?
2. Which the most effective apology strategies to maintain the relationship used in *Rush Hour 1* movie?

## 1.3 Purpose and Significance of the Research

### 1. Purpose of the research

Purposes of this research are.

- a. To know kinds of apology strategies used in *Rush Hour 1* movie.
- b. To know which the most effective apology strategies to maintain the relationship used in *Rush Hour 1* movie

### 2. Significance of the Research

The Significances of this research are.

- a. For researchers, this research is expected to be significant as additional reference in conducting a related research.

- b. For common readers, this research is expected to give a contribution in enriching the readers' insights, especially in apology strategies discussion.

#### 1.4 Procedure of Writing

The writing of this research is organized into five chapters. Chapter I consists of background of problem, statement of problem, purpose of research, significant of research, definition of the key terms, and organization of paper.

Chapter II consists of literature review related data of research. This chapter presents the explanation about theories of speech act, apology and face, apology strategy, intensification and politeness.

Chapter III consists of methodology of research detailing method that used in this research. This includes design of research, technique of collecting data, technique of analyzing data, and the presentation of main data.

Chapter IV consists of the analysis of the data which is divided into two parts (1) the analysis of the findings data, and (2) the discussions of the findings data. The researcher presents the findings in the table which shows the result of analysis of apology strategies used by Inspector Lee, Agent Carter, Consul Han, Juntao/Commander Griffin, Agent Russ, Agent Johnson, Agent Whitney, the Foo Chow's waitress, the tourist, and Consul Han's assistant representing as the characters of Rush Hour 1 movie.

Chapter V consists of conclusions and suggestions. Conclusion reports on integrated understanding toward the entire result of the research. Suggestions are kinds of implication to anyone who considers this study important to them.



### 1.5 Synopsis of the Movie

Juntao was a lord of criminal in Hongkong. He led a kidnapping of a consul's daughter and a robbery of priceless Chinese's heritage. Consul Han, a Hongkong ambassador, tried to prevent Juntao from robbing his motherland heritage. He gave the task of preventing the robbery to Inspector Lee, an officer of Hongkong Police Department. Lee had succeeded in carrying out his assignment.

Two months after the glory against Juntao's crimes, Consul Han has a duty from Hongkong government to manage Hongkong Embassy in US. Juntao took the opportunity to make a revenge for Consul Han. He then planned to kidnap Soo Yung, Consul Han's daughter. He asked fifty millions US\$ to Consul Han as a ransom for getting his daughter back. FBI took the case. However, Consul Han wanted his abettor, Inspector Lee, to solve the case.

Lee arrived in US. FBI then asked LAPD to bring Lee far away from the case. LAPD chose James Carter, a detective in that institution to take the task from FBI. However, Carter did not succeed in handling his task. Instead, he and Lee tried to carry out the case together. Then the show was begun.

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### 1.6 Definition of the Key Terms

To avoid ambiguity and misunderstanding, some terms have to be used in this study. The terms are defined:

- **Apology strategies** are the methods used by individuals to perform the speech act of apology such as statement of apologies, remorse and

reparation, in order to avoid misunderstanding and miscommunication which it can be hurt other people's feelings.

- ***Rush Hour 1*** is a movie directed by Brett Ratner. This movie is starred by an action comedy movie's actor; Jackie Chan, as Inspector Lee and a comedy movie's actor; Chris Tucker, as Detective James Carter. It tells about a kidnapping of a Hongkong ambassador's daughter by a notorious international criminal syndicate which is led by a criminal person named Juntao/Commander Griffin starred by Tom Walkinson.



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