



Original Article

Turn-Taking Mechanism in Piers Morgan Uncensored Talkshow: “Going Down for LIFE” Piers Morgan Discusses the Downfall of Diddy

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Abstract:

This research analyzes how the turn of conversation on Piers Morgan Uncensored Talkshow episode Going Down Forlife Piers Morgan Discusses The Downfall of Diddy, using Jacob L Mey, (2001) conversation analysis theory as a framework. This research analyzes taking the floor, holding the floor, and yielding the floor through a qualitative examination of the conversation that took place between Piers Morgan and his guest. This study analyzes how the turn of conversation on the piers morgan talk-show in the episode going down for life thr downfall of diddy, using Jacob L. Mey's theory of conversation analysis as a framework. This research identifying the type of turn-taking mechanism used in the conversation. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative method to produce precise and factual conclusions by using approaches to collect data. The result shows that holding the floor most common used in the conversation that happened in this talk show.

Keywords: Linguistics, Conversation Analysis, Turn-taking mechanism, Talk Show

Introduction

Conversation in oxford dictionary is an informal talk involving a small group of people or only two; the activity of talking in this way. In the conversation whether the conversation went fluently or the conversation had some errors. Conversation is one of the most prevalent uses of human language. All human beings engage in conversational interaction and human society depends on conversation in order to function ([Liddicoat, 2021](#)).

Conversation is one of the kind of language usage ([Ashidiq & Sariyati, 2022](#)). Conversation must happen on a daily, all of people communicate everywhere basis including in the talk show. In talk show there is a conversation, of course the conversation uses language as a tool to communicate ([Lestari, 2018](#)).



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Lidanti argues that one of the functions of language is as a means of communication. Language is a means of human communication both oral and written. Language functions as spoken language when there are two or more people who carry out the communication process ([Yule, 2006](#)).

According to [Ilie, 2006](#) “The talk show is a highly confrontational discursive genre, a widely influential media phenomenon, as well as a politically and morally controversial form of entertainment. Few discursive practices of popular broadcast culture have been more contentious and subject to cultural and scholarly examination in recent years than the talk show, particularly the television talk show.”

Piers Morgan Uncensored Talk Show is American YouTube talk show, hosted by Piers Morgan, he has 3.34 M subscribers with 1.4K videos. In this talk show they discussed about the controversial in the world such as Palestine and Israel, discussed about Hollywood including the artist for example is P Diddy case.

In this research, the researcher uses a conversation analysis theory approach. Conversation analysis according to [Hutchby & Wooffitt, \(2008\)](#) is the study of talk or systematic analysis of the talk produced in every situations of human interaction ([Hutchby, 2019](#)). Meanwhile conversation analysis, as the name of an approach to studying talk in interaction, is in some ways a misnomer for the approach, as the focus of conversation analysis is actually much larger than conversation as it is usually understood ([Liddicoat, 2021](#)). In analyzing conversations used approach witches turn taking mechanism.

Turn-taking mechanism is a concept used in conversation analysis to describe how orderly communication is generally conducted. The phrase itself can provide a rudimentary understanding: It's the idea that in a discussion, individuals take turns speaking. ([Aisyah, 2021](#)).

Conversation analysis studies how conversations are organized and produced in everyday interactions, as cited in ([Sari et al., 2021](#)) that ([Sacks et al., 1974](#)) states “That conversational is spontaneous and cannot be predicted”. including aspects such as turn-taking, topic management. In the context of talk shows, this theory helps explain how hosts, guests, and even the audience respond to each other to create a structured yet natural flow of conversation. For example, turn-taking is organized by the host to ensure the guest can speak without interruption.

In talk shows, it is often seen when the host addresses misunderstandings or elaborates on a guest's answer to make it clearer for the audience. In addition, pragmatic analysis shows how elements of spontaneity in the conversation are kept under control to maintain the structure of the show. For example, hosts may use strategies such as repetition or reformulation to ensure topics remain relevant and easy to understand. By applying conversation analysis, it can be seen that digital talk shows replicate elements of everyday conversation, but within a more planned framework, creating an experience that feels natural while still meeting the goal of effective communication ([Wooffitt, 2005](#)).

This research aims to analyses turn-taking mechanism in conversation on the Piers Morgan Talk Show episode “Going Down For LIFE” Piers Morgan Discusses The Downfall Of Diddy. The research employs conversation analysis approach because the discussion involve many processes of conversation. This research also aims to contribute to the understanding of conversation analysis in a conversational context, specifically examining the level of use of the mechanism of taking the floor, holding the

floor and yielding the floor.

Conversation Analysis (CA) is a theoretical approach that provides a foundation for understanding how conversations are organized, particularly through turn-taking mechanisms. Conversation Analysis focuses on how conversational interactions are naturally organized, particularly in the process of turn-taking. This approach was first introduced by Harvey Sacks in a book written by Schegloff entitled "LECTURERS ON CONVERSATION" which identified that conversations run by certain rules that allow communication to remain smooth without overlapping or too long pauses. In CA, turn-taking is a key element that reflects how conversational participants manage speaking turns efficiently, where each speaker has the opportunity to speak in turn.

One of the key concepts in turn-taking mechanism is Transition Relevant Place (TRP). According to Liddicoat (2007:61) "There are points where a speaker's talk is possibly complete and that at points of possible completion, speaker change is a possible next action. Such points are transition relevance places, places at which speaker change could be appropriate"

A TRP is a point in a conversation where a natural turn of speech can occur. TRP occur at certain pauses, such as after a sentence is finished, when the speaker is out of ideas, or at pauses for breathing. TRPs allow for structured turn-taking mechanism, keeping the conversation organized. However, in a TRP, the speaker has several choices of actions that will affect the flow of the conversation.

Turn-taking according to Sacks, Schegloff and Jefferson is speech-exchange systems. In turn-taking mechanism, there are three main mechanisms that can occur: taking the floor, holding the floor, and yielding the floor.

Taking the floor occurs when another speaker utilizes the TRP to take over the speaking turn.

"Bystanders can also intervene in the conversation directly, for example by taking the floor (preferably at a TRP, so as not to be accused of interrupting the speaker). This kind of turn-taking is probably the most familiar among speakers of any language, as there are strong cultural taboos in many communities against usurping the right to speak, not only in a formal, official or religious context, but also in everyday conversational practice." (Mey:140)

This action is usually done strategically, either through verbal signals indicating readiness to speak, or directly by initiating a new contribution to the conversation.

Holding the floor refers to the speaker's action to maintain their speaking turn despite a TRP that allows another speaker to take their turn.

"Obviously, a speaker may just ignore an upcoming TRP and hurry past it. Many old-time conversational practitioners (such as politicians) have the habit of ignoring a natural break that would have occurred at the end of, say, a sentence (with the corresponding intonational pattern before a full stop); instead, they create an 'unnatural break' (e.g., in the form of a mid-sentence pause). Such a break is not recognized as a TRP by the other participants, and thus allows the speaker to continue full speed across the next upcoming, real TRP. Others employ the technique of 'masking' a TRP by emitting 'turn-threatening' noises (such as 'Aaahhm') at potential transition points, thus warning other speakers of Copyrighted material 140 Micropragmatics their intention to continue past the TRP as soon as they have regained their breath." (Mey:139)

This can be done in various ways, such as issuing verbal signals (e.g. sounds like “um” or “ahhh”) or by continuing the sentence without pausing. The goal is to ensure that the current speaker remains in control of the conversation. Yule suggest that holding the floor is to ‘fill’ the pause with a hesitation marker such as er,em, uh, ah.

Meanwhile, “Yielding the right to speak, or the 'floor', as it is also called, to the next speaker constitutes a turn.”(Mey:139) Yielding the floor refers to the act of the current speaker handing over the speaking turn to another person. This mechanism can be done explicitly, for example by pointing to the next speaker (“Now, please Anna speak”), or implicitly, such as by giving a pause and opening space for others to speak.

Based on the background above, the researchers are interested in analyzing the turn-taking mechanism in that talk show and the problems are formulated as Identify the type of turn-taking mechanism and why it is used in the conversation in “Going Down For LIFE” Piers Morgan Discusses the Downfall of Diddy through conversation analysis.

Methods

Research Design

In this research, researchers used a qualitative research approach. According to [\(Flick, 2009\)](#) “Qualitative research is of specific relevance to the study of social relations, due to the fact of the pluralization of life worlds.” This qualitative research focuses on interpretative phenomena in nature, with the aim of understanding or interpreting phenomena in terms of the meaning people give to these phenomena [\(Denzin & Lincoln, 2011\)](#).

In this research, the researcher uses a descriptive qualitative method, in which facts are reported methodically to produce precise and factual conclusions. The significance of a social or human problem as seen by individuals or groups can be explored and understood through qualitative research [\(Creswell, 2009\)](#). This research was conducted using a process of problem solving, data collection, data classification, and data analysis.

The data was taken from a Recording “Going Down For LIFE” Piers Morgan Discusses The Downfall Of Diddy on. The researchers collected data from the novel, the author used Mey's approach to obtain data. To analyze the data in this study, the researcher uses the document method. [Arikunto, \(2010\)](#) defines document study as seeking information about things or variables in the form of notes, transcripts, books, magazines, and others.

Data Source

The data used in this research comes from the transcript of Piers Morgan Uncensored/ Going Down For LIFE” Piers Morgan Discusses The Downfall Of Diddy. Youtube Video; 42:42.

Result

This research focuses on analyzing the turn-taking mechanism in transcript Piers Morgan Uncensored Talkshow episode Going Down Forlife Piers Morgan Discusses the Downfall of Diddy video. In this talk show there is 1 host and 5 guest speakers. The hosts are of course Piers Morgan (PM), Bruce Rivers (BR) as a criminal lawyer, Jason Lee (JL), Vinnie Asana (VA), Esther Kru (EK) and rapper Lord Jamar (LJ). This talk

show Piers Morgan discusses the P Diddy case with his guest star. P Diddy, a big entertainer in Holliwod, is involved in a major case against him. He is suspected of human trafficking, extortion, forced labor, and sexual crimes involving many public figures.

1. Data 1

(0:40-2:54)

PM: Just one year ago Sean Diddy comes one of the most successful rappers and producers in music history was on top of the world the VMAs honored him as a global icon..... P Diddy is now awaiting trial at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn he was denied bail According to some reports he's refusing food and could even be on suicide watch the case threatens to engulf the VIP world with fever speculation about sworded tapes featuring celebrities and even politicians so who knew what and when how far could this go is this the music version of the Epstein Scandal and why was Diddy protected for so long by so many people? Miss special addition of appears morgan than I censored looking into a scandal that is rocking the world of Show Business and Way Beyond. Here to unpack the fall of a global icon from the from the criminal lawyer reacts YouTube channel Bruce Rivers the editor of Hollywood unlocked and a man who pared with Diddy Jason Lee P diddy podcast angry Patriot Vinnie Oshana and here in the studio and sensor contributor Esther kru. Well thank you all for joining me I appreciate it very much.

This data occur turn-taking mechanism of taking the floor of staring up, the staring up occur it is because PM is as first speaker who takes the floor with clear star. PM is a smart host because in the beginning of the conversation with his guest, “just one year ago Sean Diddy comes one of the most successful rappers and producers in music history was on top of the world the VMAs honored him as a global icon....P Diddy is now awaiting trial at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn he was denied bail According to some reports he's refusing food and could even be on suicide watch the case threatens to engulf the VIP world with fever speculation about sworded tapes featuring celebrities and even politicians so who knew what and when how far could this go is this the music version of the Epstein Scandal and why was Diddy protected for so long by so many people Miss special addition of appears morgan than I censored looking into a scandal that is rocking the world of Show Business and Way Beyond” In this section PM introduce the complicit that he will takes that is about P Diddy, and PM is a nice host because he appreciate the guest for joining his talk show after introduces them in the section “Here to unpack the fall of a global icon from the from the criminal lawyer reacts YouTube channel Bruce Rivers the editor of Hollywood unlocked and a man who pared with Diddy Jason Lee pdd podcast angry Patriot Vinnie Asana and here in the studio and sensor contributor Esther kru. Well thank you all for joining me I appreciate it very much.”

2. Data 2

(5:57-6:21)

EK: I just really despise the fact that he's probably going to be the only one that's going to be taken down this he didn't get that powerful just by being by himself he had the support of politicians of other wealthy benefit//

- PM: //Ouh there is
a suggestion
- EK: So many people in the industry why is he only taking the//
- PM: //well there is a
suggestion that he may start [talking]
- EK: [urghh]
- PM: To the feds and do some kind of deal now Epstein never got the chance to do that
or to take that kind of deal

This data represents the taking the floor of interruption, PM gives the turn to EK, when EK has not finished his conversation, PM as a host tries to stop him with the word “Ouh there is a suggestion” but EK continues until PM continues his sentence “well there is a suggestion that he may start talking” until EK is silent. Taking the floor was done by PM without waiting for the TRP and the interruption occurred in this situation. When PM continued the sentences, EK felt guilty with what he said he muttered “urghh” so there was also an overlap.

3. Data 3

(5:38-5:59)

- EK: Oh absolutely but I'm never satisfied with just one person going down it's like
the whole Epstein thing we don't actually know anyone who is associated with
who went to his nons Island [who really] did got involved in the criminal
activity
- PM: [Right I]
- EK: And I think to be P Diddy to do the things that he's being accused of you have to
have a whole [team around]
- PM: [Yeah]
- EK: [you it's an] infrastructure basically and I I just really
despite

The data represents the taking the floor of overlap. The overlap occur it is because PM doesn't wait for TRP and then overlap occurs between EK and PM. PM often agrees with EK's statement so he says “yeah”, “righ I” so an overlap occurs in the conversation. This conversation was discussing the P. Diddy case and EK was the second guest that was invited to communicate in this talk show. EK was also remembering the Epstein case where he directly said that he was not satisfied with the criminal case because there was no justice for him. “oh absolutely but I'm never satisfied with just one person going down it's like the whole Epstein thing”. When PM tried to respond to EK's words, EK ignored him, she continued to talk about what he wanted to talk about so PM could only stop.

4. Data 4

(7:55-8:20)

- VO: Well uh well Piers being you know in the entertainment industry I left the
military once to Hollywood you know acting and all this this whole it's it's it's a
cult it's and I uh that she she brought up um and how you know he's he's
apparently dead Galain Maxwell she's in prison for 20 some odd years I guess
where are all the customers? where are the people that work? were you know

with these girls you know what I mean Piers where we all the victims? We all these people not one customer

In this data turn-taking mechanism of holding the floor occur. The repetition is very clearly visible. The VO says many of the same words such as “well uh well”, “it’s it’s it’s”, “he he he” and “where are all the customers where are all the people” this repetition occurs because the VO is organizing his turn. The word “well” at the beginning of the sentence is said twice as a way to take time to think and organize his thoughts. It seems that the words “it’s it’s it’s” and “he’s he’s” describe her emotions so she emphasizes on them. And the last one is “where are all the customers where are the people” to emphasize the importance of the issue being talked about. This repetition may indicate the VO’s emotional involvement, use of a high pitch, his attempt to organize his thoughts while speaking, or a strategy to avoid interruptions.

5. Data 5

(3:18-3:38)

BR: I think he's going to go to the prison uh (.) for the rest of his Natural Life he's the guide the federal guidelines are going to be astronomical there's so much that they've gotten in the search warrant from Miami LA and uh(.) he's really looking at um(.) sex trafficking with a lot of aggravating factors

This represent of silent pause in holding the floor, holding the floor occur it is because the use of "aaa," "uh," and "um" functions as verbal signals that the speaker is still thinking and planning their next words while retaining control of the turn. These markers prevent others from perceiving a pause as a Transition Relevance Place (TRP).

When BR explained the contents of his mind thinking that P Diddy would go to prison for life and also the search of his house also thoroughly explored sex trafficking. When explaining that BR made a pause (.) at the moment and he always continued his speaking. In this case PM as a host and the guest waiting for him, until BR reached TRP's. Holding the floor by BR, and he doesn't give a turn to another including PM.

6. Data 6

(30.13-31:21)

JL: But I told a story some time ago about when I was uh uh (.) at his birthday party and I was taking a picture in the foyer and he walked in and I said hey do you want to get in the picture and he as he was walking over he was saying something like you know you better not ever f with me you know because I'm Different you know it' be a problem but I thought he was just drunk or playing around you know and then when the stories come out that he allegedly blew up kid Cy's car and those things you wonder was he actually threatening you um(.) but I wanted to go back to uh(.) and two things can be true you can have a school in Harlem helping young kids and you can be a cultural icon and put out great music and clothing and you know take a liquor brand like sarak and make it a cultural thing around the world and make millions and millions and millions of dollars but also be Doc you know Dr Jackal at the same time but I wanted to go back to Lord jamar's point where he's talking about you know him saying you can have this one or that one Lord Jamar you know in our culture and I want to preface this and say I'm not apologizing for it and I'm I'm just telling you what it is and Esther

please bear with me we all know that there are pass arounds that these that these entertainers call a reference to women young women.

From minute 30:13-31:21 Jason Lee recounts his personal experience at P Diddy's birt day party. In the conversation Jason Lee was seen several times using fillers such as “uh”, “um” which is a silent pause in holding the floor, the use of fillers is to give Jesson Lee to think before he continues his sentence and also fills the time so as not to move his turn or Jason Lee's strategy to avoid interruption. In addition, he is also seen repeating the words “millions and millions and millions” to emphasize the reality if it does happen. The repetition of the words “that these that these” is a way of emphasizing that the entertainment world referred to by Jason Lee is Holliwod often does pass around or negative things to women.

7. Data 7

(2:58-3:41)

- PM: Bruce Rivers let me start with you because you've been getting great traction with your YouTube channel uh by exploring every part of this Scandal uh it really does feel that it's getting bigger and bigger and it's right up there with Epstein with Weinstein with these other huge scandals we've seen what do you think is going to happen here?
- BR: I think he's going to go to the prison uh for the rest of his Natural Life he's the Guide the federal guidelines are going to be astronomical there's so much that they've gotten in the search warrant from Miami LA and uh he's really looking at um sex trafficking with a lot of aggravating factors
- PM: Which is the most serious for him?

In this data turn-taking mechanism of yielding the floor occur, yielding the floor is explicitly seen in the structured exchange turn between PM and BR. PM starts by addressing Bruce Rivers or BR directly by using “Bruce Rivers let me start with you”. Also PM asked BR with the sentence “what do you think is going to happen here?” With these sentences PM indirectly gave BR the turn to speak or signal TRP in yielding the floor to BR.

BR got the signals from PM, and he gave his response to the question what PM gave by clearly and smoothly. When BR finished speaking he did not give PM a signal to continue verbally, he only used non-verbals such as nodding. At that time PM realized so he issued a new question to BR. In yielding the floor in the above situation runs smoothly so that there is no overlap or interruption.

Conclusion

From the research above, it can be concluded that in the conversation in Piers Morgan's talk show with his guest star, there are various turn-taking mechanisms, there are holding the floor done by Piers Morgan and Ester Krue, which there are 3 kinds of taking the floor, namely staring up which is done by Piers Morgan when starting his talk show which introduces the topic he will discuss and also says appreciate to his guest star, there are several interruptions, and also overlap. The holding the floor was done by Vincent Oshana where Vincent Oshana said several repetitions of words and sentences that intended to emphasize the sentence and also describe his emotions towards the case he discussed, Bruce River was also seen several times taking pauses by issuing

verbal signals in the form of *aaa* to plan their next words while retaining control of the turn. And the last is yielding the floor done by Piers Morgan to Bruce River and vice versa.

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