Research Article

Politeness as A Pragmatic Device in Ernest Hemingway's Masterpiece 'The Sun Also Rises'

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Abstract

the aim of this study is examine the concept of politeness as a tool conducted by the writer in his master piece 'the sun also rises'. The research analysis is based on the speech of the main characters of the novel. The analysis is aimed at the main kinds of politeness utilized by the characters of the novel. The research conducts a descriptive qualitative approach by collecting the data from the novel. The analysis shows that the writer utilized different types of politeness such as negative, positive, on and off record. The analysis reveals that there are certain factors that affect the concept of politeness in their speech such as slang, gender, solidarity, language style and register.

Keywords: types of politeness, social factors, characters, the sun also rises

Introduction

Going too deep in reading novels can give the readers many advantages. In addition, reading novels can trigger readers' imagination and motivation. One of the essential factor in reading novels is language study as language is a means of communication that writers use to communicate their ideas. Language is the identification of human beings in the universe as language involves in every single details of human life (William (1977: 21).

The main domain that study language is Linguistics. One of the main braches is pragmatics. Pragmatics is mainly concerned with the language and context in speech community. Yule (1996) suggests that pragmatics is the integration between the speaker and the hearer to find out the hidden meaning behind.

Communication is the way of delivering ideas, thoughts and feelings among people. Communication has many types. Expressive is one type. This type is used to express the psychological aspect of the speaker such as pleasure, gratitude, sympathy …etc. Politeness is part of expressive utterance. It is important as it is utilized in everyday communication. Technically, politeness is a term used to identify the ties between language and context (Holtgraves, 2002: 38). Accordingly, it is important to know about politeness in order to know how to deal with people and to keep our conversation run smoothly. The paper is limited to the study of Ernst Hemingway's master piece 'the sun also rises'. The novel deals with a group of people who suffered some physical and psychological trauma after World War I. those who recruited in the war lost their emotion and physical values. The study deals with the main characters' speech as a kind of social behavior. The paper focuses on analyzing the speech of main characters in Ernst Hemingway's novel 'the sun also rises' as it is important to find out different styles of politeness utilized by characters of the novel.

Literature Review

Levinson (1983) defines pragmatics as the study of meaning of non-linguistic aspects of utterances in relation to social context. Accordingly, pragmatics is the way od utilizing language to communicate in certain social context (Ibid, 1983: 9). Speakers utilize different kinds of speech to communicate fairly with listeners.

The Concept of Politeness

It is important to have a knowledge on the concept of politeness to understand how to treat people and deal with them. According to Holmes (1995: 296), politeness is not a way of saying 'thank you' or 'please'. It is the way of addressing people correctly according to the relationship between them. The concept of politeness was mainly developed by Brown and Levinson in 1987. They propose that speaker and hearer are gifted with what is so-called negative and positive face. Face is people identify but it is not specific. They define the term 'face' as a public image in which every member in the society wants to have.

There are two types of face to be considered: negative face and positive face. Negative face encompasses free of imposition and positive face encompasses social approving. Brown and Levinson (1987) suggests that the purpose of using politeness concept is to smoothing the act of face threatening. Yule (1996: 61) suggests that FTAs are acts which threatening the negative face and the positive face of the listener. These kind of acts are addressed verbally.

Types of Politeness

According to Brown and Levinson (1987: 92), politeness has three categories: off record, on record, positive and negative. They four types are explained as follow:

On Record

Brown and Levinson (1987) clarify that on record politeness is utilized in different situations. It demands no effort from the side of the speaker to decrease the effect of face threatening acts. On record politeness has certain functions such as to shock people, make them feel embarrassed and uncomfortable. Some examples of on record politeness are 'sit down' and 'take some more coffee'. Accordingly, when someone says 'Pass me the book!'. This kind of imperative will shock the hearer especially if they are family members or close friends. Thus, on record politeness, in short, takes the form of imperative sentence.

Positive Politeness

According to Holtgrave (2002), it is an approach based type. Positive approach means that the relationship is friendly between the speaker and the hearer. Brown and Levinson (1987) clarify that this type is an attempt to interact with the hearer's wants and needs.

The function of positive politeness is to be familiar with the hearer. It is the way of making intimacy with the hearer. This kind of politeness can be achieved by several ways for example; using jokes and intimacy words such as 'love' and 'honey'.

Negative Politeness

Brown and Levinson (1987: 131) clarify that negative politeness is the core of esteemed behavior. One of the functions of negative politeness is to lessen imposition of the hearer. Therefore; there is a social space between the speaker and the hearer. For example, if someone says 'Can't we go together?', the intention behind this utterance is to lessen the imposition on the hearer.

Off Record Politeness

Sometimes it is so-called 'indirect politeness', is used to give the speaker the time to find out the foggy intention. It is used to clarify that the speaker wants to escape doing face threatening. Accordingly, the speaker adopts certain strategy to let the hearer clarify the intended meaning of the message. For example, 'Uh, I forget my umbrella!' the speaker wants the hearer to lend him his umbrella of fetch one for him. Thus, off record politeness is a kind of indirect politeness that can be interpreted differently by the hearer and it depends mainly on the hearer's interpretation.

Politeness and Social Factors

Spolsky (1998) suggests four social factors that affect politeness such as language styles, domains and registers, language and gender, slang and solidarity.

Language and Gender

Language and gender are the main factors that affect politeness. Spolsky (1998) clarifies that men and women have differences in language use. Children tend to use the language of men and women as a typical one. Spolsky (Ibid) suggests that women tend to talk about domestic and house issues and men tend to talk on economic issues.

Language Style

Speakers can choose to use certain way either formal or informal. It depends on the person they are addressing. Spolsky (1998) suggests that speakers consciously use language whether formal or informal according to the people they are addressing. Spolsky (Ibid) adds that when someone speaks formally, s/he is engaging with some educated people by using some educated norms. Accordingly, the style of language used by the speaker is reflecting his/her identity.

Registers and Domains

According to Spolsky (1998), speakers with certain occupation can create terms and certain vocabularies that fit their jobs. Workers in the field of health have different language from workers in the field of geology. Accordingly, register is a type of language variation that is used in certain situations. Spolsky (1998) clarifies that there are certain areas determine the way people use certain terms in certain situations. These two areas are work and home.
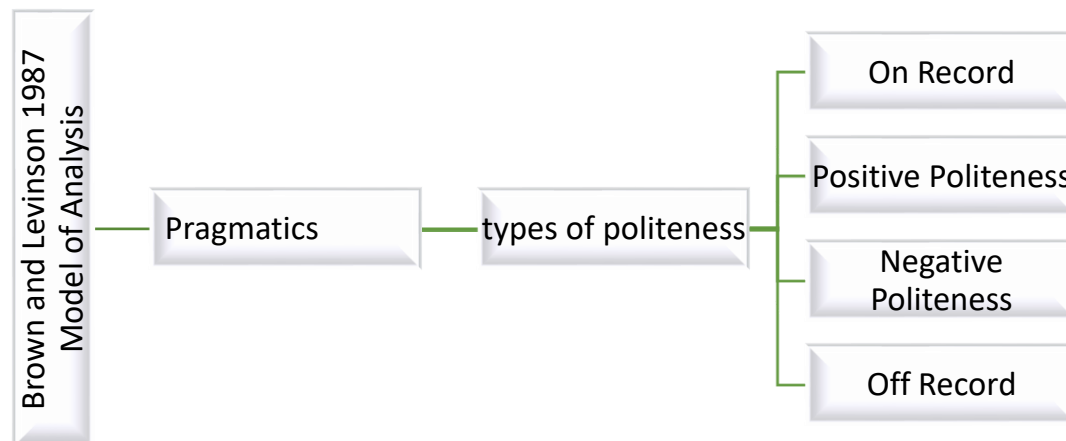
Slang and Solidarity

According to Spolsky (1998), slang is a special kind of language used in group communication. Slang language is not used randomly but it has certain social function. It reflects the identity and solidarity of the people who use it. Slang is a type of jargon which rejects formal rules of language. Slang also breaks the rules of social norms and makes use of taboo words.

Method

The research is based on descriptive qualitative method. According to Sugiyono (2017: 14) suggests that descriptive qualitative method is a kind of data in the shape of words, images and schemes. The research adopts qualitative method since the data is mainly concerned with descriptive data in the novels and shows findings in terms of description rather than numbers. This kind of methods is used to examine the quality within the novel concerning the material, situations, activities and relationships between the characters of the novel. The research utilized discourse analysis a method to achieve this

paper. Taylor (2001) states that discourse analysis is the study of language in use. Potter and Wetherell (2001) clarify that discourse analysis contains the features that people use in their social world through the use of language. It is mainly concerned with the analysis of written or spoken texts in social and cultural contexts (Willig, 2008). This method focuses on main domains in society such as domination, reproduction, power and construction (Cohen, Manion and Morrison, 2011).

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Brown and Levinson 1987          ┌─── On Record
Model of Analysis                │
                                 ├─── Positive Politeness
    Pragmatics ─── types of ─────┤
                   politeness    ├─── Negative
                                 │    Politeness
                                 │
                                 └─── Off Record
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Data Analysis

On record politeness
"Darling," she said. "Do you want me to send him away?"
"No. He's nice"
"I'll send him away"
*"**No, don't**"*
(The Sun also rises, page 48)
This conversation is between Jake and Brett. This example shows the use of on record politeness in order to increase effectiveness in critical situation. Accordingly, the character used the utterance 'No, I don't' to reveal that he is in a hurry.
"He always get me sore," Cohn said. "I can't stand him".
"I like him" I said. "I'm fond of him. "You don't want to get sore at him."
"I know it," Cohn said. He just gets on my nerves."
*"**Write this afternoon**?"*
"No. I couldn't get it going. It's harder to do than my first book."
(The Sun also Rises ,page 39)
This conversation is between Jake Barnes and his friend Robert Cohn. The conversation reveals the use of on record politeness as the speaker uses the word 'write' to draws hearer's attention to listen to what he is saying.
"I don't know whether you like flowers, sir," the count said :but I took the liberty of just bringing these roses"
*"Here, give them to me" Bret took them. "**Get me same water in this, Jake**"*
(The Sun also Rises, page 47)
The conversation is between Jake Barnes and Brett Ashley. The use of on record politeness is obvious here. Brett here asks Jake in a direct way to fetch him some water.
"Well, I hope you have lots of luck," he said
*"**Be careful about those bull-fights**"*
"May be we'll see you at Biarritz"
(The Sun also Rises, page 75)

The conversation is between Jake and a man and his wife. In this conversation, the speaker wants to convey a message that he cares about the hearer. The speaker wants to warn the man to watch out. The word 'careful' to warn the man that what is he doing is dangerous.

Positive Politeness

*"**Very nice**," he said. "**You looked very , very nice**"*
"Don't you dance, count?"
"No. I'm too old"
(The Sun also Rises , page 55)
The conversation is between Brett and Jake Barnes. The conversation shows that utilization of positive politeness to give the sense of exaggeration. The speaker exaggerates the dancing style of Jake and Brett. The use of 'very, very nice' to give the sense and exaggeration and to show that Jakes and Brett had a great dance.

*"**You know**," Mike went on, "Brett was rather good. She is always rather good. I gave her a fearful hiding about Jews and bull-fighters, and all those sort of people, and do you know what she said: " Yes. I've had such a hell of a happy life with the British aristocracy!"*
(The Sun also Rises, page 169)
This conversation is between Jake Barnes and his friends Mike and Bill. The utilization of positive politeness is really obvious to draw hearer's attention and to make a good story. Using the phrase 'you know', the speaker (Mike) wants to motivate Jake's interest in the story of Brett.

"How are you Jake?"
"Fine"
Brett looked at me. "I say," she said " is Robert Cohn going on this trip?"
"Yes, why?"
*"**Don't you think it will a bit rough on him?**"*
"Why should it?"
(The Sun also Rises, page 71)
The conversation is between Jake and Brett. The speakers use positive politeness to look for agreement. The use of 'Don't you think it will a bit rough on him' indicates that Brett makes a comment on Cohn in order to seek for Jake's agreement.

"No, I don't like Paris. It's expensive and dirty"
*"**Really? I find it so extraordinarily clean. One of the cleanest cities in all Europe**"*
(The Sun also Rises, page 18)
The conversation is between Jake and Georgette. In this conversation, Jake disagree with Georgette but he utilizes positive politeness to escape disagreement. The use of "Really? I find it so extraordinarily clean. One of the cleanest cities in all Europe" indicates that Jake escape the reveal his disagreement that Paris is a dirty place.

Negative Politeness

*"Oh, darling, **please stay by me. Please stay by me and see me through this**."*
"sure"
(The Sun also Rises page 153)
The conversation is between Jake and Brett. Brett wants to be direct that's why she uses negative politeness. She uses 'please stay by me. Please stay by me and see me through this' to be direct in asking Jake to be with her and look for someone she wants to talk to.

*"**Can't we go together?**"*
"No that would be a hell of an idea after we'd just talked it out."
(The Sun also Rises page 49)

The conversation is between Brett and Jake. Jake is pessimistic that's why he utilizes negative politeness. In spite of loving each other, they can't be together and live together. When saying "Can't we go together?", he is sure that she will refuse.

"I'm sorry, Jake. Please forgive me"

"Forgive you, hell"

"Please, forgive me Jake,"

(The Sun also Rises page 161)

The conversation is between Cohn and Jake. Cohn wants to apologize to Jake by using negative politeness. He wants to apologize by saying "I'm sorry, Jake. Please forgive me" "Forgive you, hell" "Please, forgive me Jake,". The intended meaning is that he wants really to apologize to Jake for hitting him because he was feeling jealous.

Off Record

"Good-night Brett," I said. "I'm sorry you feel rotten"

"Good night Jake, good night darling. **I won't see you again***" we kissed standing at the door.*

(The Sun also Rises, page 17)

The conversation is between Jake and Brett in the hotel. The conversation shows the utilization of off record to give clues. When saying 'I won't see you again we kissed standing at the door' she wants to be with Jake as he was her true love but because of his incapability, she couldn't live with him.

"No," I said **" I just had an accident,"**

"Never mentioned that" Bill said

(The Sun also Rises, page 96)

The conversation is between Jake and his friend Bill at the inn. The conversation shows the use of off record politeness to give the sense of understate. Jake reveals his secret to Bill say that he wounded during a war and this makes him incapable of doing anything.

"You are a hell of good guy. Anybody ever tell you, you were a good guy?"

"I'm not a good guy"

"Listen. You are a hell a good guy, and I'm fonder of you than anybody of earth"

(The sun also rises page 97)

The conversation is between Jake and Bill. The conversation shows the use of off record politeness to give the sense of contradiction. Jake admits that he wasn't a good guy but Bill contradicts by saying he was a good guy as he says "Listen. You are a hell a good guy, and I'm fonder of you than anybody of earth".

"So long, fella" Bill said

"So long, kid!"

(The Sun also Rises page 192)

The conversation is between bill and Jakes. The conversation shows that Jakes wants to be ironic and he utilizes off record politeness. He addresses Bill as a 'kid' but he means another thing.

Conclusion

The research paper shows the following conclusions:

1. The types of politeness utilize in Ernst Hemingway's 'the sun also rises' are: on record or direct politeness, off record or indirect politeness, positive politeness and negative politeness.
2. The research paper shows that there are certain social factors that influence the use of politeness. They are registers and domains, language style, language and gender and slang and solidarity.
3. Social factors and politeness are related.
4. The main characters in the novel are influence by the four types of politeness.

5. The research reveals that the main characters of the novel are immoral and aimless but they utilize politeness to motivate the hearer and make others feel relaxed.

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