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**Analysis of language politeness among students of  
SMK Teknik Balung**

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**Abstract**

The purpose of this study is to describe the language politeness of students at SMK Teknik Balung. The utterances taken are during teaching and learning activities and outside teaching and learning activities. This research uses qualitative method. The data and data sources are the speech of students in Balung technical vocational school which includes the maxims of wisdom, generosity, respect, simplicity, agreement and sympathy. The data collection techniques used are observation and documentation techniques in the form of free listening techniques, note taking, and recording techniques. Observation is done to find out whether the data source used is appropriate. Listening and recording techniques are used when collecting data. The recording technique was used to record the data. The data analysis is the intralingual pairing method with the comparative difference relation (HBB). The results of this study found the existence of the maxims of wisdom, generosity, respect, simplicity, agreement and sympathy. The data reflects that the students of SMK Teknik Balung have polite and well-mannered speech. The assumption given by others that students in SMK are not polite is wrong. The suggestions that can be given to future researchers are. Future researchers are expected to explain the factors that cause people to assume that students who have ethics are usually only high school students. Whereas vocational students also use polite language.

Keywords: Language Politeness, SMK Teknik Balung

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**INTRODUCTION**

Language politeness is an ethic that needs to be adhered to by language users. Language politeness is very important to be used in communication activities (Darliah, Sulissusiawan, & Ramdani, 2013). Every language user needs to pay attention to the language that will be used so that there is no violation of the principle of language politeness. The politeness of the language used will reflect the success in communication (Agustini, 2017). The reason is because, polite language is more appreciated by the community. Thus, when communicating people will listen carefully. Therefore, the communication that occurs will run smoothly. If communication runs smoothly, the

communication atmosphere becomes comfortable. That is why the purpose of language politeness is to facilitate communication (Mislikhah, 2020).

Language users need to pay attention to the language that will be used. The speech used must adjust to the interlocutor (Setyawati, 2013). A speaker cannot use the same language if the interlocutor has a higher caste. Speakers need to organize the language to be used so as not to become people who lack ethics. A polite person will be judged by the language used. A speaker is required to be wise in choosing the language to be used (Nuryani, 2016).

The following is the initial data regarding the compliance of language politeness. The context is when the speaker has the initiative to share his lunch because he knows that his classmates do not bring lunch. The initial data will be presented as follows:

Pn : Kamu ga makan ta?

Mt : Engga, age makan da

Pn : Ayo berdua, aku mau makan dikit aja, bantuin habis, banyak ni

Mt : Gapapa lanjut aja, aku kenyang kok

Pn : Engga, ayo makan berdua, harus mau, aku lumayan kenyang kok

The speaker makes a big loss for himself. Even though the speech partner has refused because he does not want to make his friend lose. However, the speaker continued to insist that the speech partner accept his gift. The speaker is considered a generous person because the speaker is not afraid to be harmed. The speech used by the speaker is included in the maxim of generosity. The reason is because, speakers provide many benefits for others. Speakers do not think about the benefits they will receive when giving to others. The speaker is a generous person because he has a generous nature (Rahadi, Setyaningsih & Dewi, 2018). Language politeness is a person's behavior when speaking (Rismawati, Hariadi, & Hidayat, 2019). A polite person must have a good nature. A person's behavior can determine whether that person complies with the norms of society or not. However, a person's character will be reflected through the language he uses.

A well-mannered person is not only judged by his behavior but also the language he uses (Anggraini, Rahayu, & Djunaidi, 2019). Language will reflect the nature of the speaker. Therefore, a person will be considered polite if the language used is good and in accordance with language politeness. Polite language must be familiarized so as not to form the character of an arrogant person (Wahidah & Wijaya, 2017).

Language politeness is related to the social values prevailing in society (Pramujiono, 2020). Every language society must have agreed norms. There are six forms of language politeness. These are the maxims of wisdom, generosity, respect, simplicity, agreement and sympathy. Language politeness is a form of respect between one another (Jainuri & Maulidian, 2019). The six maxims of language politeness become a tool to determine whether the utterance is a polite utterance or not.

The reasons for the importance of research on language politeness in students at SMK Teknik Balung are. First, speakers at SMK Teknik Balung are dominated by male students. Because, the language of male students tends to override politeness unlike in general. Second, the language spoken by students at SMK Teknik Balung raises a lot of language that tends to help fellow students. Third, the analysis of language politeness in students at SMK Teknik Balung uses Leech's theory. Because, it refers to the socio-culture or cultural rules in the school environment.

This research was conducted by looking at previous researchers conducted by Prabowo (2016) The research took data and data sources from students. Using strategies from Brown and Levinson. The difference in this study with previous research is that the

theory that this researcher uses comes from Leech's theory, where the research and objects analyzed are teenage students aged 15-18 years, and also this research is to shape the character of students.

Research by Astuti (2017) the difference in this study is the data and data sources used. The data and data sources studied are the speech of teenage students ranging in age from 15-18 years. In addition, this research aims to shape the character of students. Research from Aulia (2017) The research took data and data sources from Ciseeng State High School students. Emphasizes focus on learning achievement. The difference in this study with previous research is that this study emphasizes language politeness as an effort to shape student character, where differences also exist in the research and objects analyzed.

Research from Devianty (2020) The research took data and data sources from students. Using Leech's strategy. The difference in this study with previous research is the source of data, where the research and objects analyzed are students, and describe the politeness of language in order to shape the character of students.

Research on language politeness has been widely studied. Previous researchers studied language politeness during the learning process in the classroom only. Meanwhile, this research will examine all forms of speech that occur during teaching and learning activities in the classroom and activities outside the classroom. The data and data sources used by researchers are different from previous researchers. Thus, it can show that this research is purely conducted by researchers. This research will focus on the form of language politeness. These forms include maxims of wisdom, generosity, respect, simplicity, agreement and sympathy.

#### **METHOD**

The method used in this research is qualitative. The results of the data analysis will be presented in the form of descriptions. Data and data sources used by the researcher are the speech of students at SMK Teknik Balung during the learning process and speech outside of learning hours. The data collection technique of this research uses observation, documentation, free listening technique and note taking technique, and recording technique. In this study, researchers searched for data by looking for utterances that contain maxims of language politeness in students at SMK Teknik Balung. The data were collected by coming to the school environment of SMK Teknik Balung and observing the students' speech. The initial form of documentation obtained by researchers is in the form of notes and recordings which will then be converted into audio recording files.

The technique used to analyze the data is the intralingual pairing method with the comparative difference linking technique (HBB). The commensurate technique has a meaning of connection, so the commensurate technique connects and compares (Mahsun, 2017). In this study, the researcher will compare the types of politeness maxims. The comparative analysis in this section is limited only to the level of language politeness, namely the types of the maxim of wisdom, the maxim of generosity, the maxim of respect, the maxim of simplicity, the maxim of agreement and the maxim of sympathy. The difference between the maxims can be determined by looking at the characteristics of the maxims of politeness. After that, the utterances are classified based on the types of politeness maxims.

#### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The following will be presented about the results of the research. The research results presented are about language politeness. The categories of language politeness, namely the maxim of wisdom, the maxim of generosity, the maxim of respect, the maxim of simplicity, the maxim of agreement and the maxim of sympathy:

Context: The utterance occurs when the student is about to take an exam. The student asks

for the notebook borrowed by his classmate. However, his friend had not finished taking notes so he could not return the book he borrowed. Finally, the student let his friend finish his notes.

Pn : Sudah selesai catatnya? mau ku pake buat belajar

Mt : Belum, hampir selesai ni, bentar ya

pn : Yasudah wes, ntar kabarin aja kalo sudah selesai, santai wes

Mt : Oke, bentar ya, cepet kok

From the utterance, it is found that there is a maxim of politeness in language, where pn does not insist on asking for his notebook back. In fact, the learner needs the book to study. However, the learner makes a wise decision and allows Mt to finish her writing. The utterance benefits the other person. The utterance is included in the maxim of wisdom because the speaker prioritizes the needs of the speech partner. In fact, the speaker also needs his notebook. However, the speaker thinks about the comfort of the speech partner who massages his book. Speakers prioritize the interests of others rather than their own interests. The speaker did not insist that the speech partner return the book at that time. Speakers maximize the benefits of others. The advantage gained by the speech partner is that he can finish his notes because the speaker gives permission to finish his notes. Maxim Wisdom aims to reduce losses to other parties (Wahyuni, 2018). Utterances that provide comfort to others are the characteristics of utterances that comply with the politeness of the wisdom maxim.

The speech is included in the maxim of wisdom because the speaker is more concerned with the benefits of others. Wise speech needs to be considered when in class because, fellow students must help each other not only think about their own interests. Speakers must prioritize the comfort of others first so as not to cause selfishness. Selfish people tend to prioritize their own comfort without thinking about others. The compliance of the maxim of wisdom is characterized by wise speech. A speaker is considered a wise person if his speech is more concerned with the benefits of others. A wise person would make a decision by considering the comfort of others. The data above belongs to the politeness of wisdom because it prioritizes the comfort and benefits of others.

### 3.2 Maxim of Generosity marked generous attitude

Context; during class time where the blackboard is still dirty and pt wants to wipe the blackboard, but pn offers to wipe the blackboard.

Pn : "biar saya yang hapus papan tulisnya"

Pt : "enggak usah gapapa"

From the speech, it is found that there is a maxim of politeness in language, where the pt offers help to pn to erase the blackboard, the pt tries to maximize the benefits of others rather than maximizing his own benefits. The maxim of generosity has an indicator of giving to others (Junaidi, Razali, & Fitriani, 2020). The compliance of the maxim of generosity is characterized by the generous attitude of the speaker. People always make losses for themselves. Generous people provide many benefits to other parties. A generous person's speech always tries to inflict losses on himself. Generous speech is speech that is not afraid of being harmed.

### 3.3 Maxim of Respect gives respect to others

Context; When pn was doing a practice, and the students were watching carefully pt gave his response which the response was done because he was amazed by the practice done by pt.

Pn : "untuk prakteknya seperti ini ya, pelan-pelan aja"

Pt : “wahhh, kok bisa gitu pak, emang pak guru keren”

From the utterance between pn and pt, the maxims of politeness are found, where when pn gives directions or how to do the practice, pn responds to the directions very well with praise or appreciation. Thus, it can be said that pn's speech above contains the maxims of politeness. The maxim of appreciation shows the utterance of praise to others (Tubi, Djunaidi, & Rahayu, 2021). The utterance belongs to the maxim of appreciation because the learner gives praise to pn. The maxim of appreciation outlines that a person can be considered polite in society if the utterance always tries to give appreciation and respect to the other party.

The compliance of the maxim of appreciation is characterized by speech that maximizes respect for others. Speakers give a lot of respect to other parties. Speakers do not maximize the sense of wanting to be respected by others. Speakers minimize disrespect to others. Speakers need to use speech that maximizes the benefits of others. The above speech needs to be used when giving appreciation to others. Speakers must give appreciation to people who are giving practice in front of the class. Giving appreciation to others can show the nature of speakers who can appreciate others.

#### 3.4 Maxim of Humility with the utterance of not bragging about oneself.

Context: conversation between pn and pt, spoken by pn to pt where pn and pt themselves are in the same class.

Pn : “waduh, sepatu baru nihh, sepertinya yang keren dan mahal nih”

Pt : “hehe, enggak sepatu biasa kok ini”

From the speech between pn and pt, the maxims of politeness are found, where when pt is humble and reduces praise for himself, thus the speech feels polite. People who say more compliments to others are humble people (Surtyorini, Setiawaty, Haryanti, & Rahmawati, 2018). The pt's utterance belongs to the maxim of humility. This is because the pt reduced praise for himself. Humble speakers definitely do not praise themselves a lot in front of others. Speech that is included in humility is speech that does not boast about itself. A speaker will be considered humble if he does not utter self-praising speech. Humble people must use language that always humbles themselves to others.

#### 3.5 Maxim of Consensus is characterized by determining decisions according to mutual agreement.

Context: the conversation starts with pn a student inviting pt a classmate, where they are in front of the classroom after recess.

Pn : “nanti malam kita ke dira ya”

Pt : “boleh, saya tunggu di cafe depan ya”

From the speech between pn and pt, the maxims of politeness are found, where when pt is able to build compatibility with pn, thus the speech feels polite. The utterance is included in the maxim of agreement if it adjusts the opinion with others (Hamidah & Supriatin, 2016). The utterance is included in the maxim of agreement because the pt is able to build compatibility with pn, by maximizing the compatibility between them, and minimizing the incompatibility.

Compliance can occur if the speaker makes a speech that is in accordance with the mutual agreement. Speakers do not prioritize their own opinions. Speakers listen to other people's assumptions. Speakers make decisions according to the opinions of both parties. So, the speaker does not only prioritize his own opinion.

### 3.6 Maxim of Sympathy uses speech that cares about others.

Context: a conversation between pn and pt which is spoken by pn to pt who is his classmate, and they are also in the classroom.

Pn : "bro, nilaiku ajur banget broo"

Pt : "ya gimana lagi, semangat sam harus giat maneh sinau'e"

From the utterance between pn and pt, the maxims of politeness are found, where when pt gives his sympathy to pn. Thus, the speech feels polite. A polite speech is when the speaker shows his sympathy towards others (Veronika, Rahayu, & Djunaidi, 2020). The speech is included in the maxim of sympathy because pt is able to give sympathy to people who are sad.

The adherence to the maxim of sympathy is characterized by speech that shows a sense of caring for others. Speakers who care about other people's conditions must show their sympathy for other people's conditions. Speakers who care always use speech by paying attention to other people's feelings.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded. Language politeness in students' speech at SMK Balung does occur. The data above proves that students in SMK Balung use polite language. The polite speech occurs during activities in the classroom and outside of learning hours. The language politeness studied in this research is the language politeness of the maxim of wisdom, the maxim of generosity, the maxim of respect, the maxim of simplicity, the maxim of agreement and the maxim of sympathy. Research on language politeness needs to be studied. Because, people need to pay attention to the language that will be used. Language can measure a person's politeness.

Suggestions for future researchers. Future researchers can explain the language politeness of vocational students. This is because many people assume that students who have ethics are usually only high school students. Therefore, future researchers can add studies on the reasons why many people assume that students in SMK tend to be less polite than high school students.

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