

INDIRECT REFUSAL STRATEGIES IN THE FILM “The Blind Side”

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Abstract

This research entitled "Indirect Refusal Strategies in The Film "The Blind Side" is a study of indirect refusal in one of drama films. In this research, the researcher chose indirect refusal in her studies due to knowing how people make indirect refusal and the strategies that they use in order to avoid the conflict and not to hurt someone else feeling.

The research aims to find out the indirect refusal in the dialogues, in order to understand the better way of people convey their strategy to refuse something with indirect refusal strategies. The second goal is the researcher wants to know about the types of indirect refusal strategies that are used by the main characters in the conversation. In collecting the data, the researcher used two stages in her instrument; the first stage is note taking and the second stage is checking list.

In doing the analysis, the researcher found the answers of these research problems about indirect refusal strategies and the type of indirect refusal strategies in the film “The Blind Side. The researcher found there are 12 conversations using indirect refusal strategies in the film “The Blind Side”. The researcher also found there are three types of indirect refusal strategies which used in the film “The Blind Side”. The indirect refusal strategies that used in the film “The Blind Side” are the expression of a positive opinion, the expression of regret and the expression of reason.

INTRODUCTION

A good communication happens when there is an understanding between the interlocutors or between the speaker and the listener. In communication, speaker expects the hearer to recognize what the speaker has said. Communication is not culturally independent; thus, aside from syntactic and semantic knowledge, communicative competence requires more than an acquisition of syntactic and semantic knowledge of a language. In order to contribute to cross-cultural pragmatic understanding and effective communication, cross-cultural pragmatic studies have been conducted. Many have been conducted on refusals, as one of the speech acts used across cultures, e.g. Beebe *et al*, (1990); Nelson *et al*, (2002); Johnson, Roloff, *et al* (2004).

In this world, people have different needs, wishes, and opinion in a society. They express them in the form of many kinds of utterance on particular occasion. Sometime, when they are talking one to another they will debate one another because they cannot receive their friend's opinion. In other case they also refuse to someone's requests, commands, offers, invitations, and suggestions and so on. They can refuse something by polite words or impolite words. Refusal is one of familiar utterances that often used in communication. In other words, whenever someone declines to take or accept it means refusal.

Communication can be seen not only in our conversations everyday but also we can see it in a literary work, for example movies. Movies are a medium which provides space for literature. The film is drawing to an event or story that is poured into the visual media to make a literary work is more beautiful and looks more real.

Film encompasses individual motion pictures, the field of film as an art form, and the motion picture industry. Films (also referred to as movies or motion pictures) are produced by recording photographic images with cameras, or by creating images using animation techniques

or visual effects. Film and the real world have some similarities, which include several kinds of expressions. Film could become an object of study about the type of expressions. One form of expression that is interesting to be analyzed is refusal strategy, especially in indirect refusal strategy. This study is expected to reveal the fact that there are some indirect refusals happened in the main characters conversation.

Refusal strategies are used in the conversation when someone does not agree or reject someone's request, offer or question. According to Kline and Floyd as cited by Johnson, Roloff et al, (2004) in Oktoprimasakti (2006, p. 104) tell us that

Refuse is essentially an act that does not agree with a condition or something. Refusal usually occurs when there is a request or offer for something. This is already a sure thing that someone asked for something to others it means the person hope his desire to be realized or approved by the people he turn to the request. This is our role to look for the right strategies to refuse it's offering with a good words and expression, which does not cause a problem or negative impact to your conversational partner. While indirect in refusal is refusal which is spoken indirectly such us I'd like too but, I'm sorry. Sometimes the speaker just gives an explanation, why he or she could not comply with someone requests ask and offer people who have different status, different age, and different education usually express their refusal in indirect way.

Refusal is the act of refusing or rejecting requests, commands, offers, invitations, etc. We can refuse something by polite words or impolite words. Refusal is one of familiar utterances that often used in communication. In other words, whenever someone declines to take or accept it means a refusal. Refusal is divided into two parts; direct refusal and indirect refusal (Beebe and Takashi, 1985: 72). In this research, researcher decided to analyze indirect refusal strategies produced by the main character based on the film "The Blind Side".

METHODOLOGY

This research covers the approach of the study, method of data collection, and data analysis. The approach of this research is descriptive qualitative. The researcher uses the conversations of Michael Oher and all of the people around him in the film "The blind side".

The source of data in this study is the conversations of Michael Oher and all of the people around him in the film "The blind side". The data used are the utterances among them that contains indirect refusal. In the procedure of data collection, the researcher uses three stages in collecting the data from the conversation. These three stages could help the researcher to analyze the movie. The first step to get the data is watching the film in several times by finding the theme of the movie and paying attention the conversation carefully. After watching the film in the several times, the researcher transcribes the utterances of the main character. After all, the researcher uses note taking the dialogue in the film to assist her in doing the analysis. In analyzing the data, the researcher focused on the conversation of Michael Oher and all of the people around him in the film "The blind side", when they made indirect refusals to get relationship with Michael Oher, based on the theory of Beebe and Takashi (1985). Here the researcher tries to find the types of indirect refusal strategies that used by the main character.

The researcher uses four stages to analyze the data. The first step is identifying the utterances based on the main character's refusals. And that the researcher gave an attention with the first pair of refusal in that movie. The second step is identifying the utterance of refusals that produced by the main characters. As a guideline, the researcher uses some criteria in which the utterances could be called refusals. The first criterion is the utterance should be face- threatening.

The second criterion is it should have possibility to offend someone (Beebe and Takashi, 1989). The last criterion is the utterance should reject an offer initiated by another or backs out of an agreement (Brown and Lavinson 1978, 1987). The researcher also analyzes the categories of refusal suggested by Beebe and Takashi (1985) which are refusals to request, invitation, offers, and suggestion. The third step is the utterance of indirect refusals that would be produced by the two main characters, as a guideline, the researcher uses some criteria in which the utterances could be called indirect refusal.

FINDING AND ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the researcher presents the findings and the analysis of the research. Here the researcher wanted to show us the analysis from the conversations of indirect refusal in the film “The Blind Side”. Analysis of spoken discourse is sometimes called conversational analysis (CA). The objective of CA is to uncover the tacit reasoning procedures and sociolinguistic competencies underlying the production and interpretation of talk in organized sequences of interaction.

An adjacency pair is a unit of conversation that contains an exchange of one turn each by two speakers. Adjacency pairs refer to ‘conversational sequences’ in which an utterance by one speaker depends upon an utterance made by another speaker. It is a sequence of two related utterances by two different speakers. The second utterance is always the response to the first. It is known as ‘a tied pair’ also known as ‘illocutionary force’. The turns are functionally related to each other in such a fashion that the first turn requires a certain types of second turn. There are two main features of adjacency pairs: first pair part and second pair part.

1. The first pair part which includes questions, greetings, challenges, offers, request, complains, invitation, and announcement.
2. The second pair (greeting-greeting), (question- answer), and (complain-apology or justification), in addition, there are other classification of words namely, responses, thanking and goodbyes.

The first pairs and second pair parts of adjacency pairs are related to each other. It means that not any second pair could follow any first pair part appropriately.

1. Finding

The types of indirect refusal strategies in the film “The Blind Side” could be seen in the following table.

Indirect Refusal Utterances “The Blind Side”

No.	First Pair of Refusal	Indirect Refusal Utterances	Type of Indirect Refusals
1	Request	<i>I promises my mama Boo, on her deathbed that I'd get my son outta public school into a church school. So, can you help me?</i> <i>I appreciate that Tony, But I'm not involved with admissions.</i>	Type 1

2	Suggestion	<i>It's amazing what he's absorbed. Trust me! He's listening to you, you should know him</i> <i>His reading level is low and he's got no idea how to learn in the classroom.</i>	Type 3
3	Invitation	<i>So Big Mike. You like to shop? because tomorrow, I think I'll have to show you how it's done</i> <i>I got clothes</i>	Type 3
4	Suggestion	<i>Well, we can come back! She prolly moved to a nicer place</i>	Type 3
5	Suggestion	<i>What about this one? This isn't atrocious</i>	Type 3
6	Request	<i>SJ! You have two more minutes on the playbox thing, alright</i> <i>SJ (Sean Junior) : Oh, Mom!</i>	Type 3
7	Invitation	<i>Well, we'd really like to meet him some day, would that be okay with you?</i> <i>I don't know where he stays.</i>	Type 3
8	Suggestion	<i>He's gonna be eighteen in a few months. Doesn't really make much sense to legally adopt?</i> <i>Is this some sort of white guilt thing? Leigh Anne, I'm so sorry</i>	Type 3
9	Suggestion	<i>So we'd need her permission, right?</i> <i>Michael is a ward of the state. Just apply and get a judge to sign off on it.</i>	Type 3
10	Suggestion	<i>You see, the new Madden game came out and me and Michael wanted to go get it.</i> <i>Ohh baby. I've got a meeting in ten minutes</i>	Type 3
11	Request	<i>He needs to be better in school! Did you know that to be eligible for a division one scholarship</i> <i>Michael's gonna need to make it 2,5 GPA</i> <i>Really?, his act is low and I don't see him doing any better if he retakes it right there</i>	Type 3
12	Suggestion	<i>What about Tennessee?</i> <i>It breaks my heart but they're still in the hunt</i>	Type 1

Note:

Type 1: An expression of positive opinion

Type 2: an expression of regret

After 3: An expression of reason, excuse or explanation

In this chapter the researcher found that not all the first pair part of adjacency pair namely questions, greetings, challenges, offers, requests, complains, invitations and announcements (Coulthard, 1985:73) were used in the conversations, especially in doing refusals. In this research, the researcher found that the conversations in this film only used suggestion, request and invitation as the first pairs of refusals. The researcher found that there were twelve utterances used indirect refusal strategies, and the researcher also found that nine of twelve utterances used an expression of reason, excuse or explanation to refuse the interlocutor.

After finding the first research, the researcher wanted to analyze the indirect refusal strategies in the film “The Blind Side”. Therefore the researcher analyzed this research based on the situation, adjacency pairs, and also especially for the indirect refusal type which were used in this film.

1. In the school’s office

- a. **Tenor:** the conversation encounters between Bert Cotton (The sport’s teacher of a church school) and Tony Hamilton (Big Mike friend’s)
- b. **Field:** Tony Hamilton asks Bert Cotton to accept his boy Steven and his friend Big Mike to school in Church school.
- c. **Mode:** One day Tony Hamilton comes to Cotton’s office and made a conversation with Cotton. For their first conversation, Tony Hamilton and Bert Cotton introduced their self, their job and their life each other, until Tony Hamilton began to tell Bert Cotton about his willing. Tony Hamilton wanted to offer his boy and his friend to study in church school which Cotton worked. Tony Hamilton offered his friends, Steven and Big Mike to become cotton’s student. Tony Hamilton also told Bert Cotton that his friends couldn’t be Cotton’s players; because Tony Hamilton thought that Steven and Big Mike had a good skill in sport. Tony Hamilton told Bert Cotton that he had promised his mama Boo, on her deathbed that he would get his son Steven out from public school and move into a Church school. And Bert cotton used indirect refusal to refuse Tony Hamilton’s request.

d. Conversation :

Tony Hamilton: *I promises my mama Boo, on her deathbed
that I’d get my son outta public school into a church
school. So, can you help me?(Request)*

Bert Cotton: *I appreciate that Tony .
But I’m not involved with admissions. (Rejected)*

From the conversation above, the utterance (*I appreciate that Tony. But I’m not involved with admission*) Bert cotton said this utterance to response Tony Hamilton request about entering Steven in Church School. This utterance was a part of Consideration of interlocutor’s feelings. Bert Cotton gave a positive opinion to Tony Hamilton that the invitation was a good thing but Bert Cotton couldn’t accept it. Bert Cotton made an indirect refusal to Tony Hamilton with a polite utterance. Bert Cotton didn’t want to accept Steven in Church School but he could not say it in direct way

because he wanted to keep his interlocutor's feeling. So he told Steven with indirect refusal strategies. The utterance which used by Bert Cotton was included as the type of indirect refusal strategy number one that was an expression of positive opinion.

2. In the teacher's meeting room

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Mathematics' teacher and Geographic's teacher of Church School.
- b. **Field:** The Geographic's teacher of Church School told good news about the progress of Michael Oher and she asked again to another teacher's opinion.
- c. **Mode:** After Michael Oher school at the Church School for three days, The teacher were having a meeting to discuss about the progress of Michael Oher in Church School. And many teachers made a debate about this. Geographic's teacher in Church school gave a positive opinion about Michael Oher. She said that Michael Oher had another skill in himself; Michael Oher could accept the material of his lesson with verbally condition. And, she thought that it's very amazing what he's absorbed. She tried to convince other teachers that Michael Oher was not stupid. But the Mathematics' teacher of Church School didn't agree with this opinion and refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategies.
- d. **Conversation:**

Geographic's teacher: It's amazing what he's absorbed.

He's listening to you,

Just feel it?(Suggestion)

Mathematics' teacher: his reading level is low

And he's got no idea how to learn in the classroom. (Rejected)

The utterances "his reading level is low. And he's got no idea how to learn in the classroom" regarded as indirect refusal which explained the Geographic's teacher could not be fulfilled with the suggestion. This sentence was a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. This utterance which used was giving reason utterance. We could see in the words that the Mathematics' teacher gave an explanation to show how that the suggestion could not be accomplished. This refusal was include as the type of indirect refusal strategies number three which was the expression of reason.

3. In the car.

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and Michael Oher
- b. **Field:** Leigh Anne Touhy offered Michael to buy some clothes for himself. But Michael Oher refused his Leigh Anne Tuohy's offering.
- c. **Mode:** Leigh Anne Tuohy was good mother in her family. She was always kind with her children, not only with her biological child but also with Michael Oher even though they didn't have blood ties each other. Leigh Anna Tuohy wanted to buy some clothes for Michael Oher, because she thought Michael Oher didn't have many clothes; she thought that Michael Oher only had an extra T-Shirt in the plastic bag. But Michael Oher refused Leigh Anne Tuohy's offering with indirect refusal strategies.
- d. **Conversation:**

Leigh Anne Tuohy: So Big Mike. You like to shop?

*Because tomorrow I think I'll have to show you how it's done
(Request)*

Michael Oher : I got clothes (Rejected)

Indirect refusal type: “*I got clothes*” this sentence was a part of white lie type in indirect refusal strategies Michael Oher made a reason which was not in accordance with the true reason or situation. In the true condition Michael Oher or Big Mike just had two clothes, but he didn’t want to make Leigh Anne Tuohy bought some clothes for him. This utterance is included as number three of indirect refusal strategies type that is an expression of reason.

4. In the car

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and Michael Oher.
- b. **Field:** Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested Michael Oher to come back again into his mother’s home later.
- c. **Mode:** before buying some clothes for Michael Oher, Leigh Anne Tuohy wanted to go to Michael Oher’s mother lives. Both of them go to Michael Oher’s mother lives. She wanted to help Michael Oher by carrying his clothes. But Michael Oher prohibited Leigh Anne Tuohy to get out of the car, because he wanted to protect her from naughty boys around them. Michael Oher’s got out from the car and looked for his mother. But in fact his mother didn’t live in that place again. Michael Oher cried and went back in the car. He told Leigh Anne Tuohy that her mother was not at home, and Leigh Anne Tuohy offered Michael Oher to come back in this place later. But Michael Oher refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategy.

d. Conversation :

Michael Oher : She wasn’t at home
Leigh Anna Tuohy : Well, we can come back (suggestion)
Michael Oher : She prolly moved to a nicer place
(Rejected)

“*She prolly moved to a nicer place*” this utterance is a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. The utterance of Michael Oher used in this indirect refusal strategy is giving a reason or explanation. Michael Oher made an explanation why the offering could not be accomplished. He told Leigh Anne Tuohy that his mother probably moved to another place.

5. At the clothing store

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and Michael Oher.
- b. **Field:** Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested a T-shirt for Michael Oher but Michael didn’t like the T-shirt. Michael Oher refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategies.
- c. **Mode:** When they left from Michael mother’s residence. They together went to a clothing store which sold clothes with a large size. Leigh Anna Tuohy wanted to get clothes that would fit Michael. Both of them were looking for clothes. Leigh Anne Tuohy also tells told Michael Oher that if he wanted to choose something, he should think of himself wearing it and suddenly Leigh Anne Tuohy found clothes for Michael Oher and suggested it for Michael Oher but he didn’t like that clothes and refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategy.

d. Conversation:

Leigh Anne Tuohy : So, before you choose something
think of yourself wearing it
and say to yourself: is this me?
(Choose clothes for Michael Oher)
(Suggestion)

Michael Oher : No (Rejected)
Leigh Anne Tuohy : What about this one?
Michael Oher : This isn't atrocious

"This isn't atrocious" this sentence is a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. Michael Oher made an explanation that he didn't like the clothes, so Michael Oher refused Leigh Anne Tuohy suggestion with a good reason for Leigh Anne Tuohy. This refusal is included as the number three in indirect refusal strategies type which is expressing of reason or explanation utterance.

6. At home

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and SJ (Sean Junior).
- b. **Field :** Leigh Anne Tuohy asked her son SJ to stop his game.
- c. **Mode:** in the night the Leigh Anne Tuohy got out from her bed room to look for Michael Oher. When Leigh Anne looked for Michael she found SJ who was playing his playbox game. Leigh Anne Tuohy gave two more minutes for that playbox. And SJ complained with his mother with an expression. SJ refused the request with indirect refusal strategy.
- d. **Conversation :**
Leigh Anne Tuohy: SJ! You have two more minutes
On the playbox thing, alright (Request)

SJ (Sean Junior): Oh, Mom!(Rejected)

"Oh, Mom!" this sentence is a part of a particle used to intensify criticism in indirect refusal strategies. SJ used this expression to tell his mother that he didn't agree with his mother requests. This utterance used an expression of positive opinion especially in non-verbal avoidance case. In this case the interlocutor described his refusal by saying "Oh, Mom" with a refusal expression. His sentence did not express his refusal, but his non-verbal or his expression explained that he refused what his mother said.

7. At the restaurant

- a. **Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and Michael Oher.
- b. **Field:** Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested Michael Oher to meet again with his brother.
- c. **Mode:** Touhy's family made a special occasion in a restaurant. They wanted to celebrate Michael. Michael's grades had improved enough; he could go out for spring football in March. They were very happy with that condition because they loved Michael Oher very much. When they enjoyed with their meal, suddenly Leigh Anne Tuohy called Michael. She looked at Michael is talking with someone. She asked SJ about the man who talked with Michael Oher but SJ didn't know about that man. After having dinner Leigh Anne Tuohy asked Michael about the man who was talking with him and Michael told Leigh Anne Tuohy that he was his brother. Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested Michael Oher to meet his brother someday. But Michael Oher refused the suggestion. He used indirect refusal strategy because he wanted to take care of Mrs. Tuohy's feeling.
- d. **Conversation:**
Leigh Anne Tuohy: How do you know him?
Michael Oher: He's my brother
Leigh Anne Tuohy: Well, we'd really like to meet him some day.

Would that be okay with you? (Request)

Michael Oher: I don't know where he stays. (Rejected)

“I don't know where he stays” this sentence is a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. Michael Oher refused the suggestion, because he didn't know when and where he can meet his brother again. Michael gave a refusal in expression of reason type in indirect refusal strategies

8. In the field

a. Tenor: The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and her husband Sean Tuohy.

b. Field: Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested his husband to adopt Michael Oher

c. Mode: Leigh Anne Tuohy was talking with his husband about her willing to adopt Michael Oher. She suggested his husband to adopt him because she thought Michael Oher liked her son too. She really liked him. She wanted to make him legally adopt. When she told her desire with her husband, suddenly her husband refused her suggestion with indirect refusal strategy.

d. Conversation:

Sean Tuohy: He is a great kid

Leigh Anne Tuohy: Well, I say make it official and just adopt him

He's gonna be eighteen in a few months.

*Doesn't really make much sense to legall
adopt?*

Sean Tuohy: Is this some sort of white guilt thing?

Leigh Anne, I'm so sorry

“Is this some sort of white guilt thing? Leigh Anne, I'm so sorry”, this utterance is an expression of regret type in indirect refusal strategies. Mr. Sean Tuohy made an apologize to refuse Mrs. Leigh Anne Tuohy's suggestion. He didn't want to hurt his wife's feeling, so he used indirect refusal to reject his wife's suggestion.

9. In the immigration office

a. Tenor: The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and immigration office staff.

b. Field: Leigh Anne Tuohy wanted to see the data about Michael Oher in the computer of immigration office

c. Mode: Leigh Anne Tuohy went to immigration office to make Michael Oher legally adopt. She wanted to do it because she wanted to make Michael Oher as her son and she also wanted to make a driver's license for Michael. Michael wanted to drive a car to go to school with SJ. When she was in the immigration office, she was in the difficult situation because the immigration office didn't have many files about Michael Oher. This one described an incident where officers forcibly removed Michael. The officer asked Mrs. Tuohy to look for her mother and look for the full data about Michael Oher. And after that Mrs. Tuohy suggested for immigration office staff that she should have a permission with Michael's mother to adopt her son. But the immigration gave a reason to refuse Leigh Anne Tuohy's suggestion.

d. Conversation:

Immigration office staff: If you find her

We got a bunch more files we could add to.

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: How many kids does she have?
At least a dozen, probably*

Immigration office staff: If not more, with her drug arrest record

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: May I see that?
So we'd need her permission, right?
(Suggestion)*

*Immigration office staff: Michael is a ward of the state
Just apply and get a judge to sign off on it.
(Rejected)*

“Michael is a ward of the state. Just apply and get a judge to sign off on it” this sentence was a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. The immigration office staff gave an explanation to Leigh Anne Tuohy that she could adopt Michael without Michael’s mother’s permission. She refused Leigh Anne Tuohy’s suggestion with indirect refusal strategy.

10. At the office room in Tuohy’s house

- a. Tenor:** The conversation encountered between SJ (Sean Junior) and Leigh Anne Tuohy
- b. Field:** SJ suggested her mother (Leigh Anne Tuohy) to buy a new Madden game for him.
- c. Mode:** after teaching Michael Oher about how to become a striker in playing ball, SJ was waiting for his mother and then, he wanted to tell something to his mother. When Mrs. Tuohy got out from her room, she told Michael Oher and SJ to put their game into its place. After doing that, SJ asked his mother about his willing. SJ suggested his mother that he and Michel wanted to get that game.
- d. Conversation:**

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: Yeah. Well, when you're done,
please, put the players back in the spice cabinet
Thank you*

*SJ (Sean Junior): No Problem
You see, the new Madden game came out
and me and Michael wanted to go get it.
(Suggestion)*

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: Ohh baby. I've got a meeting in ten minutes
(Rejected)*

“Ohh baby. I've got a meeting in ten minutes” this sentence was a part of reason type in indirect refusal strategies. Leigh Anne Tuohy gave an explanation for her son that she could not company them to get that new game.

11. At the Tuohy’s house

- a. Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Miss sue and Leigh Anne Tuohy
- b. Field:** Miss Sue suggested Leigh Anne Tuohy that Michael Oher should have 2,5 GPA to get the scholarship
- c. Mode:** Miss Sue was a private teacher for Michael Oher and Miss Sue also had a role his teacher in his school. Leigh Anne Tuohy paid her to teach Michael Oher until Michael Oher became a clever man. She always paid attention with Michael Oher’s progress in learning. One day she told Leigh Anne Tuohy about Michael Oher’s progress and she also told that Michael Oher could get the scholarship if he had 2,5

GPA. But Leigh Anne Tuohy was still in doubting. She refused the suggestion because she thought it was so difficult for Michael Oher to get the scholarship. Leigh Anne Tuohy refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategy.

d. Conversation:

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: Oh, I appreciate your honesty, Miss Sue
What's the situation with Michael?*

*Miss Sue: He needs to be better in school
Did you know that to be eligible for
a division one scholarship
Michael's gonna need to make it 2,5 GPA
(Request)*

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: Really?,
his act is low and I don't see him doing any better
if he retakes it right there. (Rejected)*

The utterance “*Really?, his act is low and I don't see him doing any better if he retakes it right there*” this sentence was a part of statement of principle type in indirect refusal strategies. Leigh Anne Tuohy gave disbelieving of the suggestion from Miss Sue. She didn't believe with Michael Oher's ability, because she couldn't be sure that Michael Oher's condition with Miss Sue that Michael Oher had a low act and bad skill in learning knowledge. This refusal type is an expression of indirect refusal type that is expression of reason and explanation for someone.

12. At the family room

- a. Tenor:** The conversation encountered between Leigh Anne Tuohy and Michael Oher
- b. Fields:** Leigh Anne Tuohy suggested Tennessee became Michael Oher's University later.
- c. Mode:** Since Michael became a great striker, many universities offered their university for Michael Oher. They wanted to make Michael Oher as an athlete and student in their university. Many universities came to Touhy's house to promote their university for Michael Oher. After making a decision, Leigh Anne Tuohy asked Michael Oher about his decision. She also suggested Tennessee University for Michael Oher. But Michael Oher refused the suggestion with indirect refusal strategy

d. Conversation:

Leigh Anne Tuohy: You got it?

Michael Oher: Yes'm

*Leigh Anne Tuohy: Alright,
What about Tennessee?(Suggestion)*

Michael Oher: It breaks my heart but they're still in the hunt

“*It breaks my heart but they're still in the hunt*” this utterance is a part of let the interlocutor off the hook type in indirect refusal strategies. Michael Oher gave an agreement expresses consent on the suggestion before he uttered the refusal for Leigh Anne Tuohy. He told that Tennessee University but he wanted to look for the other Universities. The refusal type which is used is an expression of positive opinion.

2. Discussion

Politeness is a wise speech acts in our daily life which is respect for all the people around us. Politeness also is an act to be a friendly and courteous to everyone around us. Politeness also can explain the society about our attitudes in everyday. Politeness theory is the theory that accounts for the redressing of the affronts to face posed by face-threatening acts to addressees. First formulated in 1978 by Penelope Brown and Stephen Levinson, politeness theory has since expanded academia's perception of politeness.

It means that politeness is a battery of social skills whose goal is to ensure everyone feels affirmed in a social interaction. The opinion above show us that strategy of refusing as a politeness strategy or an attempt to 'save face' when refusing. Being polite therefore consists of attempting to save face for another. Save face means how to maintain a good self image for everyone around us. It means we have to understand each other and the respect from the speaker. The researcher analyzed that indirect refusal in the film "The Blind Side" only used suggestion, request and invitation as the first pairs of refusals.

The researcher also found that the type of indirect refusal strategies which are used in the film "The Blind Side" are the expression of positive opinion, the expression of regret and the expression of reason. Therefore, indirect refusals were effective enough to be used in daily conversations, because it can make the interaction polite. Indirect refusal strategies make the inviters or requesters cannot become angry with our refusal, because indirect refusal strategies could reduce the risk of requester's anger.

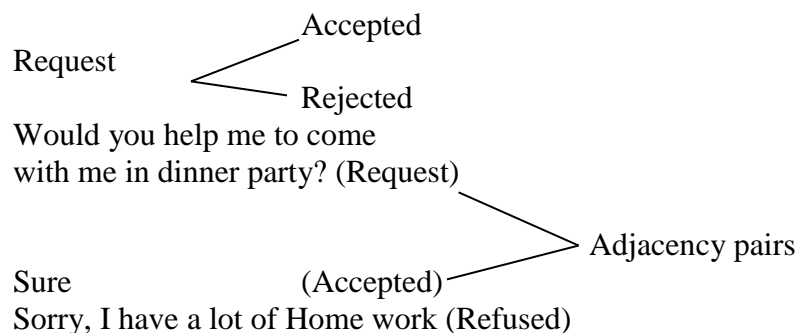
An analysis of the refusal interactions indicates that among these speakers, the negotiation of face is accomplished largely by various indirect attempts at (re)negotiating a successful resolution. Also, face needs are oriented towards the group, emphasizing involvement over independence. Face Threatening Act (FTA) means an act that causes the threat to the positive or negative face of the hearer. A face threatening act is an act that inherently damages the face of the addressee or the speaker by acting in opposition to the wants and desires of the other. Positive and negative face exists universally in human culture.

While indirect in refusal is refusal which is spoken indirectly such as I'd like too but, I'm sorry. Sometimes the speaker just gives an explanation, why he or she could not comply with someone requests ask and offer people who have different status, different age, and different education usually express their refusal in indirect way. Sometimes, Michael Oher used refusal statements rather than saying "No". He worried to hurt the requesters feeling, and it may threaten the face of the hearer. However is a person refuse in an indirect way. It is considerate more polite and it could prevent the speakers feeling.

The examples of Michael Oher refusals are examples of adjacency pairs based on Schegloff in Coulthard (1985: 73). These examples are happen in daily conversation. The examples above are 'greeting-greeting', 'question-answer', 'complain-apology' type. In the examples above we could conclude that pairs of utterances in talk are often mutually dependent. A most obvious example is that a question predicts an answer and that an answer presupposes a question. And also we have to know that there is a rule governing the adjacency pairs. 'Having produced a first part of the same pair the current speaker must stop speaking and the next speaker must produce it that points a second part of the same pair'.

Besides the three classifications from Coulthard (1985), there are some other various pairs of the first pair part of adjacency pairs which is not belong to what the theory said, they request, offer and invitation and suggestion, which is written in Beebe and Takashi's theory (1985). There could be the first pair of refusal, whether the hearer could accept it or not.

Examples:



From the example above, when x utters a request as the first part of adjacency pairs, there are two possible responses from the hearer. The first response, the hearer will accept the speaker request to accompany her to go in dinner party and the second response; the hearer will not accept the speaker requests or the hearer will reject it. This second response is called refusal.

All ideas about the features of adjacency pairs have triggered the researcher to have some question related to her concept. In this case, the researcher would like to use the theory to reveal the adjacency pairs happen in indirect refusal conversation. She is going to use Sack's classification of first and second pairs happen in indirect refusal conversation.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Conclusions

According to the research the researcher through her research has answered her questions concerning the researcher research problems about indirect refusal strategies and the type of indirect refusal strategies in the film "The Blind Side". Based on the research the researcher concludes:

1. There are 12 conversations using indirect refusal strategies in the film "The Blind Side". The 'textual' features are able to cohere the textual itself and with its context of situation. This allows us to display the redundancy between text and situation, how each component serves to predict the other component. Every component has an important role that situation.
2. The first pair of adjacency pairs in refusal of this film "The Blind Side" is using suggestion, request, and invitation as their first pair of adjacency pair in refusal. An analysis of the refusal interactions indicates that among these speakers, the negotiation of face is accomplished largely by various indirect attempts at (re)negotiating a successful resolution. Also, face needs are oriented towards the group, emphasizing involvement over independence.
3. There are five types of indirect refusal strategies which used in the film "The Blind Side". The indirect refusal strategies that used in the film "The Blind Side" are reason type, white lie type, consideration of interlocutor's feelings type, statement of regret type, particles used to intensify criticism type.

Suggestion

According with the conclusion above, the researcher has some suggestions related to this research:

1. The researcher hopes the readers will understand how to use indirect refusal and its strategies when they want to make a refusal.
2. This research can be used for additional reference for those who want to make further research about indirect refusal strategies in the film.
3. The researcher wishes that all of us use indirect refusal strategies to refuse something, because the conversation between us becomes more polite and it can prevent the speaker's feeling not to get hurt.

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