

**AN ANALYSIS OF COMPLIMENTS AND
COMPLIMENT RESPONSES ON THE ELLEN
DEGENERES SHOW: PRAGMATIC APPROACH**

THESIS



By:

Dewi Sartika

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES PUTERA BATAM
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Is the real work of myself and I realize that this thesis has never been published in other media before, partially or entirely, in the name of mine or others.

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**AN ANALYSIS OF COMPLIMENTS AND COMPLIMENT
RESPONSES ON THE ELLEN DEGENERES TALK SHOW:
PRAGMATICS APPROACH**

THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of Sarjana
Sastra**

By:

Dewi Sartika

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This thesis has been approved to be examined on the date as indicated below

Batam, 23rd July 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' and 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

**Ambalegin. S. Pd. M.Pd
Supervisor**

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this qualitative research was to identify the topics of compliment and the types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show. This study applied the theory of Holmes (1988) and Herbert (1990) to analyze the topics of compliment and the types of compliment responses. This research applied observational method and non-participatory technique in collecting the data. Pragmatics identity method and pragmatic-competence in equalizing technique were applied in analyzing the data. One utterance or dialogue was used to find out the topics of compliment and the types of compliment responses. Due to the result of the descriptive analysis, the presentation of this result used an informal method. The result showed that the topics of compliment were identified topics of compliment in appearance, ability or performance, possessions and personality or friendship. Topics of compliment of "others" did not appear because the utterances from speaker and the topics of compliment were matched. The types of compliment responses were identified appreciation token, comment acceptance-single, praise upgrade, return, question, disagreement and no acknowledgement. The types of compliment responses which did not appear were comment history, reassignment, scale down, qualification, and request interpretation. They did not appear because the hearers did not give the response by explaining the history of the object that was complimented, the hearers did not give response by directing the third person or object itself, the hearers did not respond by pointing out the weakness of the object being complimented, the hearers did not respond by comparing the object being complimented with other better ones, and the hearers did not give response by interpreting the compliment as a request.

Keywords: compliments, compliment responses, pragmatics, topics of compliment, types of compliment responses

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian kualitatif ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi topik pujian dan tipe respon pujian pada tuturan pembawa acara dan tamu pada Ellen DeGeneres Show. Penelitian ini menerapkan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Holmes (1988) dan Herbert (1990) untuk menganalisis topik pujian dan tipe tanggapan pujian. Penelitian ini menerapkan metode observasi dengan menggunakan teknik non-partisipatif dalam pengumpulan data. Identitas pragmatis dengan menggunakan kompetensi pragmatik teknik dalam penyerataan digunakan untuk menganalisis data. Satu ujaran atau dialog yang digunakan untuk mengetahui topik pujian dan tanggapan pujian. Karena hasil analisis secara deskriptif, penyajian hasil ini menggunakan metode informal. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pada topik pujian ditemukan topik pujian dalam penampilan, kemampuan atau performa, kepemilikan dan kepribadian atau persahabatan. Topik pujian “lain” tidak muncul karena ucapan pembicara dan topik pujian cocok. Pada tipe respon pujian ditemukan token penghargaan, penerimaan komentar-tunggal, peningkatan pujian, balasan, pertanyaan, ketidaksetujuan dan tidak ada pengakuan. Jenis tanggapan pujian yang tidak muncul adalah riwayat komentar, penugasan kembali, perkecil, kualifikasi, meminta interpretasi. Mereka tidak muncul karena pendengar tidak memberikan respon dengan menjelaskan sejarah objek yang dipuji, karena pendengar tidak memberikan respon dengan mengarahkan orang ketiga atau objek itu sendiri, karena pendengar tidak menanggapi dengan menunjukkan kelemahan objek yang dipuji, karena pendengar tidak menanggapi dengan membandingkan objek yang dipuji dengan objek lain yang lebih baik, dan karena pendengar tidak memberikan respon dengan mengartikan pujian sebagai permintaan.

Kata Kunci: *pragmatic, pujian, respon pujian, tipe respon pujian, topik pujian*

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The researcher apologizes for all mistakes made along the studies and also the writer hopes this thesis would be useful for the readers. May God give happiness, healthy and mercy for them. Aamin.

Batam, July 23rd July 2021

Dewi Sartika

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Language is a tool in communication that has an important role. Language cannot be separated from social life because it makes everyone able to do whatever they want to say. It shows that language can give the effect on social relationships. It can be seen that the role of language itself is very important.

Presently, communication is one way to build relationships with each other. One of the important parts of communication is speech acts. In linguistics, speech acts is speech defined based on the intention of the speaker and its effect on the listener. Compliments and compliment responses are two aspects of speech acts. Compliments and compliment responses cannot only be done and found by face to face, but now this can be done and found on virtual communication both oral and written in social media such as Facebook, twitter, Youtube, and Instagram.

Pragmatics phenomena often appear in everyday life. The phenomena of pragmatics now appear on social media because nowadays, social media is very popular communication device and like a bowl of comments (Ambalegin & Arianto, 2020). At this time, social status of the society is communicated through social media so that the phenomena of language itself appear on social media. One of the language phenomena appeared on Joe Biden's Instagram. Joe Biden, a presidential candidate,

posted a photo together with his vice president on his Instagram while walking and explaining what their future project would be after being a president and vice president. The account name did not express the compliment on her comment by saying “I believe in Trump! **I don't think Joe will be a better president**” (@gracebell1970, 2020). The utterance attacked Joe Biden’s face. The bold utterance disparaged self-image of Joe Biden as the presidential candidate in the public.

Issue of pragmatics was found of no compliment in the Jakarta Post newspaper on March 6th, 2021. There was a face-threatening act in newspaper headlight “Moeldoko splits Democratic Party, **poses threat to SBY's ascendancy**” (Sutrisno and Gunawan, 2021). Moeldoko attacked SBY’s face by his utterance. The utterance showed a face threatening act to SBY because it could undermine SBY's existence as a chairman of a democratic party. It could also make their relationship disharmony.

Contrarily, the phenomenon of compliments also can be found in media information. The phenomenon was seen in The Jakarta Post on January 29, 2021. There was a compliment that showed face-saving act in the headlight “**Indonesia drops in graft index for first time in Jokowi presidency**” (Aqil, 2021). The utterance showed that the self-public image of Jokowi as a president was good because he made a change in the Jokowi presidency in graft index.

These phenomena were found on talk shows in television. It was found in the interaction between the host and guest stars. The conversation and commentary from the audience can bring up the phenomena of compliment and compliment responses.

One of the shows that gave rise was a talk show called Jimmy Kimmel Live that held a few months ago.

Jimmy Kimmel explained his next guest star to the audience. Jimmy Kimmel said his guest star won a nomination for film. Then he performed the part of the film called "Minari" which featured the actor's acting on the screen. After showing part of the film, he greeted Alan Kim.

Jimmy Kimmel: **Uh, you know I thought you were just great at this movie, you did such a great job**

Alan Kim: **Thank you**

Jimmy (speaker) gave compliment to Alan's ability (hearer) to act in the film "Minari". Through that film, the hearer won a nomination, so the speaker gave compliment to him by saying "**Uh, you know I thought you were just great at this movie, you did such a great job**". According to Holmes (1988), the compliment given by speaker is one topic of compliments on **ability or performance** because it's related to someone's skill/talent.

Alan (hearer) responded the compliment by saying "**Thank you**". The response given by hearer showed that the compliment was received. According to Herbert (1990), this type of compliment response is **appreciation token**.

The phenomena of compliments and compliment responses was not only found on the Jimmy Kimmel Live but also in another talk show, namely the Ellen DeGeneres Show. The Ellen DeGeneres Show is an American daytime television

variety comedy talk show hosted by Ellen. One of the reasons why this popular is because Ellen's natural humour and ideas inspire the viewers.

The phenomenon of compliment occurred when Ellen welcomed Taylor Swift and Zac Efron to join the Ellen DeGeneres Show on season 9 episode 105. Taylor Swift held Zac Efron's hand when they entered the talk show room. Zac wore a leather jacket and Taylor wore a short dress. They looked very elegant and the way they entered the talk show room made the audience scream because of their stunning appearance. Ellen (speaker) gave compliment to Taylor (hearer 1) and Zac (hearer 2) by saying **"You both are so adorable and you are adorable together"**. According to Holmes (1988), the compliment given by Ellen (speaker) is topic of compliment on **appearance** because it's related to hearers' appearance (clothes/make up).

A response from hearer is one way to appreciate speaker. Taylor (hearer) responded the compliment that was given to her by saying **"That is so nice of you"**. This type of response is **return** because the hearer responded the compliment by giving the compliment back to Ellen (speaker) (Herbert, 1990).

There were some researches that had been made regarding to compliments and compliment responses. "Compliments and Compliment Responses used by English Teacher Association" by Purnomo (2015) was conducted to find out the way respondents employ compliment and its response strategies for topics of appearance, possession and skill or ability in difference status. This study used theory from Trosborg and Herbert. The result showed that females used more variation in giving

compliment strategies than males. The males and females also mostly applied appreciation token for their compliment response strategies.

Next it was “Compliments and Its Responses Used by the Users of Instagram” by Jannah (2018). This research aimed to identify topics in a sentence of compliment, describe the function of each sentence of compliment, and classify the types of compliment responses used by Instagram users. This research applied by Wu (2008) and Herbert’s (1990) theory. The results of the study showed that there were 7 topics of compliment used by the users of instagram (appearance, possession, performance/ability/skill, personality trait and 3 other topics such as food/drink, place, and picture). There were 4 functions of compliment, such as to express admiration, replace gratitude/congratulation, open conversation, and reinforce desired 2 behavior. There were 8 types of compliment response used by the users of instagram (appreciation token, comment acceptance, comment history, return, praise upgrade, scale down, questioning, and no acknowledgement).

The previous research used Herbert’s theory to analyse the compliment responses but used Trosborg and Wu’s theories to analyse the compliment. The previous studies and present study applied the theory or theories in different data sources. This present research used Ellen DeGeneres Show as the data source.

Based on the compliment phenomena or issues explained in the background of the research, the researcher was interested in investigating the topic of compliments and the types of compliment responses in which the pragmatics was the approach in analysing on the Ellen DeGeneres and the guests’ utterances by using the

theories of Holmes (1988) and Herbert (1990). Thus, it was designed the title for this thesis as follows "An Analysis of Compliments and Compliment Responses on the Ellen DeGeneres Show: Pragmatic Approach".

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Following the issues from the background of the research, the problems were identified as follows.

1. Comments on social media attacking self-public face on Instagram
2. The existence of face-threatening act (FTA) showing disharmony
3. The face-saving act (FSA) existing in media information to avoid the self-public image (face) attacked
4. The implementation of compliments and compliments responses on particular television programs
5. The topic of compliments to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show
6. The types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

According to the identification of the above problems, the problems solved were limited as follows.

1. The topics of compliment to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show

2. The types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Thus the research questions was designed as follows.

1. What are the topics of compliment to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show?
2. What are the types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show?

1.5 Objective of the Problem

The objectives of the problems were designed taken from the research questions as follows.

1. To identify the topics of compliment to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show
2. To identify the types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this research aims to be a reference for readers. It is also hoped that these research findings can add and enrich the knowledge of the learners and educators in teaching learning process.

2. Practical Significance

This study aims to provide knowledge about topics of compliment and types of compliment responses. It is hoped after reading this thesis, the readers can apply the compliments and compliment responses in their everyday conversation to create FSA (face-saving act) and avoid FTA (face-threatening act).

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Pragmatics : The study of language use in context (Birner, 2012)

Compliment : A compliment is a speech act which explicitly or implicitly attributes credit to someone other than the speaker, usually the person addressed, for some 'good' (possession, characteristic, skill, etc.) which is positively valued by the speaker and the hearer (Holmes, 1988 p.446)

Compliment response: Re-establishing balance between speakers following a compliment (Herbert, 1990)

Utterance : A sentence that's produced in some actual context (whether oral, written, or signed, as in American Sign Language) (Birner, 2012)

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Pragmatics

Birner (2012) stated that pragmatics is the study of language use in context. In other words pragmatics is a study about how context can affect meaning, such as how sentences are interpreted under certain conditions (or interpretations of linguistic meaning in context). The linguistic context is the discourse that precedes the sentence to be interpreted and the situational context is the knowledge of the world. Yule (1996) defined pragmatics into four parts, namely: (1) pragmatics is the study of the meaning of speakers; (2) pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning; (3) pragmatics is the study of how people become more communicative; and (4) pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distances.

A pragmatic approach is closely related to speech act. Illocutionary act is one of classification of the speech act itself. The illocutionary act is used to inform order, warn and undertake something. It is as an utterance which has a certain (conventional) force. Searle (1979) divided five general categories of illocutionary act, namely: Assertives (it used to tell people how things are), directives (it used to try to get them to do things), commissives (it used to commit ourselves to doing things), expressives (it used to express our feelings and attitudes), and declarations (it used to bring about changes in the world through our utterances). From the five

general categories, compliment is categorized as the expressives because it is used to express feelings and emotions.

This research used pragmatics approach because it needed the context (condition and situation) to know the meaning of utterances from speaker and hearer. Pragmatics is being able to talk about the meanings that people mean, their assumptions, intentions or goals, and the types of actions they take when they speak. This pragmatic approach helped researcher understand and find out the answer of the first and the second questions.

2.1.1 Compliment

Holmes (1988) stated that a compliment is a speech act which explicitly or implicitly attributes credit to someone other than the speaker, usually the person addressed, for some 'good' (possession, characteristic, skill, etc.) which is positively valued by the speaker and the hearer. It means that when giving compliment to someone means building good relationships because through the compliment given can be a major factor in how to treat others. Manes and Wolfson (as cited in Al-gamal, 2017) stated that the main function of complimenting behaviour is "to create or reinforce solidarity by expressing appreciation or approval". The compliment shows the appreciation to the one's achievement. It helps them create and reinforce their solidarity by doing compliment.

The characteristics that identify the statement is a compliment. When giving compliment, the speaker will usually use positive sentences, explain the advantages

of the object being praised, make the hearer being complimented feel proud and even motivated and feel happy. For example, Ana went to party and she saw her friend Rani wearing a beautiful dress. Ana happily complimented Rani by saying "You are beautiful in that dress". The compliment that Ana gave to Rani was a positive sentence and the compliment made Rani felt proud of what she was wearing.

2.1.2 Topics of Compliment

The topic of compliments is the theme of the compliment so that the speaker knows what topic to compliment. Holmes (1988) divided some topics that often appear in compliments, namely: Appearance, ability or performance, possessions, personality or friendship and others.

1. Appearance

Appearance in the topic of compliments is when the speaker looks at the outer packaging of the hearer, hearer's clothes, hearer's make-up and everything related to what hearer is wearing then at that time the speaker compliments the hearer about his/her appearance because of the admiration of what the hearer is wearing. The example can be seen as follows.

"You look good at a party" (Jin-pei, 2013)

2. Ability or performance

Ability or performance in the topic of compliments is the speaker's admiration for the hearer related to skills and talents. This admiration leads to compliment from

the speaker to the hearer, such as the example below shows the compliment from the speaker because of the hearer's ability to make a good presentation.

“Nina made good presentation” (Jin-pei, 2013)

3. Possessions

The topic of possession in the topic of compliments is usually related to material possessions. The speaker sees the hearer's property and the advantages of the property so that a sense of awe is expressed through the speaker's compliment to the hearer. This is called the topic possession, as shown from the utterance below.

“You have a nice Ipad” (Jin-pei, 2013)

4. Personality or friendship

Personality or friendship in the topic of compliments means when the speaker gives compliment related to the internal traits or friendship or emotions of the hearer. This topic shows the speaker's admiration because of hearer's personality or friendship so that the compliment from the speaker is given to the hearer, as shown from the utterance below.

“I mean, she was so nice” (Wu, 2008)

5. Others

This is a topic in compliments that is not included in the 4 types above or may have a mixed topic. For example, this compliment was from Amanda to a cameraman in the presence of Betty in the American Comedy TV-series Ugly Betty. The man was handsome and Amanda had a close relationship with this guy in private. It cannot

be distinguished on the spot what the objective of the compliment was: to compliment the man's appearance or his ability to flirt with other women.

“Oh, he’s amazing” (Wu, 2008)

2.1.3 Compliment Responses

Pomerantz (1978) is the first expert who discussed the compliment response. Then, Herbert (1990) simplified the compliment response itself into several types to make easier to understand. Herbert (1990) stated that compliment response is used to re-establish balance between speakers following a compliment. Herbert (1990) divided 12 types of compliment responses, namely: Appreciation token, comment acceptance, praise upgrade, comment history, reassignment, return, scale down, question, disagreement, qualification, no acknowledgement, request interpretation.

1. Appreciation token

The first type of compliment response that Herbert (1990) mentioned is appreciation token. Appreciation token is a compliment response which in response to compliment the hearer will accept the compliment by saying thanks or thank you. The hearer will respond to the compliment given by the speaker to him/her verbally or non-verbally, for example as follows.

A: “Nice glass”

B: **“Thanks a lot”** (Jin-pei, 2013)

2. Comment acceptance-single

This is a type of compliment response in which the hearer accepts the compliment that the speaker gives him/her. In response to the compliment, hearer provides comments that are relevant to the topic of compliments as a form of appreciation to the speaker. The example can be seen as follows.

A: "That's a good topic to be discussed"

B: **"I like this topic very much and I have good information in this topic. It goes with my eyes"** (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

3. Praise upgrade

Praise upgrade is compliment response which hearer receives a compliment and hearer responds the compliment. This compliment response emphasizes that the strength of the compliment given is not enough so that hearer will give statement/question to make sure the compliment is appropriate. The example can be seen below.

A: "You did it well"

B: **"Of course it is an inherent talent. I worked hard"** (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

4. Comment history

Comment history is a compliment response where the hearer responds to the compliment given to him by giving a series of comments on the object being complimented. The type of compliment response is given by explaining the history of how the object that was complimented was obtained, for example as follows.

A: "That's a good calligraphy"

B: **"When I was a kid I went to calligraphy class. I got it from Selfridges earlier this month as a rather pricey treat to myself"** (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

5. Reassignment

Reassignment is the compliment response which hearer receives the compliment given but hearer responds to the compliment by directing the third person or object itself. The example can be seen below.

A: "That's a cute dog"

B: "**My parents gave it to me for my 17th birthday**" (Jin-pei, 2013)

6. Return

Return is a type of compliment response in which the hearer accepts the compliment and responds to the compliment by giving the compliment back to the speaker as a form of appreciation to the speaker for the compliment given. The example can be seen below.

A: "You look great"

B: "**You look great too**" (Jin-pei, 2013)

7. Scale down

Scale down is a compliment response in which the hearer does not agree with the compliment given to the object being complimented because the compliment given is considered excessive by the hearer, then the hearer responds to the compliment by pointing out the weakness of the object being complimented. The example can be seen below.

A: "The bag is beautiful"

B: "**It's not very new, but I still like it**" (Jin-pei, 2013)

8. Question

Question is a type of compliment response in which the hearer responds to the compliment by asking the speaker questions about the object being complimented.

The purpose of the question is to ask whether the compliment given to the object is sincere or appropriate, for example as follows.

A: "That was a good idea"

B: "**Are you serious? Are you kidding?**" (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

9. Disagreement

Disagreement is a type of compliment response in which in response to compliment, the hearer gives a statement that expresses disapproval of the compliment given by the speaker on the object being complimented. Hearer gives the statement that expresses disapproval because the compliment given by the speaker was considered wrong or inappropriate, for example as follows.

A: "You are fluent in English"

B: "**You're too kind. I'm not that good in English**" (Jin-pei, 2013)

10. Qualification

Qualification is a type of compliment response where in response to a compliment usually the hearer responds to a compliment by accepting it. In this type of compliment response, the hearer usually responds to compliment by comparing the object being complimented with other better ones, usually using the words though, but, well, etc., for example as follows.

A: "You did it well"

B: "**Not like the professors, but I tried my best. But I feel I could have developed my arguments more poignantly**" (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

11. No acknowledgement

This is a compliment response in which the hearer responds to the compliment by indicating that hearer does not hear the compliment the speaker gives him. In this

type of compliment response, usually the hearer responds to compliment by providing irrelevant comments or a topic shift to avoid the compliment given by the speaker to the hearer. Even in this type, the hearer can also not give any response in response to the compliment, for example as follows.

A: "That's a beautiful performance"

B: [**Silence**] (Yousefvand et al., 2014)

12. Request interpretation

The last type of compliment response by Herbert (1990) is request interpretation. Request interpretation is a compliment response that consciously or not, the hearer interprets the compliment given by the speaker to him as a request. Hearer thinks it is not a simple compliment. In this type of compliment response, the hearer interprets that the compliment given to him is not just a compliment but there is another desire, for example as follows.

A: "I like your shoe. It looks cool"

B: "**You want to borrow it?**" (Jin-pei, 2013)

2.2 Previous Study

Previously, there had been many studies discussed compliment and compliment response. First, Jin-pei (2013) analysed compliment and compliment response in Philippine English. This research of this study used the theories of Yuan (2002) and Holmes (1986). The result showed that Philippine English speakers used more explicit compliments plus bounded semantic formulas. The study also reported that Filipinos received more compliment given to him/her than rejecting compliment.

The second, “Compliment Response in a Comparative Study of Native English Speakers and Iranian L2 Speakers” was done by Shahsavari et al. (2014). This study used Cheng’s (2011) theory to analyse the data. The result showed that the L2 participants differed from the native speakers in many ways. These results indicated that the factors of the way participants responded to compliment were the lack of cultural background and the lack of cultural background regarded knowledge of language forms itself.

The third, “Compliment Response based on Status and Gender in Persian” was done by Yousefvand, Yousofi, & Abasi (2014). This study aimed at extracting and categorizing the various strategies used in responding to compliment according to the Persian language regarding the status of compliments and complimentary and providing an inappropriate view of the compliment response between Persian and English language. This study used the theory of Herbert (1986). The results of this study indicated that in response to compliment, the general tendency practised by Persian speakers is an "agreement" in the same status or vice versa.

The fourth was from Professor, Mohamed, Drbseh, & Hasan (2015). This study analysed the use of English compliments and compliment responses by the Arab students at Jordan University in Jordan. The theory used from Holmes (1988) and Herbert (1986, 1990). The result showed that there were 25 University students taking part in this research. The group was known to use the strategy of responding to compliment using variations caused by the existing situational setting. The research finally recommended the second language teachers to help them increase their

knowledge or competence on how to use appropriate speech acts in the target language, and one of which is to avoid mistakes in communication.

The fifth was from Sucuo & Menemenci (2015). This study aimed to assess the compliment response of native and non-native Turkish ELT students in North Cyprus. They analysed compliment responses in English: a case of North Cyprus. This study used Herbert's theory (1986). It was found that there was a significant difference in compliment strategies in English between native and non-native Turkish ELT students.

The sixth, "Compliment Response Patterns across Gender and Age among Advanced EFL Learners" was done by Khaneshan (2016). This study aimed to investigate compliment response strategies of Iranian advanced EFL learners across gender and age. This study used the theory of Holmes (1988, 1993). The result showed that there was no differences shown between CR strategies used by male and female participants in terms of frequency. Likewise, this study revealed that the frequency of CR strategies used by adolescent and adult groups was very close

The seventh, "Compliment Responses by Kuwaiti EFL Learners" was done by Alotaibi (2016). This previous study aimed to investigate the extent of 80 Kuwaiti EFL women learners who could produce compliment responses such as the target when they communicate in English, through comparing their responses with those who were English speakers. This study used the theory of Herbert (1986). The result

of this study was English language proficiency the level of the treatment group had no effect on their answers to the DCT

Based on the summaries of the previous research, the present and previous research applied the same theory regarding compliments and compliment responses. The present and previous research applied the theories in different data sources. So, it was concluded were different. This present study used the utterances uttered by the host and the guests on the Ellen DeGeneress Show as the data source.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

This research applied the pragmatics approach proposed by Birner (2012) and Yule (1996) in analysing the data. This research identified the topics of compliment theorized by Holmes (1988), namely, appearance, ability or performance, possessions, personality or friendship, and others and types of compliment responses theorized by Herbert's (1990), namely, appreciation token, comment acceptance, praise upgrade, comment history, reassignment, return, scale down, question, disagreement, qualification, no acknowledgement, and request interpretation in the utterances uttered by the host and the guests on the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

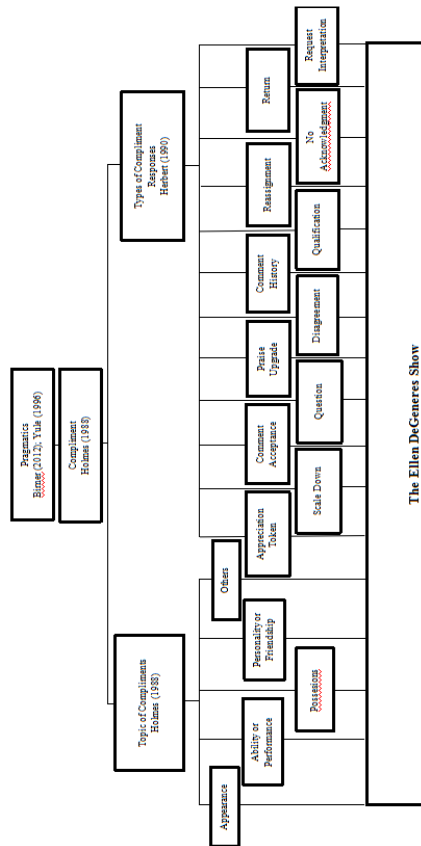


Figure 2.3 Theoretical Framework

CHAPTER III

METHOD OF RESEARCH

3.1 Research Design

This research used descriptive qualitative method. Cresswel (2018) stated that qualitative research is an approach used to explore and understand the meaning of individuals or groups consider social or human problems. This qualitative method depends on the text. Therefore, this method there is no diagrams, maps, or tables. In this method, the research process is carried out by involving questions that arise, procedures and data are collected based on participant settings.

The result of this research was presented descriptively. It analysed in the form of sentences and words. This research used the theories of Holmes (1988) and Herbert (1990) to analyse the topics of compliment and the types of compliment responses to the host and guests' utterances on the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

3.2 Object of the Research

The phenomena of compliment and compliment response in the Ellen DeGeneres Show uttered by the host and the guests as the data source of this research. Thus, the object of this research was compliments and compliment responses that was adapted from Holmes (1988) and Herbert (1990). Especially, this research concerned to the topics of compliment and the types of compliment responses.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

This research applied observational method in collecting the data. Sudaryanto (2015) stated that the method of collecting data by observing the data is called observational method. The data were collected by seeing, hearing, and feeling the phenomena related to the compliments and their responses. The technique in collecting the data of this research was non-participatory technique; as the researcher did not involve and produced the utterances in the conversation.

There were some steps of collecting the data. The first, the researcher watched the record of the Ellen DeGeneres Show. The second, the dialogues were scripted into a written form. The last, researcher highlighted the utterances which were considered of the phenomena of the compliments and compliment responses based on Holmes (1988) and Herbert's (1990) theories.

3.4 Method of Analysing Data

This research applied pragmatic identity method by Sudaryanto (2015) where in analysing data, context, speaker and hearer, utterances, and implied meaning or contextual meaning were needed. This research applied pragmatics competence in equalizing proposed by Sudaryanto (2015). The pragmatic competence in equalizing is a technique to equalize between the theories of topics of compliment proposed by Holmes (1988) and types of compliment responses proposed by Herbert (1990) and the data of compliment and compliment responses were found on the Ellen DeGeneres Show (Sudaryanto, 2015). Finally, the analysis results were considered to

what topics of compliment and types of compliment responses were uttered by the host and guests on the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

This research used a pragmatic approach. There were several steps in analysing the data. The explanation of the two questions was explained in different point of view. However both questions had close-relationship. Before analysing, the data were connected to the context to get the contextual meaning in the utterances. To identify the topics of compliment, the data were taken from the speaker (host)'s utterances. The compliment happened due the situation or condition seen from the hearers (guests). The situation or the condition was reflected from the context. Thus, the relationship of the meaning of utterances and the context is very important to get the topics of compliment. The compliments were equalized to the theory proposed by Holmes (1988) to identify the topics of compliment.

To find out the second question was seen from the compliment responses uttered by the hearers after listening the speaker's compliment, Compliment responses were matched to compliment given by speakers. The compliment responses contained the implied or contextual meaning. The implied or contextual meaning was found both in verbal and non-verbal responses. The hearers gave compliment responses verbally or non-verbally which have have the same proportion in analysing. Non-verbal responses have the meaning whether the hearers agreed or disagreed. The compliment responses were equalized to the theory proposed by Herbert (1990) to identify the types of compliment responses.

3.5 Method of the Presenting the Research Result

The method of the research result adapted the informal method (Sudaryanto, 2015). The result of this research was presented descriptively. It explained by writing phrases or sentences because this research is designed qualitatively. Due to the descriptively written analysis result, this result presentation applied informal method of presenting the analysis result (Sudaryanto, 2015).