

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Humans as social creatures cannot be separated from any interactions in society. They build a conversation so that their intention and certain goals can be achieved according to its discourse. Liddicoat (2007) explained that conversation is a way for people to socialize, develop, and sustain their relationships with each other. To perform a conversation, language is the main tool of communication used among participants involved. Usually, a conversation occurs between two or more people. A good conversation is usually supported by a cooperative manner between participants. For instance, they know the topics that are being discussed and understand the turn to speak.

Conversation Analysis is one of the studies of speech. Specifically, in the words of Hutchby & Wooffitt (1998), conversation analysis is an activity of methodical examination of the outcome of the conversation in the daily human interaction by communication or can be said a talk-in-interaction. In the conversation, there are seemingly rules that should be known by each participant and one of them is they have to understand each other's turn to speak. However, not every participant is aware of these rules in reality. Occasionally, a hearer cuts the speaker's utterance to speak and it is causing an overlap between the participants' utterances. An overlap might cause any trouble such as miscommunication and repetition in talking which can confuse both participants.

To avoid such things, the participants need to pay attention to the rules in the interaction to produce a good conversation. Evidently, there is a system in an interaction called the turn-taking strategy.

Turn-taking is the ability to notice and recognize the exact time to begin or give in a turn while doing the conversation. By comprehending the turn-taking system, it could help people to build good communication skills in society. People who know how to do turn-taking in a conversation will be able to deliver their message clearly and minimize miscommunication. Therefore, the researcher attempted to discuss the issue of turn-taking strategies in a conversation so that the reader could gain more insight into this matter. As claimed by Stenström (1994) in turn-taking there are three strategies to be known and they are taking the turn, holding the turn, and yielding the turn strategy.

The researcher found one general phenomenon in the “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” talk show on social media with the guest star actor Jason Bateman. It was posted on April 23rd, 2022 with the title “Jason Bateman Talks Ozark’s Finale, Spoilers & the Show’s Cryptic Symbols”. In the video, the host Jimmy Fallon interviewed Jason Bateman who is one of the famous Hollywood actors. They were talking about how Jason Bateman accidentally spoiled the plot of his upcoming movie, Ozark, and talked about the meaning of the symbols of the opening show.

Jimmy: You’re gonna be in a big trouble.

Jason: Oh. She knows I’m joking.

Jimmy: She’s the greatest.

Jason: She does try to[

Jimmy: **[Oh, because you know?** Because then she’ll be in trouble, because she’ll go to a dinner or something, then she has to lie and go, “I can’t tell you”.

Jason: Right, right.
(00:28 – 00:59)

From that dialogue, when Jason was talking about his wife and made up a story then Jimmy cut off his talk and the conversation continued by Jimmy instead of Jason. It can be seen from the utterances “**Oh, because you know?**” in a bracket symbol. It shows the phenomenon of turn-taking because the speaker succeeded in taking over the conversation even though another speaker was not finished talking. As stated by Stenström (1994) interrupting in the taking the turn strategy is used to take over the conversation by directly talking without waiting for the previous speaker to finish his turn.

Besides, another expression was found in a movie named Eternals. This movie was released in 2021 by Marvel Entertainment. At the beginning of the movie, the conversation was held between Dane and Sersi, and both of them are teachers. Dane was welcoming Sersi for the next session.

Dane: Now, our brilliant museum scientist, Ms. Sersi, the person who will be and was always supposed to be giving you your presentation today.
Sersi: **Thank you, Mr. Whitman.** Sorry I’m late everyone. Today we’ll be learning about the importance of apex predators in a balanced system.
(00:08:28 – 00:08:45)

From the conversation, Sersi could take the turn that Dane, the first speaker, gave to her clearly without stuttering to start her talk. In this event of turn-taking, it shows the turn taking strategy for starting up with a clear start. As Stenström (1994) stated that starting up is divided into two types, they are hesitant start, where the one who turns to speak is not ready and stutters to start the conversation. The second is a clear start where the next speaker is ready to speak and able to start his turn properly.

Furthermore, the researcher discovered that the phenomenon of turn-taking strategies occurs in a debate likewise. It can be seen from the conversation between the candidates in the Second 2020 Presidential Debate between Donald Trump and Joe Biden. The debate was led by Kristen Welker, the NBC News White House Reporter as the moderator.

Welker: ...President Trump the first question is to you. The country is heading into the dangerous of new phase. More than forty thousand Americans are in the hospital tonight with Covid, including record numbers in Tennessee. Since you last shared a stage, sixteen thousand Americans have died. Please be specific, how would you lead the country during this next stage of the Coronavirus, president? Two minutes, uninterrupted.

Trump: So, as you know, two point two million people were expected to die. We closed up the greatest economy in the world in order to fight this horrible disease that came from China. It's a worldwide pandemic...
(00:26:05 – 00:28:30)

The debate was started by Welker as the moderator and asked the first question to President Trump. The first topic was about the fight against the Coronavirus. In this snippet of the conversation, when Trump tried to answer the question and delivered his speech, he seemed hesitant to start. In this case, Trump was using verbal fillers “**So, as you know**” at the beginning of his speech thus Trump was able to cover his doubts and capable to continue his turn to talk without wasting time expressing his opinion. As explained by Stenström (1994) to overcome the hesitant start, verbal fillers such as “you know, well, I mean” can be utilized when the speaker is not fully prepared to take the turn.

Another usage of the turn-taking strategy in the debate was found when the moderator asked another question about covid vaccine. The moderator asked the question to Trump and his opinion about that matter.

Welker: You also said a vaccine will be coming within weeks. Is that a guarantee?

Trump: No, it is not a guarantee. But it will be by the end of the year but I think it has a good chance. Two companies I think within a matter of weeks and it will be distributed very quickly.
(00:30:32 – 00:30:46)

The moderator asked a question to Trump and allowed him to answer the question so Trump took over the turn of talking to deliver his speech. It can be seen on the way Trump started his speech by using the uptakes “**No**” and continuing his talk on the same topic that is being discussed. According to Stenström (1994), the use of uptake such as “yeah, oh, well, ah, no” can help the speaker to take over the turn in talking when the first speaker is done talking. Moreover, by doing this, Trump showed that he was capable of controlling and maintaining the conversation to be still on the same topic.

Furthermore, this research is related to several previous studies. The first research was conducted by Agustianto et al., (2020) with the aim at determining the turn-taking strategies, how they were employed, and which strategies were often used in their data source Jimmy Fallon’s the Tonight Show interview. To support their research, the researchers used the theory by Stenström (1994) regarding turn-taking strategies. The results of this research were taking the turn strategy as the most frequent strategy used by the guest and the host with total 123 data, yielding the turn strategy 68 data, and the last was holding the turn strategy with 22 data.

Further, another research was done by Sari et al., (2021) with the objective to examine the turn-taking strategies that were used in their data source Sunda Empire debate. This research applied the Stenström (1994)’s theory to analyze the

turn-taking strategies. The results of this study showed there were 20 taking the turn strategy, 12 yielding the turn strategy, and 11 holding the turn strategy.

From the previous and the present research, the researcher used the same theory by Stenström (1994) to define and analyze the data to find out the strategies of turn-taking in a conversation. However, compared with the previous research, this research had a different data source to be studied. The researcher chose the Second 2020 Presidential Debate between Donald Trump and Joe Biden as the data source and analyzed it with the focus on Stenström (1994)'s theory of turn-taking strategies.

The researcher chose the Second 2020 Presidential Debate between Donald Trump and Joe Biden as the data source in this research. The debate was held on October 23rd, 2020 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. Kristen Welker, the NBC News White House Reporter was the moderator of the debate. Since the debate was running without any script, which means the conversation between the candidates and the moderator is spontaneous, it triggered the researcher to conduct this research to find out how the turn-taking strategies occur in the debate. At this time, the researcher discussed what strategies of turn-taking were used in the second America's presidential debate 2020 among the participants. With this background, the researcher applied "An Analysis of Turn-Taking in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020: Discourse Analysis Approach" as the title for this undergraduate thesis.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

As Creswell (2009) stated about identification problems, it is the way for the researcher to identify all problems that happen based on the background of the research. Related to the background of the topic in this research, here are the following problems identified:

1. The impact of turn-taking strategies expressed in a talk show.
2. The use of turn-taking strategies in the conversation within the movie.
3. The use of the turn-taking strategies in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.
4. The power devices performed by the participants of the debate in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

In line with the identification of problems, the researcher delimited this research to two main problems as follows:

1. The use of turn-taking strategies by the participants in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.
2. The performance of power devices by the participants in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of problems above, these were the problems examined in this study, they are:

1. What are the strategies of turn-taking used by the participants in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020?

2. What are the power devices performed by the participants in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020?

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulations and questions of the research, hence, the purposes of this research that the researcher wanted to achieve are to:

1. Identify and describe the strategies of turn-taking that each participant uses in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.
2. Identify and describe the power devices that each participant performs in the Second America's Presidential Debate 2020.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this paper improves the understanding of the researcher about the turn-taking strategies and power in the conversation. Moreover, it improves the researcher's comprehensions about the relation of power in conversation. This research is intended to help the reader to add more knowledge in a linguistic field which is discourse analysis. Specifically, about the theory of turn-taking strategies and power devices in conversation.

2. Practical Significance

The expectation of this paper is, this paper could improve the reader's comprehension in the conversation. The technique of turn-taking could be implemented directly in society. This research is expected to be able to give any benefit and knowledge for other researchers about discourse analysis,

especially turn-taking strategies in conversation analysis. It can be a reference for producing more diverse research in linguistics.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

- Conversation** : Conversation is the way in which people socialize and develop and sustain their relationship with each other. (Liddicoat, 2007)
- Discourse Analysis** : Discourse analysis is concerned with the study of the relationship between language and the contexts in which it is used. (McCarthy, 1991)
- Turn-Taking** : Turn-taking is that the act of speaker and listener change, and this occurs with remarkably little overlapping speech and few silence. (Coulthard, 1985)