

THE STRATEGIES OF POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE POLITENESS REFLECTED IN “THE LAST SONG” NOVEL BY NICHOLAS

SPARKS

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ABSTRACT

This research discussed the positive and negative politeness strategies in *The Last Song* novel by Nicholas Sparks (2009). The data were the utterances in *The Last Song* novel. This research was mainly aimed to find out the strategies of positive and negative politeness. The theory applied in this research was taken from the book entitled “*Politeness Some Universals in Language Usage*” proposed by Penelope Brown and Stephen C Levinson (1987). This research was the descriptive qualitative research. Method of collecting the data used observational method by using non-participatory technique. In analyzing the data, the researcher used the pragmatic identity method. The research result showed that the characters in *The Last Song* novel applied all the strategies of positive politeness and negative politeness except the eighth strategy of negative politeness; state the face threatening act because *The Last Song* novel was the romantic novel and there was no regulation, obligation, social rule from the country.

Keywords: negative politeness, politeness strategies, positive politeness

1. Introduction

“Utterance refers to instances of language use, from a one word utterance (“hey”) to a much longer turn at talk by individuals”(Locastro, 2012, p.18). Listeners must understand the meaning of utterances both literally and pragmatically to respond the speakers well. Further, the speakers and listeners may know how to apply the politeness strategies in

conversation. Positive politeness concerns to avoid giving offense by highlighting friendliness, whereas the negative politeness is self-protection and giving the distance between the speaker and the listener.

These phenomena used to be truly captured in society. In 2019 Indonesians faced the general presidential election campaign. Most

of people gave their opinion about the president candidates and the supporters. In fact, there were ways of people defended their politics figure by delivering the opinions and views in some media socials, i.e., the debate in the television program, and comments in facebook, twitter, and instagram. Then, people did not pay attention to the positive and negative politeness by the reason inviting another people to choose and support their popular president selection. The Jakarta Pos in December 2018 reported "Jokowi's VP Candidate Ma'ruf Amin Posts rare Christmas Greeting" (Arbi, 2018). The article reported that Ma'ruf Amin wished all the nation's Christians a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and it appeared to be an official campaign video. The article showed the one of positive politeness strategies appearing when Ma'ruf as a moeslim greeted the Christmas greeting to the Christians. Whereas, the Jakarta Pos in March 2019 reported the silly talk in comments of people "Indonesian Election 2019: Are We In Shallow Now?" (Bayuni, 2019). The article reported that many falses claimed against President Joko Widodo that he was a communist, a Chinese descendant, a non-Muslim or a bad Muslim, were making the rounds again in the run up to the April 17 presidential race. It was the several negative politeness circulating in society to blame the president Jokowi.

The lack of understanding in communicating with other people

became the main factors. This problem can overcome by respecting between the speaker and the hearer. Indeed, in conversation, to apply the politeness strategy was not easy in any language. It was difficult when producing the words because the speaker does not only learned about the context but also she or he involves the understanding the background of social and cultural values of the community. " For example, some writers are interested in communication for what it indicates about the structure of social interaction and the dynamics of social relationship" (Blakemore, 1992, p.3). People always use the politeness strategy as the best expression in order to get the connections goes smoothly. Therefore, politeness was the main factor to preserve the good relation through language.

People should know the rule of politeness called pragmatics. Yule (1996: 3) defined "pragmatics is the study of meaning as communicating by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader)". People decide to choose the appropriate words and language to convey the message. In applying politeness strategies, speakers shares feeling, and listener feels comfortable. And a good relationship appears between the speaker and listener. Pragmatics and politeness strategy give benefit to build a good communication.

Yule (1996, p. 60), stated, "Politeness, in an interaction, can

then be defined as the means employed to show awareness of another person's face". Agreed by Brown & Levinson (1987, p.101), "Positive politeness is redress directed to the addressee's positive face, his perennial desire that his wants (or the actions/acquisitions/values resulting from them) should be thought of as desirable". Being polite means acting with consideration of norm and certainty applied in the society. In contrast, in the negative politeness, Brown & Levinson (1987, p. 129) said that "Negative politeness is redressive action addressed to the addressee's negative face: his want to have his freedom of action unhindered and his attention unimpeded".

Mahmud (2019) aimed to inquire the politeness strategy of students in English major at one of the universities in Makassar. The participants of this research were two classes in the English literature program consisting of 50 students. The sources of primary data were the presentations of individual student who have been recorded. The result of this research was students of English tended the different greetings, thanking, addressing terms, apologizing, and fillers. The finding of the research could be used as support for teacher and students in developing the effective class interactions.

Nurjanah, and Santosa (2017) explored the communicative competence emphasizes that the knowledge of grammatical rules was

not sufficient to communicate comprehensively, therefore it needed pragmatic knowledge especially politeness. It became consideration of the research to be conducted in the speaking classroom of university student, especially international relations major students. Furthermore, the data were analyzed using some politeness theories. Finally, the result showed the general, female students are more polite compared to the male students.

In reviewing the politeness strategy, it was exposed in the novels through the utterances by the characters. In the novel, the readers can learn the utterances. The Last Song novel written by Nicholas Sparks, 2009 reflected the politeness strategies.

"I am really **sorry** about that. I was going for the ball and—" (Sparks, 2009, p.34)

The quoted utterance was taken from the Marcus's utterances in "The Last Song" novel. The word **sorry** or asking apologize was the kind of positive politeness to get the positive face from the hearer.

Cruse (2006, p, 132) stated, "Politeness also enters into ways of addressing people". Utterer addresses others based on the relationship between the speaker and the hearer. In "The Last Song" novel, father called her daughter as *sweetie*. He cleared his throat, "Hi, **sweetie**, it's good to see you" (Sparks, 2009, p. 20). The word *sweetie* was applied by the father to make his relationship to his

daughter closer. Therefore, the members of a family had a good relationship through the politeness strategy.

This research found out the strategies of positive and negative politeness theorized by Brown & Levinson (1987) captured in the utterances in "The Last Song" novel (Sparks, 2009). Specifically, this research discussed the strategies of positive and negative politeness reflected in "The Last Song" novel.

2. Politeness Strategies

Pragmatic was a key to understanding of language. It interpreted "pragmatic applied to the study of language from the point of view the users" (Crystal, 2008, p. 379). Pragmatic helped in understanding the intended message of communication. In understanding the pragmatic, it had the benefit to help the people in gaining the meaning from the utterances, for example, the intended meanings, their goals or aims, and their assumptions.

Politeness strategy was one of communication strategy that underline on the polite words. Thus, "politeness is in an interaction, can then be defined as the means employed to show awareness of another person's face" (Yule, 1996, p. 60). The meaning of politeness strategy should have a deal when the speaker delivered the utterances to the hearer who had the different class, age, and position. It should be different when people spoke to a friend, and speak to the parents. The

speaker needs to pay attention when producing the words. Therefore, in producing the words, it should understand in applying the strategies in politeness by individual.

2.1 Positive Politeness Strategies

People tend to use the positive politeness to saving face. saving face means to develop the well self-image. People made the positive face to have solidarity with others growing well. Applying the positive politeness means to act with consideration of norm and certainty applied in the society, and to avoid giving offense by highlighting friendliness. Brown and Levinson (1987) mentioned fifteen strategies of positive politeness.

Strategy 1: Notice or attend to the hearer (his interest, wants, needs and goods).

The speaker paid attention to the hearer about his interest, wants, needs, and goods. The speaker should listen and think carefully about the hearer's interest, wants, needs, and goods.

Strategy 2: Exaggerate the interest, approval, and sympathy to the hearer.

The speaker spoke with the stress intonation to emphasize the words and the meaning. The function showed the interesting about the hearer.

Strategy 3: Intensify interest to the hearer.

Another way for speaker to communicate, she or he shares some of his or her desires to intensify the interest of his own

speaker's contribution to the conversation, by making good story.

Strategy 4: Use in group identity markers.

In this strategy, using identity markers showed identity or group by address form. The function by using identity was to change the value of the relationship between both speaker and the hearer to be closer.

Strategy 5: Seek an agreement to the hearer.

The speaker stressed about his agreement to the listener. The function was to satisfy listener's desire to be supported in speaker's opinion and stressed by repetition and question tag.

Strategy 6: Avoid disagreement to the hearer.

people tend to disagree when they did not understand about the topic. The speaker should respond a preceding utterances with agreement. Thus, avoid disagreement was a one way to make the relationship going smoothly.

Strategy 7: Presuppose, raising, and asserting the common ground.

The speaker raises the unrelated topic for a while in the conversation with the hearer. Speaker delivers his general interest about something to the hearer. In other hand, the speaker also could see the hearer's interest.

Strategy 8: Making a joke to the hearer.

A joke displays of humour utterances, which words used within a specific narrative makes people laugh and it is not to make seriously.

Strategy 9: Assert or presupposed speaker's knowledge and concern to hearer's wants.

The speaker tends to assert speaker's knowledge about the hearer. The speaker had the intention about the hearer's desire.

Strategy 10: Giving an offering and promises.

The speaker uses offering and promises as the natural outcome. A promise was an object that may show a value sometime in the future.

Strategy 11: Be optimistic to the hearer.

an optimistic speaker thinks the best possible thing to the hearer. Usually, the speaker wanted to help the listener. Moreover, the speaker should be optimistic in the desire of the listener.

Strategy 12: Including both the speaker and listener in the activity.

In this strategy, in word "we", the speaker needs to offer the listener to join in some activity. Both of speaker and listener show the responsibility and mixed up each other.

Strategy 13: Give or ask for reasons.

speaker gives the question to the hearer about the reason. In other words, giving reason is a way of implying "i can help you" or "you can help me". The function appeared the cooperation both of the speaker and the listener.

Strategy 14: Assume or assert reciprocity.

this strategy tells about the connection between speaker and listener. It means when the speaker

does something to the listener, the listener should do it to the speaker.

Strategy 15: Give gifts to the hearer (goods).

The speaker gives the listener's want to be fulfilled. This part, the speaker has an action of gift giving.

2.2 Negative Politeness Strategies

Brown and Levinson (1987, p. 129) stated, "Negative politeness is redressive action addressed to the addressee's negative face, the speaker want have his freedom of action unhindered and his attention unimpeded". There are ten strategies of negative politeness.

Strategy 1: Be conventionally indirect

The speaker is being indirect and on record to communicate to the hearer. The speaker solves this one by using the sentences and phrase that has clearly meaning.

Strategy 2: Using question and hedge

The speaker does not want to presume and force the listener. It deals with a question to make discussion to turn the attention and hedge. Using this strategy, the communicative speaker is potential to threat the interaction to the hearer.

Strategy 4: Minimize the Imposition

This strategy means to minimize the imposition of the listener by reducing the treath of force or power to listener's face. The speaker probably imposes the hearer when asking the hearer to do something.

Strategy 5: Give deference

There are two ways to show the deference. First, speaker humbles his self. Second, speaker satisfies the hearer that he is the superior. By using encode, it makes the greater respect to the person, activity, or thing.

Strategy 6: Apologize

Apologize is an attempt done by the speaker to make up a previous, present, and future action that interfered the hearer's face. Apologize leads to deference, apologizing, and formality in language use. It could be used to repair social norm and maintain the relationship.

Strategy 7: Impersonalize speaker and hearer

In this strategy, it was a way of avoiding the pronouns I and You. It is hiding who the speaker is, or hearer is. So, it could be a way to be polite.

Strategy 8: State the face threatening act as a general rule

In this strategies, face threatening act states as a general social rule that applied to the addressee. The face threatening act is the acts which in some way threatens the "face" of the hearer.

Strategy 9: Nominalize

The speaker nominalizes the expression to make the speaker's utterance in the form of phrase that shows the negative politeness. The main point is to make the sentence more formal using the degree of nominalization.

Strategy 10: Go on record as incurring a dept, or as not indebting hearer

Stated clearly that the speaker gives goodness (dept). The speaker could disclaim any indebtteness of hearer. Another word, the speaker makek a request or offers to the hearer about something.

3. Research Method

This is the descriptive qualitative research. The positive and negative politeness strategies were as the object of this research. The data were taken from The Last Song novel. In method of collecting the data, it used the observational method to collect the data. The technique in collecting the data were the non-participatory and note taking technique (Sudaryanto, 2015).

This research applied the identity method (Sudaryanto, 2015) to analyze the strategies of positive and negative politeness. This method figured out the principle in the process of analyzing data. Thus, the process of analyzing was pragmatics method. In analyzing the data, it used the differentiating writing lines method (Sudaryanto, 2015). This research used the informal method as the presenting result so that readers could understand easily by the explanation descriptively or words.

4. Result and Discussion

4.1 Result

The strategies of positive and negative politeness were applied in the utterances uttered by the characters in "The Last Song" novel. There are i5 positive politeness strategies and 10 negative politeness

strategies, but only the eighth strategy of negative politeness was not applied in the utterances in "The Last Song" novel.

4.2 Discussion

4.2.1 The Positive Politeness Strategies

Strategy 1: Notice/attend to the hearer

"You hungry?"

"A little", Scott grumbled.

"C'mon. Let's get some cheesesburgers". (Sparks, 2009, p. 58)

It was uttered by Will when he had conversation with Scott. In the middle of conversation, Will asked Scott about his need by words "you hungry?". "You hungry?" showed that Will attended the **hearer's need**.

Strategy 2: Exaggaration interest and sympathy to the hearer

"Hey, is this your house?"

"That's it."

"This place is awesome!" (Sparks, 2009, p.19)

It was delivered by Jonah when he visited his father. Jonah was very excited to see the house beacause it was near to the beach. He expressed his interest by word "*awesome*" to show that he was fascinated. "*Awesome*" intended the exaggeration of his interesting.

Strategy 3: Intensify interest to the hearer

"I'm glad you have a good attitude. Maybe you could teach your sister." (Sparks, 2009, p. 11)

It was uttered by Steve to his son, Jonah. It happened when Jonah was happy to see his father after a long time, but his daughter was unhappy because their family was broken. Steve as the speaker attended the words “good attitude” to show his interest to his son by a good story.
“Good attitude”

mentioned that speaker intensified interest to the hearer.

Strategy 4: Use in group identity markers

"Hey, mom!" Jonah called out. He leaned forward. "What's over there? Is that a Ferris wheel?" Her mom craned her neck, trying to see around the minivan in the lane beside her. "I think it is, honey," she answered. (Sparks, 2009, p. 14)

It showed when Jonah saw a Ferris wheel that was not far from the house. Jonah was surprised when he saw the Ferris wheel. Thus, he made sure that Ferris wheel was there by asking his mother. Kim answered him by employing the words "*honey*" to show her thoughtfulness. The term of "*honey*" pointed the identity mark. Seek an agreement to the hearer was found 1 data.

Strategy 5: Seek an agreement to the hearer

"I didn't do it, Dad," she repeated. "I swear to God I didn't. You have to believe me". (Sparks, 2009, p. 118).

It was uttered by Ronnie to her father in the police station. She was arrested by police because a shop owner reported her. The shop owner found the CD in her bag, but Ronnie did not admit. Then, she called her father to pick her up and give the information. When her father came, Ronnie assured him by using words "*I swear to God I didn't, you have to believe me*". The utterances "*I swear to God I didn't, you have to believe me*" intended to seek an agreement from his father by "*believe*" her.

Strategy 6: Avoid disagreement to the hearer

"You're tired, Scott bellowed. "You told her you were tired and you wanted to go to sleep?". "Something like that." (Sparks, 2009, p.56)

It occurred when Ronnie got out from the house to meet her new friends. They talked to each other until late of night. Scott saw that Ronnie did not want to talk much. Then, Scott asked her to get a resting. Actually, Ronnie did not want to get a sleep, thus, she answered "*something like that*" because she did not want to make Scott felt disappointed. "*Something like that*" mentioned to avoid disagreement.

Strategy 7: Presuppose, raising, and asserting the common ground

"Why do you want to know?"

"Just making conversation," he answered easily.

"My name is Will, by the way."

"Hi, Will." (Sparks, 2009, p. 127)

It showed when Will met Ronnie at the beach for turtle issue. Will was an aquarium member in that area. In the first conversation, they were talking about turtle in there, but Will suddenly introduced his name to make their relation closer by using words "*my name is Will, by the way*". He raised unrelated topic for a while to the hearer by introducing his name "*my name is Will, by the way*".

Strategy 8: Making a joke to the hearer

"Then you might have said something like 'Maybe you should stick with sippy cups'" Goth-chick laughed, a surprisingly girlish sound. (Sparks, 2009, p.37)

The utterances above extended by Blaze. It showed when Ronnie wanted to buy a new cloth at the carnival. She chose a witty shirt, and she did not

realize that Blaze was watching her. Then, Blaze said *"maybe you should stick with sippy cups"* to the Ronnie. It meant that the shirt was not matching with Ronnie because the clothe was designed for children. *"Maybe you should stick with sippy"* mentioned a joke.

Strategy 9:
Assert speaker's knowledge and concern to listener's wants

"Hey there," he said over his shoulder. "Who was that you were talking to?"

"Just some guy from the aquarium. He's here to mark the nest. What are you making?"

"A vegetarian breakfast burrito." (Sparks, 2009, p.129)

It showed when Ronnie met Steve at the kitchen. Steve was preparing the vegetarian breakfast to Ronnie because Steve knew that Ronnie was as vegetarian. He prepared *"a vegetarian breakfast burrito"*. From the utterance, Steve gave his attention to the Ronnie's want, by preparing the vegetarian food.

Strategy 10:
Giving an offering and promises

"You missed your chance. But **your secret will be safe with me.**" (Sparks, 2009, p.39)

It was conveyed by Jonah to Ronnie about their father was looking for her. Actually, Ronnie did not want her father knew that she was at carnival. Then, Jonah promised not to tell to his father by saying *"your secret will be safe with me"*. The word *"will"* was a word that indicated the promise.

Strategy 11: Be optimistic to the hearer
"You hungry?"

"A little", Scott grumbled.

"C'mon. **Let's get some cheesesburgers.**" (Sparks, 2009, p. 58)

The utterances above showed when Will had conversation with Scott. In the middle of conversation, they was hungry. Then, Will invited Scott to get some cheeseshamburgers. Will invited him by words *"let's get some cheeseburgers"*. The words *"let us"* pointed including the hearer in the activity by invited Scott to get the cheeseburgers together.

Strategy 12:
Include both the speaker and listener in the activity

"Where you going?" Scott called.

This time Will didn't answer, and Scott took a step toward him.

"C'mon man! **I don't want to do this alone! We've got a ton of cars to work on.**" (Sparks, 2009, p. 143)

It showed when Will and Scott in the service center. Will and Scott were as mechanical cars in there. Besides, Will also as aquarium member that protected the animal at the beach. In that time, he got the information about turtle's issue, then, he decided to leave Scott. However, Scott did not agree, he said *"i don't want to do this alone"*. The words *"i don't want to do this alone"* meant that Scott invited Will to do the job together. In addition, Scott said *"we've got a ton of cars to work on"*, the word *"we"* mentioned including the hearer in the activity.

Strategy 13: Give or ask for reason

"Don't you want to introduce me?"

"Nope."

"I promise to have good manners."

"That'd be good. **So why won't you introduced me?**"

"Because you haven't taken me to meet your parents yet."

“Why do you have to meet my parents?”

“Exactly”, she said. (Sparks, 2009, p. 166)

It showed when Will saw for Ronnie’s father for the first time. He asked Ronnie to let him introduce his self, but for the first time Ronnie did not agree. Will tended the question “*why won’t you introduced me*” to knowing the reason from Ronnie. It was clearly, Ronnie answered “*because you haven’t taken me to meet your parents yet*” so that Will knew the Ronnie’s response. Thus, Will asked “*why do you have to meet my parents*” denoted he was asking for the reason deeply. The both questions above pointed “*why*” were asking for the reason.

Strategy 14: Assume or assert reciprocity

“Tell him you didn’t see me.”

Jonah thought about it. “Five bucks.”

“What?”

“Gimme five bucks and I will forget you were here.” (Sparks, 2009, p. 38)

It was uttered by Jonah to Ronnie at the carnival. Jonah told that their father was looking for her. Nevertheless, Ronnie did not want to meet him. Then, Jonah made a deal that he would keep the secret, and Ronnie had to pay in return. Jonah said “*gimme five bucks and I will forget you were here*”. “*Gimme five bucks and I will forget you were here*” signified the asserting reciprocity.

Strategy 15: Give gift to the hearer

“You’re a pretty good little brother, you know?”

“Yeah, I know. And **you can have it all**, on one condition.” (Sparks, 2009, p. 298)

The utterances explained when Ronnie needed a gown to attend the wedding party. Ronnie did not have the suitable gown to the party. Thus, she did not have money to buy the new one. Jonah knew about Ronnie’s problem, then, he offered his savings to buy the gown. Jonah said “*you can have it all*” to fulfill Ronnie’s want. “*You can have it all*” referred Jonah gave his saving as a gift to the Ronnie.

4.2.2 The Negative Politeness Strategies

Strategy 1: Be conventionally indirect.

“No, nothing like that. It just didn’t work out, that’s all.”

“It just didn’t work out, “ Scott repeated.

“Can you even hear yourself?” (Sparks, 2009, p. 57)

It showed when Scott argued about Will’s relationship. Scott gave his opinion that Ashley was the appropriate girl to Will. Then, Scott explained that Ashley was gorgeous and perfect girl, but Will did not agree it. Scott asserted him by words “*can you even hear yourself*”, that had literal meaning from the contextual meaning. Scott asked Will to think about Ashley, but not to listen his heart for real. “*Can you even hear yourself*” pointed the conventionally indirect.

Strategy 2: Using question and hedge

“Fair enough.” He paused. “I hear you’re not playing soccer this fall.”

“I am not very good at it.”

“So what? It is fun, **right?**”

“Not when other kids make fun of you.” (Sparks, 2009, p. 28)

It was uttered by Steve to Jonah. Steve stated that playing soccer was fun. Steve intended for Jonah to agree with his statement by using the word “*it is*

fun, right?". The word "right" aimed to turn the intention of hearer. The interaction of Steve and Jonah had the possible threatrening because it made assumption from the hearer to agree about the utterance. It could be seen that what Jonah said "not when other kids make fun of you". It was clearly the contrary answer from the Jonah to Kim that could be as a threat to their communication. "Right?" was a question could be minimalize the negative face of the hearer.

Strategy 3: Be pessimistic

"You won't be eighteen until August twentieth," Jonah said behind her.

"Would you please stay out of this!"

She whirled around to face him. "This is between me and dad" (Sparks, 2009, p. 73)

It displayed when Ronnie talked to his father. She just returned home after one night she did not go home. She had an argument because his father did not like her action. In that time, her brother Jonah also spoke on this matter. Ronnie was annoyed with her brother, so that she requested her brother by indirect question "would you please stay out of this". Ronnie applied the word "would" to be polite but it showed she was pessimistic to stop conversation with Jonah.

Strategy 4: Minimize the imposition

"He lied to you. I wouldn't kiss him. I don't even like him. **The only reason I was there was because you insisted that we go.**" (Sparks, 2009, p. 110)

It showed when Blaze was asking to Ronnie about her boyfriend, Marcus. Blazed had seen Ronnie and Marcus sitting together in the night. Then, Ronnie told the truth about her relation with Marcus that she nothing to do with

Marcus. Ronnie answered her by asserting "the only reason I was there was because you insisted that we go". The words "the only reason" minimized the imposition by explain the literal meaning "exactly".

Strategy 5: Give deference

"It's a **pleasure** to meet you," she responded (Sparks, 2009, p. 229)

The utterances above showed when Ronnie met Will's father for the first time. They got to know each other. Ronnie used the word "pleasure" as the honorific word that gave respectfulness to Will's father. Ronnie's aim was humbled her self. "Pleasure" pointed to give the deference or respect to the hearer.

Strategy 6: Apologize

"I already figured that out." He flashed a quick smile. "I'm **sorry** about running into you at the volleyball game." (Sparks, 2009, p. 127)

It showed when Will met Ronnie. Will asked his apologizing because he made a problem at the previous day. He accidentally bumped Ronie at the beach. Then, Will said "sorry" as his apology. Will actually admitted impinging Ronnie, but he used the word "sorry" to respect of the hearer. "Sorry" mentioned the apology that could be reduced the hearer's negative face.

Strategy 7:

impersonalize speaker and the hearer

"There is nothing to say." He leaned back. "Maybe you just don't trust me." (Sparks, 2009, p.47)

It uttered between Marcus and Ronnie. Marcus asked about Ronnie's problem, but Ronnie did not want to talk about it. Ronnie answered him by using words "there is nothing to say". Ronnie avoided the use of pronoun by

answering the question from Marcus because Ronnie did not want to produce the impign words to Marcus. *"There is nothing to say"* impersonalized the hearer by avoiding the pronoun "I" and "You". It would contrast with *"I haven't nothing to say with you"*, it sounded not polite.

Strategy 8:

State the face theatrening act as a general rule was not applicable in the novel.

Strategy 9: Nominalize

"And you don't think that's fair. You just said you'd get a cookie if you wanted one. So why can't I? I'm not a little kid. I can make my own decisions." He stared at her earnestly. (Sparks, 2009, p. 213) It showed when Jonah had conversation with Ronnie about the cookies. Jonah offered a cookie to her sister, but her sister answered that she would get the cookie if she wanted. Thus, Jonah clarified that he would do the same action because he said he was not a little kid. Jonah applied the words *"my own"* as the formal utterance that commonly used by adult. *"My own"* nominalized the expression to the hearer.

Strategy 10:

Go on record as incurring a debt, or as not indebting hearer

"You haven't had to deal with her these last three years." He paused, chastened. "You're right. I am sorry." (Sparks 2009, p.23)

It showed when Kim was talking with Steve about their daughter, Ronnie. They were divorced during three years and mentally, Ronnie did not get affection from her father because she stayed with her mother. From their problem, Kim expressed that Steve

owed his affection to his daughter by words

"you haven't had to deal with her these last three years". *"You haven't had to deal with her these last three years"* mentioned Kim incurred that Steve had debt in the form of affection.

5. Conclusion

The use of politeness strategies is important in daily life conversation. Practically, the politeness strategy helps arrange the utterances better so that the misunderstanding would not occur. Thus, it shows when speaker could avoid the misunderstanding, it would make the interaction of speaker and hearer go smoothly. The politeness should apply in organizations, relationship, and in the family environment. In conclusion, it incures the benefit to the speaker who applies the politeness strategy.

The use of politeness strategies avoided giving offense by highlighting friendlines. Someone uses the politeness strategies as the best expression in order to get the connections go smoothly. One of politeness strategies is the addressee form of *"sweetie"*. *"Sweetie"* is applied to call someone in the social distance, such as father and daughter. It could build the intimacy in their social distance. Therefore, the use of politeness strategies influences the relationship closer.

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