

**A STUDY ON THE ACQUISITION OF LINGUISTIC POLITENESS
IN ENGLISH BY INDONESIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

A THESIS

**As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree
in English Language Teaching Faculty**



By:

JOKE LIMANU WIRHASPATI

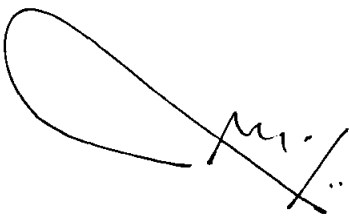
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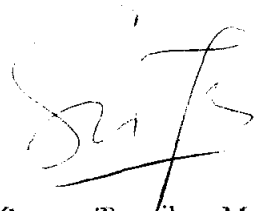
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This thesis entitled “A Study on the Acquisition of Linguistic Politeness in English by Indonesian Elementary School Students” prepared and submitted by Joke Linanu Wirhaspati has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:



Prof. Dr. Abdul Wahab, M.A.

First Advisor



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.

Second Advisor

APPROVAL SHEET

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This thesis has been examined by the Committee of Oral Examination with a
grade of _____ on August 2nd, 2002 .



Drs. Stefanus Iaga Tukan, M.Pd

Chairman



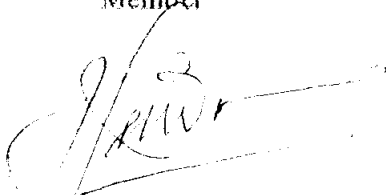
Prof. Dr. Abdul Wahab, M.A.

Member



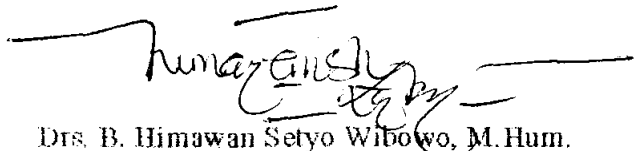
Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.

Member



Drs. Hendra Tedjasuksmana, M.Hum.

Member



Drs. B. Himawan Setyo Wibowo, M.Hum.

Member

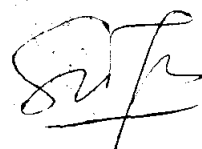
Approved by,



Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman

Dean of the Teacher

Training Faculty



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.

Head of the English

Department

ABSTRACT

Wirhaspati, Joke Limanu. A Study on the Acquisition of Linguistic Politeness in English by Indonesian Elementary School Students. Thesis. The English Department of Widya Mandala University. Advisors: Prof Dr. Abdul Wahab, M.A. and Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.

Key Words: acquisition, communication, pragmatics, second language learning, linguistic politeness.

English is an important international language which is used in various kinds of fields by many countries. Therefore, in Indonesia nowadays teaching English to young learners has been realized as a need. One indicator that teaching ESL is successful is that the learners have communicative competence. Communicative competence includes both linguistic and pragmatic knowledge. Politeness is the part of pragmatic knowledge. It should be operated in the same level with the other pragmatic principles. The writer in this study wants to know how elementary school students acquire linguistic politeness in English.

ESL learners especially those who are still in the elementary school often have difficulty when facing with the culture of the target language. They do not know what is considered polite and what is not. Moreover, their linguistic acquisition is still in development.

In order to know how elementary students acquire linguistic politeness, the writer holds an observation in Intan Permata Hati Christian Elementary School. The writer only observes the fourth-grade students of Intan Permata Hati Christian Elementary School. She notes down some conversations which contain requests and analyzes them.

This study reveals that: 1) Most of the subjects tend to use baldly on-record FTA (Face Threatening Act) in making requests. 2) The off-record FTA is used many times by the subjects besides the negative politeness. 3) The negative politeness is used only when the subjects speak to the teachers. 4) The politeness marker that is often used by the subjects is "may". 5) Teachers in this study hold a crucial role in the politeness acquisition of the students besides other media such as television, computer, and books.

After doing her study, the writer proposes some suggestions: 1) In the later developmental stage, students should be introduced to the culture in which the target language is used. 2) Considering that linguistic politeness is one of the important issues in linguistic area, it is a good idea if the library of Widya Mandala University adds books on this topic.

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The writer

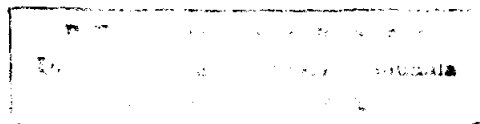


TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET (1).....	i
APPROVAL SHEET (2).....	ii
ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	vi
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1. The Background of the Study.....	1
1.2. The Statements of the Problem.....	3
1.3. The Objectives.....	4
1.4. Theoretical Framework.....	5
1.5. Assumptions.....	6
1.6. Scope and Limitation.....	6
1.7. The Significance of the Study.....	7
1.8. The Parameters.....	8
1.9. Organization of the Thesis.....	8
1.10. Definition of Key-terms.....	9
CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	10
2.1. Language Acquisition Process.....	10
2.1.1. The Input Hypothesis.....	10
2.1.2. The Affective Filter Hypothesis.....	12
2.2. Children Strategies of Learning Language.....	12

2.3. Classroom Language as Input to Second Language Acquisition..... 14

2.4. Pragmatics..... 15

2.4.1. Conversational and Conventional Implicature..... 16

2.5. Politeness Principles..... 17

CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY..... 20

3.1. The Nature of the Study and Its Design..... 20

3.2. The Subjects..... 21

3.3. The Research Instruments..... 22

3.4. The Procedure of Collecting the Data..... 22

3.5. The Procedure of Analyzing the Data..... 23

3.6. The Parameters..... 24

CHAPTER IV: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION..... 25

4.1. The Data..... 25

4.2. Data Analysis..... 26

4.3. The Findings..... 45

4.4. Discussion of the Findings..... 47

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION..... 52

5.1. Conclusion..... 52

5.2. Suggestion..... 53

BIBLIOGRAPHY..... 55

APPENDIXES..... 57