

**A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF DISPREFERRED SECOND TURNS IN  
*PHILOMENA* MOVIE**

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**Abstract**

This research aims to explain the types of dispreferred second turns of adjacency pairs found in *Philomena* movie, and to explain the ways the characters do the dispreferred second turns of adjacency pairs in form of utterances spoken by the characters of *Philomena* movie. The context of the data was the dialogues between the characters. The researcher was the main instrument of this research, and was supported by the data sheet as the secondary instrument. The movie and the screenplay are the sources of the data. There are two results for this research. The first one is that there are five types of dispreferred second turns found in *Philomena* movie. They are assessment – disagreement, question – no answer/ unexpected answer, request – refusal, invitation – refusal, and offer – refusal. The second one is that there are five ways of doing dispreferred second turns uttered by the characters in *Philomena* movie. They are delay/hesitate, preface, apology, give an account, and hedge of negative. This research also finds other three ways of doing a dispreferred second turns in *Philomena* movie. They are ignoring, changing topic, and direct refusal.

Keywords: pragmatics, adjacency pairs, dispreferred second turns, *Philomena*

**INTRODUCTION**

People always need other people, they could not live alone. This is one of the main reasons why they try to find a way to communicate, and interact to one another. From body language to spoken and written language, they always try from time to time to make it all possible. Those actions are called communication.

In the daily lives, people use communication to exchange the information about something from one person to another. Furthermore, they create language to perform it. Language functions as codes to do several actions. For example, people use language to convey and receive messages, to help them to understand one another, and to exchange goods (buying and selling something).

One of the ways to communicate via language is by making conversation. Most of the conversations come in sequence. According to Deborah, the spoken interaction has structure which the pairs utterances are adjacent or occur one after the other; in other words, the second utterance is related to and dependent on the first one (2001: 96). The participants of the conversation or spoken interaction have the ability to know what is going to happen in the next turn because there are some patterns in conversation used by people. Thus, the patterns are recognized and the next turn is expected as it is. This structure or pattern is named as adjacency pairs.

Levinson says that not all second parts of adjacency pairs are equal with the first part (1983: 307). The response of the first part could be preferred or dispreferred as Yule states that preference structure has two kinds of response. It could be preferred or dispreferred (1998: 79).

The dispreferred second turns have some types. They are assessment-

disagreement, question-no answer/unexpected answer, request-refusal, invitation-refusal, blame-admission, and offer-refusal.

Furthermore, there are eleven ways of doing dispreferred second turns. These are delay/hesitate, preface, express doubt, token yes, apology, mention obligation, appeal for understanding, make it non-personal, give an account, use mitigators, hedge of negative.

This research has two objectives: (1) to explain the types of dispreferred second turns of adjacency pairs found in *Philomena* movie, and (2) to explain the ways the characters do the dispreferred second turns of adjacency pairs in *Philomena* movie. This research could give some information and enrich the specific knowledge to the linguistics field, specifically about adjacency pairs in the movie. It also could be used as a reference to study of adjacency pairs in the movie.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research used qualitative approach to analyze the dispreferred

second turns in *Philomena* movie. In this research, the researcher was the main instrument. It is in line with Creswell who says that qualitative researchers gather the information for their research directly at the site where the issue under study was taken place by themselves (2009: 175).

The data of this research were in the form of utterances spoken by the characters of *Philomena* movie. The context of the data was the dialogues between the characters in *Philomena* movie. The movie and the screenplay were the sources of the data

The data of this research were collected in some ways: the researcher (1) downloaded the video and the screenplay, (2) watched the video, (3) watched the video and reread the screenplay again to check if both of them correlate or similar to each other or not, (4) identified the dispreferred second turns in the screenplay, (5) took a note and classified the data based on the types of dispreferred second turns, (6) classified the data again based on the realizations, and (7) made data

sheets, transferred and classified the data into it, and coded them.

In analyzing the data, each datum which already classified in the data sheet was described and analyzed based on the theories. Then, the researcher reanalyzed the data to check the suitability of the data with the theory. After that, the researcher drew conclusion based on the findings and the analysis of the data.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

From the analysis, it is found that there are only five types out of six types of dispreferred second turns of adjacency pair from Levinson's theory found in *Philomena* movie. Those five types are (1) assessment-disagreement, (2) question-no answer/ unexpected answer, (3) request-refusal, (4) invitation-refusal, and (5) offer-refusal. From all the five types, question -no answer/ unexpected answer type is the most frequently occurring type in the conversations between the characters in *Philomena* movie.

The research finds that there are only five ways of doing the

dispreferred second turns found in *Philomena* movie. They are delay/hesitate, preface, apology, give an account, and hedge of negative. The researcher also finds other three realizations which are not mentioned in Yule's theory: ignoring, changing topic, and direct refusal/disagreement. From all the realizations found in *Philomena* movie, ignoring becomes the most used way of doing the dispreferred second turns.

The explanations of the types and functions of could be seen below.

Martin : It's just that, why would God bestow on us a sexual desire which he then wants us to resist? Is it some weird game that he's invented to alleviate the boredom of being omnipotent? It baffles me... and I think I'm pretty clever.

Philomena : **Well, maybe you're not.**

AD/3/00:33:51

In this dialogue, Philomena tells Martin that she feels like she has done a very terrible sin, so that she agrees to sign the paper which states that she will not ask anything related to

his son in the future. Martin then starts questioning about the existence of God. He is wondering why God give humans sexual desire if He wants them to resist it. At the end of his statement, he gives a positive assessment about himself by saying "I think I'm pretty clever". As the response, Philomena, who is being annoyed and disagreed with him, perform a dispreferred second turns of disagreement by saying to Martin "Well, maybe you're not". It means that she does not agree that of Martin's opinion that he is clever.

The dialogue above is using prefacing as the way of doing the dispreferred second turns because Philomena performs her disagreement by using a preface 'well' to make her utterance sound a little more polite and acceptable.

The following dialogue is the example of dispreferred second turns of offer – refusal.

Philomena : Mine wakes up before  
Martin : I do. I'm having a ham  
and Swiss cheese  
omelette – shall I get  
you one?  
**I.. No. I just... I'm  
not hungry.**  
OR/1,9,12/00:50:09

This datum shows the dispreferred second turns of an offer which is followed by a refusal as the response. A first pair part is an offer which is expected to be responded by an acceptance as a second part. In this dialogue, Philomena informs Martin about what the restaurant serves as the breakfast menu. She then says that she has a ham and Swiss cheese omelet as her breakfast and offers Martin to get him the same breakfast as she has. Yet, Martin performs a second part by performing 'no' and explains why he does not want it. Martin's action is considered as an act of refusal.

The dialogue shows the realization of delay/hesitate. Martin refuses the offer by performing the repetition of the use of word "I". The repetition shows the hesitancy of the speaker. Martin hesitates because he feels difficult when trying to find a

reason of why he does the refusal which may not hurt Philomena's feeling.

A dispreferred second turns of request could also be identified in the following conversation between Philomena and Martin.

Philomena : Perhaps you could call me Nancy? I've always loved that name. My niece is  
Martin : called Nancy... oh — people might think it's her. What about Anne? Anne Boleyn? That's a lovely name. Somebody had that.  
**We'll have to use your real name, Philomena. That's the way these things work.**

RR/9/01:02:18

Philomena makes a request to Martin to not to use her real name in a book he will write. She suggests names such as Nancy and Anne Boleyn to replace her real name in the book he is about to write. In respond to that request, Martin refuses it by explaining a little about why he could not grant her request. He says that they will have her real name in the story and gives an

explanation that is how human interest story works.

Martin uses giving an account as the realization of the dispreferred second turns because his statement shows that Martin refuses the offer by explaining that they have to keep on using her real name when writing the story because that is that is the way human interest story works.

The dialogue below is the example of dispreferred second turns of invitation – refusal.

Jane : I'm taking Mum to Ireland next week for a few days – why don't  
Philomena : you come along with us  
Martin : and you can visit Roscrea with her?  
Oh, yes, there's plenty of room – it's a Vauxhall Cavalier.  
**Oh, no. I mean, thank you. But... umm I like to fly.**  
IR/1,2,9,12/00:21:31

Jane, Philomena, and Martin are in the cafe talking about Philomena's story in Roscrea. Philomena at first asks Martin if he could help her to find her son. Jane and Philomena then invite him to come to

Ireland with them in a Vauxhall Cavalier, and then he and Philomena could go to Roscrea to get information about Philomena's son. Unfortunately, Martin fills his slot by a dispreferred second turns by saying "Oh, no" which means he refuses the invitation to go along with them to Ireland.

The dialogue shows that Martin refuses the invitation to go together with them to Ireland because he likes to fly more than going there by a car. Here, he uses direct refusal to respond the invitation.

Below is the example of dispreferred second turns of question – no answer/unexpected answer.

John : I haven't seen you  
Young : any place. Where  
Philomena : are you from?  
(Silence).  
QN/12/00:04:41

In this dialogue, John meets Young Philomena for the first time in an amusement park. He tries to catch her attention by asking where she comes from because he is curious and that he never sees her before. He follows her and walks behind her while waiting for an answer. Yet,

Young Philomena does not answer it right away and prefers to be silent. A question supposes to be responded by an answer, but because Young Philomena prefers to respond it with silence and does not answer the question asked to her, it is considered as dispreferred second turns of question. In the dialogue, Young Philomena uses no answer by performing silence when she is being asked by John.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

There are five types of dispreferred second turns found in *Philomena* movie. They are assessment - disagreement, question - no answer/ unexpected answer, request-refusal, invitation-refusal, and offer-refusal. The main types of dispreferred second turns found in *Philomena* movie is the dispreferred social act of question – no answer/unexpected answer. It shows that most of the characters do not want to answer the question which is given by the first speaker.

Based on the analysis of the data, there are five ways of doing

dispreferred second turns uttered by the characters in *Philomena* movie. They are delay/hesitate, preface, apology, give an account, and hedge of negative. This research also finds other three ways of doing a dispreferred second turns in *Philomena* movie. These are ignoring, change topic, and direct refusal. The researcher finds that ignoring becomes the most frequent realization which is mainly used by the characters in *Philomena* movie when they perform the dispreferred second turns.

### **SUGGESTIONS**

It is suggested to the students of English Language and Literature Study Program, especially those students who are majoring in linguistics to understand more and enrich their knowledge and understanding related to adjacency pair especially related to the dispreferred second turns.

The researcher suggests to the next researchers who want to do the research of dispreferred second turns to pay more attention to the chosen

movie in order to have a sufficient data  
for the research.

## **REFERENCES**

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