

Interruptions Employed by the Participants of Ellen DeGeneres Show

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Abstract

This research aimed to find out the dominant types of interruptions employed by participants and to find out the purposes of interruptions done by the participants of Ellen DeGeneres show. This research employed quantitative descriptive research. The subjects of this research were two of the most viewed videos uploaded from October-November 2020. The interruption employed by the participants and the purposes of interruptions done by the participants were classified using an instrument datasheet following Murata's theory. The first results of this research show that interruptions types done by the participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show namely cooperative and intrusive, and the dominant types employed in the Ellen DeGeneres show was a cooperative interruption. The second result finding showed all that the purposes of interruptions done by the participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show namely agreement, assistance, clarification, disagreement, floor-taking, and tangentialization.

Keywords : *Turn-taking, Interruption, YouTube, Ellen DeGeneres show*

Introduction

Conversation analysis is an approach that looks at the way in which people take and manage turns in spoken interactions. The basic rule in conversation is that one person speaks at a time, after they may nominate another speaker or another speaker may take up the turn without being nominated (Sack et al: 2006). According to Cutting (2002) in line with Cook (1990), conversation analysis is "studying the way that what speakers say dictates the type of answer expected and those speakers take the turn when they interact". The main goal of a doing conversation is commonly

purposed to take a turn to speak. In communication, the relation between language and society cannot be separated (Pratiwi, 2018). Interaction rules can be viewed through the lens of communication theory (Wiemann & Knapp, 1975). According to Sidnell (2010), opportunities to join in a conversation are distributed using a turn-taking mechanism. So, Prihartanti et al (2020) argues that speech events occur due to interactions between speakers and partners on a given topic. Moreover, the conversation allows every person to communicate by giving and taking information. So the small unit of conversation is a turn that controls interaction in exchanging the right to speak. Therefore, this is important to understand turn-taking in order to prevent phenomena of misunderstanding or misperception in a conversation.

Turn-taking is the manner in which orderly conversation normally happens, the most fundamental feature of conversation, and also the underlying framework of conversation. The phenomenon of turn-taking happens in our daily conversation. According to Mey (2001), there are three types of turn-taking strategies that can be used by conversationalists to communicate. There are taking the turn (starting up, taking over, interruption, overlapping), holding the turn, and yielding the turn. Taking the turn is the strategy of speakers to take a turn in the conversation. It involves starting up, taking over, interruption, and overlapping. Holding the turn is the speaker's strategy for carries out talking. Yielding the turn is the strategy of how the speaker gives a turn to the listener or next speaker. The organizational practice of turn-taking in talk-in-interaction is among them how social life is so embedded in the conversational practices of the speaker and listener.

Turn-taking is a fundamental study in a conversation. Conversation exchange cited by Levinson (1983) says that turn-taking when observed can be characterized in the following ways: That during a conversation, A talks, and stops. B, takes over, talks and stop; and so on having the pattern of A-B-A-B-A-B across two participants. Therefore, turn-taking were transcribed using transcripction convention by Jefferson (1985).

In turn-taking, the speaker can use several ways to take the turn or start speaking with another one or it is called "Turn-taking strategies". It is very important to study turn-taking strategies in order to get the conversational goal while communicating. Dealing with the turn-taking system, Sacks, et al (1974) states that the main feature of the turn-taking system is how turn-taking in a conversation has organized the terms of allocation of turns and construction of message units. Turn-

taking is the way conversationalists manage the conversation. The function of turn-taking is to make the conversation flows well.

Since there are no clear rules in running a conversation, disturbance usually happens. Leman & Ikoko (2010) stated that Interruptions disrupt turn-taking in conversations. On the other hand, an irregular conversation happens because people do not make nice turn-taking, sometimes they interrupt each other to express their ideas, opinions, and feeling. Therefore, Zimmerman and West (1975) classify the types of disturbance into two types including interruption and overlap. An interruption happens when the next speaker starts speaking in the middle of the current speaker or listener is speaking. When the listener interrupts a conversation, the turn-taking system is going to be ruined and sometimes the present speaker feels bothered. Meanwhile, an overlap happens when the subsequent speaker starts speaking at the time when the present speaker almost finishes his/her utterance.

A talk show is a program that consists of several people discuss a certain topic. A talk show consists of a speaker and listener who makes a conversation on-air or off-air. The speaker is the host who says something for the first time such as asking and giving a statement and the listener can take a turn to speak what topic that requires from the speaker. There are many talk shows on television programs or YouTube. One of the talk show is The Ellen DeGeneres Show. Therefore the turn-taking strategies can be analyzed through conversation in the talk show.

The phenomenon of turn-taking happens in daily conversation. One of the most commonly found phenomena of turn-taking can be found in the video of Ellen DeGeneres Show, especially in interruption. In the several videos, many activities can be done such as discussion, role play, information gap, brainstorming, interview. Moreover, in the process of conversation, everyone is allowed to interrupt others while speaking their opinion. Everyone can interrupt others in positive or negative ways for many purposes such as stating agreement or disagreement, correcting, topic changing, etc. Therefore the interruption can be analyzed through video in Ellen DeGeneres Show.

Interruption is violation of communication that the interrupter take the turn while the previous speaker is speaking (Tannen, 1991:93). Interruption also known as disturbance (Zimmerman and West, 1975). Kennedy (1983), Murata (1994), Li et al (2005), and Li, H. Z. (2001) assumed that interruption consist of intrusive talk and cooperative talk. Kennedy (1983) stated that interruption is not only disturbance

whereas showing a dominant attitude such as agreement and reject. So that, Kennedy (1983), Murata (1994), Li et al (2005), and Li, H. Z. (2001) formulated intrusive and cooperative interruption as the reason of doing an interruption.

There are five previous researches that were used to support this study. Hidayati (2014) and Imaniah (2015) were focus to identify and describe types of turn-taking irregularities and types of reasons for doing turn-taking irregularities. Ismaliyah (2015) and Huda (2017) were only focus to analyze the turn-taking's reason. Jufadri (2018) was focus to analyze turn-taking strategies. This research was different from previous studies in terms of the theory and platforms selected as the data source unlike previous studies, this study selected YouTube application as the data source.

This research is descriptive quantitative research, where this study uses elaboration and steps carried out by describing descriptively using a quantitative approach according to Johnson & Christensen (2004). According to Creswell (2003), quantitative research includes the collection of information so that data can be evaluated and subjected to measurable treatment in arrange to back or invalidated "alternate knowledge claims". This research was focused on the conversation used in The Ellen DeGeneres Show on the YouTube channel in which interaction and turn-taking were applied in the conversation.

For these reasons, the researchers wants to analyze the types of interruption and the purposes done by the participants in the talk show Ellen DeGeneres Show which contains many interesting conversations to be analyzed. Interruption is interrupting or speaking without waiting for the first speaker done her/his statements. Based on the explanation above the researchers is interested in analyzing interruption in Ellen DeGeneres Show entitled "Interruption Employed by The Participants of Ellen DeGeneres Show".

Research Methodology

The researchers used a descriptive quantitative method as a method of this research. The subject of this research was acquired from The Ellen DeGeneres Show's YouTube videos. Two videos; video number 1 is 3 section with duration is 12.33 minutes, 2.947.406 viewers, and uploaded in 29-30 October 2020, and video number 2 is 2 section with duration is 9.40 minutes, 178.938 viewers, and uploaded in 3-4 November 2020. The instrument of this research to collect the data is a data sheet based on Murata's theory. To analyze the data the researchers marking the sentence

containing interruption in Ellen DeGeneres's video, analyzing the dominant types of interruption and the purposes of doing interruption, in the types of interruption, the researchers will use Murata's theory, making a datasheet to classify every type of interruption on the video, making a conclusion of the dominant types of interruption and the purposes for doing interruption that found on the video, and using the formula according to Arikunto (1996):

$$P = \frac{F}{N} 100\%$$

Note :

P = Percentage

F = Total of frequency of occurred time

N = Total of the data

Findings and Discussion

Findings

There were 2 types of interruptions according to Murata (1994). The interruption types were a cooperative interruption and intrusive interruption. The result of data analysis revealed that there were 65 cases of interruption in Ellen DeGeneres's YouTube videos. Furthermore, the explanation of each interruption type is elaborated as follows.

The Types of Interruptions Employed by Participants of The Ellen DeGeneres Show

Table 2. Types of Interruptions Employed by Participants of The Ellen DeGeneres Show

No.	Types of Interruption	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Cooperative Interruption	56	86%
2.	Intrusive Interruption	9	14%
TOTAL		65	100%

Table 2 shows that there are 65 data containing 2 types of interruption employed by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show, they are Cooperative Interruption and Intrusive Interruption. Based on this research, there were 56 data of Cooperative Interruption and 9 Intrusive Interruption.

1.) Cooperative Interruption

Cooperative interruptions as those intended to help the interlocutor by continuously coordinating the conversation. In other words, cooperative interruptions

are intended to assist the speaker by coordinating the method and/or content of the continued conversation. The example of cooperative interruption that is found in Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube video is described as follows:

Example 1

Video 1 : *Khloe Kardashian on Kim's Surprise Destination Birthday Trip*

Khloe : You know, I would probably kick all their asses at once...
 Ellen : **=I believe that you could**
 Khloe : **=Yeah**, But verbally I'm the first one to get in there
 Ellen : **=Yeah**

(Appendix 3, number 66-69)

Video 4 : *Wanda Sykes hasn't slept since 2017*

Wanda : Thank you, yeah, well, actually one of those years was a quarantine year. So really it's like 15. You know? Because a quarantine year counts as three years. it's equivalent to three years. So we're doing 15. That - whoa
 Ellen : **=That's a lot.**

(Appendix 9, number 44-48)

As shown in example 1, in the cooperative interruption that appears on that video, for video 1, Their utterances were spoken at the same time create cooperative interruption for understanding both of their explanation. Therefore, this interruption is included in cooperative interruption because the next speaker, Ellen, and Khloe had a positive intention with said "**I believe that you could**" and "**yeah**". For video 4 Wanda's statement said about quarantine because of COVID-19, then Ellen interrupts Wanda's utterances with said "**that's a lot**" to agree with the situation that said by Wanda.

2.) Intrusive Interruption

Intrusive interruptions pose threats to the current speaker's territory by disrupting the method and content of the continued conversation. Intrusive interruption is usually desired to dominate the conversation. In most cases, Intrusive interruption gave negative effects on the conversation. It is because the interrupter usually had a negative intention in doing it. The example of intrusive interruption that is found in Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube video is described as follows:

Example 2

Video 1 : *Khloe Kardashian on Kim's Surprise Destination Birthday Trip*

Ellen : So who could –

Khloe : **=Bring them all out.**

Ellen : **=You like to fight first?**

Khloe : Bring them all out.

Ellen : All right, no, it's not that, but now that you've given me that idea, I'm going to think about it. We're going to take a break, and I'll show you after we come back

(Appendix 3, number 80-85)

As shown in example 2, the intrusive interruption that appears on that video, Ellen, as the current speaker did not give her floor to the interrupter, Khloe. She kept speaking although she knew with said "**Bring them all out**" Khloe took her floor and were still talking about what Ellen wanted to talk about. Therefore, this interruption is included to intrusive interruption because the next speaker, Khloe had a negative intention in doing it and the purpose for doing the interruption is to take floor taking to the current speaker.

Purposes of Interruptions Done by the Participants of the Ellen DeGeneres Show

Table 3. Purposes of Interruption Done by The Participants of The Ellen
DeGeneres Show

No.	Reasons of Interruption	Number
1.	Agreement	36
2.	Assistance	2
3.	Clarification	18
4.	Disagreement	1
5.	Floor-Taking	6
6.	Topic-Change	-
7.	Tangentialization	2
Total		65

The second objective of this research is to find out the purposes of Interruption Done by The Participants of The Ellen DeGeneres Show. From the results of Ellen DeGeneres Show's YouTube videos, the total of the data is 65 cases of the purpose of interruption found in the Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube video. The results of the analysis show that there are 36 cases of agreement, 2 cases of assistance, 18 cases of clarification, 1 case of disagreement, 6 cases of floor-taking, 2 cases of tangentialization, and no case of topic change.

Discussion

This study tried to find out the interruption employed by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube video focusing on the dominant types of interruption employed by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show. The researchers used the theory of Murata (1994) to find out the dominant types of interruption employed by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show. Based on the data analysis, it was found that the dominant types of interruption employed by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show were cooperative interruption.

Ellen DeGeneres Show uses all of two types of interruption, cooperative and intrusive interruption shows that all of the speakers in that video do the interruption while communicating. As stated by Schegloff quoted in Gumperz (1983), an interruption happens when a participant in conversation begins to talk when the current speaker is still taking his or her turn to talk. In conversation usually, anything requiring interruption happens naturally.

There are several stages of findings based on the data presented. Firstly, among the two types of cooperative and intrusive interruption, cooperative interruption is the dominant type to do, then finding corresponding with Murata (1994) which states that cooperative interruption is intended to help the interlocutor by continuously coordinating the conversation. It can be said that the cooperative interruption was the dominant type in Ellen DeGeneres's Talkshow because the cooperative interruption does the positive intention for the interrupter to the who is interrupted with the relevant topic to make the first speaker and next speaker have a connection while doing the conversation to persuade viewers to enjoy the program/talk show. Thus, their positive intentions are conveyed clearly and successfully. It can be assumed that in interruption, the participants show their respect to their talking partners, while the topic of the conversation in the Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube videos usually happens in our daily life, in conversation the speaker is already familiar with the participant, so first speakers tend to support whatever the participant says, so they do the cooperative interruption to agree.

On the other hand, intrusive interruption is much less found in this research might be also related to the topic discussed in Ellen DeGeneres's show, because intrusive interruption usually happens in the debate topic to discuss example topic of the conversation was judging people.

The finding of this research is in contrast with the previous study from Hidayati (2014) who aimed at the frequency of interruptions presented by the characters in

The Last Song movie. Similarly, the previous study used the same theory as the researchers which is the theory of Murata (1994). She also found two types of interruption; intrusive and cooperative. However, the study found that intrusive interruption appeared the most often in *The Last Song* movie. The movie is about the bad bad relationships among the characters. For this reason, conversations they make tend not to run well. They often have arguments with each other. As a result, they frequently do interrupt or overlap when they have a conversation. There are turn-taking irregularities when they do not have the same opinion as each other or just to show rejections, disagreement, or floor-taking. They also do irregularities when they want to change the topic of conversation.

This finding also does not support the previous studies from Veronica (2016) who found the overlap interruption type in her study. This previous study was aimed at finding the frequency of types of interruption used by the participants in the *Ini Talk Show* on NET TV. The overlap interruption type might occur in the previous study because the previous study's theory used was different from the researchers, this previous study used Zimmerwan (1975). Meanwhile, the overlap interruption or another type on this previous study that mention was not employed in the Ellen DeGeneres show's YouTube videos. That is to say, the *Ini Talk Show* on NET TV is a comedy talk show, which talks about the life that is not serious cases to be funny to persuade viewers to laugh, so overlap interruption occurred when the interrupter interrupted the current speaker at the same time. However, the interrupter could take the floor without wait the current speaker to stop the speech.

The second finding is focusing on the purpose of interruption done by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show. The researchers used the theory of Murata (1994) to find out the purpose of interruption done by participants of the Ellen DeGeneres show. There were all of the seven types of purposes of cooperative and intrusive interruption done by participants namely agreement, assistance, clarification, disagreement, floor-taking, topic-change, and tangentialization. This research found six purposes of doing the Interruption, with no case of topic-change.

There are several stages of findings based on the data presented. This purposes as long as the terms are familiar to the hearers because this purpose is agreement, which is an agreement interruption that enables the interrupter to show concurrence, compliance, understanding, or support.

Besides that, other purposes such as assistance, clarification, disagreement, floor-taking, topic-change, and tangentialization have the reason for doing that, but not much as the purposes doing interruption in agreement.

The researchers found that the purposes employed by participants are varied such as agreement with sixty-five cases. The purpose of an agreement interruption is often to show interest or enthusiasm, and involvement in the ongoing conversation. In the video of Ellen DeGeneres show, the current speaker and the next speaker talk about social life with the comfortable and enjoyable situation to show the next speaker is true about her journey to live, many people are curious about celebrity's life so that she becomes a star sharing much information so their conversation consists of the purpose of doing interruption is agreement. Agreement was probably the purpose of interruption done by participants because the next speaker or participants may want to interrupt to show understanding and support the partner's statement. Since the situations in the five videos were directly talking without a prepared scenario, the next speaker probably expressed their feelings for understanding and supporting utterance through interruption with agreement purpose.

Thus, the six purposes have their reason to do, except for the one purposes namely topic change with no case because in the video of Ellen DeGeneres Show the topic of conversation has no scenario and talk about the main guest's life so it not changed.

Conclusion and Suggestion

Conclusion

This chapter presents the final result of the analysis based on the two research questions. This study aimed to analyze types of interruption, and the purposes are done by the participant of Ellen DeGeneres Show's YouTube video. it can be concluded Ellen DeGeneres's show is a talk show talk about what happens with the second speaker's life, and it can found cooperative interruption that they do in the video, because cooperative interruption is the positive intention with the topic to talk about their social life. Based on obtained data, the dominant type of interruption was a cooperative interruption. Then, the speakers did six from seven purposes doing interruption in their utterances while conveying their opinion. The purposes doing interruption that appear in this research were; agreement, assistance, clarification, disagreement, floor-taking, topic-change, and tangentialization. The agreement

occurrences appear mostly in the video of Ellen DeGeneres show shows that the topic that they talk about completely shows their connection while doing the conversation with the relevant topic.

Suggestion

For the English students, The researchers gives suggestion for the English student that YouTube can be used in the teaching and learning process as a medium media to teach their students, to increase knowledge about interruption and another type of turn-taking, especially in linguistics such as Discourse Analysis course. The students majoring in linguistics are expected to learn more critically, especially the various theories they can find on the internet and libraries. So that students may understand linguistic materials easily.

For the other researchers, Future researchers are expected to do turn-taking irregularities with another genre of talk shows such as comedy, the present researchers did not use a questionnaire or interview so that it is a limitation to make a conclusion of the finding. Thus, if the other researchers develops other researches in turn-taking irregularity is still a very wide topic to analyze and develop.

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