THE USE OF UPGRADERS AND DOWNGRADERS IN LINE CHATS

A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* in the English Study Program

By

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17. J1. 0019

ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM

FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS

SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

Asking for help is a common occurrence that happens either directly or indirectly. People use various strategies in asking for help. In this research, the writer analyzed request strategies that university students used in Line chats using by university students using Blum-Kulka's theory. This study aimed to find out the kinds of syntactic and lexical downgraders and upgraders in Line chats. The participants in this study were students of a university in Central Java Semarang. The writer analyzed short messages containing requests for help via the Line chat application and found that the most commonly used strategies were downgraders. The writer also found that the downgrader strategy was dominant because students wanted to respect each other and understand the listener's condition.

Keywords: request strategies, downgraders, upgraders, Line chat

ABSTRAK

Meminta bantuan adalah kejadian umum yang terjadi baik secara langsung maupun tidak langsung. Dalam situasi ini ada berbagai macam strategi yang digunakan dalam meminta tolong kepada orang lain. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menganalisa strategi meminta tolong yang digunakan para mahasiswa dengan menggunakan teori Blum-Kulka. Responden dalam penelitian ini adalah para mahasiswa universitas swasta di Semarang. Penulis menganalisa pesan singkat yang mengandung permintaan tolong melalui aplikasi pesan Line untuk menemukan jenis *downgraders* dan *upgraders* yang digunakan antar mahasiswa. Penulis menemukan bahwa strategi permintaan tolong yang sering digunakan adalah strategi *downgraders*. Penulis juga menemukan bahwa strategi downgraders lebih dominan karena para mahasiswa ingin saling menghormati sesama dan mengerti kondisi pendengar.

Kata kunci: *request strategies, downgraders, upgraders, Line chats*