ABSTRACT

This research is entitled "Adverbial Hedging Construction in Movie Scripts (a study of pragmatics)" which raises hedging theory as a communication strategy in pragmatics field. Hedging is raised here because its function in manipulating the utterance; it is believed as a communication strategy used by the speaker to soften his/her utterance. When the speaker uses hedging, he/she can express his/her intention politely. There are some types of hedging constructions generally used by the speaker, but in this research, adverbial hedging construction is chosen because it has simple construction and occurs frequently in daily conversation especially in movie scripts. Hence, movie scripts are taken to be the data source in this research. However, there are some problems found when reading the movie scripts; they are: understanding the intention of the speaker with hedging construction and understanding the interpretation and the response of the hearer after listening to the speaker's utterance. Therefore, this research purposes to analyze the intention of speaker with hedging construction and the interpretation and the response of the hearer. Each analysis applies qualitative method described descriptively. The research shows that the speakers use adverbial hedging construction to approximate or shield their utterance and make them to be fuzzy or less fuzzy, so they can express their intention politely and reduce the negative impact of their utterance.

Keywords: Hedging, intention, interpretation, and response