

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Communication becomes an essential aspect for humans to connect with others. Humans use language as a tool of communication. Language can be used to express ideas, feelings, and opinions. The people who are involved in communication can consist of the speaker and the listener. Sometimes, the speaker utters the word or does an act that is distracting someone's feelings and it makes them feel uncomfortable. For example, the student who makes noises in the library will make another student feel uncomfortable. Therefore, an apology becomes the way to resolve this problem.

In pragmatics, apology is one kind of speech act that includes the expressive illocutionary act. An expressive speech act expresses what the speaker feels which is related to someone's psychology. It is related to someone's psychology because it expresses sorrow and regret. After all, she or he has offended the hearers. For example, the student delivered an apology to his teacher, "I am sorry, I came late". It shows his/her regret being coming late to class.

In human life, the apology uttered by a person who has offended someone's feelings is very important. It is because to maintain a good relationship with each other. Trosborg (1995: 373) states that the act of apologizing is a convivial speech act. The goal of which coincides with the social purpose of maintaining harmony between speaker and hearer. Therefore, an apology cannot be separated in human life.

The existence of an apology can be found in our daily life. Al-quraishy (2011: 45) stated, in doing the apologizing act, they should employ certain strategies of apologies. It is used to maintain the relationship at least reduce the offense to the offended. According to Trosborg (1995: 379) a person might say his regret directly, by uttering “apologize”, “be sorry,” or “excuse”. The other used the longer explanation or took on the responsibility that indirectly or implicitly showed his regret. For example, when a person forgot his old friend's name because he has not met him for a long time “Oh sorry, I can’t remember you. Can you tell me what your name is?” In this example, the apologizer uttered an apology with explanation.

In performing the speech act of apologizing, of course, there needs to be a strategy so that the speaker's apology can be accepted by the interlocutor. In keeping or maintaining good relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor there are some strategies according to Holmes (1990) namely: 1. Explicit expression of apology, which means the speaker uses the word, expressions, or sentences that contain appropriate performative verbs such as sorry. 2. Explanation or account which means the speaker does not say apology directly but the speaker explain what was happened 3. Acknowledgment of responsibility which means the apologizer admits to being the cause of the error. 4. Promise not to repeat, which means the speaker promises that he or she will not repeat the same mistakes.

Study on apology has been done by many researchers, many of them focused on the apology used by participants in an institution or society. Many also researched the Apology used by characters in a film, in a novel or some public

speakers. Most of them found that there were many apology strategies made by experts such as Holmes (1990) and Trosborg (1995) and the other experts were not all used by all participants but only a few, such as explicit expression, accepting blames, giving excuses and offering repairs.

In this study the writer find some previous studies related to saying Apology. The first study conducted by Sinta at university PGRI (UNIPMA) Jawa Timur, the researcher wants to find out the expressions of apology on learning English, the result of the study is all the participants express the apology based on the ages means that when a person say apology to his/her friend, she/ he may use impolite expressions but when the want to apologize to a person who older than them, they should use the polite expression, the second study is conducted by Sharokhi and Jan (2012), they want to investigate the apology speech act by Persian men native speaker. The result of this study is most of them express the apology act based on the situation in relation to contextual variables. The third study is conducted by Alfatah (2010), he wants to find out which is the strategy apology used by them, the result of this study is most of them used the Illocutionary indicating device (IFID). The fourth study is conducted by Bataineh (2006), he wants to find out the apology strategy use by male and female Jordanian students. The result is male Jordanian students used the strategy of blaming and victim and the female Jordanian students used the strategy moved towards avoiding the discussion of offense. The fifth study is conducted by Thasanee (1998), Thasanee wants to find out the apology strategy used by Thai students, the result of the study is the students used the strategies of explicit expression, accepting blames, giving excuses, offering repairs and efforts to

please addressee.

From the previous studies stated above, we can see that there many are many differences between this study. The differences are most of them study about Apology strategy, the participants were the students from senior high school up to university, the place of their study in abroad and focused on their study mostly on apology strategies used by students when apologizing. But in this study the writer will focus on some expressions of apology used by people in Oelneke village, TTU regency. The participants will be ordinary people, the writer does not know how many expressions in Uab Meto. So we will see the result.

The writer will take the research in Oelneke village which is most of people in Oelneke speak Uab Meto as their native language. The writer think that, they really know the language as well especially the expression of apology in Uab Meto.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background of this study, the writer specified the topic in a problem statement, what are the expressions used to apologize in Uab Meto?

1.3 Objective of the Study

This study has an objective. The objective go in line with the problem statement stated above is to find out the expressions of apology in Uab Meto used by people of Oelneke village, TTU Regency.

1.4 Significance of the Study

There are two general significances of this study. They are academic significance as theoretical in the world of linguistics and practical significance as Practical in everyday life (Perry, in Erom. 2012: 4).

1.4.1 Academic Benefits

Academic significance contributes something theoretical to world of linguistics The academic significance of this research are as follows

1. The results of this study can be a contribution to ideas about linguistic theory, especially those related to expressing apology to assist in communicating with Atoen Meto.
2. The results of this study can be used as the scientific information to enrich the literature on related studies in the future.
3. The results of this study can be a scientific reference for related studies for future researchers, especially regional language researchers.
4. The results of this study can be an additional source of reference for the maintenance and development of linguistics.

1.4.2 Practical Benefits

The practical significance that is expected to be achieved from the results of this study is as follows.

1. To provide the writer's linguistic knowledge and skills in how to conduct research scientifically.
2. To increase the writer's skills and knowledge in expressing apology in Uab Meto

3. Provide local cultural-linguistic information for English Department students in line with the vision and mission of English Education Study Program of Faculty of Teacher Training and Educational Sciences of Widya Mandira Catholic University Kupang