



## 2.2 Speech Acts

### 2.2.1 Definition of Speech Act

Speech act is a term that related to two basic things, they are speech and act/ action. Speech is a way of affecting actions or a way of doing things with words. Speech act is action that can be seen or depicted by saying something the speaker. According to Searle's opinion, the speech acts performed in the utterances of a sentence are in general a function of the meaning of the sentence. Yule states the term of speech act covers 'actions' such as 'requesting', 'commanding', 'questioning', and 'informing' (Yule, 1996:132). Recognizing the speech act that is being performed in the production of an utterance is important because speech act that in particular extent tells us what the speaker intends us to do with the propositional content of what was said.

Based on the opinions above, speech act can be defined as the action of a person that actually do through the language or in other sentence speech act is a unit of speaking and performs different functions in communication. It involves social acts such as to promise, to request, to offer, and the like. In communication, the speaker commonly expects that his or her communicative intention will be recognized and be understood by the hearer.

There are two important things that need to be considered in studying speech act, they are situation and context. According to Yule















Apology can be a negative politeness strategy when the speaker indicates his or her reluctance to impinge on the hearer's negative face and thereby partially redresses that impingement (1987: 187). Apology can be a positive politeness when the speaker concerns for the addressee's wellbeing, needs, interests, feelings, and so on.

#### **2.4 Apology**

Apology is an action of asking forgiveness. Apology is used to express regret for having offended and making inconvenient thing to someone which can damage a relationship. Apology is used to maintain relationship and the harmony after an offence occurred. Apology is an attempt by the speaker to make up some previous actions that interfered with the hearer's interests, counteracts the speaker's face wants (Blum kulka 1989).

Holmes (1992) considers apology as a speech act directed to the addressee's face need and intended to remedy an offense for which the speaker takes responsibility, and thus to restore equilibrium between the speaker and addressee. Searle (In Trosborg, 1994:373) states that apology has the effect of paying off a debt, thus compensating the victim for the harm done by the offence.

According to Trosborg (1995: 373), there are three roles involved in solving the unpleasant situation between the speaker and the hearer, which are a complainer or a person who complaint, complaine or a person who receive the complaint and a complaint or an expression of





























study focused on observing the way men and women use to apologize and trying to find out whether the apology strategies used by both groups correspond to the theory of politeness as well as to the theory of language and gender. Theory used in her study is the theory of apology speech act which is related to the theory of politeness and the theory of language and gender.

3. "The Apology Strategies Used by the Workers to the Old and Young Bosses" (Lili and Mardijono, 2011). Their study conducted the type of apology strategies used by the workers to the old and young bosses. The result of their study showed the most frequent apology strategy used by the workers to the old and young bosses was explanation or account. The workers applied more strategies (8 strategies) and combinations (7 combinations) of apology strategies to the old boss than to the young boss (3 strategies and 2 combinations).

Related to this study, the researcher concludes that this research has similar discussion, this thesis and previous discuss about the apology strategy. But, although each of the studies above identifies apology strategy this research quietly different from previous researchers. Nanny (2011), she only focuses on in the apology in women and men language gender by using Aijmere's theory in and Fasold theory about language gender. Fariba (2011), the focus of study is on common apology Persian based on corpus

