

## ABSTRACT

**Eka Rohmana, Ma'rifah. A03211023. 2015. Politeness Strategies of Refusals  
Used by The Children Characters in James W. Ellison's *Akeelah And  
The Bee* Thesis: English Department, Faculty of Letters and  
Humanities, State Islamic University Sunan Ampel, Surabaya.**

**Thesis Advisor: Murni Fidiyanti, M.A.**

The research investigated politeness strategy of refusals used by the children characters in James W. Ellison's Akeelah And The Bee. The data were classified using Brown and Levinson theory of Politeness Strategies that were divided into 5 super-strategies: Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald On Record, Off Record and Mixture Strategies. The results of the research were described in line with the problem statements as follows: First, the children characters of James W. Akeelah And The bee novel applied all kinds of Politeness Strategies in their refusals, and across five refusals functions (Command, Invitations, Offers, Request and Suggestion). Off Record strategy was the prominent strategy in their refusals especially in refusing Command. Second, the factors influencing the chosen strategy of children characters' refusals were Payoff and Relevant Circumstances that including Relative Power (P), Social Distance (D) and Size of Imposition (P). Thus, the tendency that children could not speak politely did not always happen that way. The result of the study showed that children could refuse others' request using politeness strategies, even they used indirect refusal that was Off Record strategy more frequent than others.

**Keywords:** Politeness Strategy, Children, Refusal

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Penelitian ini meneliti strategi kesopanan dalam penolakan digunakan oleh karakter anak dalam novel James W. Ellison, Akeelah And The Bee. Data diklasifikasikan menggunakan teori Strategi Kesopanan dari Brown dan Levinson yang dibagi menjadi 5 super-strategi: Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, Bald On Record, Off Record dan Mixture Strategi. Hasil penelitian ini dijelaskan sejalan dengan pernyataan masalah sebagai berikut: Pertama, karakter anak dalam novel James W. Ellison, Akeelah And Bee menggunakan semua Strategi Kesopanan dalam penolakan mereka, dan untuk menolak lima fungsi penolakan (Perintah, Undangan, Penawaran, Permintaan dan Saran). Strategy Off Record adalah strategi yang paling banyak digunakan dalam penolakan mereka terutama dalam menolak perintah. Kedua, faktor yang mempengaruhi pemilihan strategi dari penolakan mereka adalah Payoff dan Relevant Circumstance yang termasuk didalamnya: Relative Power (P), Social Distance (D) dan Size of Imposition (P). Dengan demikian, kecenderungan bahwa anak-anak tidak bisa berbicara sopan tidak selalu terjadi seperti itu. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa anak-anak bisa menolak permintaan orang lain menggunakan strategi kesopanan, bahkan mereka menggunakan penolakan tidak langsung yaitu Off Record lebih sering daripada yang lain.

Kata kunci: Strategi Kesopanan, Anak-anak, Penolakan