

## ABSTRACT

**Cindy, Revita Scorviana.** 2015. *Action Sequence Produced by the Host and the Guest in "Mata Najwa" talk show.* A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana degree of English Department Faculty of Humanities Airlangga University Surabaya

This study attempts to analyze the adjacency pair of action sequence produced by the host and the guests of *Mata Najwa* talk show. The data were taken from several episodes of *Mata Najwa* that have topics on political issue. The main objective of this study is to analyse whether the the host and the guests present the four action sequences: invitation, offer, request, apology and announcement in the institutional talk, especially talk show. In analyzing the pair of dialogues within those action sequences, Conversation Analysis (CA) by Emanuel A. Schegloff (2007) was used as the parameter. The final results indicate that the highest percentage of action sequence type in political issue is request sequences (55%), and the lowest precentage is offer sequence (15%). Nonetheless, basically the host does not apply the concept of "pre-sequence" when she produces action sequence. It is because the host actually knows about her guests, so that the host is unnecessary to use pre-sequence to identify the guest's condition before she expresses her sequences to the guests.

*Key Word: Conversation Analysis, Adjacency Pair, Action Sequences, Talk Show, the Host, the Guest*

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Television program has a lot of impressions and a very large role in shaping people's mindset and developing their insight. Television program is divided into two categories: information program and entertainment program. Information program consists of two types, which are hard news and soft news, while the entertainment program includes music, drama, games and performances (Morissan, 2008, p.207). According to Dominic (2004), the most dominant role of television program is to become a medium of entertainments, namely infotainment, edutainment and talk show. Among many entertainment media, talk show is one of the interesting television programs that attract audience's attention because it can provide both information and entertainment to the audience at the same time.

As stated by Timberg (2002), talk show has its own principles that make it distinct from any other form of television program and also from daily conversation. Timberg states that the first principle is talk show is anchored by a host who is responsible for the tone and direction, guides and sets the limit of the talk which is elicited from the guests. This principle gives the host a powerful status for presenting the talk show. The second principle is talk show is shared and experienced as a conversation in a present tense. The third principle is talk show is the product in broadcasting. The fourth principle is there is taking and

giving between a host and guests in talk show, even though the talk show is still highly structured and host-centered. On the other hand, the existence of the host is also important in a talk show; as an expert, the host also has an authority to handle the entire show and to decide when the guests can talk and when they have to stop. Moreover, s/he determines when the conversation begins and ends. For instance, the talk show host appears to have almost total control over the introduction of the main topics of the show.

Talk show sets in the institutional setting of a television studio. According to Tolson (2008), talk show has three defining features, such as: 1) this talk has some affinities with the patterns of verbal interaction, normally found in everyday conversation; 2) must be understood as “institutional”, that is, talk is produced in an institutional setting; 3) produced for, and oriented toward, an “overhearing audience”. It is a genre which design both to inform and to entertain (Tolson, 1991, p.178). That is why it shares the characteristics of both institutional and ordinary conversation.

There are many types of talk show, such as: 1) interview talk show. On an interview talk show, the host of the talk show interviews celebrities and experts about topics of their choice. Often, a celebrity will make an appearance on an interview talk show to discuss an upcoming project or movie release, while academic experts will appear to be interviewed when their subject of expertise comes up in the media in conjunction with a news even; 2) political talk show. Political talk shows exist to allow the guest and the host to discuss the political happen in the country. Political talk shows generally receive a spike in popularity

during presidential elections and other notable political events; 3) issue-based talk show. In these talk shows, guests appear on the show to discuss the issues that are going on in their lives. In many cases, these talk shows present sensationalized accounts of intricate relationship intrigue; 4) Comedic talk show. Talk shows with a comedic bent have been gaining in popularity in recent years. In these talk shows, a host provides comedic commentary on current events, celebrity scandals and other notable items of discussion. The focus during these talk shows is on being both entertaining and informative, with laughs taking precedence over the delivery of news (www.ehow.com).

In Indonesia, the number of talk show always increases every year. Every national television station has their own talk show programs. Some of the numerous talk shows broadcasted in Indonesia are such as *Kick Andy* in Metro TV, *Show Imah* in Trans TV, and *Hitam Putih* in Trans7. One of the well-known television talk shows in Indonesia is *Mata Najwa* talk show. It is awarded by several acclaimed institutions; Rolling Stone magazine. It announces *Mata Najwa* as the winner of Rolling Stone Editor's Choice Awards 2014 as Talk Show of the Year; The 15th Asian television award as Best Current Affair program; KPI award in 2011 as the best talk show (<http://matanajwa.com/read/about>). Based on its name, this talk show is conducted by Najwa Shihab as the host. *Mata Najwa* is a talk show which focuses on political issues in Indonesia.

From those explanations above, a conversation in talk show will run smoothly when it has at least two turns. In this case, the host gives several questions to the guest in order that the guest can respond the host's questions and

later, the answer of these questions contain some information to the audience and the viewer. When the host questions the guest, the host controls the direction of questioning. Conversation in the talk show may take a small form of talk similar to other natural conversations. In the talk show, both the host and the guests have the turn to talk freely about their topic, feeling and ideas. Every turn is closely related to another to which knits in sequence called adjacency pairs.

According to Pridham (2001), the adjacency pair of question-answer helps structure the conversation. For example, a question usually elicits an answer, a greeting elicits another greeting, and a request elicits an acceptance or refusal. In Schegloff's research, he identifies some patterns of sequences produced by first pair part, such as an invitation, an offer, an announcement, and a request called action sequence. Nonetheless, before the first pair part produces these sequences, the first pair part usually will give other statement first instead of saying it directly. This phenomenon is called as pre-sequence, since the first pair part wants to hear the respond first.

Action sequences used by the host and the guests in talk show can be analyzed through Conversation Analysis (CA) approach. From the 1970s onward, CA started to be used to analyse dialogue in institutional talk. Scholars used the generic finding of CA as a backdrop for their research into the spesific properties of talk in various institutional settings, such as turn-taking in the classroom lessons by McHoul; a pupil only speaks when the teacher has allocated the turn to them (McHoul, 1978). Characteristics of the kind of talk found in courtrooms during examination are opposed to conversation by Atkinson and Drew. One

salient aspect of examination is that there is a pre-determined format for talk, namely question and answer adjacency pairs. Each speaker is required to use either one or the other of these turns; the attorney asks the questions, and the witness answers (Atkinson and Drew, 1979). Furthermore, a related study has been conducted by Zimmerman toward 911 emergency calls. He has identified a wide variety of conduct in call to 911 emergency, ranging from recurring fine details in the opening sequences of the calls through, to massive consistencies in their overarching structure (Zimmerman, 1992).

Given the facts above, the writer is interested in analyzing conversations in a talk show in order to find out more information about action sequences used by the host and preferred and dispreferred response used by the guest in the talk show. The writer wanted focused on five action sequences, that is, invitation, offer, request, apology, and announcement sequence and its response in institutional situation. Moreover, the writer wants to analyze the conversation in a talk show which focuses on political issue. Political issue contain current issue in society, such as presidential election and other notable political events happen in the country. The data in this research are all utterances from the host and the guests in *Mata Najwa* talk show. There are some reasons which motivate the writer to take *Mata Najwa* talk show as the source of data in this study. It is known that *Mata Najwa* is very famous among people in Indonesia. This show discusses about political issues and public figure's life or something which happens in people's daily life. The host of the show is Najwa Shihab who is a senior journalist, while the guests are mostly the experts in their field. Another

reason is that *Mata Najwa* is a live show. It means that this show is being broadcasted at the same time the show is being performed. Usually, the answer from the guest happens spontaneously, naturally and without scenario. It is purely constructed by the speaker without any planning. Those facts provide an excellent situation to collect the data for this research.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

The writer seeks to investigate the adjacency pairs of action sequences by the host and the guests in *Mata Najwa*. In order to achieve the goals, she composes some questions related to the problem.

1. What types of of action sequences produced by the host and the guest in *Mata Najwa* talk show?
2. Which action sequences that is mostly produced by the host and the guest in *Mata Najwa* talk show?

## 1.3 Objectives of the Study

Since the writer will discuss about action sequences, the objectives of the study are to find and explain the types of action sequence in *Mata Najwa* talk show broadcasted on October 15th, 2014 and October, 22nd 2014. Then, from the data gathered, the writer will find the most frequent type of adjacency pairs used by the host and the guests in *Mata Najwa* talk show based on Schegloff's theory.

#### 1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give meaningful contribution in linguistic studies, especially conversation analysis which concerns on the type of initiating and responding of action sequences in institutional talk, particularly in television talk show. The writer considers that this study is able to show the readers numerous combinations of first and second pair parts which occur in institutional talk. This research can contribute to the basic idea for the next research related to action sequences in Indonesian conversations. This study is also expected to make an understanding of how people interact together when they are talking especially in formal situation, so they will know the characteristic pattern of action sequences. Besides, they people will avoid misunderstanding when they communicate with each other. In addition, the data can be helpful for other students who want to conduct a research in the conversation analysis (CA) field.

#### 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

There are several key terms which definition is essential in the comprehension of this study to avoid misinterpretation. The terms are:

Adjacency pairs : Composed of two turns produced by different speakers and the second utterance is identified as related to the first (Schegloff, 2007)

Conversation Analysis : Branch of applied linguistic which focus on the analysis of conversation which its data gathered from real situation (Schegloff, 2007)



**Sequence Organization** : The organization of courses of action enacted through turns at-talk – coherent, orderly, meaningful successions or sequence of actions or moves (Schegloff, 2007)