

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

As human being people need to interact to each other in their daily activities, one of the ways in interaction is making a conversation. In making a conversation, people or speakers commonly give explanation, information, and give praises or compliments to their addressee. Compliments have many functions that can give various positive effects for the addressee. Hatch (1994) states that there are four significant functions of compliments. First, to create a relation or link and smooth the shift from getting to the first topic of the conversation like “Nice work place, no doubt you stay here for a long time”. Second, compliments support and boost good performance like a teacher’s compliment to his/her student “I appreciate your presentation, Laras!”. Third, compliments can be used for thanking like person thanking for invited dinner “I have to say that your foods are so delicious, thank you for dinner”. And the last function of compliments is to soften censure like a boss does not satisfied enough to his/her employee’s work but still give compliment “I believe you guys are expert in this thing, let’s do the best to next project!”. Considering that people come from different backgrounds, ways of giving compliment may vary as well. People coming from different culture even different gender may have different way to compliment.

Research on this area of compliment has been conducted by many researchers and some of them studies distributed in compliment accros gender. Here are some result researches on compliment by male and female.

First, by Sun (2013) about gender based differences in complimenting behavior in English and Mandarin context concluded that women are more actively giving and receiving in complimenting behavior more than men, especially on the topic of appearance. As for responding to compliments, women tend to accept compliments, but men tend to choose out more often than women. Another study conducted by Sari and Apriana (2013) discussed about the differences between male and female in giving and responding to the compliment in American talk show "The Oprah Winfrey Show". The result of this study showed that both males and females frequently gave *Other* compliment topics. The compliment topics include commenting on a movie, scene of a movie, book's chapter, food, activity and so forth, then *Personality* and *Ability* are topics that they used in compliment after *Other* topics and *Appearance* and *Possession* are follow after. Topic of appearance was frequently used by women to women and also half of possession topic of compliment is used by women participants and another half used by men.

Furthermore, the researchers used Herbert (1989) for their responding of compliment. The finding of response of compliment is all of the compliment response used by men to respond men compliment included in non- acceptance which is *No-Acknowledgment* that means the addressee does not give sign of the compliment, she/he chooses shift the topic rather than responses the compliment (Herbert; 1989), while women response each other with *acceptance* and *non-acceptance* in same percent because women are more flexible. For different gender response of compliment men did not accept the compliment especially *No*

Acknowledgment more than accept the compliment. On the other hand, in response to the compliment, women use both *acceptance* and *non-acceptance* almost in the same percentage. In response to the compliment, women accept the compliment mostly use *appreciation token* which is “a spoken acceptance of compliment, acceptance not being semantically fitted to the specific of that compliment” and non-acceptance to the compliment mostly use *no-acknowledgment*. Once more, the study by Yusof and Hoon (2014) about how men and women celebrities in Malaysia gave and responded to the compliment using celebrities’ twitter accounts that they collected and analyzed. The result of this study showed that women artists tend to give compliments on appearance but men gave compliments on possession/skill, however this study shows that possession is the most topic that women chose to compliment men. Other is men responded to the compliment with acceptance and reassignment. They accepted the compliment for reducing the force of the compliment, they agreed with the compliments but indirectly.

There were numerous studies on giving and responding to compliments across gender and the aim of the present study is to explore the compliment between male and female in English conversation in a talk show named “Live! With Kelly and Michael” hosted by Kelly Ripa and Michael Strahan. The compliments will be analyzed as to their topics chosen and their responses to the compliment. The research questions are:

1. What are the most topics of compliments used by male and female?
2. What are the differences between male and female in responding to the compliment?