

PORTRAYING LEECH'S MODEL OF POLITENESS IN CAPITAL R RAKE BRIDGERTON SEASON 2

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ABSTRACT

This research portrays about the implementation of maxims of politeness in the first episode of Bridgerton Season 2, entitled Capital R Rake. The aim is finding out the maxims of politeness. The method used is qualitative descriptive method. The results shows that there are 15 data of Tact Maxim, 5 data of Generosity Maxim, 27 data of Approbation Maxim, 18 data of Modesty Maxim, 14 data of Agreement Maxim, and 7 data of Sympathy Maxim. The most maxim that appears is Approbation Maxim. The least maxim that appears in the movie is Generosity.

Keywords: Portraying, Maxim, Politeness, Principles, Leech.

1. INTRODUCTION

Because of the significant cultural differences, it is critical to recognize different countries' polite ways of speaking. Even though being polite is not an obligation or that all people must do it anytime they run into someone, there is always a specific reason for those people to act politely. In this study, the politeness discussed is about the way of speaking of the high social class in London in the first episode of the film series Bridgerton Season 2, entitled Capital R Rake. The researcher is interested in discussing this in order to find out how the high-social people in London implement politeness through the lenses of Leech..

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

To observe politeness, the researcher used the Gricean pragmatic account of politeness, Leech's Model, or the Politeness Principles (PP). Based on Leech's Model [5], the Politeness Principles (PP) consist of six maxims.

The first maxim is called TACT MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the cost and, at the same time, maximize the benefit to his or her interlocutor. For example, "May I come in for a moment?" This utterance is permission in order to enter a room. It can be seen by the use of the modal auxiliary verb "may" [3].

The second maxim is called GENEROSITY MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the benefit and at the same time maximize the cost to himself or herself. For example, "There is a shilling. No, keep the change." The speaker in this utterance minimized the benefit and maximized the cost [3]. In other words, the speaker was being generous to the interlocutor.

The third maxim is called APPROBATION MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is by giving compliments to the interlocutor. In other words, the speaker minimizes the dispraise and at the same time maximizes the praise for the interlocutor. For example, "It is amazing." [7].

The fourth maxim is called MODESTY MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the praise and at the same time maximize the dispraise of himself or herself. For example, "What a thoughtless creature I am, chattering away like this." The speaker is being modest in this utterance by stating that he or she is thoughtless [3].

The fifth maxim is called AGREEMENT MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize disagreement with himself or herself and at the same time maximize agreement with the

interlocutor. For example, A: That is a very sensible plan, isn't it? B: Indeed, it is. In this utterance, B is maximizing the agreement with A [3].

The last maxim is called SYMPATHY MAXIM. The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the antipathy and at the same time maximize the sympathy for the interlocutor. For example, "So you are quite alone. How dreadfully sad that must be." In this utterance, the speaker is maximizing sympathy [3].

Research on politeness does not necessarily only apply to films. It can be seen from a research conducted by [1], which discussed about politeness. The object being studied is an elementary school teacher with the aim of building the students' character. The findings showed that the teacher has employed six maxims, namely tact, generosity, approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy.

The next research discussed about how the maxims were applied in one of the Shakespeare's stories entitled *The Merchant of Venice*. Their findings revealed that there are six (6) maxims applied such as tact, approbation, and generosity. In addition, contextually, the other maxims such as sympathy, agreement and modesty gave the idea in both aspects [6].

The last previous research discussed how a customer and the shop owner in an online merchandising business interacted by applying the maxims. The findings showed that the Generosity Maxim was applied where the customer was given a lot of benefits. The shop owner offered a coupon so that the customer felt comfortable with what had happened after the customer received the product. She also found the Tact Maxim was applied to make sure that the customer would still shop by offering free shipping and a two-year warranty. The Approbation Maxim was applied by maximizing the compliment to keep the customer shopping. The Modesty Maxim was applied by apologizing to the customer because of the delay in sending the customer's products. The owner also admitted that there were many corrections to be made in order to improve the quality [4]. It can be concluded that this topic can be observed in many kinds of context or situation..

3. RESEARCH METHOD

A descriptive-qualitative method is used in this research. In this research, the researcher collects the data by This research uses qualitative methods. The results are reported in the form of a report, following the techniques of collecting data, organizing, and analyzing the data [8]. The data collected are taken from the first episode of *Bridgerton Season 2*, entitled *Capital R Rake*. After gathering the data, the researcher organizes it using [5] Politeness Principles (PP). The Politeness Principles consist of six (6) maxims such as tact, approbation, generosity, modesty, agreement, and sympathy. After organizing the data based on the maxims, the data are then chosen randomly to be analysed.

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.1. RESULTS

The total data found in the first episode of *Bridgerton Season 2*, entitled *Capital R Rake* are 88. There are 15 data of TACT MAXIM, 5 data of GENEROSITY MAXIM, 27 data of APPROBATION MAXIM, 18 data of MODESTY MAXIM, 14 data of AGREEMENT MAXIM, and 7 data of SYMPATHY MAXIM. The following part is the discussion of the chosen data.

4.2. DISCUSSION

TACT MAXIM

The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the cost and, at the same time, maximize the benefit to his or her interlocutor. It can be seen in the following data:

DATA 1

00:00:55,555 --> 00:01:00,977

Anthony : She's requested time.

Daphne : We do not have time. Stand back.

Benedict : *No offense, Sister*, but you are the last person she'd like to see

Benedict Bridgerton, the second Bridgerton son, utters this utterance. He, his siblings, and his mom are waiting for Eloise, the second daughter. It is Eloise's turn to attend a ball in order to get a companion. It is, to a certain extent, challenging for Bridgerton's family to persuade Eloise to join because Eloise does not want a companion thus far. On the other hand, for their family, it is indispensable. She must at least do

something such as wearing a very lovely gown. Her mother and siblings held out hope because her first sister, Daphne, had found a respectable man at the ball the previous season.

When it was time for the ball, Daphne came. She has an expectation that they are ready to go. However, she saw her mom and her siblings, standing in front of Eloise's bedroom, waiting for Eloise to come out. She reasoned that by being firm with Eloise, she would save time. Thus, she asked everyone to stand back. There is only a little time. She wants her to hurry and be ready as soon as possible. She does not want the Queen being disrespectful because they are late. They deserve the Queen's attention.

Benedict seems to understand how Eloise feels about attending the ball, in which she is not interested at all. He sees how Daphne commented on her taking such a long time in order to be ready. He does not want either Eloise or Daphne to suffer because of the ball. He trusts them both, as they are his sisters. In such a way, Benedict applied a tact maxim by saying, "*No offense, Sister,*" Benedict minimizes the cost to Daphne and at the same time maximizes the benefit. The benefit is by knowing her second older brother respects her. A minute later, Eloise comes out of her room, and she looks stunning in her dress.

DATA 2

01:03:01,611 --> 01:03:09,452

Edwina : A man who knows what he wants is most admirable.

Anthony : *Is your father in attendance? I should like to speak with him.*

Anthony finally finds a woman who he thinks suits him. She is young, pretty, and competent. She is the one that he is searching for based on his list. She is Edwina Sharma. In order to find out what Edwina is good at, Anthony asks many questions during the dancing. Edwina has been well taught by her sister Kate, and she showed herself splendidly in front of Anthony. Edwina likes him too. He is the man that she has been searching for thus far.

Anthony is mesmerized by Edwina's presence and believes she is the one. He wishes to marry her as soon as possible. Of course, by introducing himself and having her father's approval, marrying her will not be so difficult. Thus, he applied a tact maxim by saying, "*Is your father in attendance? I should like to speak with him.*" Maximizes the benefit and minimizes the cost to Edwina is the goal of this utterance. In addition, it is also a proof that Anthony really wishes to marry Edwina.

GENEROSITY

The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the benefit and at the same time maximize the cost to himself or herself. It can be seen in the following data:

DATA 3

00:25:01,917 --> 00:25:21,728

Edwina : Are you thinking of wearing that one? It is quite beautiful.

Kate : No. These are for you, Bon. We have come to London to find your husband, not mine.

Edwina : Yes. You are but a dear old maid.

Kate : Ah. Who shall be perfectly happy doting on my many nieces and nephews one day soon. *I shall spoil them exceedingly.* You do know that, yes?

Before the ball, Kate, Edwina's older sister, looks at the mirror, contemplating how beautiful Edwina's dress for the ball is. It seems like Kate wants to find a husband as well, but her and her mama's aim is only to find a husband for Edwina. She thinks that she does not deserve such a beautiful dress at this moment. When Edwina entered the room and found out Kate was looking at the mirror, she praised that the dress fitted her. Yet, Edwina's praise reminds her that the dress is not for her.

Kate immediately turns the conversation and focuses on Edwina's future. In the future, she will have many nieces and nephews. As an aunt, she must be a generous one. Thus, her utterance contains generosity maxim that says, "*I shall spoil them exceedingly.*"

DATA 4

00:09:05,503 --> 00:09:11,133

Penelope: So it's 18, not a penny more. *And the delivery boys need a wage increase.*

Penelope is in charge of sending the paper to the printing shop. She is also in charge of writing the scandal among London's high society. However, in society, no one knows who writes the paper, which is full of scandalous stories. This printing shop, owned by Mr Harris, employs some little boys in order to deliver the paper. Penelope has been the customer since last season's ball. As a result, she knows who delivers the paper and how the owner treats the delivery boys.

Since the scandal in high society arises, Mr. Harris' income increases. His printers will not stop working whenever Mrs. Whistledown submits her writing. Mr. Harris thinks that Penelope will not pay any attention to his boys because she comes from high society. He thinks that she does not care about money. However, it turns out the other way that Penelope is a good young girl. She values all the little boys who have worked hard to deliver all of the papers to society. They even run as fast as they can to distribute the newspapers on time, otherwise, Penelope will be furious.

Penelope knows the little boys' hard work. In order to value it, she acted generously by ordering Mr. Harris to increase their salary. In other words, she applies generosity maxim by saying, "***And the delivery boys need a wage increase.***"

APPROBATION

The implementation of this maxim is by giving compliments to the interlocutor. In other words, the speaker minimizes the dispraise and at the same time maximizes the praise for the interlocutor.

DATA 5

00:17:48,150 --> 00:17:55,991

Edwina : A true pleasure, Lady Danbury.
I am so grateful for your hospitality.
Your home, it is magnificent.

Edwina, Kate, and her mom, Lady Mary, arrive at Lady Danbury's house a day before the ball. They had a long journey from India to London. On the other hand, they are so happy that they are finally going to attend the popular ball. Because Lady Danbury is responsible for their stay, she prepares everything they need in order to win as the Queen's diamond for this second season.

Lady Danbury has made her house as beautiful as possible for her guests. She wants her guests to feel comfortable during their stay. Thus, Edwina adores Lady Danbury's house and applies the approbation maxim by giving a compliment about Lady Danbury's house: "***Your home, it is magnificent.***" This also shows that Edwina does appreciate Lady Danbury's kindness for welcoming them wholeheartedly.

DATA 6

00:59:32,068 --> 00:59:40,076

Eloise : I can feel people's eyes on me.
Every time I walk into a ballroom, I know they are comparing me to Daphne.
She was so good at being the diamond and it made my mother so happy.

Bridgerton's family is always a family that people like to talk to during the season as they are all very respectable. Besides that, it can be said that Mrs Bridgerton is successfully raising them, especially in terms of manners. Eloise, at the end, feels so much pressure for being one of the women that many men at the ball want. She holds the title "the Bridgerton".

On the first night of the ball, Eloise managed to escape from the ball because of Mrs. Whistledwon, the author of the gossip that happens in their surroundings. Then, Mrs Whistledown's writing caused chaos, and the ball was then cancelled. She then thinks that there is no need for her anymore to amaze the Queen. The ball is still on-going. It cannot be ended until the Queen finds the diamond. At the ball, Eloise, her two older brothers, and her mom come to say hello to the Queen. She has prepared her speech. A speech that is able to make the Queen dislike her. However, she is the Bridgerton. All eyes are on her family, not only the Queen. Her plan failed. The Queen likes her even more.

At the end of this episode, she talks about how she feels during the ball. The pressure that people and her family put on her. How her plans failed and trapped her more and more. She does not wish for a husband thus far, but time seems to be on people's side. The pressure she has right now comes from her sister, Daphne, who has successfully amazed not only the Queen but also the people around her. Her utterance that says, "***She was so good at being the diamond***" contains approbation maxim, a compliment to her sister. Even though she dislikes the ball, it does not mean she dislikes her sister.

MODESTY

The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the praise and at the same time maximize the dispraise of himself or herself.

DATA 7

00:20:05,662 --> 00:20:21,970

- Lady Danbury** : Any suitable gentleman will require some persuading, whether we like it or not, as she will already be regarded as an old maid at the mature age of...
- Kate** : Six and twenty, ma'am. *But it should truly be of no concern, as I assure you I am not here to find a husband for myself,*

Kate and her mom's goal for attending the ball is to find a husband for Edwina. However, Lady Danbury is concerned about Kate, who is now mature enough to be married to a man if it is related to her age. She thinks that Kate needs to find a husband too. From their conversation, it seems that Kate acknowledges it. However, she cannot be selfish and she only focuses on her sister. Thus, she is being modest and putting aside what seems to be true. The maxim she applies in this context is modesty. Although she is mature enough, she shows everyone that everything is all right by saying, "*But it should truly be of no concern, as I assure you I am not here to find a husband for myself,*"

DATA 8

00:28:44,514 --> 00:28:54,733

The Queen : Lady Danbury. A delightful soiree, as expected. Though my own later this week will be much more exclusive.

Lady Danbury : *Your Majesty, I would not think to compare.*

For this second season's ball, Lady Danbury is responsible as the host. A week later, it will be the Queen's turn. Lady Danbury really tries her best to make this season run successfully. She likes to watch how young ladies and gentlemen get acquainted with one another, and if they like each other, she will support them until they get married.

Lady Danbury chooses a theme that is full of flowers. People who attended the ball fit their dresses perfectly. The Queen, who is the one and only person responsible for choosing a diamond, seems happy and satisfied with the decoration and the people. She can see how delighted the moms, the ladies, and the gentlemen are in order to find their future partner.

Even though the Queen gives compliments about the ball, Lady Danbury absolutely has no intention of bragging about how successful the ball is, though she could. Lady Danbury applies the maxim of modesty by saying, "Your Majesty, I would not think to compare." This utterance can also be considered a tact maxim because Lady Danbury does not want to degrade her Queen for her next turn as a host.

AGREEMENT

The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize disagreement with himself or herself and at the same time maximize agreement with the interlocutor.

DATA 9

00:01:55,115 --> 00:02:04,666

The Queen : Apathy is a blight the monarchy simply cannot endure.

Lady Danbury : *Of course, Your Majesty.* But remember, a young lady cannot be a diamond until you anoint her as such.

Last season, the ball was successfully held. The Queen was very proud of herself as she had finally found a true diamond. She bragged about it all the time. She wishes the same for this second season. Her curiosity made her impatiently wait for the ball to start. The curiosity that haunts Her Majesty is who will be crowned as a diamond. However, to find a diamond among the ladies in their high society requires many requirements. In addition to that, it is sad but true that many ladies wish to marry but only a few gentlemen wish the same. Therefore, the Queen finds a diamond based on the ladies' personalities or their inner beauty, such as passion, enthusiasm, attentiveness, etc.

As the Queen stated that she is not going to tolerate apathy because it is dangerous for the monarchy, Lady Danbury agrees. In other words, she applies maxim of agreement by saying, "*Of course, Your Majesty.*"

DATA 10

00:02:15,718 --> 00:02:25,770

The Queen : Perhaps the writer came to her senses. Perhaps she realized taking on her queen was a bad idea, and she will never publish again.

Lady Danbury : *It is a convincing theory, ma'am.*

Although the ball in the first season was run successfully, it could not be valued as perfection because there was an author called Lady Whistledown, who kept on writing about her ideas every time a ball ended. The Queen and all of the people in high society somewhat agree and disagree about her opinion.

This season, they are not sure that the lady will be there. Watching them from afar and observing every step and word they make and utter. Thus, aside from thinking about who will be anointed as a diamond, the Queen is haunted by this lady too. Is she going to come back? What will she be writing? It is because she did not publish any papers after the first season ended.

The Queen hopes that she will not be writing anything about the ball anymore. That is why the Queen is thinking that she has stopped writing by stating some theories. It makes sense for Lady Danbury, and she agrees with those theories. In other words, Lady Danbury applies maxim of agreement by saying, "*It is a convincing theory, ma'am.*"

SYMPATHY

The implementation of this maxim is when a speaker has to minimize the antipathy and at the same time maximize the sympathy for the interlocutor

DATA 11

00:25:37,619 --> 00:25:48,713

Edwina : *Mama is doing that thing she always does when she is worried. The gossip she endured after marrying Appa had to have been unbearable, do you not think?*

Kate : Is this what troubles you? That was many years ago.

Lady Mary was once a Lady like other Ladies in high society. However, she turned out to marry an ordinary widower who had already had a child. A man from India. As a Lady, she was supposed to be married to a man from the same class. Long after she got married and had a daughter, she never came to London as her parents opposed her marriage. She is not welcome at all.

To be accepted in her family again, Lady Mary must match up Edwina, her biological daughter, with one of the gentlemen at the ball. She is the one who is of British descent. She must marry someone of the same social class. Indeed, it is not going to be easy. She is sure that many people will talk about her, as they like. Edwina and Kate know her mother well. However, Edwina spots how worried her mother is about their presence later on, at the ball. She shows her sympathy by saying, "*Mama is doing that thing she always does when she is worried. The gossip she endured after marrying Appa had to have been unbearable, do you not think?*" She is also afraid that no gentleman will like her because of their past history. Luckily, Kate is there to calm her.

DATA 12

00:47:14,706 --> 00:47:38,063

Anthony : The woman I marry shall be the Viscountess Bridgerton. The lady of this household, responsible for launching my sisters and bearing my children. Do you desire them to be raised by a woman who does not know how to so much as hold a map right side up? This is the duty I must fulfill.

Mrs. Bridgerton : *You will end up alone with such expectations.*

As the second season of the ball has started, Anthony, Mrs. Bridgerton's eldest son, is considering finding a wife. He had asked for his father's engagement ring too, which made his mom quite surprised. Mrs. Bridgerton knows her son very well. There is a time when she doubts her son's willingness to marry. She is worried that Anthony makes a wrong decision or is in too much of a hurry to get married.

While they are talking about a woman he would like to marry, he is exactly saying that this woman must be able to replace his mom's position. She is not only a wife to him and a mother to his children, but also a sister to all of his siblings in the future. It is too perfect. This is why Mrs. Bridgerton shows her sympathy by saying, "*You will end up alone with such expectations.*" She is very worried that Anthony will not even find the exact woman he wants.

5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The Leech's Model of Politeness which consists of six (6) maxims, is found in this research. The most maxim appears is Approbation Maxim. Based on the findings and the context, it is because the high-class society appreciated the little things someone did for them. They do not stop to be thankful, especially when Lady Danbury is willing to invite Lady Mary and her two daughters, Kate and Edwina, to attend the ball for the second season. Kate and Edwina keep on giving compliments to show how grateful they are for Lady

Danbury's hospitality. Another finding about this maxim that can be drawn to a conclusion is how people give compliments to the Queen in order to attract attention. However, Lady Danbury gave compliments to the Queen in order to show that she respected her.

The least maxim that appears in the movie is Generosity. Based on the findings and the context, it is because the high class society is all rich people. The generosity found in this research is about being indebted or it is applied because of pity, especially when Penelope asked the owner of the printing shop to increase the delivery boy's salary. For future research, the researcher suggests other researchers find violation maxims..

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