CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of study

Language is a tool used by human to interact or communicate each other. The language is used to convey what is in our minds and what we feel. By using language we can express our ideas to the people around us. Language is one of the important things in communication. We adapt our talk to suit our audience and talk differently to children, friend to friend, customers and colleagues. We use language differently in formal and casual contexts. The purpose of talk will also affect its form. (Holmes, 2008:285)

Language meaning can be analysed at several levels, are of them in pragmatic level. According to Peccei (1999:2), pragmatic concreates on those aspect of meaning that can't be predicted by linguistic knowledge and takes into account our knowledge about the physical and social world.

Language has a wider sense than speech because language refers to speaking, writing, and gesturing. We, for instance, recognize spoken language, written language, body language and gestural communications of the deaf and dumn etc. Linguistics only deals with spoken language (speech) and written language.

One of the functions of language is an instrument in communication. According to Lewis and Slade (1994:4), communication is the sharing of ideas,

knowledge or feeling. To get an effective communication, the listeners should understand the exact information or idea that the speaker intends. In a conversation, we often do not speak in complete sentence and rarely say what we mean literally so the listeners could interpret the meaning differently.

An endangered language is a language that may soon vanish, ceasing to be used as a vehicle of communication, perhaps even disappearing completely from human history. As the contributions to this issue show, an endangered language is not necessarily a minority language, and not every minority language is necessarily endangered. But there is a high probability that with time a neglected minority language will become endangered.

It is asserted that as long as mutual intelligibility is found, it is one language, no matter whether its speakers are separated by social barriers and geographical borders. But for many sociolinguists mutual intelligibility alone is not enough to give a shared speech the status of a complete language.

Then what does constitute a language? "What it takes to make a language is not a set of structural linguistic properties or lack of intelligibility with related linguistic systems, but rather the conviction that the linguistic system in question is a symbol of nationalist or ethnic identity. There are cases around the world of the two logical possibilities—cases in which mutually unintelligible linguistic varieties belong to the same language and others where mutually intelligible varieties are separate languages". (Fasold, 1999, p. 1)

In doing communication, people may not realize that spoken or written sentences also carry a function. As an example, if a girl says "What a beautiful day!" it carries a function named expressive function. Expressive function is to express personal feelings, thoughts, ideas, and opinions with different choice words, intonations, etc.

From the example above, people can see that the sentence is expressive because the girl shows her feelings. The purpose of this function actually is to tell others what is in the speaker's mind so that the hearer will know if the person is happy, sad, or the other expression.

This function is included into the speech function. It is the best way of communicating with others. It serves as the communication in school, at home, and other places we are communicating. This function can make the communication become easier to understand so the speaker and the hearer can achieve the same perception.

There have been some previous researches related on the language function in Andrie Wongso's book entitled "*15 Wisdom and Success*" by Dedi Irawan (2012). His study is intended to described the types of language function and analysis of the sentence or the speaker's intention in his speech. The study of Dedi Irawan inspired the writer in establishing the procedure of the data analysis.

The writer is interested in conducting this research on Ellen DeGeneres show because a talk show gave entertainment or inspiration to the audiences in Ellen DeGeneres show. The writer chooses three episodes which invited the

important guests such as; Barrack Obama (President of United States), Lady Gaga (Sensasional Actress) and Ann Curry (Actress).

A conversation not only depends on the speaker, who is trying to deliver a message, but also on the listeners who draw a conclusion from the implication of the utterance, depending on the context in which it occurs. The conversation, itself, as a reciprocal act, retains specific rules and regulation. (Parvaneh and Nikan, 2011:122), it consists of two kinds; written such as movie script and spoken such as talk show or interviews in television.

A talk show is a television program or radio in which people, especially distinguishes people, and is invited to talk in informal way about various topics. Sometimes, talk show prioritizes a panel of guests; it usually consists of noted people or a group of people who have great experiences which still relate to the issues which is discussed on the show for that episodes.

The speech was better in subjects born with a post alveolar cleft than in subjects born with a complete cleft. British journal of prastic surgery, vol 7 (229-241)

The writer realizes that communication in talk show is effective if the purpose of the communication can be gained well so that the speaker and the hearer have same perception of what they are talking about. But in fact, sometimes people do not know of what the speaker means and it can made the hearer become misunderstanding or misinterpretation which can be influenced by the intonation, tone of voice, and contexts.

This make the writer wants to analyze conversation between host and guests by using the speech function method.

B. The Problem of Study

The problems of the study were fomulated as the following:

1. What are the types of speech function that is used by Ellen DeGeneres in Ellen DeGeneres Show?

2. What is the dominant type of speech function that is used by Ellen DeGeneres in Ellen DeGeneres Show?

3. What does the dominant type of speech function imply in that Talk show?

C. The Objective of the Study

Related to the background, the objectives of the study were formulated as following:

1. To find out the types of speech function that is used by Ellen DeGeneres in talk show

2. To find out the dominant type of speech function that is used by Ellen DeGeneres in Ellen DeGeneres Show.

3. To describe the use of the dominant type of speech function used in Ellen DeGeneres Show.

D. The Scope of the Study

In this research, the study was limited on the speech function as found in the utterances of the host, Ellen DeGeneres, based on Janet Holmes's theory (expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistics, poetic and phatic). The data were taken from three episodes of Ellen DeGeneres show that invited some actress, one of them is "Ann Curry uses Ellen DeGeneres interview to push gay marriage"

E. The Significance of the Study

The finding of this study was expected to give both theoretical and practical contribution in discourse studies, especially in analyzing the speech function used by some people in their communication.

Theoretically, this study was expected to be useful for the application of the relevant sociolinguistics theory about speech function. Practically, the research findings of the study were expected to be useful for the students of university to understand how to analyze speech function and for the other researchers, who will conduct the next research to use this study as a reference.