

# CONVERSATION ANALYSIS IN *THE MAN WHO KNEW INFINITY* MOVIE

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## Abstract

Movie is one of literature works which are interesting to discuss. One of them is *The Man Who Knew Infinity*. There are educational value such as respect to other, freedom and expression, tolerance, honour, and patient in this movie. The objectives of the research are to describe the conversation in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie by Harvey Sack theory, and to describe the effect of conversation. This study uses a descriptive qualitative research design with conversation analysis which is developed by Harvey Sack. To collect the data, the researcher uses documentation method. The movie conversation analyzed by using the model of conversation analysis by Harvey Sack consists of three elements: turn-taking, adjacency pairs, and sequences. In this research, the researcher found two interruptions in turn-taking. In adjacency pairs, it is found out one a blame and a denial, three a question and an answer, one a complaint and an apology. For the sequences, there are two sequences in this movie conversation. The effects of interruption are the feelings of mad, depressed, and disappointed toward other people opinion or treatment. The effects of adjacency pairs are good response or rejection. The effect of sequences is easiness to response an utterance.

**Keywords:** Conversation Analysis; Movie; Harvey Sack

## Abstrak

Film adalah salah satu karya sastra yang sangat menarik, salah satunya adalah *The Man Who Knew Infinity*. Terdapat pendidikan moral seperti kepedulian terhadap sesama, kebebasan dalam berekspresi, toleransi, penghormatan, dan kesabaran di dalam film ini. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk menjelaskan percakapan dalam film *The Man Who Knew Infinity* menggunakan teori Harvey Sack, dan menjelaskan pengaruh percakapan tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan model penelitian deskriptif kualitatif dengan menggunakan analisis percakapan yang dikembangkan oleh Harvey Sack. Untuk mengumpulkan data, peneliti menggunakan metode dokumentasi. Percakapan film ini dianalisa menggunakan model analisis percakapan oleh Harvey Sack yang terdiri dari tiga unsur yaitu alih tutur, percakapan berdampingan, dan urutan. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menemukan dua interupsi di dalam alih tutur. Dalam percakapan berdampingan, ditemukan satu pasang menyalahkan dan penyangkalan, tiga pasang pertanyaan dan jawaban, satu pasang keluhan dan permintaan maaf. Dalam urutan, ditemukan dua urutan di dalam percakapan film ini. Efek interupsi adalah perasaan marah, tertekan dan kecewa terhadap pendapat atau perlakuan orang lain. Efek percakapan berdampingan adalah respon baik atau sebuah penolakan. Efek urutan adalah lebih mudah untuk menanggapi sebuah ungkapan.

**Kata kunci:** Analisis Percakapan; Film; Harvey Sack

## INTRODUCTION

Discourse analysis is a broad term for the study of the ways in which language is used in texts and contexts. The analysis of discourse is, necessarily, the analysis of language in use. Discourse analysis is frequently equated with conversational analysis, and pragmatics with speech act theory (Tannen, Hamilton, & Schiffrin, 2015: 139). Discourse analysis explains briefly the scope of applied linguistic related with language and education in order to the reader easy to understand the purpose of discourse analysis itself. Conversation analysis is one of approach to discourse analysis.

Conversation analysis is one of the most influential approaches in linguistic research. Conversation analysis helps people to make good practice of interaction when they speak with someone else. Conversation analysis is the way to study social and interaction with focuses on speaking in real situation. Good interaction that produced is brings them to enjoy and relax communication. Arifin & Suprayitno (2015) emphasized that conversation becomes one of the most common language forms which is used by people in daily life.

Conversation analysis is an approach to the study of human interaction in society (Gee and Handford, 2013: 120). Conversation analysis is also distinguished by a methodology that exploits the affordances provided by recorded interaction as a form of data (Gee and Handford, 2013: 120). Conversation analysis studies the organization and orderliness of social interaction (Anthony, 2008: 6). Conversation analysis is analysis of real-world, situated, contextualized talk (Anthony, 2008: 7). Conversation analysis allows order to emerge from the data without an intervening layer of theoretical constructs and allows for

the determination of the organizing principles that are used and oriented to by the speakers themselves (Anthony, 2008: 7). Conversation analysis is a unique way of analyzing language and social interaction (Wong and Waring, 2010: 5). Conversation analysis helps us to get closer and understand more how to make good interaction with specific, systematic and pedagogic. Conversation analysis is the way to study social and interaction with focuses on speaking in real situation.

Conversation analysis offer a wealth of knowledge that can make our understanding of interactional competence more specific, more systematic, and pedagogical sound (Wong and Waring, 2010: 9). Even within Conversation Analysis, there is no clear or precise conceptualization and definition of *activity*, at least relative to concepts such as 'turn' and 'sequence' (Sidnell and Stivers, 2012: 259). Conversation Analysis has provided the methodological resources to develop a burgeoning corpus of studies of embodied action, studies that are making an increasingly important contribution to our understanding of social interaction and the interdependencies of talk,

Conversation Analysis is *unmotivated inquiry*, an approach to the analysis of talk in which the investigator as much as possible puts aside or brackets assumptions about how a domain of human action does or could operate (Sidnell and Stivers, 2012: 18). Conversation Analysis is meant to be a kind of exploration, the goal of which is the discovery of previously unknown regularities of human interaction (Sidnell and Stivers, 2012: 77). Goal of Conversation Analysis is to identify the actions that participants in interaction do and to describe the particular practices of conduct that they use to accomplish them (Sidnell and Stivers, 2012: 78).

Conversation analysis focuses on the discovery of the patterns whereby people

orient themselves (and each other) to specific dimensions of some underlying normative order (Tannen, Hamilton, and Schiffrin, 2015: 253). Conversation analysis, on the other hand, examines the relation *between* practices of speaking and actions-in-talk within sequences. (Sidnell, 2013: 73). Conversation analysis is one of a number of approaches to the study of spoken language.

There are unwritten conventions about taking turns, and observable pairs of utterance (Cutting, 2002: 29). They are: (1) turn-taking, cooperation is managed by all participants through turn-taking. In most cultures, generally speaking, only one person speaks at a time: speakers take turns, first one talking and then another; (2) adjacency pairs, is a relation between acts, and that conversation contains frequently occurring patterns, in pairs of utterances. Such a terminal exchange is presented as a member of a class of utterance sequences, which is called 'adjacency pairs' (Ten Have, 2007: 20); (3) sequences, conversation analysts claim that as speakers are mutually constructing and negotiating their conversation in time, certain sequences, which are stretches of utterances or turns, emerge.

*The Man Who Knew Infinity* is an interesting movie for the researcher in this movie, the researcher found interesting parts to be analyzed. When Ramanujan and Prof. Hardy are discussing Ramanujan's proofs, both of them involved dissent and made them quarrel. In this situation their conversation makes the researcher want to be analyzed. This part of the movie involves harmony among thinking process, utterance, expression, gesture and feeling, that makes the atmosphere of this part really life and interesting to be analyzed.

Educational values that can be taken from this part are respect for others, freedom and expression, tolerance, honor, and patience. Prof. Hardy and Ramanujan try to be understood by each other, Prof. Hardy with his old ways to conduct Ramanujan to be successful found his proofs. Ramanujan with all of his limitedness is trying to accept and adapt with Prof. Hardy's ways.

The related research is needed to support this research. The research of conversation analysis was done by some researchers, as follows: Stivers (2015) analyzed the formal coding of interaction behavior is not necessarily antithetical to conversation analysis. This article discussed the aspects of conversation analysis methods that form a natural basis for formal coding and then goes on to contrast non-conversation analysis-grounded formal coding with conversation analysis-grounded formal coding. The next, Weiste and Perakyla (2014) discussed the uses of formulation in cognitive psychotherapy and psychoanalysis were compared, by means of conversation analysis, using 53 audio-recorded sessions as data.

Other relevant studies conducted by Miller (2016). His paper provides a brief introductory outline of the conversation analytic method, and some of its applications in health research. He draws on extant literature and an illustrative original case study of suicide risk assessment in primary care, the core tenets and techniques of the approach are described. Stokoe and Speer (2015) investigated a conversation analytic approach to language and sexuality. This paper reviewed briefly the controversial debates about the analytic tractability of identity topics, like sexuality and gender, in the conversation analytic tradition. Another relevant research is conducted by Dixon and Mayne (2017). Their study explored the use of modified form of conversation

analysis to explore role identity construction of two primary school-aged children (male and female) in the Jamaican context. The researchers found analysis of the conversation also revealed that both children displayed different stages of role construction during the conversation. Implications for curriculum and teaching are discussed.

Considering the growing body of research on the conversation analysis, the present research is intended to describe the conversation in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie by Harvey Sack theory, and to describe the effect of conversation that found in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie.

## **METHOD**

Design of the research uses a scientific approach that systematic to analyze and describe the problem. The function of the method is to elaborate a problem, describe, and explain clearly, and understandable. Research design is a plan for collecting and analyzing evidence that will make it possible for the investigator to answer whatever questions he or she has posed (Flick, Kardoff, and Steinke, 2004: 146). Qualitative research is an immensely diverse set of practices, involving an increasingly large subject-disciplinary range (Seale, Gobo, Gubrium, and Silverman, 2004: 2). Discourse research is mainly qualitative because it is inherently interpretive (Davies and Elder, 2004: 141). Qualitative research methods designed as they are to deal with the complexities of meaning in social context (Davies and Elder, 2004: 141). Qualitative research involved many different traditions and data gathering techniques (Davies and Elder, 2004: 479). According to Flick, Qualitative research is oriented towards analyzing concrete cases in their temporal and local particularity and starting from

people's expression and activities in their local contexts.

Documentation mechanisms have emerged in many web forums, with the goal of verifying relevant parts of a person's identity, character, or behavior (Flick, 2013: 273). People make video recordings in nearly all spheres of social life; they produce all kinds of documentation and visual artefacts using the camera (Flick, 2013: 446). Documentation can be done by watching, listening, choosing, and studying the various forms of written or audiovisual data (books, magazines, journals, movies or videos) that are in the library and source collection, the internet or other sources that can be used to analyze this study.

This study uses a descriptive qualitative research design with conversation analysis which is developed by Harvey Sack. This qualitative approach is focused on the general principles of social phenomena in society. Meanwhile, conversation analysis is tried to describe the hidden meaning from some statements. Methods of conversation analysis are different from content analysis which focuses on the greater emphasis on the question of what. Conversation analysis more focuses on how the text of a message or communications. Through conversation analysis we are not only know how text contents of the conversation, but also how the message is delivered. It is delivered through words, phrases, sentences, and what kind of metaphor from a message that is delivered.

The data which is used in this research is one scene that present at 01.00.20 until 01.02.25 in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie that should be analyzed by the researcher.

In this research, the main data are taken from movie entitled *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie by John Mathew Brown. While supporting data are taken from the internet and journals and any other sources related to

the movie and the author. To collect the data, the researcher uses documentation method. It is done by taking the data related to the research of conversation analysis.

After the data are collected which are appropriate with the purpose of the study for analysis and it is given interpretation by classifying with related theoretical framework. Conversation analysis as a discipline of its own was the 'discovery' by Harvey Sacks (Ten Have, 2007: 14). The researcher watches the movie and notes all information. The researcher uses descriptive analysis technique to answer the problem of the research.

The follows are the steps done by the researcher in collecting the data first watching the movie. Second making the general review include reading *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie and observe the data. Third signing and classifying the data included conversation analysis by Harvey Sack (2007). The last reducing the data that appropriate with conversation analysis which consists of three elements: turn-taking, adjacency pairs, and sequences.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Conversation analysis as a discipline was the discovery by Harvey Sack. The conversations in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie analyzed by using the model of conversation analysis by Harvey Sack which consists of three elements: turn-taking, adjacency pairs, and sequences.

### Turn-taking

#### Interruption

Datum 1

Hardy : No, because however intuitively obvious it may seem, when the subject to calculation, it fails. Mr. Littlewood has calculated

a number and it shows that your theorem will sometimes predict less, not more, than the actual number of primes. Your theorem is wrong. And this is why we cannot publish anymore until you finally trust me on this business of proofs. Intuition can only carry you so far.

Ramanujan : //Stop! (Breathing Heavily). I.... I can't hear this anymore. Intuition? You say this word as if it is nothing. Is that all it is to you? All that I am?

In this part of conversation the researcher found an interruption from Ramanujan when discussed with Prof. Hardy. Ramanujan felt anger and got pressure caused he thought that his proofs were true but in others side Prof. Hardy still found the lack theory of Ramanujan. In this case both of them have different opinion and thought if their ideas were the truest. Although interruption is less of polite in some country but in this case the interruption could be happened caused of Ramanujan anger, he wanted to show what he felt toward Prof. Hardy opinion.

Datum 2

Ramanujan : You've... you've never even seen me, let alone know me. You... You are a man of no faith! I don't see pictures of anyone here! Not even family! Who are you, Mr. Hardy?

Hardy : //How dare you...How dare you judge me?

Ramanujan felt tired of all business of proofs until he spoke uncontrolled. He subconsciously talked about privacy of Prof. Hardy. Ramanujan thought Prof. Hardy only gave him pressured until no more space to breathe, until he cannot recognise himself,

then Ramanujan said about Prof. Hardy pictures, someone who loneliness never trust anyone even have no family. Prof. Hardy felt offended then he interrupt Ramanujan with anger that shown on him face, he yelled to Ramanujan. The case of interruption of Prof. Hardy, he wants to show to Ramanujan how brave a Ramanujan talked something about his privacy, as we know privacy is something sensitive to discussed and not to public consumed.

### **Adjacency Pairs**

#### ***Blame and an Denial***

Datum 3

Hardy : So, there you have it. He left this for you to see for yourself. Your theorem on primes is wrong. (a blame)

Ramanujan : It's not. It can't be. (a denial)

There is relation between acts and conversations made conversation have pairs of utterances known as adjacency pairs. First pairs that found are blame and denial. Prof. Hardy said "Your theorem on primes is wrong." (a blame) Prof. Hardy thought that Ramanujan theories are wrong, and then Ramanujan said "It's not. It can't be" (a denial). In this case both of them have different view looked at a theory. First statements showed how strength Prof. Hardy opinion to blame Ramanujan theory. The second statements are a denial to defend his theory.

#### **A Question and an Answer**

Datum 4

Hardy : It's rather interesting, really. If you compare the prime number approximation with the actual number of primes, the calculation tells us what? (a question)

Ramanujan : It always moves higher. (an answer)

The first statements from Prof. Hardy gave explanations and then gave question to Ramanujan. The second statements are the answer of the question above. This question are met with the real answer. It implies a positive answer to the questions.

Datum 5

Hardy : Even at a thousand? A million? A billion, trillion? Yes? Where is the proof? (a question)

Ramanujan : I gave it to you. It proves it. (an answer)

Ramanujan got some questions from Prof. Hardy, but the real question is only in the last question, because the questions shown distrust Prof. Hardy to Ramanujan theory. The last question has real relation, giving question and then got an answer. The purposes of question are really wanted the true of proofs but the answer are given inappropriate.

Datum 6

Ramanujan : But it is you Who does of me! Don't you see? (a question)

Hardy : No. Quite frankly, I don't! (an answer)

The questions of Ramanujan indicated how sorrow him, got bad treatment from Prof. Hardy. He wanted to show how he stayed here to publish but just difficulty that he accepted. The answer of Prof. Hardy indicated if he did not responsible over Ramanujan. This case implied positive answer to the questions.

#### **A Complain and an Apology**

Datum 7

Ramanujan : Stop! (breathing heavily). I..... I can't hear this anymore. Intuition? You say this word as if it is nothing. Is that all

it is to you? All that I am? (a complain)

Hardy : Look, I'm sorry. (an apology).  
Am I... I'm missing something.  
(breathing sharply)

Ramanujan gave complain to Prof. Hardy he thought if Prof. Hardy just looked at his lack only, without considering his other ability. He felt disappointed and do complain. An apology from Prof. Hardy was pure of his heart, and he felt regret. A complains was acceptable by the second speakers.

## Sequences

### Pre-sequences

Datum 8

Hardy : So, there you have it. (pre sequences). He left this for you to see for yourself. Your theorem on primes is wrong.

Ramanujan : It's not. It can't be.

"So, there you have it." (pre sequences) this utterance indicated how to start conversation well, Prof. Hardy wanted to show the letters of Mr. Littelwood to Ramanujan but before he talked about it he just said about Ramanujan proofs.

### Sequences

Datum 9

Hardy : No. Quite frankly, I don't!

Ramanujan : Don't you know. What I've given up to be here? I have nothing. Do you even see the bruises on my face? (sequences). I have a wife, Mr. Hardy.

"Do you even see the bruises on my face?" (sequences) this questions not only have one meaning but also have the others meanings. Ramanujan wanted to show how sorrow his life, before he said something that more important to share. The hidden meaning

from the sequences is to show if Ramanujan married, he did anything to his proofs although must be left his wife.

## CONCLUSION

The conversation in *The Man Who Knew Infinity* movie analyzed by using the model of conversation analysis by Harvey Sack consists of three elements: turn-taking, adjacency pairs, and sequences. In this research the researcher found two interruptions in turn-taking. In adjacency pairs, it is found out one a blame and a denial, three a question and an answer, one a complaint and an apology. For the sequences, there are two sequences in this movie conversation.

The effects of interruption are the feelings of mad, depressed, and disappointed toward other people opinion or treatment. The effects of adjacency pairs are good response or rejection. The effect of sequences is easiness to response an utterance.

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