

## Pragmatic Analysis on Leech's Maxims: Approbation, Modesty, Agreement, and Sympathy in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen

تحليل براجماتي لكتاب اللغة الإنجليزية الرابع للصف الأول الثانوي في الجمهورية اليمنية طبقاً لأقوال ليتش والمتعلقة ب: مبادئ الاستحسان، التواضع، الاتفاق، والتعاطف

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### Abstract

This research aimed at discovering the polite and impolite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech (1983) in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools. It also aimed at interpreting them and how the violations of those maxims of Leech happen in the contexts of politeness principle in the

conversation Textbook 4. It is a descriptive qualitative and analytical, in which the information was collected from the related literature, previous studies and the Crescent English textbook 4. This research used the content analysis of the fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen as the sources of data. The most important findings of this research revealed that the agreement maxim and approbation maxim of Leech's

politeness principle are highly used, while the modesty and sympathy are rarely used in the textbook 4. The identifiable Leech maxims are 13 approbation data, 4 modesty data, 20 agreement data and 4 sympathy data employed in the conversations of the Crescent Textbook 4. The violations of maxims are found in one data of the

approbation maxim and in 7 data of the agreement maxims in the textbook, while the violations of the modesty and sympathy maxims are not found in the textbook.

**Keywords:** Pragmatics, Leech's Maxims, Politeness, Crescent Textbook 4.

# تحليل برامجتي لكتاب اللغة الإنجليزية الرابع للصف الأول الثانوي في الجمهورية اليمنية طبقاً لأقوال ليتش والمتعلقة ب: مبادئ الاستحسان، التواضع، الاتفاق، والتعاطف.

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## ملخص البحث

أن مبدأ الاتفاق ومبدأ الاستحسان مبدأ الأدب مستخدمان بشكل كبير، بينما مبدأ التواضع والتعاطف في الكتاب المدرسي مستخدم بشكل نادر. استخدمت في محادثات الكتاب 13 معطيات للاستحسان، 4 بيانات للتواضع، 20 للاتفاق و 4 للتعاطف. كما تم العثور على مخالفات الأقوال في واحدة من معطيات مبدأ الاستحسان، وفي 7 من أقوال الاتفاق، ولم يتم العثور على أي من مخالفات الحياء والتعاطف.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** التداولية، أقوال ليتش، التأدب  
كتاب كريست 4.

هدف الدراسة الحالية إلى اكتشاف التعبيرات المهذبة وغير المهذبة، الموجودة في كتاب (كريست 4) الخاص بمادة اللغة الإنجليزية للصف الأول الثانوي في مدارس التعليم الحكومية اليمنية، والمتعلقة بمبادئ الاستحسان، والتواضع، والاتفاق، والتعاطف وليتش (1983). كما هدفت إلى تفسيرها وكيفية حدوث انتهاكات لتلك المبادئ في سياق الكتاب المذكور. تعتبر الدراسة الحالية دراسة وصفية نوعية تحليلية، حيث تم جمع المعلومات من الأدبيات ذات الصلة والدراسات السابقة و كتاب اللغة الإنجليزية كريست 4. استخدم هذا البحث تحليل محتوى (الكتاب 4) كمصادر للبيانات. كشفت أهم نتائج هذا البحث

## 1. Introduction

Language has a significant function of enacting and constructing people's understanding of their society and themselves (Foley, 1997: 284; Janson, 2012: 101). People are the only creature who speaks languages which are different from each other. Holmes (2001:1) states that any language, as a method, can be used to convey social meaning. According to Khorshidi (2013: 324), "When people use language, they disclose something about themselves and their relationship with others as well". The utterance meaning can be polite or impolite. Sifianou (2000: 81) states that "polite" is a word derived from the Latin word "politus", which means "to smooth", "to polish" and so on. According to Lestari (2014: 13), every sentence or utterance has to be related to the politeness. So, it is essential to use the right level of politeness.

Leech (1983) contributed with the politeness principle to pragmatics. This principle functions "to maintain the social equilibrium and the friendly relations which enable us to assume that our interlocutors are being cooperative in the first place" (p.82) He states that the way a person utters a phrase or sentence reflects his or her politeness. According to Said (2011: 9), "If the speaker is not polite enough, the hearer feels imposed on, but if the speaker is too polite, the utterance may sound sarcastic". This principle is to complement the Grice principle. Kingwell (1993:395) claims: "Leech's politeness principle clarifies what is obscured in Grice..." The Yemeni society is a polite one to people higher in social status, older in age, and to older brothers, sisters, and cousins. However, with foreigners, politeness differs from area to another.

This research paper investigates the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech politeness principle. According to Rashid and Hattab (2016: 101), "It is worth mentioning that neglecting such rules-significantly the politeness principle- would cause ambiguity or break cooperation, and thus communication will be negatively affected!"

## 2. Research problem

Pragmatic analysis is important which makes linguists and language teachers be aware of what to teach and their effect. Politeness is an important pragmatic aspect that the designers and teachers of English language

textbooks should take into account. According to the the researchers' knowledge, no studies regarding the politeness that refer to the four maxims of Leech: Approbation, Modesty, Agreement, and Sympathy for the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen were done before. Through reading this course, the researchers also think that the amount of politeness in English courses is not enough. As a result, these problems motivated the researchers to investigate those maxims of Leech in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools.

### 3. Research Objectives

This research aims at:

1. Discovering the polite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools.
2. Highlighting the impolite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools.
3. Interpreting the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech and how the violations of them happen in the conversations of the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools.

### 4. Research Questions

This research tries to answer all of the following questions:

1. What are the polite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?
2. What are the impolite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?
3. What is your interpretation for the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech and how the violations of them

happen in the conversations of the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?

## 5. Research significance

This research is very significant in the sense that:

- ❖ Politeness would help readers, teachers, and researchers to understand deeply all the politeness principle maxims and apply them in their daily conversations.
- ❖ Politeness would give some contributions for other researchers who are interested in analyzing the way of making illocutionary meaning by using politeness principle.
- ❖ Politeness would make learners be careful in determining the choice of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences in expressing their ideas or meaning in a politer way.

## 6. Research Limitations:

The research is limited to

- ❖ Conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools.
- ❖ Politeness principles according to Leech's only four maxims: approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy were chosen in this research.
- ❖ The second term, 2018-2019.

## 7. Research procedures:

The procedures of this research were as follows:

- ❖ Reading the whole conversations carefully and comprehensively
- ❖ Separating the relevant data from those that were considered irrelevant.
- ❖ Classifying the data according to approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims.
- ❖ Analyzing data, using the politeness principle maxims by Geoffrey Leech.
- ❖ Interpreting the results of the data analysis
- ❖ Making conclusions from the result of the analysis and giving suggestion.

## 8. Definition of Basic Terms

- ❖ Pragmatics is "the study of the meaning of words, phrases and full sentences in a social context," (Said, 2011: 15).

Operationally, it is also defined by the researchers as the branch of linguistics which deals with the intended meaning of the utterance in a communication.

- ❖ Politeness is the form of behavior which aims at establishing and maintaining comity that enables participants' ability to engage in interaction in a comfortable atmosphere (Leech, 1983:104).

Operationally, it is also defined by the researchers as the way in which a participant shows good manners for other people involved in the conversation.

- ❖ Leech's Maxims are the six maxims, namely, tact, generosity, approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy, found by Leech, 1983.

### Review of related literature and previous studies:

This section is divided into two parts. The first one is concerned with the review of related literature and the second one is related to the previous studies done in politeness. They are as follows:

#### 1. Review of related literature

This part consists of the theoretical background related to this study:

##### i. Levels of language

Language consists of six levels. They are phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Phonetics is the first level of language which is concerned with characterizing all set of possible human sounds in all languages in terms of production, transmission, and perception. Phonology is the second level of language which is concerned with describing the systems and patterns of human sounds in a particular language in terms of production, transmission, and perception. set of system sounds used in a given human language. Morphology is the third level of language which is concerned with the study of how words are built from roots, affixes or both. The syntax is the fourth level of language which is concerned with how phrases, clauses, and sentences are created from the order of words. Semantics is the fifth level of language which is concerned with the study of

word's literal meaning which is understood by all people in the same way without a context. Finally, pragmatics which is the sixth level of language which is concerned with the study of the intended meaning of speaker's utterance which cannot be interpreted equally without a context

## ii. Pragmatics and theories of pragmatics

The word "pragma" is originally a Greek word which refers to an activity, to act, and if we want to define it technically, it is the study of language in use or context. Several definitions of pragmatics have emerged. For example, Yule (1996: 3) defined pragmatics as the study of meaning conveyed by either the speaker or writer and interpreted by either the listener or reader. Morris (1938:6) defined pragmatics as "the study of the relation of signs to interpreters", considering it as not a branch of linguistics but as a branch of semiotics which is the study of signs and symbols. Crystal's (1985:240) defined pragmatics as follows

*Pragmatics is the study of language from the point of view of users, especially of the choices they make, the constraints they encounter in using language in social interaction and the effect their use of language has on other participants in the act of communication.*

Therefore, pragmatics is concerned with language in use identified through the user's expected meaning, styles of formality and so on. According to Levinson (1987: 27) says that pragmatics is the study of the following five topics: deixis, implicature, presupposition, speech act and aspect of discourse structure.

Pragmatics mainly consists of three theories: speech acts, Implicature and politeness principle. The Politeness Principle Theory was found by Leech (1983), the Face Theory was found by Brown and Levinson (1987), and the Politeness Systems Theory was found by Scollon and Scollon (2001). According to Kawai (2013: 3), "Politeness theory describes the conventionalized rules in human interactions in different languages and cultures".

## iii. Politeness and disciplines

Politeness is found in different fields or disciplines, like linguistics, anthropology, pedagogy, psychology, and so on (e.g. Lakoff 1973; Leech 1983). According to Khorshidi (2013: 324), politeness is an important

concept in studying the human interaction that was introduced in the field of sociology, discourse analysis, and pragmatics.

#### **iv. Politeness definitions**

Asking indirect questions, making requests, apologizing, and so on are considered as polite behavior. Defining politeness lacks a comprehensive definition because being polite differs from one speech community to another and from culture to another. Meier (1995: 345) states that there is a "disconcerting amount of divergence and lack of clarity concerning the meaning of politeness". Similarly, according to Said (2013: 24),

*There is such lack of agreement among researchers, considering the complex nature of politeness due to the variety of ways in which the term has been treated as: formality, as deference, as indirectness, as appropriateness, as etiquette, as tact and so on.*

According to Leech's (1983: 131), there should be three elements: a speaker, a listener, and politeness. Politeness is the feature of language use that shows the nature of sociality as expressed in human's speech. Politeness takes into account the feelings of other addressees when they are treated in communication regarding the social status and social relationship (Brown, 2015: 326). Therefore, any definition should consider all areas related to creating and maintaining the good relationship between the speaker and others.

#### **v. Approaches to Politeness**

Since the late 1970s, several politeness theories have been proposed within pragmatics to explain politeness both either universal or culture-specific. Fraser (1990) proposed four approaches to the politeness phenomenon: the social-norm view; the conversational-maxim view; the face-saving view; and the conversational-contract view (cited in Said, 2011: 27).

#### **vi. Leech's model of politeness (1983)**

Leech (1983) analyzed politeness in terms of six maxims within a pragmatic field. He tries to explain indirectness when making questions, requests and so on in interaction regarding politeness when conveying meaning indirectly. He distinguishes between the content of the speech act the speaker is performing and the way the speaker is using. According to

Leech, people should use the six maxims when they communicate with each other. The politeness principle consists of the following six maxims:

### 1. The Tact Maxim

This maxim intends to minimize the cost to others and maximize the benefit to others (Leech, 1983: 80). It considers the hearer or others more than the speaker. It is only applicable in impositive or commissive expressions.

### 2. The Generosity Maxim

This maxim intends to minimize the benefit to self and maximize the cost to self. It focuses on the speaker. It is only applicable in impositive or commissive expressions.

### 3. The Approbation Maxim

This maxim intends to minimize dispraise and maximize praise to the speaker. It is used to say good things about others. It is only applicable in expressive or assertive expressions (Leech, 1983: 135). Here, it is preferable to either praise others or to remain silent.

### 4. The Modesty Maxim

This maxim means to minimize praise of self and to maximize dispraise of self. It is only applicable in either expressive or assertive expressions.

### 5. The Agreement Maxim

This maxim is to minimize disagreement between self and others and to maximize agreement between self and others. It is applicable in assertive expressions.

### 6. The Sympathy Maxim

This maxim is to minimize antipathy between self and others and to maximize sympathy between self and others. It is only applicable in assertive expressions.

### vii. Violation of politeness rules

In general, violating the politeness is a world phenomenon. The violation of some politeness rules may lead to impoliteness in some cultures due to some social relations and expected sensitivities.

### viii. Synopsis of the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen

The crescent English textbook 4 was first published for Arab learners of English (Qatar, Kuwait, and UAE) in 1977. It was published by Oxford University Press for the Gulf States. It was compiled by two British authors called Terry O'Neill and Peter Snow. It has been in use in Yemeni schools

from 1993 till today. It has combined functional and structural syllabus. It adopts the communicative approach to be used for learning and teaching the English language. It is supposed to be pupil-centered, aiming to promote learning through meaningful tasks.

## 2. Previous studies

Budiartaand and Rajistha (2018) analyzed the politeness principle in "Adit Dan SopoJarwo' animation". It aimed at describing the politeness and how it is violated in this program "AditdanSopoJarwo". The data were collected by recording and taking notes and analyzed by using Leech's theory of politeness. The result of the analysis shows that three types of Leech's maxim are exemplified in the animation. They are the approbation, tact, and generosity maxims. They are uttered by these characters Ujang, Denis, Jarvis, and Habibie. The violations of maxims happen with the tact, generosity, and agreement maxims. They are uttered by these characters Denis, Devi, Ujang, and Jarwo.

Kurniasih (2017) analyzed Leech's maxims of politeness in the "Harry Potter" movie. This research aimed at finding out the forms of politeness maxims uttered by the characters. It also aimed at finding out the scales of politeness maxims used by the same characters in the same movie. This research was descriptive qualitative. The research instrument was the researcher herself. The procedures of collecting data were that first the movie was watched many times for the purpose of understanding the whole story. Then, the data were collected and transcribed from the movie into the form of written dialogue. Next, the written dialogue containing the polite maxims were identified. After that, the tact, approbation, agreement, modesty and sympathy maxims were determined. Finally, the data selected based on Leech's maxims in the theory were refined. This research uses content analysis which analyzed the Leech's maxims of the politeness principle and their scales of politeness in the movie. The results of this research found out that five kinds of maxims were identified in the "Harry Potter" movie. They were the approbation, modesty, agreement, sympathy, and tact in which the agreement was the most dominant one. This research also identified the optionality and social distance scales in which the social distance was the most dominant scale.

Saputri(2017) made aresearch to analyze the dialogue between the characters in "MonsterUniversity" movie. Theutterances of impoliteness in the dialogues, such as disparaging, boasting, mocking, andinsulting were collected. Theviolations of the six maxims of politeness principle were analyzed. This research was qualitative descriptive. Therresult of this research showed that the violations of Leech's maxims inthe movie. They weretotally 54 violations. Theseviolations were onein the Tact Maxim, one in the Generosity Maxim, 23 in theApprobation Maxim, 15 in theModesty Maxim, 13 in theAgreementMaxim, and one in theSympathy Maxim. The Approbation Maxim isthe most violated maxim that happens in the dialogues of "Monster University" moviewhich showedthe impolite expressions.

Erlinawati (2016) made a pragmatic analysis to analyze the politeness principle of Leech's maxims on dis-preferred second turns that were acted by the main characters in the movie entitled "The Duchess". This research tried to identify and describe the types of dis-preferred second turns concerning adjacency pairs that were acted by the main characters.It also tried to identify and describe the politeness principles of Leech's maxims applied in the dis-preferred second turns in the movie. The research adopted a descriptive qualitative method. The findings suggested the following three points. The first point is that all types of adjacency pairs were not found. In other words, only 16 out of 29 types were used by the main characters. Then, the dis-preferred second turns could be identified in the data. Although six types of the dis-preferred second turns were found in the data, the practiced ones by the main characters functionedto obtain appropriate information. Finally, all the six politeness maxims of Leech" were used or performed by the main characters in the movie.

Ismet (2014) made a study to identify and analyze the aspects of politeness in the film entitled"*Eat Pray Love*". This research only focuses on asone aspect of behavior, i.e., polite utterances, in the film. This research used the descriptive method. The data were collected from the available relevant conversations in the film. Then, the data were categorized into suitable maxims of Leech (1983). The finding showedthat all the maxims of Leech were found in the film.These maxims can help students as well as readers to learn the aspects of politeness.

Noviani (2014) made a study to analyze the politeness strategies and politeness principles in "Uptown girls" movie. It tried to describe the politeness principles focusing on the main characters' preference in choosing a specific politeness strategy. This research was descriptive qualitative. It described the form of utterances focusing on where the politeness strategies and principles were found. This research depended on two sources. The main source was the movie script, retrieved from <http://www.script-orama.com>. The secondary sources were both books and journals. The research used the following procedures. The data were identified and then categorized. Next, the categorized data were classified. Then, the classified data were analyzed and interpreted. After that, the findings were reported. Finally, the data were presented and discussed. The data sheets were checked repeatedly by the researcher in addition to some peers to achieve the data trustworthiness. The results showed that the main characters applied tact maxim mostly in their utterances. It was applied 15 times, followed by the agreement maxim which happened 11 times. The third and fourth maxims were the generosity and approbation maxims which happened 7 and 6 times respectively. The last maxim was the modesty maxim which happened only twice.

Lestari (2013) made a pragmatic analysis using the Leech's maxim on the script of "The Princess and the Frog" movie. This research aimed at explaining the types of Leech's maxims observed and violated by the characters in the movie script. Then, it also aimed at identifying the speech act used by the characters, in which the Leech's maxims were observed and violated. Moreover, it aimed at classifying the intention of speakers when the Leech's maxims were observed and violated. The research used the qualitative method. The data were collected from the movie script using documentation. After the data collected were categorized and classified into the Leech's six maxims of politeness principle. Finally, the conclusion was showed. The results showed that all six maxims were observed by the characters. Only three maxims were violated by the characters. These maxims were the tact, generosity, and agreement. The speech act found in the maxims were assertive, expressive, commissive and directive.

Handayani (2013) analyzed the kinds of politeness principles of Leech (1983) that are only violated by the advertisements, especially the provider of a cellular phone. The purposes of her thesis were to find out the types of

politeness principles that were violated by the advertisement media and to find out the intention of violating them. Then, these violations of the six maxims of politeness principles were classified. The documentation method was used to collect the data. The population of this research was all the advertisements for cellular phone providers in Indonesia. The samples that violated the politeness principle were chosen purposively to become the data of this research. This research used the document analysis as the instrument of research to classify the data of the advertisement according to the type of maxims they violate. The violation was related to the ethic regulation of politeness principles suggested by Dewan Periklanan, Indonesia, as well. The research showed that 12 violated maxims in the advertisements. The violations happened in the six maxims of Leech's politeness principles. The overall intentions of those violations were analyzed to attract the viewer's or user's attention in order to use their product.

Muhaiminah (2013) made a study to analyze the violations of Leech's politeness principle in the humor scenes of the series of lovely complex comic. She also analyzed the purpose of the speakers that affects the violations of Leech's politeness principle. This study aims at describing how the Leech's politeness principles were violated in the humor scenes and explaining the purpose of the speaker that causes the violations of such a politeness principle. She used both of the politeness principles theory proposed by Leech and the conversational Implication proposed by Grice in which the latter supports the former one. The method was descriptive qualitative. The research showed that all the maxims of Leech's politeness principle were violated in the humor scenes.

Sandra (2010) made a research to analyze the politeness maxim on the dialogue of "DateNight" movie. It aims at finding out the violation of Leech's maxims in the context of the politeness principle. It used a descriptive comparative method. The result showed that utterances that violated the Leech's maxims of politeness principles. They were two data violating the tact maxim, seven data violating the approbation maxim, six data violating the modesty maxim, two data violating the sympathy maxim, four data violating the agreement maxim and no data violating the generosity maxim in the movie's dialogues. The violations of such maxims may happen because of the speaker's desire to give intention implied in his/her utterance.

Prihatini (2006) conducted a research to analyze the violations of politeness principles in the English conversations in "Donald Duck Comic". She adopted the pragmatic approach to analyzing. She aimed to describe the types of violation and the intention behind such violations of politeness principles. The results showed that six types of politeness principles were found and the most dominant maxim of politeness principles was the agreement maxim. It also showed that eleven speaker's intentions were found and the most dominant intention was the refusal.

Nurdianingsih (2006), in her thesis, analyzed only the Tact and Approbation Maxims of Leech's politeness principle in the "Maid in Manhattan" movie. She used a pragmatic approach. 17 data of tact maxims and 8 data of approbation maxims were analyzed. The two objectives of this research were to describe the tact maxim and the approbation maxims that were employed by the characters in the conversations. The result showed that the possibility for the speaker to adopt the Leech's maxims, for a private reason (cited in Kurniasih, 2017: 35).

All the previous studies mentioned above have sought the availability of the Leech's maxims, either in documents, videos, stories, public speech or so on. This research benefitted from all of them, especially the Kurniasih (2017), Saputri (2017), Ismet (2014), Noviani (2014), Lestari (2013) and Muhaiminah (2013) in applying the same type and tool, and determined approximately the same procedures and analysis. These studies confirmed the very importance of identifying and analyzing Leech's maxims in different fields, and in some of them how these maxims are violated. Finally, these studies really explain and clarify the significance of the politeness principle phenomenon in language behavior of people to create or maintain a good relationship with others.

### 3. Research Methodology

#### Type of the Research

This research is an analytical and descriptive qualitative research, in which the information was collected from the related literature, previous studies and the currently Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen in order to analyze the speech of the participants according to Leech's maxims of politeness.

## The tool of the Research

This research used document analysis as the tool of the research. It was applied in the fourth book of the Crescent textbook series "English for Yemen" which consists of 25 exchanged conversations (See Appendix 1, p. 30) to obtain all required data. Then, they classified and analyzed them quantitatively. The data analysis for each conversation was preceded by one or more utterances that focus on one of Leech's maxims, followed by interpreting it

## Data Analysis and Discussion

After researchers had written the text of conversations, they analyzed the data gathered from the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen according to the Leech's maxims: approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy. Each one of these maxims was discussed separately under the adherence of maxims and violation of maxims to obtain the required results as follows:

### 1. The polite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy maxims of Leech (1983)

To answer the first question which says "What are the polite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?", the polite expressions are listed according to the type of maxim as follows:

#### i. The polite expressions regarding the approbation maxim

Data No.	Participants	Polite expressions
1.	Check-in clerk:  Woman passenger:	This is your boarding card, madam. The flight leaves from Gate 7. We'll be calling passengers at 11.10. Have a nice flight.  <b>Thank you.</b>
2.	Paul: Carol:	Hello, darling. Daddy here. Carol: Dad! <b>Lovely to hear you.</b> How is everything?
3.	Paul:  Carol:	Oh, fine. No problems. Listen, Carol, is Mummy there? I've found a house. Really? <b>That's great!</b>

4. Fuad: How do you do? My son, Rashid, told me that you had just moved in. I came to see if I could help anyway.  
Paul: **That's very kind of you.**
5. Passer-by 4: That's right. Now the Sports Goods shop is on the corner, opposite the Restaurant.  
Paul: **Thank you. Thank you very much.**
6. A: Oh, I haven't seen that.  
B: You should. **You'll enjoy it.**
7. Passer-by: **My friends are not lazy.**
8. Jill: **Ahmed! Thank you very much for coming.**  
Ahmed: **Thank you for inviting me.**
9. Jill: And **thank you very much for your present.**  
Ahmed: **I'm glad you like it.** It was made in Sana'a a long time ago. It's a censer for burning incense in.
10. Jill: **I've never seen one like it.**  
Peter: **It's very beautiful.**
11. Peter: How do you do?  
Ahmed: How do you do?  
Peter: **I've heard a lot about you.**
12. Ahmed: Jill. Peter. **Congratulations and best wishes for the future.**  
Peter: Thank you very much.
13. Tony: What dangers?  
Dr. King: **In this country, over six thousand people are killed on the road every year and everybody says that this is terrible...**

Note that the abbreviation "Conv." stands for the word "conversation". In addition, to see the whole conversations, look at them in Appendix 1 (See page 36).

## ii. The polite expressions regarding the modesty maxim

Data No.	Participants	Politeexpressions
14.	Announcer:	<b>We are sorry</b> to announce that flight IY 742 to London has been delayed Will all passengers please wait in the departure lounge?
15.	Paul:	Right. And the dining room has big, glass doors which open onto a sort of verandah at the back.
	Carol:	A verandah! Great! We can sit out there and eat our meals!
	Paul:	<b>Well, yes.</b>
16.	B:	Why not?
	A:	<b>I don't enjoy looking at animals in cages.</b>
17.	Mrs. Jones:	Good evening, Doctor. Mrs. Jones here. I'm sorry <b>to phone so late.</b> I've got a temperature of forty degrees and I ache all over.

## iii. The polite expressions regarding the agreement maxim

Data No.	Participants	Politeexpressions
18.	Aziz:	I don't know. Maybe an hour, an hour and a half. Listen! <b>If I finish before seven, I'll ring him.</b>
19.	A:	Well, you'd better make time.
	B:	<b>I suppose you're right. I will.</b>
20.	Carol:	A verandah! Great! We can sit out there and eat our meals!
	Paul:	<b>Well,yes. But not in the summer. It's too hot.</b>
21.	Carol:	The living room is on your right as you come in through the front door. Then youcan look through an arch into the dining room, which has big glass doors opening onto a verandah. Right?
	Paul:	<b>Yes, exactly.</b>
22.	Paul:	I thought that you could have that room and Martin can have the room next to it. What do you think?
	Carol:	<b>Sounds fine. But what about you and Mum?</b>

23. Paul: It hasn't got an upstairs, dear. Everything is on one floor.  
It's a villa.  
Carol: **That's good.** No stairs to climb! Dad sounds great! **But I think Mum's just come back from shopping.** Shall I get her?
24. Rashid: The sea looks a bit rough today, Captain.  
Captain: **Yes, it does, doesn't it?** I think a wind is blowing up, Rashid
25. Wife: Let's go out this afternoon.  
Husband: **Must we? I'd rather stay in and watch TV.**
26. A: I don't enjoy looking at animals in cages.  
B: Why not? They're happy in the zoo.  
A: **No, they're not. They're happier in the wild.**
27. B: I disagree. Wildlife should live in the wild.  
A: **Well, I believe that animals are happier in a zoo.**
28. A: I see that there are lots more tourists this year.  
B: **Yes, and in my opinion,** they should all stay at home.
29. A: I disagree. Travel teaches us a lot.  
B: **Not if you can't speak the language.**
30. B: They bring money into the country.  
A: **But we can get money in other ways.**
31. Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?  
2<sup>nd</sup> passer-by: **Yes. I agree with you totally.** Young people are lazy and selfish. There are
32. Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?  
4<sup>th</sup> passer-by: **There isn't an easy answer to that. All young people are not the same. Some are lazy and some are not....**
33. Ahmed: Scotland is very beautiful too, I believe.  
Bob: **Yes, it is, ....**
34. Ahmed: Can we go there?  
Bob: **Of course. But if you want to enjoy the scenery, why not go camping? It's more exciting than staying in a hotel.**
35. Ahmed: And fishing?  
Bob:

**Yes, you can go fishing in Norfolk too. But, wait a minute, you'll have seen parts of England and Scotland. So why not go fishing in Wales? ...**

36. Dr. King: ... over thirty thousand are killed by smoking every year.  
 Tony: Thirty thousand!  
 Dr. King: **Yes. So you see**, it is very important to stop smoking.
37. Dr. Saleh: Let's see. Does this hurt?  
 Saif: Yes, it does.  
 Dr. Saleh: **Well, it's badly swollen. I don't think it's broken. But you'd better have an X-ray, to make sure.**

#### iv. The polite expressions regarding the sympathy maxim

##### Data Participants Polite expressions

No.

- |     |       |   |
|-----|-------|---|
| 38. | B:    | No. I couldn't find the right one.  |
|     | A:    | <b>Oh, dear. Can I help?</b>  |
|     | B:    | Maybe.  |
| 39. | B:    | My sister has to go to hospital.  |
|     | A:    | <b>Oh, no! What's wrong with her?</b>   |
| 40. | Jill: | The house sounds fine, darling. Absolutely great. <b>I'm so glad that we've got a place to move into.</b> |
| 41. | B:    | No. I couldn't find the right one.  |
|     | A:    | <b>Oh, dear. Can I help?</b>  |

#### b. The impolite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech (1983)

To answer the second question which says "What are the impolite expressions regarding the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech in the conversations in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?", the impolite expressions are listed according to the type of maxim as follows:

### i. The impolite expressions regarding the approbation maxim

Data No.	Participants	Politeexpressions
42.	Husband: Wife:	It's about animals. Animals in danger. <b>Oh, no! I don't like programmes like that.</b> They make me sad. I'd rather watch something cheerful. Something that'll make me laugh.
43.	Clerk: Saif:	<b>Age?</b> Seventeen.

### ii. The impolite expressions regarding the modesty maxim

The researchers did not identify any violated data regarding the modesty maxims in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen.

### iii. The impolite expressions regarding the approbation maxim

Data No.	Participants	Politeexpressions
44.	B: A:	Why not? They're happy in the zoo. <b>No, they're not.They're happier in the wild.</b>
45.	A: B:	There's nothing wrong with animals in cages. <b>I disagree. Wildlife should live in the wild.</b>
46.	B: A:	Anyway, travel is a waste of time. <b>I disagree. Travel teaches us a lot.</b>
47.	Reporter: 1st passer-by:	"Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think? What! Lazy and selfish? <b>It's not true. I'm not lazy. My friends are not lazy.</b>
48.	Reporter: 3 <sup>rd</sup> passer-by:	"Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think? <b>Oh no! I don't agree. You're wrong. I know a lot of young people andthey are all kind and very helpful.</b>
49.	Adel: Ahmed:	You can do it a little faster <b>Hey, this is tiring!</b>
50.	Tony:	If they're addicted, it must be impossible for them to stop.

Dr. King: **Not impossible. Difficult. You must be very strong to beat it.**

#### iv. The impolite expressions regarding the approbation maxim

The researchers did not identify any violated data regarding the sympathy maxims in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen.

##### c. Analyzing and interpreting the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech (1983)

To answer the third question which says "What is your interpretation for the approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy maxims of Leech and how the violations of them happen in the conversations of the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen taught in Yemeni Secondary Schools?", the interpretation of the adhered maxims were discussed before the interpretation of the violated maxims as follows:

##### i. Analyzing and interpretation of the adhered maxims

The researchers talked about how the Leech's maxims were adhered by participants in the fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen as follows:

##### 1. Approbation maxim

##### Data 1:

Check-in clerk: This is your boarding card, madam. The flight leaves from Gate 7.

We'll be calling passengers at 11.10. Have a nice flight.

Woman passenger: **Thank you.**

The statement of the woman passenger in thanking the check-in clerk can be categorized as the use of approbation maxim. She tries to minimize dispraise and maximize praise of the check-in clerk by expressing her thanking in a polite way by saying "thank you". She tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about the check-in clerk.

##### Data 2:

Paul: Hello, darling. Daddy here. Carol:

Carol: Dad! **Lovely to hear you.** How is everything?

The statement of Carol refers to the way that Carol tries to minimize dispraise and maximize the praise of Paul by expressing her praise in a polite way. Carol tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about her father, Paul.

Therefore, Carol's utterance in praising can be categorized as the use of approbation maxim.

**Data 3:**

Paul: I've found a house.

Carol: Really? **That's great!**

According to Carol's statement, it can be seen that she praises her father, Paul, without saying something not good to him. The statement of Carol refers to the way that Carol tries to minimize dispraise and maximize the praise of Paul by expressing her praise in a polite way. Carol tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about her father. Therefore, she performs approbation maxim.

**Data 4:**

Fuad: How do you do? My son, Rashid, told me that you had just moved in. I came to see if

I could help anyway.

Paul: **That's very kind of you.**

The statement of Paul in thanking Fuad can be categorized as the use of approbation maxim. It refers to the way that Paul tries to minimize dispraise and maximize praise of Fuad by expressing her thanking in a polite way. Paul tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about Fuad by appreciating Fuad's work.

**Data 5:**

Passer-by 4: That's right. Now the Sports Goods shop is on the corner, opposite the  
Restaurant.

Paul: **Thank you. Thank you very much.**

According to Paul's utterance, it can be seen that he exaggerates thanking the passer-by 4, with saying something good to him. In this case, praise is directed to reflect total admiration and is repeated. Absolutely, it is the polite utterance uttered by the speaker to make the addressee feels glad. The statement of Paul in thanking can be categorized as the use of approbation maxim because Paul tries to minimize dispraise and maximize the praise of passer-by 4. Therefore, Paul tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about passer-by 4. The speaker has a positive effect on the addressee indirectly, to

support the addressee to do something better in the future. It also will make a good relationship and a harmonious atmosphere between the participants.

**Data 6:**

A: Oh, I haven't seen that.

B: You should. **You'll enjoy it.**

"B" claims that "A" will enjoy the scene. So, "B" asserts by saying the utterance. It can be seen that "B" tries to minimize dispraise and maximize praise of "A". That is to say that "B" tries to avoid saying an unpleasant thing about "A". Therefore, "B's" claim, which is a kind of assertive expression, can be categorized as the use of approbation maxim.

**Data 7:**

Passer-by: **My friends are not lazy.**

The Passers-by gives his response by saying, "My friends are not lazy." In this case, he employs approbation maxim since he minimizes dispraise to others, his friends. He justified why his friends are not lazy because they went to work, but they don't find a job. So, he performs the approbation maxim.

**Data 8:**

Jill: Ahmed! **Thank you very much for coming.**

Ahmed: **Thank you for inviting me.**

In these utterances, there are two maxims. First, the utterance from Jill can be categorized as *approbation maxim* since Jill's utterance is expressive, e.g., thanking. That is to say that Jill thanks Ahmed for his coming. In this case, her statement has the function to say a pleasant thing to Ahmed and it is in line with the definition of the *approbation maxim* that says to minimize dispraise of others and maximize praise of others. Second, the response's utterance from Ahmed can be categorized as *approbation maxim, too* since Ahmed's utterance is expressive, e.g., thanking. He shows back his thanking for Jill.

**Data 9:**

Jill: **And thank you very much for your present.**

Ahmed: **I'm glad you like it.** It was made in Sana'a a long time ago.

The first utterance from Jill can be categorized as *approbation maxim* since Jill's utterance is expressive, e.g., thanking Ahmed for his present. In this case, she says a pleasant thing to Ahmed to reflect a total admiration, so

she minimizes dispraise and maximizes praise to Ahmed. Similarly, the response's utterance from Ahmed can be categorized as approbation maxim, *too* since his utterance is expressive, showing his praise for the censer and for Ahmed. Their utterances deepen the good relationship and a harmonious atmosphere between the participants.

**Data 10:**

Jill: **I've never seen one like it.**

Peter: **It's very beautiful.**

Both utterances can be categorized as *approbation maxim* since they are expressive, showing incredible praise for the censer. They praised it more than it deserves because it was given from Ahmed. In this case, they say pleasant things to Ahmed, so they minimize dispraise and maximize praise to Ahmed.

**Data 11:**

Peter: How do you do?

Ahmed: How do you do?

Peter: **I've heard a lot about you.**

Peter's utterance can be categorized as *approbation maxim*, since his utterance is expressive, showing his great praise to Ahmed. In other words, minimizes dispraise and maximizes praise to Ahmed.

**Data 12:**

Ahmed: Jill. Peter. **Congratulations and best wishes for the future.**

Peter: Thank you very much.

In the first utterance above, Ahmed congratulates Jill and Peter for getting marriage, so congratulation is categorized as the use of approbation maxim. In this case, Ahmed minimizes dispraise of Jill and Peter and maximizes the praise of them. He avoids saying unpleasant things about them.

**Data 13:**

Tony: What dangers?

Dr. King: **In this country over six thousand people are killed on the road every year**

**and everybody says that this is terrible. But over thirty thousand are killed by smoking every year.**

Dr. King states a fact about smoking. He talks about it in general. In this case, his utterance is assertive because of his state. Further, he performs the use of approbation maxim because she minimizes dispraise of others – avoids saying something bad to Tony - and maximizes praise of others.

## 2. Modesty maxim

### Data 14:

Announcer: **We are sorry** to announce that flight IY 742 to London has been delayed Will all passengers please wait in the departure lounge?

From the bold utterance above, it could be concluded that it included the modesty maxim because basically the modesty maxim is driven to the humble in which he maximized dispraise and minimized praising to them by saying "We are sorry". It was because the announcer was willing to apologize to the passengers.

### Data 15:

Paul: Right. And the dining room has big, glass doors which open onto a sort of verandah at the back.

Carol: A verandah! Great! We can sit out there and eat our meals!

Paul: **Well, yes.**

The assertive utterance said by Paul above can be categorized as the use of modestymaximbecause he minimizes praise of them and maximizes dispraise of them. Paul maximizes dispraise by saying that they will sit out in the verandah when eating their meals. It is felicitous to agree with another's commendation except when it is on self.

### Data 16:

B: Why not?

A: **I don't enjoy looking at animals in cages.**

The expressive utterance said by "A" above can be categorized as the use of *modesty maxim* because he minimizes praise of himself and maximizes dispraise of himself. "A" maximizes dispraise by saying that he does not enjoy looking at animals in cages. He cares about the animal and he may want to say that animals feel as he feels.

### Data 17:

Mrs. Jones: Good evening, Doctor. Mrs. Jones here. I'm sorry **to phone so late**. I've got a temperature of forty degrees and I ache all over.

Mrs. Jones expressed her sorrow to her doctor strongly in a modest way. So, it can be categorized as the use of *modesty maxim* because she minimizes praise of him and maximizes dispraise of him.

### 3. Agreement maxim

#### Data 18:

Aziz: I don't know. Maybe an hour, an hour and a half.

Listen! **If I finish before seven, I'll ring him.**

In this utterance, Aziz seemed very tactful because he didn't disagree with Tariq's request to meet him, although he had much work to do. Instead of saying "No, I have a lot of work to do", Aziz gave a convincing answer for all of them, by saying "If I finish before seven, I'll ring him." It proves that he is a polite and tactful person. He used the agreement maxim in his response to Aref.

#### Data 19:

A: Well, you'd better make time.

**B: I suppose you're right. I will.**

When "B" responds to the advice of "A", he apparently agrees with him that he has to get time to go to the doctor to check the status of his health. "B" is maximizing agreement and minimizing the disagreement between him and "B" by saying "I will." after the partial agreement "I suppose you're right" to his advice. So, the last utterance achieves the agreement maxim.

#### Data 20:

Carol: A verandah! Great! We can sit out there and eat our meals!

Paul: **Well, yes. But not in the summer. It's too hot.**

In the conversation above, Paul, in his first utterance, agrees with what Carol says to him by saying, "Well, yes." But in the next utterance, he expresses his disagreement by saying, "But not in the summer. It's too hot." According to those statements, Paul can be seen performing the use of agreement maxim because he maximizes the expression of the agreement between himself and Carol and then minimizes the expression of disagreement between himself and Carol. Therefore, Paul can be said performing the politeness principle, agreement maxim.

#### Data 21:

Carol: The living room is on your right as you come in through the front door. Then you

can look through an arch into the dining room, which has big glass doors opening

onto a verandah. Right?

Paul: **Yes, exactly.**

Based on the conversation between Carol and Paul, Paul performs the agreement maxim in which he agrees with Carol's statement by saying "Yes, exactly". His utterance shows that he maximizes the expression of agreement with Carol's. So, Paul's utterance achieves the agreement maxim because the agreement happened between self and other.

**Data 22:**

Paul: I thought that you could have that room and Martin can have the room next to it.

What do you think?

Carol: **Sounds fine. But what about you and Mum?**

Carol in this conversation with, her father, Paul performs the agreement maxim. It can be seen from her utterance in response to Paul's utterance by saying "Sounds fine", in which she agrees with Paul. In addition to her utterance, Carol says "But what about you and Mum?" that can be considered as to minimize the expression of disagreement because she cares about her parents. She is afraid whether her room might be better than her parents' or her mother might want her room either.

**Data 23:**

Paul: It hasn't got an upstairs, dear. Everything is on one floor. It's a villa.

Carol: **That's good. No stairs to climb! Dad sounds great! But I think Mum's just come back from shopping. Shall I get her?**

The conversation above between Carol and Paul shows that Carol agrees with her father, Paul, in which she performs the agreement maxim. In her utterance "That's good", she maximizes the expression of agreement in the conversation with Paul. While, in her third utterance, she says, "But I think Mum's just come back from shopping." which shows that she minimizes the expression of agreement. She does so because she might think that her mother has another opinion or does not agree with what Paul said.

**Data 24:**

Rashid: The sea looks a bit rough today, Captain.

Captain: **Yes, it does, doesn't it?** I think a wind is blowing up, Rashid.

Captain, in this conversation, says, "Yes, it does" as a response to Rashid's utterance. His utterance shows that he agrees with Rashid, but, he also adds, "doesn't it?" which shows that he emphasizes with what Rashid said. Therefore, Captain performs agreement maxim.

**Data 25:**

Wife: Let's go out this afternoon.

Husband: **Must we? I'd rather stay in and watch TV.**

The wife suggested going out that afternoon. The husband is being polite in giving his response to his wife. Although he did not want to go out through the expression "Must we?" he avoids the disagreement by saying "I'd rather stay in and watch TV.". According to the explanation above, the husband performs the agreement maxim.

**Data 26:**

A: I don't enjoy looking at animals in cages.

B: Why not? They're happy in the zoo.

A: **No, they're not. They're happier in the wild.**

In the third utterance, "A" says, "No, they're not." as a response to "B's" utterance. His utterance shows that he disagrees with "B", but, he also adds the reason for his disagreement, "They're happier in the wild" which shows that he refuses what "B" said. Therefore, "A" performs agreement maxim.

**Data 27:**

B: I disagree. Wildlife should live in the wild.

A: **Well, I believe that animals are happier in a zoo.**

In the third utterance, "A" says, "Well." as a response to "B's" disagreement which indicates his agreement with "B". However, in the end, she expresses his opinion in which he disagrees by saying "I believe that animals are happier in a zoo. Therefore, "A" performs agreement maxim.

**Data 28:**

A: I see that there are lots more tourists this year.

B: **Yes, and in my opinion,** they should all stay at home.

"A" gave his opinion about the number of the tourists who visited their country that year and "B" agreed by saying "Yes". "B" maximized the agreement and minimized the disagreement between him and "A"; therefore, he performs the agreement maxim.

**Data 29:**

A: I disagree. Travel teaches us a lot.

B: **Not if you can't speak the language.**

"B" says "Not if you can't speak the language." as a response to "A". His utterance shows that he agrees with "A" if he speaks the language. Otherwise, he disagrees with "A". Therefore, "B" performs agreement maxim.

**Data 30:**

B: They bring money into the country.

A: **But we can get money in other ways.**

"A" says, "But we can get money in other ways." as a response to "B". His utterance shows that he agrees with "B", but he disagrees that tourism is the only means of earning money. Therefore, "A" can be seen to achieve the agreement maxim.

**Data 31:**

Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?

2<sup>nd</sup> passer-by: **Yes. I agree with you totally.** Young people are lazy and selfish. There are plenty of jobs if they want them. The truth is that they don't want to work...

The 2<sup>nd</sup> passer-by agrees with the reporter. He says the reason behind his opinion. Therefore, the 2<sup>nd</sup> passer-by can be seen to achieve the agreement maxim between him and the reporter.

**Data 32:**

Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?

4<sup>th</sup> passer-by: **There isn't an easy answer to that. All young people are not the same.**

**Some are lazy and some are not....**

The 4<sup>th</sup> passer-by half agrees with the reporter. He agrees with the reporter, but at the same time, he gives the counter opinion and he says the reason behind that. Therefore, the 4<sup>th</sup> passer-by obeys the agreement maxim.

**Data 33:**

Ahmed: Scotland is very beautiful too, I believe.

Bob: **Yes, it is, ....**

Bob agrees with Ahmed, so Bob performs the agreement maxim because the agreement happened between self and other and Bob maximizes the agreement and minimizes the disagreement between him and Ahmed.

Bob's agreement with Ahmed's statement is expressed by saying "Yes, it is" with an approval reply.

**Data 34:**

Ahmed: Can we go there?

Bob: **Of course. But if you want to enjoy the scenery, why not go camping?**

**It's more exciting than staying in a hotel.**

The conversation between Ahmed and Bob above indicates that Bob performs the agreement maxim. As a response to Ahmed's utterances, Bob agrees with him when he utters "Of course." which shows that he maximizes the expression of the agreement between himself and Ahmed. However, in the second part of his utterance, he expresses disagreement between himself and Ahmed. This can be seen when he says, "But if you want to enjoy the scenery, why not go camping? It's more exciting than staying in a hotel".

**Data 35:**

Ahmed: And fishing?

Bob: **Yes, you can go fishing in Norfolk too. But, wait a minute, you'll have seen parts of England and Scotland. So why not go fishing in Wales?**

...

Bob performs the agreement maxim. As a response to Ahmed's utterances, Bob agrees with him when he utters "Yes, you can go fishing in Norfolk too." which shows that he maximizes the expression of the agreement between himself and Ahmed. However, he shows his disagreement in the next utterance. It can be seen when he says, "But, wait a minute, you'll have seen parts of England and Scotland. So why not go fishing in Wales?".

**Data 36:**

Dr. King: ... over thirty thousand are killed by smoking every year.

Tony: Thirty thousand!

Dr. King: **Yes. So you see**, it is very important to stop smoking.

Dr. King agrees with Ahmed, so Dr. King performs the agreement maxim because the agreement happened between self and other. Bob's agreement with Ahmed's statement is expressed by saying "Yes, it is".

**Data 37:**

Dr. Saleh: Let's see. Does this hurt?

Saif: Yes, it does.

**Dr. Saleh: Well, it's badly swollen. I don't think it's broken. But you'd better have an X-ray, to make sure.**

Dr. Saleh agrees with Saif when he says "Well, it's badly swollen. I don't think it's broken". However, he partially disagrees when he says "**But you'd better have an X-ray, to make sure**" which means that his arm could be broken. Therefore, Dr. Saleh can be seen to achieve the agreement maxim.

#### **4. Sympathy maxim**

**Data 38:**

B: No. I couldn't find the right one.

A: **Oh, dear. Can I help?**

B: Maybe.

In the second utterance, "A" uses the sympathy maxim because he maximized sympathy and minimized antipathy to the hearer, "B" by using the discourse markers, "Oh, dear", to appeal to solidarity, so he expressed his condolences in order to achieve solidarity with "B". He shows his willingness to help "B" to find a TV, by using a modal verb "Can" to indicate his ability to help and mitigate sadness.

**Data 39:**

B: My sister has to go to hospital.

A: **Oh, no! What's wrong with her?**

In the utterance of "A" above, it can be seen that he expressed his sympathy for what happened to "B" sister by using words "Oh, no!" when he heard that "B's" sister has to go to a hospital, thus fulfilling Leech's maxim of sympathy. Further, "Oh, no!" expression is often used to express condolence for misfortune event which happens unexpectedly. "A" minimizes antipathy between self and other and maximizes sympathy between self and other, so his utterance can be categorized as the use of sympathy maxim.

**Data 40:**

Jill: The house sounds fine, darling. Absolutely great. **I'm so glad that we've got a place to move into.**

Paul Archer' wife, Jill is talking to her husband after he has described the new villa to her. Jill performs the use of sympathy maxim because she appreciates and congratulates the good thing which is reached by her husband

(Paul Archer) by saying "I'm so glad that we've got a place to move into." Jill minimizes the antipathy between herself and her husband, and maximizes sympathy between herself and her husband by using the word "glad".

**Data 41:**

B: No. I couldn't find the right one.

A: **Oh, dear.** Can I help?

In the utterance of "A" above, it can be seen that he expressed his sympathy for "B" by using words "Oh, dear!" to express condolence for misfortune event which happens unexpectedly. "A" minimizes antipathy between self and other and maximizes sympathy between self and other, so his utterance can be categorized as the use of sympathy maxim.

**ii. Analyzing and interpretation of the violated maxims:**

The researchers talked about the violation of Leech's maxims in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen as follows:

**1. Violations of the approbation maxim**

**Data 42:**

Husband: It's about animals. Animals in danger.

Wife: **Oh, no! I don't like programmes like that.** They make me sad.  
I'd rather watch something cheerful. Something that'll make me laugh.

In this case, the wife violates the approbation maxim, because she says unpleasant things about other's mention regarding the program, particularly about her husband saying.

**2. Violation of the agreement maxim**

**Data 44:**

B: Why not? They're happy in the zoo.

A: **No, they're not. They're happier in the wild.**

This "A's" statement is assertive sentence because the speaker commits to the truth of the expressed proposition. In this conversation, there is a disagreement statement, it appears at "A's" statement that he maximizes disagreement with "B's" statement which says that animals are happy in the

zoo, so based on Leech theory, "A" violates the agreement maxim, by saying that "B's" statement is not true.

**Data 45:**

A: There's nothing wrong with animals in cages.

B: **I disagree. Wildlife should live in the wild.**

In "B's" response, there is a disagreement statement. He replied impolitely maximizing disagreement instead of minimizing it. The speaker "B" commits to the truth of the expressed proposition. It appears that he maximizes disagreement with "A's" statement about which says that "There's nothing wrong with animals in cages", so based on Leech theory, "B" violates the agreement maxim, by saying that "I disagree. Wildlife should live in the wild". However, he could have minimized his disagreement with "A" and made it as a partial agreement if "B" says "Yes, but it is not fair for them to live in cages.

**Data 46:**

B: Anyway, travel is a waste of time.

A: **I disagree. Travel teaches us a lot.**

"A's" statement is assertive sentence because the speaker commits to the truth of the expressed proposition. In this conversation, there is disagreement statement that appears at "A's" statement when he maximizes disagreement with "B's" statement which says that travel is a waste of time, so based on Leech theory, "A" violates the agreement maxim, by saying that "B's" statement is not true.

**Data 47:**

Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?

1st passer-by: What! Lazy and selfish? **It's not true. I'm not lazy. My friends are not lazy.**

The 1st passer-by says "It's not true. I'm not lazy. My friends are not lazy." as a response to the reporter. His utterance is assertive and shows that he disagrees with the reporter. The disagreement statement appears when the 1st passer-by minimizes the agreement and maximizes disagreement with others, namely the reporter. Therefore, the 1st passer-by can be seen to violate the agreement maxim.

**Data 48:**

Reporter: "Young people today are lazy and selfish", what do you think?  
3<sup>rd</sup> passer-by: **Oh no! I don't agree. You're wrong. I know a lot of young people and they are all kind and very helpful.**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> passer-by disagrees with the reporter. He maximizes his disagreement when he says "You're wrong. I know a lot of young people and they are all kind and very helpful". Based on Leech agreement maxim, the 3<sup>rd</sup> passer-by violates the agreement maxim because he maximizes the expression of disagreement between self and others and minimizes the expression of the agreement between self and others.

**Data 49:**

Adel: You can do it a little faster  
Ahmed: **Hey, this is tiring!**

Adel was telling Ahmed to crush the mixture until it is a smooth paste. Ahmed replied impolitely. Instead of minimizing disagreement, it is maximized. The breaching of that maxim is expressed by Ahmed to show his disagreement with Adel in crushing the mixture fast. He could have minimized his disagreement with Adel and made it as a partial agreement by saying "Yes, but it is going to be tiring

**Data 50:**

Tony: If they're addicted, it must be impossible for them to stop.  
Dr. King: **Not impossible. Difficult. You must be very strong to beat it.**

These utterances are taken from the conversation between Tony and Dr. King. They were discussing the issue if smokers become addicted. Dr. King disagrees with Tony that addicted smokers cannot stop smoking. Dr. King maximizes his disagreement when he says "Not impossible". It seems that Dr. King violates the agreement maxim, by maximizing disagreement between self and other, but in this utterance, Dr. King tries to minimize the disagreement between Tony and him by saying "Difficult".

**3. Violation of the sympathy maxim**

The violations of the sympathy maxim are not identified by the researchers in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen.

## 2. Research Conclusion:

This research paper analyzed the Leech's maxims: Approbation, Modesty, Agreement, and Sympathy in the Fourth Crescent English Course for Yemen. This section deals with the conclusion inferred from discussing the results of the Leech's four maxims mentioned above. The violations of maxims related to the politeness principles are expected to be still occurring in some conversations. Generally, politeness is crucial to the creation and maintenance of social relationships. Politeness is the cornerstone of a good social relationship that goes to the heart of many humans.

The **findings** of the research will be described. There is evidence of using politeness principle of Leech's four maxims, namely, approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy, being used by participants throughout the fourth English textbook found in face-to-face conversations. The agreement maxim and approbation maxim of Leech's politeness principle are highly used, while the modesty and sympathy are rarely used in textbook 4. The identifiable Leech maxims are 13 approbation data, 4 modesty data, 20 agreement data and 4 sympathy data employed in the conversations of the Crescent Textbook 4.

The violations of maxims are found in one data of the approbation maxim and in seven data of the agreement maxims in the textbook. The violation may result from the intention of one of the participants to violate, so the maxims weren't adhered. The violations of the modesty and sympathy maxims are not found in the textbook. According to the research findings, the expected **recommendations** will be suggested. Yemeni learners should adhere to the Politeness Maxims adopted by Leech (1983) and others. Politeness principle should be adopted and activated in the school and universities courses by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training. The university should provide students with compulsory Leech's maxims awareness-raising instruction' at the beginning of their studies, possibly in their English language course 101. Finally, in light of the findings of the research, the researchers suggest the following **suggestions for further researches**. Politeness patterns like requests, thanking, congratulating and so on should be studied individually from other patterns. Analyzing instructional lessons through computer-mediated communication by the use of the

politeness principle. Moreover, it is suggested that conducting similar researches in different school subjects should be researched.

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