COMMUNICATION FAILURE IN AN EFL IMMIGRANT CLASS AS DEPICTED IN 'MIND YOUR LANGUAGE' SERIAL MOVIE

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for *Sarjana Pendidikan* Degree in English Language Teaching



BY: Maria Virgine Marganingsih 1213009002

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SURABAYA 2013

APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled Communication Failure in an EFL Immigrant Class as Depicted in 'Mind Your Language' Serial Movie prepared and submitted by Maria Virgine Marganingsih has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Sarjana Pendidikan degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:

Prof. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman First Advisor

Maria Josephine K. S , M. Pd

Second Advisor

APPROVAL SHEET

(2)

This thesis has been written and submitted by Maria Virgine Marganingsih (1213009002) for acquiring the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following Board of Examiners on oral exam with the grade of _____ on July 15th, 2013.

0 M Dr. H. J. Hendra Tedjasuksmana

Chairperson

Davy Budlono, M. Hum Dra. Susana Teophlus, M.Pd. Member WIDYA Secretary OLIK WIDTA M Tracher Training and Education Approx JURA * PROCHMA M. Pd. lish Education STUDI PENDICIFN[®] Study Program

ii

SURAT PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH

Demi perkembangan Ilmu Pengetahuan, saya sebagai mahasiswa Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya:

Nama Mahasiswa : María Vírgine Marganingsih

Nomor Pokok : 1213009002

Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris – Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni

Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan

Perguruan Tinggi : Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya

Tanggal Lulus : 15 Juli 2013

Dengan ini SETUJU/FIDAK SETUJU*) Skripsi atau Karya Ilmiah saya,

Judul:

Communication Failure in an EFL Immigrant Class as Repicted in 'Mind Your Language'

Serial Movie Untuk dipublikasikan/ditampilkan di Internet atau media lain (Digital Library Perpustakaan Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya) untuk kepentingan akademik sebatas sesuai dengan Undang-undang Hak Cipta yang berlaku.

Demikian surat pernyataan **SETUJU/TIDAK SETUJU**^{*)} publikasi Karya Ilmiah ini saya buat dengan sebenarnya.

<u>Catatan:</u> *) coret yang tidak perlu

Surabaya, 25 Juli 213 Yang menyatakan, METERAI TEMPEL

Maria Virgine M NRP.: 1213009002

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foremost, the writer would like to express her gratitude to God Almighty for His blessing that the writer could manage to finish her thesis entitled *Communication Failure in an EFL Immigrant Class as Depicted in 'Mind Your Language' Serial Movie.* She also would like to say her sincere gratitude to:

- Prof. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, the writer's first advisor, for giving brilliant ideas and supportive corrections toward her thesis.
- Maria Josephine K. S., M. Pd., the writer's second advisor, for always reminding the writer to keep struggling to finish her thesis and for giving valuable feedback toward the paper.
- Lucia Harvianti, S.S., an English teacher of SMAK St. Louis 1 Surabaya, for suggesting the writer the topic of the thesis.
- Basilius Himawan, M. Hum., a lecturer of Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya, for devoting his time to be the writer's triangulator and for his suggestion toward the study.

- The Head and Secretary of the English Department, Maria Goretti Retno Palupi, M. Pd. and Johanes Leonardi Taloko, M. Sc., for providing information about the thesis.
- 6. Her beloved parents, Drs. Amadeus Anang Prasumidjadi and Angelica Kristiani, for supporting and encouraging the writer to give the best to finish the thesis and for their never ending prayer.
- 7. Her beloved grandmother and aunt, Josephine Elisa Antonio Prasetyo and Felicia Kristina S.H., for giving their priceless support and energy to take care of the writer for four years of her study and for providing a comfortable place to reside while she was away from her family.
- Her beloved fiancée, Franciscus Fandy Sasongko, for motivating the writer to finish her thesis, and for sincerely devoting his time to support the writer during the process.
- Her beloved sisters, Gabriella Vincentia Cahyaningsih, Ursula Viona Adiningsih and Hilda Verita Jatiningsih, for being care and supportive to their eldest sister in the process of doing her thesis.
- 10. Her beloved family members, *Yangti* and *Yangkung*, and all aunts and uncles for their support and prayer.

- Her beloved best friends, Puspita Nugraha Wibisono and Firsty Viriani, for being great sharing partners in struggling for working on thesis and for being wholehearted best friends.
- 12. Her beloved closest friends, Fefe, Giovanni, Rendri, Fungky and Roy, for their sincere friendship of the whole four years of study and their support on working on the thesis.
- Those who have not been mentioned but contributed a lot to help the writers conducting and finishing the study.

Hopefully this research can be useful in the future, especially for those conducting research of the same topic. The writer realized that without the support and cooperation of those mentioned above, the process of working on this thesis would not go hand in hand as it is expected.

Surabaya, July 2013

THE WRITER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Ap	proval Sheet (1)	i
Ap	proval Sheet (2)	. . ii
Ac	knowledgements	. iii
Ta	ble of Contents	. vi
Lis	st of figures	ix
Lis	st of tables	ix
Ab	stract	X
1.	Introduction	
	1.1. Background of the Study	1
	1.2. Statement of Problem	4
	1.3. Objective of the Study	5
	1.4. Significance of the Study	5
	1.5. Scope and Limitation	5
	1.6. Definition of Key Terms	6
	1.7. Organization of the Thesis	7

2. Review of Related Literature

2.1. Related Literature	8
2.1.1. What is Communication?	8
2.1.1.1. The Nature of Communication	8
2.1.1.2. The Characteristics of Communication	10
2.1.2. English as the Media of Communication	10

2.1.3. Cross-cultural Communication
2.1.4. Classroom Communication
2.1.5. The Nature of Adult Learners
2.1.6. Causes of Communication Failure
2.1.6.1. Language Competence
2.1.6.2. Cultural Differences 17
2.1.6.3. Lingua Franca 18
2.1.6.4. Accents, Dialect and Idiolects
2.1.7. Linguistics Factors
2.1.7.1. Phonology
2.1.7.2. Morphology
2.1.7.3. Syntax
2.1.7.4. Semantics
2.1.7.5. Pragmatics
2.1.7.6. Sociolinguistics
2.2. Previous Studies

3. Research Methodology

3.1. Research Design	34
3.2. Source of Data	34
3.3. Research Instrument	36
3.4. Procedures of Collecting Data	36
3.5. Procedures of Analyzing Data	36
3.6. Triangulation	38

4. Findings and Discussion

4.1. Findings	39
4.1.1. Communication Failure Because of Lexical Factors.	. 41
4.1.2. Communication Failure Because of Phonological	
Factors	42
4.1.2.1. Problems with minimal pair words	44
4.1.2.2. Problems with words containing similar	
sounds	46
4.1.2.3. Problem with individual variation of	
pronunciation	55
4.1.3. Communication Failure Because of Pragmatical	
Factors	56
4.1.3.1. Problem of illocution	56
4.1.3.2. Problem of reference or deictic expression	57
4.1.3.3. Problem of assumption	58
4.1.3.4. Problem of idiomatic expression	59
4.1.4. Communication Failure Because of Semantical	
Factors	64
4.1.4.1. Problem of homonymy	64
4.1.4.2. Problem of polysemy	71
4.1.4.3. Problem of conceptual meaning	72
4.1.4.4. Problem of synonymy	74
4.2. Discussion.	75

5. Conclusion and Suggestion

5.1. Conclusion	82
5.2. Suggestion	82
5.2.1. Suggestion for Teachers	83
5.2.2. Suggestion for Further Studies	84
Bibliography	85
Appendix 1	90
Appendix 2	96
Appendix 3	104

LIST OF FIGURE

Figure 2.1 Figure of	Communication Proc	cess by Adler	9

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1 Table of Comparison between this Study and	
the Previous Study	32
Table 3.1 Table of Finding	37
Table 4.1 Table of Linguistic Factors Causing Communication	
Failure	39
Table 4.2 Table of Contrastive Sounds of Words which Cause	
Communication Failure	43

ABSTRACT

Marganingsih, Maria Virgine. 2013. Communication Failure in EFL Immigrants Class as Depicted in 'Mind Your Language' Serial Movie. S-1 thesis, English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabaya.

Advisors: (1) <u>Prof. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman</u> (2) <u>Maria Josephine K. S., M. Pd.</u>

Keywords: communication failure, linguistics aspects

Twentieth century is the starting point of globalization in all life aspects. This is the time when communication takes place beyond any boundaries. Language plays a fundamental role in bridging that communication. However, the problem is: what language will people use to conduct that communication. Since it is global communication which is referred to, the language has to be the 'global' as well. English is then chosen with a reason that it is spoken worldwide. Therefore, learning English as a second language (ESL), a foreign language (EFL) or even an international language (EIL) is encouraged. This phenomenon brings a significant impact to language teaching, especially in classes consisting of international students with different nationalities and backgrounds.

This study investigated how language which should be the medium of communication became the main cause of communication failure. The analysis of the significant linguistic factors which hampered communication was made upon the interaction between teacher/educator and the L2 adult learners in an EFL class in England in the setting of 1965 of 'Mind Your Language' which was recently re-broadcasted in 2007.

Thorough observation on the interaction was undergone and troublesome cases in several scenes of episode 1 to 3 were collected and categorized based on the branches of linguistics. It is found that phonological factors contributed most of miscommunication in the classroom. The next contributing factor was the semantical factor in which the L2 learners were having trouble interpreting lexical semantic such as homonymy and polysemy. In pragmatical level, the L2 learners often violated practical code of language use (appropriate use of vocabulary in certain situation, use of figurative speech, deictic expression, etc.) which might be caused by the lack of L2 exposure, regardless the fact that they were in English speaking country. Errors in the level of grammatical factor were found in several scenes. Yet, some cases were ignored since the errors were tolerable by the native and the learners were making themselves understandable. Some morphological error came out yet deserved no further analysis on the reason that the teacher (the native speaker of English) could still catch the meaning.

To sum up, an analysis of learners' progress from the first meeting (first episode) to the third meeting was made to give illustration how communication failures were declining in sequence. Lastly, some suggestions were made for EFL teachers teaching international students in order to be well-aware of the errors made by the learners and to creatively figure out ways to increase students' communicative competence through series of authentic use of language.