

ABSTRACT

THE REALIZATION OF EFL LEARNERS' REQUESTS AND THE CROSS CULTURAL PERCEPTIONS ON THE POLITENESS OF THE REQUESTS AT SMA TUNAS MEKAR INDONESIA BANDAR LAMPUNG

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The importance of pragmatic competence, producing polite requests and having adequate knowledge about cross cultural perceptions in cross cultural communication is unquestionable since lacking of them could induce communication breakdown. This article deals with the request strategy types realized by the Indonesian EFL learners in school context, the factors influence the realization, and the perceptions of teachers from different culture on the politeness of request strategy types realized. In this study twenty students (aged 16-17) who use English as means of communication at school were asked to do role play to obtain data about request strategy types used in school context. The requests realized in the role play were then rated by six teachers from different culture based on their perceptions on the politeness of requests in school context. The data, taken from Scaled Politeness Perception Questionnaire (SPPQ) filled out by the raters, were analyzed qualitatively. The results reveal that (1) context is the reason why two out of twelve request strategy types were not used by the students (2) gender, proficiency level, and social power of interlocutor influence the realization of request (3) perception cannot always be concluded as a consensus in a certain culture, but it can also be regarded as an idiosyncratic. It cannot be generalized since it truly comes from one's background, experience, mind set and knowledge.