

Linguistic (Im)politeness in British English and Saudi Arabic: The Case of (Dis)agreement

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Abstract

This study will investigate a cross-cultural comparison of (dis)agreement speech acts from a politeness perspective. The main goal of this study is to investigate (dis)agreement strategies and patterns in Saudi Arabic and British English conversations, as well as the politeness strategies that are adopted to produce these speech acts. The frequency of (dis)agreement in a certain context will be investigated, and the similarities and differences in the strategies employed to express (dis)agreements will be explored. Further, this study will discuss the effect of gender on the use of politeness strategies to produce (dis)agreement in the two cultural groups. Data will be taken from face-to-face elicited conversation. Participants will be divided to groups, given a suggested controversial topic(s) and left alone to talk about the topic with no obligations to remain on it and no imposition on order of speaking and turn-taking. In this way, opportunities to disagree with each other will arise. They will be video-recorded as the conversations will later be transcribed, and then analysed using the approach of conversation analysis (CA). The poster, I am constructing and showing during the conference, will show related literature and similar previous studies, methodology, and a sample of data collected to the date. Some results after the analysis of data could also be added.