

A SOCIO-PRAGMATIC STUDY OF PHATIC UTTERANCE IN MOVIE ENTITLED *THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS*

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*The research aimed to describe the phatic utterance functions expressed by the characters in the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*. This was descriptive-qualitative research. The data of the study were the words, phrases, and clauses expressing the phatic utterances in the movie. The data collection technique was content analysis. The data analysis technique was ethnographic; therefore, domain analysis, taxonomy analysis, componential analysis, and cultural theme analysis were carried out. The data was analyzed on the basis of the socio-pragmatic approach. The research showed that there were four functions of phatic utterances found in the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*, namely breaking the silence, having small talks, keeping the conversation going, and expressing solidarity; the most dominant function was breaking the silence. Breaking the silence as the dominant phatic utterance strengthened the notion that phatic utterance was not informational. This dominance was closely related to the object of the research in which breaking the silence followed by having small talks were very important in their everyday life.*

Key words: socio-pragmatics, phatic utterances functions

1. INTRODUCTION

Trudgill (in Chasanah, 2015, p. 7) says that “communication is not only delivering the argument but also for establishing and maintaining relationship in our social life.” It is not only the person who says something to the other but also as a bridge to build relationships with others in society. Further, communicative competence based on Troike (2003, p. 18) involves “knowing not only the language code but also what to say to whom, and how to say it appropriately in any given situation.” It means that in communicative competence, the people have to know the code, the purpose of the discussion with others, and the way how people utter something in its situation. On the other side, when people utter something in different ways they communicate with each other.

According to Doughty, (in Nodoushan, 1995, p. 24) “speakers do not have a direct acquaintance with language any more than they do with society. What they actually experience is the linguistic manifestation of relationships.” It means language is important and it could be how society describes the thing. Talking about the relationship, it should involve language as communication media. One of the concerns of language study is pragmatics.

Furthermore, the study of pragmatics uses the context to make inferences, especially in meaning. Levinson (in Chasanah, 2015, p. 9) says that “pragmatics is a word that gives an impression that something quite specific and technical is being talked about when in fact it has no clear meaning.” Based on that definition, the study of pragmatic is the study of something

details in meaning when someone delivers speech but in a different context, thus one of the discussions is phatic. The context in society's communication is important because we use the language and it relates to everyday social practices. Talking about the context that provides meaning it must have social activities; one of the studies in linguistics using social activities is socio-pragmatics. Later on, Sadock (in Ward & Horn, 2006, p. 53) says "when we speak, we can do all sorts of things, from aspirating a consonant to constructing a relative clause, insulting a guest starting a war. These are all, pre-theoretically, speech acts – acts done in the process of speaking." It means that society can express its activity through a speaking process.

Malinowski (in Cruz 2005, p. 228) says "narrative episodes which were not used to convey new and unknown information but were employed as a means of social interaction with a predominantly emotive function. This author called phatic communion [the] language [which] is used in free, aimless, social intercourse". Hence, Malinowski (in Cruz 2005, p. 228) also says "among its most frequent manifestations, mentioned a plethora of formulaic expressions of greeting, questions about the interlocutors' health, well-being, family, narrations about apparently irrelevant facts or comments about topics that may seem obvious or trivial, such as the weather" It is the way how people show their care and how we make the other understand well about our intention. Using phatic utterance language used freely, aimless and for social intercourse which means people can express their feeling in express greetings, ask questions, give comments, and others, while Jaworski (in Chasanah, 2005, p. 9) states differently, "phatic communion as small talk, like casual conversation, chit-chat, gossip, minimal conversation, social-talk, time out talks, and others." It means that he only describes that phatic talks about small talk, but it will make someone enjoy do these activities, like gossiping, chit-chatting, and so on. Therefore, with this difference between the two authors, the researcher gets some problems which are how many phatic utterances found in *The Secret Life of Pets*? And what are the functions of phatic utterance which found in *The Secret Life of Pets*?

For limiting the scope of the study, the researcher mentions many phatic utterances and explains the phatic utterances. Thus, mentioning phatic utterances in daily lives thru the data and find out the functions of phatic utterances. There are twelve functions in the phatic utterance. Moreover, the researcher will limit this research and mentioning four functions in *The Secret Life of Pets*, breaking the silence, making small talks, keeping talks or keeping the conversation going, and making solidarity. Below is an example of phatic utterance which function is breaking the silence.

In *The Secret Life of Pets* movie tells about many kinds of pets in the same place as an apartment. The writers are Cinco Paul, Ken Daurio, and Brian Lynch. Moreover, phatic utterances found in this movie, for example: Mel: "Hey, morning, Max!" (12/TSLoP). They are in the apartment while their owners work. The pets follow their owners until, in front of the door, look their owners go to work, and wait for their owner to come back to the apartment. While their owners leave the room, the pets are alone in the apartments, which make them free to do anything in their room. Accordingly they start greeting each others. The time is in the morning when Mel and friends visit Maximilian's apartment room. There are Mel, Sweetpea, and Budgie who visits in his room. All of the owners go to work, and the entire pets are free to go everywhere. Further, in Max's room, Chloe sits down in the window and plays with her toys and at the same time, Max opens the door. Afterwards, the entire friends enter his room. Later, Mel greets Max and sees the room. Mel knows that Max is uncomfortable and waits for his owners; it makes Mel utter the words, in datum (12/TSLoP). This datum includes greeting and mentioning names whose functions are to break the silence.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

Research is a way to make you understand the cases around us. This needs a systematic way called methodology. This research is qualitative because the data are mostly in the form of words that automatically become descriptive research. According to Gal, Gal, & Borg (in Nassaji, 2015, p. 2), “descriptive research describes a phenomenon and its characteristics. It is concerned about what rather than how or why something has happened.” Furthermore, this qualitative research is also content analysis. Content analysis is researching communication patterns that focus on words, subjects, and concepts in texts or images. This confirms Astalin (2013, p. 118), saying “qualitative research is an umbrella term for a broad range of different approaches and methods, which vary considerably in terms of focus, assumptions about the nature of knowledge, and the role of the researcher.”

Similarly, McMillan and Schumacher (in Astalin, 2013, p. 118) define “qualitative research as primarily an inductive process of organizing data into categories and identifying patterns (relationships) among categories.” This definition implies that data and meaning emerge organically from the research context. They mean that qualitative research, as a bridge, collects the data, finds out the data, and identifies the data through the context. The researcher chooses this method to analyze *The Secret Life of Pets* movie. This means that the phatic utterances in *The Secret Life of Pets* movie are in the form of words; their functions are explained in detail. Words are not separated from a text whose content is analyzed. The conclusion about the phatic utterance and functions of phatic utterances in *The Secret Life of Pets* cannot be applied in the functions of the phatic utterances in the other movies.

In the researcher data and source of data are in the form of words, phrases, or clauses in the conversation containing phatic utterances. The source of data is a movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*. While the technique of data collecting used in this research is document analysis. In this research, several documents were analyzed. First, documents are in the form of various articles related to the phatic utterances and functions of phatic utterances. These are examined to build conceptual theories about the phatic utterance and functions of phatic utterances. Second, the documents are in the form of an English language movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets* and to find out the lingual unit, words, phrases, or clauses that express phatic utterances and functions of phatic utterances. Third, the documents are containing various theories regarding phatic utterances and the functions of phatic utterances. Fourth, the previous studies are reviewed in the form of documents; it helps the researcher focus on their research, confirm the originality of research, and make the position of this research as to be the significant scientific writing. Moreover, the technique of data analysis is using, domain analysis, taxonomy analysis, componential analysis and cultural theme analysis. In this study, the lingual units regarding the phatic utterances in *The Secret Life of Pets*, the lingual units are words, phrases, or clauses. Thus, the lingual units which are not about phatic utterances are not the data. According to Garrido (2017, p. 3), “domains are the category of cultural meanings. Domains have terms that have been included through semantic relationships.” This means that domains are used for analyzing the relationship of logical situation. Thus, this technique is used for analyzing how much data and non-data are found out in the script of the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*. Based on Jaworski (in Chasanah, 2015, p. 9), “phatic communion is small talk, like casual conversation, chit-chat, gossip, minimal conversation, social-talk, time out talks, and others” The following tables help include the data and exclude non-data. The tables talk about the semantic relationship, forms of the relationship, examples of the data, terms being covered, and terms covering, et cetera.

Tabel 1
Domain: Greeting

1. Semantic relationship : Attributive		
2. Form : X is attribute of Y		
3. Example : <i>Hi, Max</i> is attributing of greeting.		
Terms being covered	Semantic relationship	Terms covering
Hi, Max. Hi, Gidget. Hey, Morning Max. Hello.	is the one of the attributes of	greeting

Tabel 2
Domain: Asking about events

1. Semantic Relationship : Attribute		
2. Form : X is attribute of Y		
3. Example : Hey, guys. ' <i>Sup, Sweetpea?</i> is attributing of asking event.		
Terms being covered	Semantic relationship	Terms covering
'Sup, Sweetpea? Any plan today? Where you been, Man? Woa, you see that? Why do you listen to me?	is the one of the attributes of	asking about events

Tabel 3
Domain: Apologizing

1. Semantic Relationship : Attribute		
2. Form : X is attribute of Y		
3. Example : <i>I'm sorry</i> is attributing of apologizing		
Terms being covered	Semantic relationship	Terms covering
I'm sorry. I'm sorry that I yelled at you before.	is the one of the attributes of	apologizing

Tabel 4
Domain: Complimenting

1. Semantic Relationship : Attribute		
2. Form : X is attribute of Y		
3. Example : Your hat is the best hat that I have ever seen is attributing of compliment.		
Terms being covered	Semantic relationship	Terms covering
Your hat is the best hat I have ever seen.	is the one of the attributes of	complimenting

Tabel 5
Domain: Asking opinion

1. Semantic Relationship : Attribute		
2. Form : X is attribute of Y		
3. Example : So what does this “Max” look like is attributing of asking opinion.		
Terms being covered	Semantic relationship	Terms covering
So what does this “Max” look like?	is the one of the attributes of	asking event

For analyzing utterances in the script and movie, the researcher has the second way of analyzing the data, called taxonomies analysis. Garrido (2017, p.3) states that “taxonomy is conceptual constructs obtained through semantic relationships.” It means that taxonomy is a way to build logical situations. The combination of both taxonomy and the domains are to illustrate a new perspective in certain situation. It is for finding out what the domains are in the movie and how the people utterances are delivering to the other and illustrating the situation. Furthermore, many utterances in the movie belong to the data because they are categorized as phatic utterances. Then, they will be taxonomies following the phatic utterances and the functions. Then, the researcher will analyze the phatic function, and it will show the different data interpretation and the situation in each phatic utterances and the phatic function. The third technique of analysis is called a componential analysis. Garrido (2017, p. 3) states about componential analysis as follows:

Componential analysis emerges from the establishment of domains and taxonomies and provides a frame to carry out the activity. The procedure is based on a reflective activity that allows us understand the meaning of a term to the extent that differs from the other.

In a componential analysis, various domains in the movie are included in the data based on covering terms such as greeting, asking about events, complimenting, apologizing, et cetera in which their phatic utterances taxonomies them, and phatic functions are compared to each other so that the meaning of every term is loud and clear. Besides, every term must be clearly different from the other terms. According to Garrido, (2017, p.133), “the analysis of cultural themes includes the search for relationships between domains and how they are related to culture as a whole.” Understanding various phenomena in the study of domains, taxonomies, and components becomes the starting point to find the patterns of relationship between one domain and another. It also finds a common thread that unites holistically, which finally reveals a dominant theme. This means that after finding descriptive answers to various research questions, namely regarding the phatic utterance and the phatic functions, then the exposure of the relationship between the various answers, giving reasons, and theoretical reasoning before ending in conclusions. Therefore, this research is expected to follow theories that already exist mainly related to phatic utterances. Finally, this research will find whether this will strengthen the previous theories, negate them, or bring out novelty.

Hence, the researcher uses those all techniques to analyze the script. For making sure the steps, the researcher gives the data that has been collected before knowing the data. Firstly, the researcher is explaining some domains or characters in the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*; those are the data and non-data analysis. Furthermore, explaining the phatic utterance meaning, especially the utterances and function of phatic utterance. Secondly, giving the theme of the

discussion through the phatic utterances and the function of phatic utterance and also giving the conclusion of function in phatic utterance from the whole research. Thirdly, the researcher is giving some suggestions both for readers and for the next researcher in the same field of discussion.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Phatic Function in *The Secret Life of Pets*, there are twelve functions of phatic communication used by English Native speakers, namely breaking the silence, starting a conversation, making small talk, making gossip, keeping talking, expressing solidarity, creating harmony, creating comfort, expressing empathy, expressing friendship, expressing respect, and expressing politeness (Jumanto, 2014, p. 11). Hence, some of phatic utterances used in *The Secret Life of Pets* movie have such functions.

Breaking the Silence by saying good bye can be the part of phatic utterance whose function is to break the silence. It can be seen in the following:

Gidget's Owner: "*Bye, Gidget! Be a good doggie!*" (01/TSLoP)

The conversation is between two, namely Gidget and her owner. Gidget is the protagonist character in the movie. She is a tiny beautiful pomeranian puppet. She has white fur and uses a pink ribbon on her head. The conversation occurs in the apartment room in the morning. The owner is a woman who loves Gidget. She will do her activity by going to her office and leaving Gidget alone in the apartment. She kisses Gidget and wipes her head.

This conversation's function is only to *break the silence* between Gidget and Gidget's owner by saying goodbye and mentioning names. The similar functions are also revealed in "*Bye, Pepe!*" (03/TSLoP), "*Bye, Sweetpea!*" (05/TSLoP), "*See ya, Gino..*" (04/TSLoP), "*Bye Missy..*" (05/TSLoP), "*I will miss you Shellie! ...*" (06/TSLoP), "*Later, Runty!....*" (07/TSLoP), "*Bye everyone!...*" (08/TSLoP), and "*Bye!*" (09/TSLoP)

Greeting can be the part of phatic utterance whose function is to break the silence. It can be seen as follows:

Mel: "*Hey, morning, Max!*" (12/TSLoP).

They are in the apartment while their owners work. The pets follow their owners until, in front of the door, look their owners go to work, and after that, wait for their owner to come back to the apartment. While their owners leave the room, the pets are alone in the apartments, which make them free to do anything in their room. Accordingly they start greeting each others. The time is in the morning when Mel and friends visit Maximilian's apartment room. There are Mel, Sweetpea, and Budgie who visits in his room. All of the owners go to work, and the entire pets are free to go everywhere. Further, in Max's room, Chloe sits down in the window and plays with her toys and at the same time, Max opens the door. Afterwards, the entire friends enter his room. Later, Mel greets Max and sees the room.

In this movie, the setting of this situation happens when Mel visits Max's room in the morning. The conversation occurs among the pets, they are Max, Chloe, Mel, and others. Moreover, the place is in a room of an apartment, which is Maximilian's stay. The participant in this conversation is Maximilian and Mel. This datum includes greeting and mentioning names whose functions are to break the silence.

Greeting and mentioning names as phatic utterance functioning to break the silence can be seen in the following:

Max: "*Hey, guys. What is up Sweetpea?*" (13/TSLoP)

It is in the morning. The place is in an apartment room in which Maximilian stays. Sweetpea visits Max apartment's room. Sweetpea, a bird in yellow furs, always whistles every day. Because the owners work, Maximilian's friends are free to go everywhere. That is why, Sweetpea goes to Max's room. As the owner of the room, Max greets them when all of his friends enter his room. The function of this conversation is to break the silence between Maximilian and Sweetpea while the other visitors are busy with themselves. The silence breaking is by greeting and mentioning names. Before the utterance, there is no dialogue at all. Accordingly, it is considered as breaking the silence.

The other examples of breaking the silence especially by greeting and mentioning names can be seen in the following: Max: "*Oh, Hey Norman. You are still looking for your apartment?*" (15/TSLoP); Katie: "*Hey, Maximilian! How was your day, buddy? That is a good boy*" (16/TSLoP); Duke: "*Hey . . . little guy. This place is so great.*" (17/TSLoP); Gidget: "*Morning Max! Max! What are you doing? Hi! Me! Hi! Hi!*" (18/TSLoP); Dog walker: "*Hey, what's up?*" (19/TSLoP). Besides, the expressions above is also commenting something obvious which is the part of breaking the silence.

Commenting something that is already obvious can be phatic utterance functioning to break the silence. It can be seen in the following:

Ozone: "*Oi! What's going on here?*" (22/TSLoP)

The place is on a narrow road where a lot of garbage is scattered and dumped there. Ozone is taking a nap in the garbage dump; he hears some noise in the afternoon. The voice is heard because of Duke and Maximilian; the two of them quarrel about the closeness to the Ozone's place. Duke pushes Max into the dump and tries to leave Max there. The sound is annoying.

The sentence comments on something that is obvious because the context tells about Ozone overhearing a noisy conversation between Maximilian and Duke. Ozone greets them first and then gives them that obvious question, therefore, Duke ignores his greeting.

Having small talk is different from breaking the silence. The context of conversation can make them different. If the listener does not get feedback on his speech, it means that its function is only to break the silence, not to have small talk, whereas in small talk, listeners will get feedback and communicate each other.

Greeting and mentioning names in starting conversation can be phatic utterance functioning to have small talks. It can be seen in the following:

Gidget: "*Hey Max!*" (8/TSLoP)

It is in the morning in which two speakers, namely Maximilian and Gidget, are in different apartment rooms; Gidget is in her room, and Max is in his room, both of them are alone. Gidget sees Max through the apartment window. She wants a conversation with him because Max looks uncomfortable with the atmosphere. He looks confused and waits for something. Max walks around and waits for his owner to come back. In small talks the listener gives attention and answers the speaker. After Gidget utters the words, Max does not keep silent but answers her greeting. Later, they have a little conversation through the apartment windows.

Raising questions can be phatic utterance which function is to have small talks. This can be seen as follows:

Max: "*Hey, Chloe. Do you ever wonder where they go during the day?*" (11/TSLoP)

After the speaker asks the question, the hearer gives him an answer. After Max gives a question, Chloe answers like this "*Do you know what? I just ... I do not care - -*". In this situation, they have a real conversation even though Chloe does care about Max's feeling she still answers the question. Why does the conversation happen? It is only because Max asks a question based on

the situation that Max is waiting for Katie to come home and wants to see her again at the apartment soon.

Saying good bye to end conversation can be phatic utterance whose function is to have small talk. It can be seen in the following:

Max: “Okay, I am just - - you know what, I am just gonna No offense, but - - *goodbye!* (23/TSLoP)

The situation based on the movie is Maximilian or Max as a little dog oppressed by Snowball. Maximilian and Duke follow Snowball with the purpose they can escape from the animal control van. But Max and Duke are not safe, a snake will give them poison. Snowball knows that Max lies to her, and she decides that Max will be the first pet to get a poison. Duke tries to help him throw the snake with a stone. Unfortunately, it cannot help Max. Duke throws Max into the river, and Max says the words in datum 23. The word "goodbye" means that the small talk is used to end the conversation.

Keeping talking or keeping the conversation going has three categories, namely avoiding the silence when talking, changing the topic of conversation, and listening to the noise. Furthermore, below is an example of a phatic utterance in the kinds in keeping the conversation going, which avoids silence when talks. The other function will explain more detail after this example.

Avoiding the silence can be the part of phatic utterance whose function is to keep the conversation going. It can be seen in the following:

Gidget: “Oh, that sounds exciting! *Well*, I want not to interrupt. I have got a very busy day, too” (10/TSLoP).

The conversation takes place in the morning when all of the owners go to work. Gidget, a beautiful pomeranian puppet with her white furs, is talking with Max having brown and white furs. They have a conversation from different apartments. Gidget's apartment is above Maximilian's room so that they can look at each other through the apartment windows. At the end of the conversation, Gidget says the words like datum 22. Gidget sighs and sits for a day staring at Max. Gidget does not have any activity and Max either, but in this case, Max does not respond to Gidget with certainty. He focuses on thinking how long it will take Katie to return to the apartment. It seems that Gidget wants to avoid silence by talking common words to Max in order not to interrupt Max. Her gestures like her eyes tell that she wants Max's attention on the one side but does not want to bother him on the other side. She is happy talking to Max and seeing him.

Avoiding silence as the phatic utterance functioning to keep the conversation going can also be seen in the following:

Maximilian: “Okay, *well uh... So*, there is this thing in the ... kitchen - -“ (35/TSLoP)

Max and Duke are caught by the animal control. Ripper, a member of an animal gangster called Flushed Animals, is also caught. They are in the cages and cannot get out of them. Ripper's friends, namely Snowball and Pig, want to free him. Duke and Max want to be released by Snowball and Pig too. Nevertheless, Snowball as the leader comment that they will be freed if they work for him after they get freedom. The condition is agreed. Accordingly, they get their freedom but become the members of Flushed Animals. The Flushed Animals hate human beings and tend to be aggressive to them. When Snowball wants them to tell their story of killing their owner in front of his friends, Max and Duke tell lies that they murder their owner and burn their leashes. Datum 35 is Max's answer when being questioned by Snowball about how they have killed their owners, what thing they have used to kill them, and how they have escaped from

them. In this case, Max is avoiding silence when replying to Snowball by uttering “Okay, *well uh... So*, there is this thing in the ... kitchen - -“ (35/TSLoP). Duke also replies similarly when uttering “*Uh, okay, uh, well... We - - we used the spoon to hit a button on this, this machine on the counter...*” (36/TSLoP).

According to Jakobson (in Chasanah, 2015 p. 6), “the phatic utterance expresses solidarity in collegiality; it focuses on solidarity and good team relationships”. Solidarity binds people as one due to shared interests, objectives, standards, and sympathies. That cooperative relationship among the colleagues is expressed in the phatic utterance. It is done “by expressing wishes, by congratulating, agreeing, apologizing, or by saying thanks” (Jumanto, 2014, p. 11).

Congratulating as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity can be seen as follows:

Gidget: “*Well congratulations*, today you are a dog whether you like it or not.” (44/TSLoP)

In this case, Gidget has a conversation with Chloe, Tiberius, and the others. Chloe is a cat, Tiberius is an eagle, and Sweetpea is a little bird. They are Max’s close friends who are very dedicated. In this scene, the word “congratulation” means she gives an appreciation to the friends. Chloe, Tiberius, and Sweetpea are not dogs, but they are like dogs. They miss Max too very much. Datum 26 shows that Gidget appreciates them. Thus, the congratulation is as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity.

Apologizing as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity can be seen in the following:

Tiberius: “*I am sorry*. I cannot help it. I was born with killer instincts” (32/TSLoP).

The situation happens when Gidget looks up for Max on the roof. Gidget is upset because she cannot see where Max is. Furthermore, Gidget has a small body and cannot look out the whole city from the apartment's upper roof. She tries to look for Max, and she screams Maximilian's name, but it does not help. A minute later, Gidget turns and sees a foreboding. A bird greets her and says that he can see for miles. There was a shed on the roof and a brown bird looking strong. His name is Tiberius. Although he is strong, Tiberius has a chain in his leg and cannot exit from the shed. After Gidget trusts him and takes down his shed's key, he can exit from the shed. Suddenly, he tries to eat Gidget. Nevertheless, he recognizes that it is wrong, and therefore, apologize to her by saying “I am sorry.” Tiberius feels guilty because he almost eat her instinctively. Datum 32 describes Tiberius’ feeling for Gidget. Thus, apologizing is as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity. Gidget has helped him free and becomes a friend; accordingly, she must be the subject of solidarity.

Apologizing as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity can also be seen in the following:

Gidget: “Oh, do not ... there is no need to cry. *I’m sorry* that I yelled at you before” (33/TSLoP).

In this scene, Tiberius is trying to eat her. He cannot eat her because the chain is still in his neck. After a few meters, the chain makes him get choked and collapse to the ground. Gidget scolds Tiberius. He cries because of two reasons. Firstly, his neck is hurt. Secondly, he has a bad character. His cry causes Gidget to panick, and therefore, produces those words. Then, Gidget gives an agreement. Gidget wants to be his best friend, but he must not eat the other animals. She forgives him for his intending to eat her, but she also apologizes him for yelling at him. Thus, datum 33 is apologizing as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity.

Thanking as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity can be seen as follows:

Max: "Right, I - - okay, go to go. *Thank you, thank you!*" (50/TSLoP)

In this case, Max swims from the river and helps Snowball. Later on, Maximilian is among the Flushed Pets. When Max helps Snowball, all the Flushed Pets misunderstand because Max carries Snowball with his teeth. When the Flushed Pets wants to kick and hit Max, suddenly, Gidget comes over to Max and helps him. Gidget hits all of the Flushed Pets. She is angry at all of them because Max does not come back to the apartment and makes Gidget panick.

Thanking as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity is expressed by Max. He thanks Gidget and other for their kindness in helping him out of the Flushed Pets. Thanking as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity is also done by Duke. Duke thanks Max since finally Max takes care of Duke by helping Duke out of the sinking van. Solidarity is expressed by Duke when saying "I'm good. I am good. *Thanks* for coming to save me, Max" (52/TSLoP). Similarly, Gidget also says, "Oh, *thanks*, stranger!" (31/TSLoP).

Giving compliments as the phatic utterance functioning to express solidarity can be seen as follows:

Dog Walker: "*Your hat is the best that I have ever seen*" (20/TSLoP)

It is a dog park in the morning; many dogs stay in the park. They are Max, Duke, Mel, Buddy, and other animals. They visit the park with a male dog walker. The participants of this conversation are between two people, they are a male dog walker and a female dog walker. The male dog walker brings ten pets and he unhooks the dog's leashes. He looks surrounds and sees a female dog walker. She brings a dog to the park.

Furthermore, he notices her even though they have never met before. He notices the female dog walker politely and gives good gestures such as smile and greeting for the first conversation. Datum 20 is the compliment given by the male dog walker to the female dog walker. This is part of phatic utterance whose function is to express solidarity. Why it becomes the expression of solidarity? Because in the conversation the female dog walker is not angry. She gives the male dog walker smile showing that she accepts his compliment.

The dominance of breaking the silence function, out of twelve functions of phatic utterance, the researcher finds four functions in the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*, namely breaking the silence, having small talks, keeping the conversation going, and expressing solidarity. Breaking the silence has 22 data, having small talks 17 data, keeping the conversation going 4 data, and expressing solidarity 10 data.

Conversational exchanges can be informational or phatic. Recent findings are different since phatic utterances are also claimed to be informational and meaningful (Naderi, 2017, p.1). This finding, however, does not strengthen the recent findings. The dominance of phatic utterances whose functions are breaking silence in rank 1 and having small talks in rank 2 in this research supports the rejection. The utterances are not informational, namely just for breaking the silence and having small talks. This dominance is closely related to the object of the research. This means that similar researches cannot guarantee the similar findings. The real life of the pets in *The Secret Life of Pets* is started after their owners go to work. They greet each other when their owners go to work in the morning and say good bye when their owners arrive home in the afternoon. The greetings and partings are used for breaking the silence. Similarly, when the greetings and the partings get the feed back, their functions are categorized as having small talks. Including in this function is also raising the questions. Having small talks are second importance in terms of dominance.

4. CONCLUSION

There are four functions of phatic utterances found in the movie entitled *The Secret Life of Pets*, namely breaking the silence, having small talks, keeping the conversation going, and expressing solidarity. Breaking the silence is the most dominant, having small talks is in the second rank, and keeping the conversation going and expressing solidarity place themselves in the third and the fourth. Breaking the silence as the dominant phatic utterance strengthens the notion that phatic utterance is not informational. This dominance is closely related to the object of the research. The greetings and partings are used for breaking the silence in their everyday life of the pets. Breaking the silence turns into having small talks when the greetings and the partings get the feed back; accordingly, having small talks is in the second rank.

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