

Language Function Used in ELT Textbook Focused on Medical Conversation

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Abstract—The study of language in use has become a crucial issue in every branch of study, such as medical, politics, economics, etc. In doing the interaction for those purposes people use language. The theme of this research is language in use in medical conversation, the data taken from the midwifery conversation of some textbooks of English language teaching for midwifery. This study tries to reveal the language in use in midwifery conversation. On the basis of this research, the question rises as: What kind of language functions used in midwifery conversation? In order to answer this question the theories of language in use proposed by some experts such as Leech (1974), Cook (1994) and Halliday (1985) used as references in this study. However the formulation of language in use redesigned based on the general guidelines in giving the counseling to the patient found in three ELT textbooks mostly used in Indonesian universities especially for midwifery students, this research also presents the occurrence of macro and micro language functions, moreover this research reveals the language in use both in English and Indonesian, thus it helps the teachers in stressing every point of language in use, so that they can easy to teach the expressions and the grammar which can be used in the conversation both in English and Indonesian.

Index Terms—language function, language in use, midwifery

I. INTRODUCTION

Verbal or nonverbal languages have the same functions, namely as means of communication from the speaker to the listener, so that the idea, meaning and purpose of the speaker can be transferred to the listener. The study of language in use helps the people to know and understand the functions of expression or utterance that can be used in doing the interaction.

In doing the interaction people must have language competence, for Indonesian student improving language competence especially English competence is very important, since it is as foreign language. In learning English for Indonesian student, there are some purposes, namely for general purposes they can study general English, academic purposes they can study English for academic purposes, for example if they want to study in different country, and the third is English for specific purposes or ESP namely studying English for specific profession, such as doctor, midwife, accountant, etc.

This research focuses on the language functions used in midwifery conversation. The language in use itself is categorized into macro and micro. Cook (1994) explained the macro function can be divided into interactive, informative, directive, etc (p.37). While micro function can be classified into 'greeting', 'introducing', 'asking', etc. However based on the conversation in the counseling between midwife and patient, those theory need to redesigned, thus it can be applied in doing the practice. So that the problems are formulated as follows:

- a) How is the formulation of language in use for the counseling between midwifery and the patient?
- b) What expression can be used based on the formulation?

This paper used the general guideline in formulating the language function used in the counseling between midwifery and patient, the guideline generally ranges from welcoming the patient to the visit conclusion. In details Widaniningsih (2011) described as follows: (1) welcoming the client; (2) Fill the admission form; (3) Asking the pregnancy story; (4) Asking the past pregnancy; (5) Health story; (6) Socio economic; (7) Physical examination; (8) Health education; (9) Labour preparation; (10) Visit conclusion (p.101). By using those guidelines the macro and micro language functions can be formulated, and the expressions can be made, thus this research helps the teachers to stress every point of language in use and they can easy to teach the expressions and grammar both in English and Indonesian.

II. METHODOLOGY

The study based on a corpus of three English language teaching textbooks published in Indonesia, those books used generally by the midwifery university students in Indonesia. Those books in detail as follows:

TABLE 1
TEXTBOOKS USED IN THE ANALYSIS

Textbook	Publisher	Year of Publication
English for Midwives Practical Guidance for Antenatal Care	Penerbit Buku Kedokteran EGC	2011
Midwifery English Practical English for Midwifery Student	Pustaka Rihana	2014
Midwifery English Practical English for Midwifery Student	Rohima Press	2014

Informal surveys were conducted among university teachers of general English. They were asked whether a particular book was used to teach midwifery conversation at their universities. In Indonesia, some universities have classes especially for English speaking instruction, some may combine speaking and listening. Those three books used in teaching conversation and grammar in Indonesia.

Once the textbooks had been identified and collected, they were examined for information about language in use. The theory proposed by the experts were redesigned based on the finding namely expressions used in the counseling between midwife and the patient. The formulation of language in use is categorized into macro function and micro function. The expressions were categorized based on both of the functions. The expressions are both in English and Indonesian presented in this research.

III. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

This section presents and discusses the findings in relation to the research questions. We start with the general procedures used in the counseling between midwife and the patient. The textbooks (table 1) shows, there are general procedures used here are the procedures:

- (1). Welcome the client
- (2) Fill the Admission Form
- (3) Asking the Pregnancy Story
- (4) Asking the Past Pregnancy
- (5) Health Story
- (6) Socio Economic
- (7) Physical Examination
- (8) Health Education
- (9) Labour Preparation
- (10) Visit conclusion


Based on the collected data the formulation of language functions which designed by the experts cannot be fully applied, thus the formulation are redesigned. Cook (1994) formulated the language function into macro and micro functions. There are two kinds of language functions which similar to the formulation which designed by the experts, namely **informative** function which is similar to the **informational** function proposed by Leech (1994), it is used to deliver the information. There are also macro functions which have not been mentioned by the experts, in this research called as **interactive interpersonal**, which is as an expansion of interpersonal function proposed by Halliday (1973). The next function is called as **permissive**, it is used by the midwife when examining the patient, and the midwife uses the polite form of sentences in giving command to the patient. Furthermore, **communicative** function is used in greeting, asking the purpose of the patient. The last is called **impressive** function, used when the midwife finishes examining the patient, saying thank you in closing the examination can be used as the example for this function. Thus in this article there are six of macro functions used in analyzing language in use in giving service to the patient. The following discussions present those functions in detail.

TABLE 2
LANGUAGE IN USE FOR WELCOMING PATIENT IN ENGLISH AND INDONESIAN

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expressions in English and Indonesian
Communicative	Greeting (in English) Menyapa (in Indonesian)	Good morning, how may I help you? Selamat pagi, ada yang bisa saya bantu? (Indonesian) (Widaningsih, 2011)
Permissive	Giving an order (in English) Menyuruh (in Indonesian)	Please would you like to sit down? Silahkan duduk (Indonesian) (Widaningsih, 2011)
Informative	Asking for information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian) Confirming (in English) Memastikan (in Indonesian)	Is this your first time for you to come here? Apakah ini pertama kalinya anda datang kemari? If it is so. I will fill in your card first Apabila iya. saya akan mengisi registrasi (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (2) above, the macro functions used in welcoming the patient are communicative, directive and informative. While the micro functions are greeting, ordering, asking information and confirming. Occasionally, some textbooks used in this study offer information by arranging linguistic expressions how to say greeting according to degree of formality, as illustrated in Extract I below:

EXTRACT I.
ADAPTED FROM MIDWIFERY ENGLISH PRACTICAL ENGLISH FOR MIDWIFERY STUDENT

<p>Formal Informal</p> 	Greetings
	Good Morning, how may I help you? (English)
	Selamat pagi, ada yang bisa saya bantu? (Indonesian)
	Hello, Mrs Anita. How are you? (English)
	Hallo, Nyonya Anita. Apa kabar? (Indonesian)
Hi, how are you doing? (English)	
Hai, bagaimana kabar? (Indonesian)	

According to Brown and Levinson (1987), the difference in using formal and informal expressions is affected by social status, social distance. However, most students do not know the reason in using those expressions. So that the teacher must explain the factors influencing the formality of various expressions, thus the student can posit themselves on the right position. In English we can greet people formally by saying “good morning”, “good afternoon” or “good evening”, while “hello” or “hi” can be less formal. So that in Indonesian we can greet people formally by saying “selamat pagi” in the morning, “selamat siang” in the afternoon” and “selamat malam” in the evening, while “hallo” or hai can be less formal. In Indonesian “hallo” or “hai” can be used when we greet friends.

TABLE 3
LANGUAGE IN USE IN FILLING THE ADMISSION FORM

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Permissive	Asking (in English) Meminta (in Indonesian)	May I have your ID card? Bolehkah saya meminta kartu identitas anda? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Informative	Confirming (in English) Memastikan (in Indonesian)	According to your ID card, your name is Thalia, right? Menurut kartu identitas anda, nama anda Thalia, bukan? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Impressive	Saying thanks (in English) Berterimakasih (in Indonesian)	Thank you Terimakasih (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (3) above, the macro functions used in welcoming the patient are permissive, informative, and impressive. While the micro functions are asking, confirming, and saying thanks. In asking the ID card of the patient both the English and Indonesian expressions are in polite form. The midwife tend to use “May I have?” or “Bolehkah saya?”, rather than direct command such as “give me your ID card!” or “serahkan kartu identitas anda!”. In forming a polite sentence for asking something in Indonesian may use *boleh* + kah (bound morpheme) + *saya* (subject) or in English can be *may* (modal) + *I* (subject). In Indonesian, it has the similar way in confirming the information the tag question can also be used, for example “menurut kartu identitas anda, nama anda Thalia, bukan?” the word “bukan” aims at confirming information.

TABLE 4
LANGUAGE IN USE IN ASKING THE PREGNANCY STORY

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for Information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	-When did you feel the first fetal movement? Kapankah pertama kalinya anda merasakan pergerakan pada janin anda? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Interactive interpersonal	Giving suggestion (in English) Menyarankan (in Indonesian)	Good, to avoid nausea, before you get up from bed, it will be better you take sweet warm tea and a biscuit Bagus, untuk menghindari mual sebelum anda bangun dari tempat tidur, sebaiknya anda minum teh hangat dan biscuit (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (4) above, the macro functions used in ELT textbooks for asking the pregnancy story are informative, and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, and giving suggestion. In giving suggestion in English, we can say *it will be better*, so it is in Indonesian we can say *sebaiknya* or *ada baiknya*.

TABLE 5
LANGUAGE IN USE FOR ASKING THE PAST PREGNANCY

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian) Asking for information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	-In your last pregnancy, did you feel nausea, vomiting and may be bleeding? Pada kehamilan sebelumnya, apakah anda merasakan mual, muntah atau perdarahan? how about your last delivery, was it spontaneously or did you need caesarean section? Bagaimanakah persalinan anda pada kehamilan sebelumnya, apakah spontan atau Caesar? (Widaningsih, 2011)

Table (5) above shows, the macro function used in the ELT textbooks for asking the pregnancy story is informative. While the micro functions is asking for information. In asking for information about the past pregnancy, we can use *did you feel....? How about....? Or in Indonesian can be *apakah anda merasa...? Bagaimanakah dengan...? So In Indonesian question word *apa + kah* (bound morpheme)+ *anda* (object) + *merasa* (verb).**

TABLE 6
LANGUAGE IN USE IN ASKING HEALTH HISTORY

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	-have you ever been seriously ill? Apakah anda pernah sakit yang serius? -is there any problem about passing urine or defecation? Apakah anda mengalami masalah pada saat buang air kecil dan buang air besar (Widaningsih, 2011)
Interactive interpersonal	Relaxing (in English) Menenangkan (in Indonesian)	Passing urine is often caused by the pressure of baby's head to the bladder. But it is a physiological effect. So you need not to worry about it, just take it easy or relax Buang air kecil disebabkan oleh tekanan dari kepala bayi ke kandung kemih. Akan tetapi, hal tersebut adalah efek psikologis. Jadi, anda tidak usah khawatir tentang itu, tenanglah (Widaningsih, 2011)
Impressive	Saying thanks (in English) Berterima kasih (in Indonesian)	Thank you for your explanation Terimakasih atas penjelasannya (Widaningsih, 2011)

Table (6) above shows, the macro functions used in the ELT textbooks in asking health story are informative, interactive interpersonal and impressive. While the micro functions are asking for information, relaxing and saying thanks. It is important to make the patient relax during the pregnancy period, in this case the midwife can give explanation and say *don't worry* or in Indonesian can be *jangan khawatir*. or *tenanglah*. It is very important to make the patient relax in order to avoid their stress during the pregnancy.

TABLE 7
LANGUAGE IN USE IN ASKING SOCIO ECONOMIC

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for Information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian) Asking for Information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	-during this pregnancy, what kind of food do you take for meal? Selama kehamilan ini makanan apa saja yang anda konsumsi? What are your activities at home? Apa saja kegiatan anda di rumah? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Interactive interpersonal	Giving Suggestion (in English) Menyarankan (in Indonesian)	-Potato/cereal, animal protein, vegetable protein, vegetables and fruit. It is very good and it will be better when you add some milk. Kentang/sereal, protein hewani, protein nabati, sayuran dan buah. Makanan tersebut sangatlah baik dan akan sangat baik apabila ditambahkan dengan susu (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (7) above, the macro functions used in asking the socio economic are informative, and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, and giving suggestion. Another expressions in

giving suggestion in Indonesian are *sangatlah baik mengkonsumsi* (it is very good to consume...) or *akan sangat baik mengkonsumsi* (it will be better to consume...) in English it is said *it will be better* as it is shown on table (7).

TABLE 8
LANGUAGE IN USE IN PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	Is your hair thinning? Apakah rambut anda menipis? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Permissive	Giving an order (in English) Menyuruh (in Indonesian)	Now I'd like to check your eyes condition conjunctive and sclera. Excuse me, look up, look down. Thank you. Sekarang saya akan memeriksa kondisi mata anda konjungtiva dan sclera. Permisi lihat ke atas, lihat ke bawah. Terima kasih. (Widaningsih, 2011)
Impressive	Saying thanks (in English) Berterima kasih (in Indonesian)	Thank you Terimakasih (Widaningsih, 2011)
Interactive interpersonal	Giving Suggestion (in English) Menyarankan (in Indonesian)	You should not take a bath with cool water or drink cool water and eat cool foods that come out from refrigerator Sebaiknya anda mandi tidak dengan air dingin ataupun minum air dingin dan makan makanan yang dingin yang baru saja dikeluarkan dari lemari es (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (8) above, the macro functions used in physical examination are informative, permissive, impressive and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, ordering, saying thanks and giving suggestion. In giving a direct order, the midwife can make the sentence more polite by saying *excuse me*, or *can you.....?* or in Indonesian it can be *permisi....or bisakah anda.....?* rather than direct command such as "lie down on the bed now!" or in Indonesian "berbaring sekarang!". The midwife can choose the polite form to make the patient relax and comfortable during the examination.

TABLE 9
LANGUAGE IN USE IN GIVING HEALTH EDUCATION

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for Information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	Could you tell me how many times do you take a bath? Bolehkah saya tahu berapa kalikah anda mandi dalam sehari? (Widaningsih, 2011)
Interactive interpersonal	Giving Suggestion (in English) Menyarankan (in Indonesian)	During pregnancy, usually you get perspiration or sweat so it will be better for you if you take a bath more than once Selama kehamilan, tentunya anda lebih banyak berkeringat, akan lebih baik apabila anda mandi lebih dari satu kali dalam sehari (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (9) above, the macro functions used in asking giving health education are informative, and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, and giving suggestion. In giving suggestion it can be *it will be better for you if you...or* in Indonesian *akan lebih baik apabila.....*In asking for information the polite form can be used such as *could you tell me how....?* Or in Indonesian *bolehkah saya tahu....?* In this case avoid of using direct command such as "tell me how many times you take a bath" or in Indonesian "beritahukan kepada saya berapa kali anda mandi".

TABLE 10
LANGUAGE IN USE IN ASKING LABOUR PREPARATION

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Informative	Asking for Information (in English) Menanyakan (in Indonesian)	What is your preparation for your delivery? Persiapan apakah yang anda lakukan untuk persalinan anda? (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (10) above, the macro functions used in asking the pregnancy story are informative, and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, and giving suggestion. In asking preparation for delivery, the midwife can use *what is your preparation....?* Or in Indonesian *persiapan apakah...?* Rather than giving direct command you must go to.....!

TABLE 11
LANGUAGE IN USE IN GIVING VISIT CONCLUSION

Macro Function	Micro Function	Expression in English and Indonesian
Interactive interpersonal	Giving Suggestion (in English) Menyarankan (in Indonesian)	It will be better if you check your pregnancy regularly, and the next coming is on the 5 th of August Lebih baik anda memeriksa kehamilan anda secara teratur, dan pemeriksaan selanjutnya adalah tanggal 5 Agustus (Widaningsih, 2011)

Based on table (11) above, the macro functions used in asking the pregnancy story are informative, and interactive interpersonal. While the micro functions are asking for information, and giving suggestion. In giving visit conclusion the point is giving suggestion, thus the expression *it will be better....*or in Indonesian *lebih baik.....*can be stressed by the teacher in teaching this point.

The occurrence of macro and micro functions can be seen on the tables as in below:

TABLE 12
THE OCCURRENCE OF MACRO FUNCTIONS

Macro Functions	The Occurrence of Macro Functions (Times)
Communicative	1
Informative	9
Impressive	3
Interactive Interpersonal	6
Permissive	3

TABLE 13
THE OCCURRENCE OF MICRO FUNCTIONS

Micro Function	The Occurrence of Micro Functions (Times)
Greeting	1
Giving an order	2
Asking for information	8
Confirming	2
Asking	1
Saying Thanks	2
Giving Suggestion	5
Relaxing	1

The occurrence of macro and micro functions can give contribution to the teachers and textbooks writers. The occurrence can help the teacher to reduce the gap between the student need and what the ELT textbooks offer for the learners. Teachers should be aware of this condition and by seeing and understanding the macro and micro in using the language, the teacher can find out the effective ways to raise the students' competence in using the expressions, formality, social status, social distance, and politeness. Moreover, teacher can see what function that mostly used in the counseling between midwife and patient, it is shown (table 13) asking information and giving suggestion to the patient has the high frequency in the counseling, teacher can give explanation about the grammar, the polite form that can be used in asking information and giving suggestion more intensively, the polite form is important to be suggested to the students, in order to make the patient feel relax and comfortable during the counseling. However, much time and effort are needed for teacher to find more information on linguistics midwifery study. The busy live of ELT teachers will make this condition not always be possible, especially in Indonesia where the teacher have busy schedules and large classes. Therefore, it is important for the textbooks writers to offer well-designed textbooks that present more examples of expressions such as in the real practice.

IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

ELT textbooks often present expressions without explanation about the functions. Even if there is no illustration for student when some expressions and what for the expressions are used. This research has tried to reveal the benefit of introducing language in use in the field of medical linguistics. The formulations of language in use in the conversation between midwife and patient help the teacher to determine and develop the material in teaching speaking especially conversation for the midwifery student both in English and in Indonesian. The occurrence of micro functions (see table 13) will be very beneficial in studying the English for midwife, in this case the teacher can give the material in terms of how to greet the patient, how to give command(in polite form), how to ask information, how to confirm, how to ask patient to do something, how to say thanks, how to give suggestion and how to make the patient relax during the counseling, the teacher can give some choices of sentences, explain the grammar and so on. Without knowing the language functions, the teacher will face difficulties to select the appropriate dialog which contain different functions, since the dialog on the textbooks does not focus on the need of the student speaking activity. ELT textbooks provide some outcomes, however in doing the speaking practice for student the material has to be expanded. In addition, it has been acknowledged that there is lack of research exploring difficulties of language in used which focused on medical study especially midwifery. So that, future language functions research is needed to enrich the language functions knowledge especially on medical subject.

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