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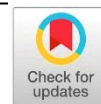


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# Adjacency Pairs in Ellen DeGeneres' Talk Show

**Weby Yolannisa**

## **Abstract**

Talk Show is a program that basically deals with a conversational discussion concerning latest events in different aspects of life; social, economy, education, life style, love- life etc. From the conversation uttered by speakers, there are some patterns that they automatically produced, called adjacency pairs. Therefore, this study focused on the adjacency pairs in the conversation between the host (Ellen De'Generes) and the guest (Bill Gates) in Ellen De'Generes' Talk Show. The aims of the research were (1) to describe and analyze types of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen DeGeneres and Bill Gates, and (2) to describe and analyze the preference structure of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen DeGeneres and Bill Gates. The main data of the research were the video and the script of the conversation between Ellen De'Generes and Bill Gates. This study used qualitative approach in investigating the problem in order to get the descriptive data after spoken and written data have been analyzed. In analyzing adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs, the researcher used the theory of conversation analysis (CA) as the basic theory. From the data, it was found that there were 11 adjacency pairs that consisted of 1 pair of assessment – agreement, 2 pair of assertion – agreement, 1 pair of assertion-disagreement, 6 pairs of question- answer, and 1 pair suggestion-acceptance in the conversation. Last, there were 11 data of the preference structure which consisted of 10 data included into the preferred structure from second pair part and 1 data included into the dispreferred structure from second pair part.

**Key Words:** adjacency pairs; conversation analysis; preference structure; talk show.

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## Abstrak

*Gelar wicara merupakan acara televisi yang membahas tentang kejadian – kejadian terbaru di berbagai macam aspek kehidupan seperti sosial, ekonomi, pendidikan, gaya hidup, percintaan, dan lain-lain. Dari percakapan yang diutarakan para pembicara, terdapat pola yang terbentuk yaitu pasangan ajasensi. Sehingga, penelitian ini berfokus kepada pasangan ajasensi dalam percakapan antara pembawa acara (Ellen De'Generes) dan bintang tamu (Bill Gates) di gelar wicara Ellen De'Generes' Talk Show. Tujuan penelitian ini yaitu: (1) mendeskripsikan dan menganalisis jenis-jenis pasangan ajasensi di percakapan antara Ellen De'Generes dengan Bill Gates, dan (2) mendeskripsikan dan menganalisis struktur preferensi dari pasangan ajasensi di percakapan antara Ellen De'Generes dengan Bill Gates. Data utama untuk penelitian ini yaitu skrip percakapan antara Ellen De'Generes dan Bill Gates. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dalam menginvestigasi poin-poin yang diteliti untuk mendapatkan penjelasan secara deskriptif dari data lisan dan tertulis. Untuk menganalisis pasangan adjasensi dan struktur preferensi dalam pasangan ajasensi, peneliti menggunakan teori analisis percakapan. Dari hasil penelitian, terdapat, 11 pasangan ajasensi yang terdiri dari 1 pasangan assessment – agreement, 2 pasangan assertion – agreement, 1 pasangan assertion-disagreement, 6 pasangan question-answer, dan 1 pasangan suggestion-acceptance dalam percakapan. Lalu, terdapat 11 data untuk struktur preferensi yang terdiri dari 10 data preferred structure dari second pair part (respon positif atau setuju dari pasangan kedua) dan 1 data dispreferred structure dari second pair part (respon negatif atau tidak setuju dari pasangan kedua).*

**Key Words:** *pasangan ajasensi; analisis percakapan; struktur preferensi; gelar wicara.*



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## INTRODUCTION

Communication is the act of how people can inform news and a message by using a language that is understandable by others in a society. People has several ways in initiating the communication, one of them is through conversation. As Paltridge (2006) states “conversation is the main way in which people come together, exchange information, negotiate, and maintain social relations.” Conversation is important in society as the way to communicate orally and people need partner to begin conversation. Conversation can be seen in many examples such as in a talk show, an interview or another television show. Through the conversation uttered by speakers in a talk show, it might produce the automatic patterns containing an exchange of one turn each by two speakers that is called as adjacency pairs.

Coulthard (1985) explains adjacency pairs are pairs of utterances in talk that are considered to be automatic sequences consisting of a first part and a second part. The two parts are produced by different participants, at least two speakers. After the first speaker utters something, the first speaker expects the second speaker to respond his or her utterance. To support the statement above, there are some features of adjacency pairs proposed by Levinson (1983) that are: (1) adjacent or the conversation is related to one another, (2) uttered by different speakers, (3) ordered as a first speaker and a second speaker, (4) typed that each conversation has the pattern such as offer-acceptance or rejection, greeting-greeting, question- answer, etc. Thus, Adjacency pairs are utterances produced by two different speakers in such a way that the second utterance is identified as related to the first one and it is expected to follow what is initiated by the first utterance spoken by the first speaker.

There are various types of adjacency pairs proposed by some experts: Levinson (1983), Paltridge (2006), Coulthard (1985), and Schegloff & Sacks (1973): (1) Announcement – Acknowledgement, (2) Apology – Minimization, (3) Assertion - Agreement/Disagreement, (4) Assessment - Agreement/Disagreement, (5) Blame - Admission/Denial, (6) Command - Compliance/Incompliance , (7) Complaint – Apology, (8) Compliment – Acceptance, (9) Greeting – Greeting, (10) Invitation - Acceptance/Refusal, (11) Leave Taking - Leave Taking, (12) Offer – Acceptance/Refusal , (13) Question -Answer, (14) Request – Acceptance/Refusal, (15) Suggestion - Acceptance/Refusal, (16) Summon – Answer, (17) Threat - Counter threat, (18) Warning - Acknowledgement. Moreover, in doing the conversation, the second speaker may give the response to the first speaker that is called as the preference structure.

Paltridge (2006) states when a speaker stops talking and allows another speaker to talk or give a response, it is defined as the preference structure. For example a compliment can be followed by acceptance (the preferred second pair part) or rejection (the dispreferred second pair part), so the second pair part may accept to a statement spoken by the first pair or reject it. It means in adjacency pairs, there is another aspect that is shown when people have the conversation, namely preference structure. The preference structure is classified in two types: preferred and dispreferred. Preferred structure is the structurally expected next act or acceptance. However, dispreferred structure is the structurally unexpected next act or refusal. It means, in adjacency pairs, a response is not only preferred second part, but also dispreferred second part. To make discussion clearer, there are some kinds of preference structure produced by the second pair part: (1) Assertion – Agreement (Preferred) / Disagreement (Dispreferred), (2) Assessment – Agreement (Preferred) / Disagreement (Dispreferred), (3) Blame – Admission (Preferred) / Denial (Dispreferred), (4) Command - Compliance (Preferred) / Incompliance (Dispreferred), (5) Invitation - Acceptance (Preferred) / Refusal (Dispreferred), (6) Blame - Admission (Preferred) / Denial (Dispreferred), (7) Offer – Acceptance (Preferred) / Refusal (Dispreferred), (8) Request – Acceptance (Preferred) / Refusal (Dispreferred), (9) Suggestion – Acceptance (Preferred) / Refusal (Dispreferred).

One of the ways to know adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs by watching a talk show. Ellen De'Generes is an American comedian, television host, actress, writer, and producer. Ellen has become the host of her talk show, The Ellen De'Generes Show, since 2003. Another interesting aspect from this show is, the show is not only inviting celebrities and famous people around the world as her guests and talking about their life, but also involving audience participation games where prizes are awarded. During her Twelve Days of Giveaways promotion, audience members receive roughly \$1,000 worth of prizes on each of twelve episodes. Then, Ellen succeeded to invite one of the most influential and successful persons in the world, Bill Gates as her guest. Bill chatted about becoming a young billionaire, the trampoline room in his house, and the outstanding work he's doing with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The episode when Bill Gates was invited to Ellen's talk show is considered as the interesting episode by the writer as it shows the interesting topic discussed between Bill and Ellen that revealed how generous and humble, Bill Gates as the billionaire. He also showed his concern in improving the educational system in US and encouragement to people to do the good things in helping others.

The other reason is, the talk show also contains conversational aspects such as adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs. In analyzing adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs, the approach called Conversation Analysis is suitable to be applied. Conversation analysis examines the aspects of conversational interactions such as adjacency pairs, preference structure, turn taking, feedback, repair, conversational openings and closings, discourse markers, and response tokens (Paltridge : 2006). Conversation analysis is a linguistic study that mainly handles coherence and sequential organization in spoken discourse (Levinson, 1983). Conversation analysis is the guidance that can be applied to understand people's ideas and intention when they are engaged in a conversation. Paltridge (2006) is an approach for analyzing a spoken discourse that focuses on how people manage their daily interaction in a conversation. Thus, conversation analysis is the method how to analyze people's interaction when they have a conversation with others by referring to the sensibility, meaningfulness, and sequential organization of a conversational interaction.

Liddicoat (2007) states "conversation analysis studies the organization and orderliness of social interaction." As human talk is a form of action, it is understood as action by participants in the interaction. This talk is presented and understood as meaningful because participants share the same understanding and able to follow the talk well that can be helpful in finding the clear intention in the talk. Conversation analysis seeks to understand these shared processes which participants in an interaction use to produce and recognize meaningful action. The core assumptions of conversation analysis are (cf. Psathas, 1995): (1) *Order is produced orderliness*. That is, order does not occur of its own accord nor does it pre-exist the interaction, but is rather the result of the coordinated practices of the participants who achieve orderliness and then interact, (2) *Order is produced, situated and occasioned*. That is, order is produced by the participants themselves for the conversation in which it occurs, (3) *Order is repeatable and recurrent*. The patterns of orderliness found in conversation are repeated, not only in the talk of an individual speaker, but across groups of speakers. The achieved order is therefore the result of a shared understanding of the methods by which order is achievable. It means, conversation analysis involves the examination and analysis of a conversation in terms of what is said, why it is said, and how it is said by speakers.

Conversation analysis also examines everyday spoken discourse and aims to understand how people manage their conversation in order to create an effective and meaningful conversation. Conversation analysis looks at the aspects of conversational interactions such as adjacency pairs, preference structure, turn taking, feedback, repair, conversational openings and closings, discourse markers, and response tokens (Paltridge : 2006). Therefore, Conversation Analysis (CA) is the best approach to analyze adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen De'Generes and Bill Gates as CA covers two aspects: adjacency pairs and preference structure, which cannot be analyzed by other approach. In supporting the study, the research investigated by Permatasari (2017) elaborated that there are 245 turns in the drama script —Teen Angel by M.D Larson. Deeper analysis was conducted and there is found some data which are categorized as turn –taking. Furthermore, the researcher classified the 103 data of adjacency pair into 13 types of adjacency pairs. Besides the types of adjacency pair, the researcher also found some data which have pre-sequence and intersection sequence. There are 5 pre-sequence and 2 insertion sequences.

The second research conducted by Mudra (2018) titled “ Adjacency Pairs as Uttered in the Conversation of Sofia Coppolas’ Lost in Translation Movie Script” also proved the structures of Adjacency Pairs found this study were formulated based on first pair part as uttered by first speaker and second pair part as uttered by second speaker. There were two types of responses as categorized, namely preferred and dispreferred responses of adjacency pairs. Twenty eight structures of preferred responses and fourteen dispreferred responses were identified from the conversations of the movie. The research also implied that acts of speech as produced in the conversations vary. As for preferred responses of adjacency pairs, there were twenty eight structures which proved that each speaker has their own intention, need, and interest during their speech turn within a conversation. From the two previous researches that have been explained, this study is completely different. From the data, this study chooses the talk show “Ellen De’Generes’ Talk Show”. Meanwhile the first previous study uses drama script and the second one uses conversations in a movie. Moreover, the focus of this study is different as well. The study aims to describing and analyzing types of adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen De’Generes and Bill Gates in ““Ellen De’Generes’ Talk Show””.

The first related study was intended to analyze the kinds of adjacency pairs and the sequence of adjacency pairs while the second related study mainly focused on two types of responses as categorized, namely preferred and dispreferred responses of adjacency pairs and the structures of adjacency pairs that were influenced by speakers' intention, need, and interest.

Thus, as the main purpose, this report is written to investigate two important aspects: (1) describing and analyzing types of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen DeGeneres and Bill Gates, and (2) describing and analyzing the preference structure of adjacency pairs in the conversation between Ellen DeGeneres and Bill Gates. By describing and analyzing types of adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs, it can be helpful to show an understanding of the way speakers of different cultures express their ideas and intention. Then, it also gives the information the readers about types of adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs that exist in the talk show.

## **METHOD**

The approach used in the study was Conversation Analysis (CA). Conversation analysis is appropriate to be applied in conducting the research that has the connection with the spoken discourse, mainly the interaction in a conversation. Conversation Analysis also emphasizes on analyzing the data based on the transcript of the conversation between two speakers or more. This study also used qualitative in order to get the descriptive data after spoken and written data were analyzed and focused more on deep understanding towards the concept of an object being investigated rather than analyzing data by using statistical analysis. By using the qualitative approach, this study was intended to find and describe aspects of conversation within the conversation between Ellen De'Generes and Bill Gates. The primary data of this research were a video and script of the speakers between Ellen De'Generes and Bill Gates.

The data which contains video and script taking place in a studio on February 21, 2018 and the duration were 6:34 minute. There were some steps in collecting the data: (1) Finding the website for the data on the internet. (2) Downloading the data interview between Ellen De'Generes and Bill Gates, (3) Watching the video of the data. The researcher took some time to watch the video of the interview to matching each word the script of data and the video. In analyzing the data, the writer came to the several steps: (1) Reading the script, (2) Classifying the data by focusing on the types of adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pairs, (3) Drawing conclusion.



## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Based on the analysis, there are 11 data that are classified as the adjacency pairs. The data, then, were classified into 5 types of adjacency pairs. (1) Assessment-Agreement, (2) Assertion-Agreement, (3) Assertion-Disagreement, (4) Question-Answer, (5) Suggestion-Acceptance. Moreover, the dominant type of adjacency pair is question-answer that is proven by 6 data. The analysis also revealed that 10 data of preferred structure and 1 data of dispreferred structure. The researcher provides one example of each type. The result can be seen as follows.

**The Adjacency Pairs found in the Conversation between Ellen and Bill**

| No. | Types of Adjacency Pairs |                  | Preference Structure |              | Occurrence |
|-----|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|
|     | First Pair Part          | Second Pair Part | Preferred            | Dispreferred |            |
| 1   | Assessment               | Agreement        | √                    |              | 1          |
| 2   | Assertion                | Agreement        | √                    |              | 2          |
| 3   | Assertion                | Disagreement     |                      | √            | 1          |
| 4   | Question                 | Answer           | √                    |              | 6          |
| 5   | Suggestion               | Acceptance       | √                    |              | 1          |

### Adjacency Pairs

#### 1. Assessment – Agreement

The first participant expresses her opinion or judgement of a certain event or situation. Moreover, the response to this pattern is an agreement, stating that the second participant agrees to what the first participant's opinion.

##### Data 1

Ellen : It was good. Your daughter is looking at you like, I've never seen you dance like that. Hi. So the last time we saw each other....it was at the White House. We both were receiving the Medal of Freedom. **And that was quite a day, wasn't it?**

Bill : **That was an amazing group.**

From the transcript above, it can be seen that Ellen makes an assessment to the situation when she and Bill received the Medal of Freedom at the White House by expressing her opinion that was a quite day. Then, the second participant tells the first participant that he accepts or agrees what the first participant says about the situation by saying — *That was an amazing group*. The expression indicates that the second participant shows the agreement to the first participant's opinion that the day they met at the White House was a great day for Bill and Ellen.

## 2. Assertion – Agreement / Disagreement

### Data 1

When someone asserts something, it means he or she strongly believes that it is true. This term reflects to the statement uttered by Bill Gates when he expresses his assertion that he was conservative about finances.

Bill : Yeah, because I always had to be careful that we wouldn't hire too many people. I was always worried because people who worked for me were older than me and they had kids. And I always thought well what if we don't get paid. Will I be able to meet the payroll? So **I was always very conservative about the finances.**

Ellen : **Right**

From the transcript, the first participant, Bill Gates, states an assertion that he believes and admits he was a conservative person when it came to the finances. He felt that he had to be careful in hiring people and thought well if they don't get paid. Therefore, the first speaker, Bill Gates, considers himself as the conservative person in dealing with finances. Then, the second participant, Ellen DeGeneres gives a response by stating an agreement about the first participants' assertion by saying "**Right**". She agrees with the first speaker's point of view about himself.

### Data 2

Bill : Well I always wanted to have enough money in the bank so that even if our customers didn't pay us for a year, we could still keep paying everybody and do the R&D. **So I'd still be viewed as conservative.** Aaaa, you know. **I don't have that many things that are extravagant taste so it didn't change too much.**

Ellen : **So nothing really changed, okay.**

In this conversation, Bill also expresses his assertion that he still believes in himself as the conservative person when it deals with the company welfare by saying he always wanted to have enough money in the bank although the costumers didn't pay them well, so he could still do the research and development for his company. He also asserts that he doesn't have the extravagant things even though he has become the billionaire. He believes that his life didn't change too much. From the statement spoken by Bill Gates, Ellen shows her agreement by saying "**So nothing really changed**". It means, she has no objection of what Bill opines about him.

### Data 3

Bill : Yeah, that was an indulgence. And then eventually, for my travel I got a plane. **Which is a huge indulgence. So those are my two.**

Ellen : **Well not really**, because you travel all the time. So that's important that you have a plane.

In this conversation, Bill believes that having a plane is one of huge indulgences for him as he views himself as a simple and humble person. However, the second speaker expresses her **disagreement** by saying “**Well, not really**”. She thinks that having a plane is the primary transportation for a person like Bill Gates as he travels a lot, and that is not a huge indulgence. Therefore, the second speaker, Ellen disagrees with Bill’s assertion that according to her, having a plane is not a huge indulgence for him.

### 3. Question – Answer

Questions have the function to seek information, clarification, etc. It is about asking something to someone. It is responded with information provide, clarification provide, etc. There are 6 data of Question-Answer type as shown below.

#### Data 1

Ellen : \$40 billion. And you've kind of encouraged other billionaires to do this as well. Because it really is kind of up to the people to fix the problems in the world, it seems, right? **So what is your main focus right now?**

Bill : My wife Melinda and I picked global health as our big thing. The fact that still we have five million kids who die under the age of five. Now it was over 10 million when we got started so there's been huge progress over the last 20 years. So things like malaria, diarrhea. Coming up with new drugs and vaccines and getting them out to all the kids in the world. That's our main thing. Our second biggest thing is all in the US, which is trying to help improve the education system here.

From this conversation, the first speaker, Ellen, tries to ask the question about the things that Bill is doing to help people, by asking “**So what is your main focus right now?**” Responding to Ellen’s question, Bill answers it directly by saying the global health is his main focus as five million kids die under the age of five and it becomes worse, over 10 million when they got started so there's been huge progress over the last 20 years. Therefore, Bill and his wife try to provide the new drugs and vaccines and getting them out to all the kids in the world. Besides, the global health, he also explains his second contribution to help the world is helping improve the education system in the US. By asking that kind of question, Ellen wants to seek the information about how Bill can help to overcome the problems in the worlds.

**Data 2**

Ellen : And how, you know. We're listening to you, obviously \$40 billion does a lot. And there are other people that are helping. But what can we do? **What is the best thing that you could say that just one person can do to help?**

Bill : Well particularly with schools, the ability to go to the local public school or charter school and engage with the kids, mentor kids, talk about the kind of work you do. There's huge opportunities there. With the challenges, saying Africa, part of it is people's voice. There's a real question now whether the US sort of takes this less than 1% of our budget that saves tens of millions of lives and whether we don't prioritize continuing that. So it's a hot debate in terms of is it good for America to be generous and help the rest of the world, live a healthy life.

This conversation still discusses the actions that Bill Gates does in helping the world. The first speaker, Ellen, asks another question to Bill about the best thing that one person could do to help. To answer her question, Bill says we can share the information about the kind of work we do to the local public school or charter school and engage with the kids and mentor kids as it will bring the huge opportunities to motivate them help the world. He also mentions it can be the challenges and hot debate for American to be generous and help the rest of the world, in order to live a healthy life. This means, the first speaker, Ellen also tries to seek another information about how to help people, and the second speaker, Bill, can give the answers that are relevant with Ellen's question, as well as the illustration in terms of is it good for America to be generous and give the good contribution to the rest of the world.

**Data 3**

Ellen : Yeah. Really, really fun. So you are here with your daughter who is 21, right? And you were 21 when you became a billionaire. **Is that right?**

Bill : **Almost, yep.**

In this conversation, Ellen tries to confirm whether Bill Gates became a billionaire when he was 21 by saying “**Is that right?**” The second speaker, Bill Gates, answers her question “**Almost, yep**”, which means he became the billionaire when he was almost 21, so Ellen's question was close to the fact that Bill Gates became the billionaire around 21.

#### **Data 4**

Ellen : Right. OK. So. Which is the most important thing. **So when you were a kid, did you care about money? Or you just cared about technology and it just happened?**

Bill : Aaa, mostly I loved software. I do remember at the private school. I went to there were other kids whose families were better off.

Like they had a Porsche or something. But it wasn't that big of a deal. My thing was that I just loved doing software. I loved hiring people. And I was stunned when it ended up being so valuable.

In this conversation, Ellen also tries to seek the information about Bill's childhood whether he cared about money or technology by asking the question "**So when you were a kid, did you care about money? Or you just cared about technology and it just happened?**" Then, Bill truthfully answers that he loved software, which means technology. He didn't really care about money as he just did something that appealed him, creating software. Therefore, Ellen asks the question that has the relation with things that attracted Bill when he was a kid. To respond her question, Bill gives the answer that is expected by Ellen whether he cared about money or technology, and his answer is software or technology.

#### **Data 5**

Ellen : Yeah. I mean. And how do you do that? I always think you get what you pay for. So if you don't pay teachers, because most teachers are paying out of their own pocket to take care of these students. **So how do you do that?**

Bill : Well, there are some really phenomenal teachers. And so the dream is that you could take that top 10% and have them help the others to get best practices, the best teaching ideas to spread all over the country.

In this conversation, Ellen also wants to find the information of how Bill Gates can improve the educational system in the US since most teachers are paying out of their own pocket to take care of the students, according to Ellen. In answering Ellen's question, Bill tries to give the solution by saying there were some really phenomenal teachers, so we could have taken only 10% and had them help the others to get best practices, the best teaching ideas to spread all over the country.

**Data 6**

Ellen: So you already put \$40 billion of your own money into your foundation?

Bill: **Yep.**

In this conversation, Ellen also asks the question the thing that Bill has done in helping people which is giving the donation \$40 billion to his foundation. Responding to her statement, Bill answers “Yep” as he doesn’t deny his action. Therefore by asking” **So you already put \$40 billion of your own money into your foundation?”**, Ellen tries to confirm the information directly to Bill Gates.

**4. Suggestion / Acceptance**

In conversation, the participants may propose the suggestion to give the options, ideas, or plans about the topic being discussed.

Bill : We have a trampoline room in our house. Ellen : Oh wow.

Bill : The kids like that. Indoor trampoline. **I recommend it.**

Ellen : **Just one giant trampoline, okay.**

Bill : **Yeah. Yeah, it's a room with a very high ceiling.**

Ellen : **Well yeah.**

From this conversation, Bill Gates tries to give the suggestion to have the indoor trampoline by saying “The kids like that. Indoor trampoline. **I recommend it.**” and “**Yeah. Yeah, it's a room with a very high ceiling.**” Then, Ellen shows her acceptance to Bill’s suggestion in having indoor trampoline by giving the responses “**Just one giant trampoline, okay.**” and “**Well yeah.**”

**Preference Structure**

Levinson divides preference structures into preferred and dis-preferred social acts. The preferred is the structurally expected next act or acceptance to the first speaker and the dispreferred is the structurally unexpected next act or refusal to the first speaker.

**1. Preferred**

In the conversation between Ellen and Bill, there are 10 preferred structures, as the example, the writer chooses 5 data.

**Data 1**

Ellen: It was good. Your daughter is looking at you like, I've never seen you dance like that. Hi. So the last time we saw each other....it was at the White House. We both were receiving the Medal of Freedom. **And that was quite a day, wasn't it?**

Bill: **That was an amazing group.**

From the conversation above, it can be seen that Ellen makes an assessment to the situation when she and Bill received the Medal of Freedom at the White House by expressing her opinion that was a quite day. Then, the second participant shows the agreement to the first participant's opinion by saying "**That was an amazing group**". The conversation above contains preferred structure because the second part of the conversation is the response of the question in the first part of the conversation. The second part of the conversation is also called as the expected answer that Ellen wants to hear as that Bill agrees with her opinion about the day the met at the White House.

### **Data 2**

Bill : Yeah, because I always had to be careful that we wouldn't hire too many people. I was always worried because people who worked for me were older than me and they had kids. And I always thought well what if we don't get paid. Will I be able to meet the payroll? So **I was always very conservative about the finances.**

Ellen : **Right.**

From the transcript, the first participant, Bill Gates, states an assertion that he believes and admits he was a conservative person when it came to the finances. Then, the second participant, Ellen DeGeneres makes a response by stating an agreement about the first participants' assertion by saying "**Right**". She agrees with the first speaker's point of view about himself. Therefore, the conversation above contains preferred structure as the second speaker gives the expected answer or her agreement as the response of the first speaker.

### **Data 3**

Bill : Well I always wanted to have enough money in the bank so that even if our customers didn't pay us for a year, we could still keep paying everybody and do the R&D. **So I'd still be viewed as conservative.** Aaaa, you know. **I don't have that many things that are extravagant taste so it didn't change too much.**

Ellen : **So nothing really changed, okay.**

In this conversation, Bill also expresses his assertion that he still believes in himself as the conservative person. He also asserts that he doesn't have the extravagant things even though he has become the billionaire. From the statement spoken by Bill Gates, Ellen shows her agreement by saying "**So nothing really changed, okay**". It means, she has no objection of what Bill opined about him. Therefore, the conversation above contains preferred structure as the second speaker accepted the statement of the first speaker.

**Data 4**

Ellen : Yeah. Really, really fun. So you are here with your daughter who is 21, right? And you were 21 when you became a billionaire. **Is that right?**

Bill : **Almost, yep.**

In this conversation, Ellen tries to confirm whether Bill Gates becomes a billionaire when he was 21 by asking “**Is that right?**” The second speaker, Bill Gates, answers her question “**Almost, yep**”, which means he became the billionaire when he was almost 21, so Ellen’s question is close to the fact that Bill Gates became the billionaire around 21. The conversation above contains preferred structure because as Bill gives the expected answer and his acceptance that Ellen wants to hear.

**Data 5**

Ellen : Right. OK. So. Which is the most important thing. **So when you were a kid, did you care about money? Or you just cared about technology and it just happened?**

Bill : Aaa, mostly I loved software. I do remember at the private school.

I went to there were other kids whose families were better off. Like they had a Porsche or something. But it wasn't that big of a deal. My thing was that I just loved doing software. I loved hiring people. And I was stunned when it ended up being so valuable.

In this conversation, Ellen also tries to seek the information about Bill’s childhood whether he cared about money and technology by asking “**So when you were a kid, did you care about money? Or you just cared about technology and it just happened?**” Then, Bill truthfully answers that he loved software, which means technology. To answer her question, Bill gives the answer that Ellen expects to know whether he cares about money or technology, and his answer is software or technology. Therefore, the conversation above contains preferred structure.

**2. Dispreferred**

In the conversation between Ellen and Bill, there is one dispreferred structure. The example of dispreferred structure lies in the following conversation.

Bill : Yeah, that was an indulgence. And then eventually, for my travel, I got a plane. **Which is a huge indulgence. So those are my two.**

Ellen : **Well not really**, because you travel all the time. So that's important that you have a plane.



In the conversation, Bill tells to Ellen that having a plane is one of huge indulgences he got. However, Ellen expresses her disagreement by saying “**Well not really**”. It is clear that the second part of the conversation is an unexpected answer or refusal and therefore, it can be said that the adjacency pair contains the dispreferred structure.

## CONCLUSIONS

Adjacency Pairs is always interconnected and appears in conversational interaction. Adjacency pairs have some types which have different responses when conversations occur. Moreover, it is also helpful in determining the true intention of the utterances spoken by the speakers. Dealing with adjacency pairs, there is another aspect that appears when people have the conversation, called the preference structure. The preference structure is divided into two types: preferred or dispreferred form. Based on the analysis, there are 11 data that are classified as the adjacency pairs. The data, then, were classified into 5 types of adjacency pairs.

Assessment - Agreement, (2) Assertion - Agreement, (3) Assertion - Disagreement, (4) Question - Answer, (5) Suggestion - Acceptance. Moreover, the dominant type of adjacency pair is question-answer that is proven by 6 data. The analysis also revealed that 10 data of preferred structure and 1 data of dispreferred structure.

From the analysis, it can be seen that conversation that happens in the talk show, proves almost all the time is the activity of asking questions and giving answer. The first speaker tries to seek information and confirmation by asking questions in order to get the information and confirmation. The first utterance plays a role as an information seeker. Meanwhile, in responding the questions asked by the first speaker, the second speaker tries to give the truthful answers so that the first speaker feels satisfied with the answers given by the second speaker. Thus, the second speaker plays a role as an information provider.

Moreover, based on the research results, it is suggested that future researchers should read and understand the theories of adjacency pairs and the preference structure of adjacency pair, so it will be easier to comprehend and analyze the data. It is also recommended for the next researchers who are interested in doing further research in this area to conduct other aspects in conversation such as turn-taking, topic management, politeness, repair, etc.

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**APPENDIX**

Ellen : I am so happy to have you here. This is the first time having you on, so thanks. So I know you were nervous about the entrance. I think people feel like they're supposed to dance. And I was really surprised because I was here earlier today for your rehearsal and then you abandoned it. But we should at least show them the rehearsal .... because it was really good.

Ellen : It was good. Your daughter is looking at you like, I've never seen you dance like that. Hi. So the last time we saw each other....it was at the White House. We both were receiving the Medal of Freedom. And that was quite a day, wasn't it?

Bill : That was an amazing group.

Ellen : Yeah. Really, really fun. So you are here with your daughter who is 21, right? And you were 21 when you became a billionaire. Is that right?

Bill : Almost, yep.

Ellen : All right, so around that age. You were like the youngest person to become a billionaire, is that right?

Bill : Yep, yeah, in terms of earning it on my own, yeah.

Ellen : Right. OK. So. Which is the most important thing. So when you were a kid, did you care about money? Or you just cared about technology and it just happened?

Bill : Aaa, mostly I loved software. I do remember at the private school. I went to there were other kids whose families were better off. Like they had a Porsche or something. But it wasn't that big of a deal. My thing was that I just loved doing software. I loved hiring people. And I was stunned when it ended up being so valuable.

Ellen : Really?

Bill : Yeah.

Ellen : It surprised you?

Bill : Yeah, because I always had to be careful that we wouldn't hire too many people. I was always worried because people who worked for me were older than me and they had kids. And I always thought well what if we don't get paid. Will I be able to meet the payroll? So I was always very conservative about the finances. And then when we did go public, what was I? 30, by then. Then I was kind of stunned at what it multiplied out to.

Ellen : Right. So, when you became a billionaire, at what point did you start relaxing? Were you still nervous when you became a billionaire? Like I got to watch this?

Bill : Well I always wanted to have enough money in the bank so that even if our customers didn't pay us for a year, we could still keep paying everybody and do the R&D. So I'd still be viewed as conservative. Aaaa, you know. I don't have that many things that are extravagant taste so it didn't change too much.

Ellen : So nothing really changed, OK. So you didn't say, oh I'm going to buy a Porsche.

Bill : I did. That I did.

Ellen : All right. Yeah. You did. All right.

Bill : Yeah, that was an indulgence. And then eventually, for my travel, I got a plane. Which is a huge indulgence. So those are my two.

Ellen : Well not really, because you travel all the time. So that's important that you have a plane. So you have a Porsche and a plane and that's it?

Bill : Aaaa. Well, in terms of crazy things, yeah.

Ellen : Yeah. There's not like any like wild-- like you didn't build like an aquarium with sharks in it or something like that?

Bill : We have a trampoline room in our house. Ellen : Oh wow.

Bill : The kids like that. Indoor trampoline. I recommend it. Ellen : Just one giant trampoline.

Bill : Yeah. Yeah, it's a room with a very high ceiling.

Ellen : Well yeah, I hope yeah. That would be cruel if you didn't put a high ceiling in there. Go on kids. All right, so let's talk about this. So you already put \$40 billion of your own money into your foundation.

Bill : Yep.

Ellen : \$40 billion. And you've kind of encouraged other billionaires to do this as well. Because it really is kind of up to the people to fix the problems in the world, it seems, right? So what is your main focus right now?

Bill : My wife Melinda and I picked global health as our big thing. The fact that still we have five million kids who die under the age of five. Now it was over 10 million when we got started so there's been huge progress over the last 20

years. So things like malaria, diarrhea. Coming up with new drugs and vaccines and getting them out to all the kids in the world. That's our main thing. Our second biggest thing is all in the US, which is trying to help improve the education system here.

Ellen : Yeah. I mean. And how do you do that? I always think you get what you pay for. So if you don't pay teachers, because most teachers are paying out of their own pocket to take care of these students. So how do you do that?

Bill : Well, there are some really phenomenal teachers. And so the dream is that you could take that top 10% and have them help the others to get best practices, the best teaching ideas to spread all over the country.

Ellen : And how, you know. We're listening to you, obviously \$40 billion does a lot. And there are other people that are helping. But what can we do? What is the best thing that you could say that just one person can do to help?

Bill : Well particularly with schools, the ability to go to the local public school or charter School and engage with the kids, mentor kids, talk about the kind of work you do. There's huge opportunities there. With the challenges, saying Africa, part of it is people's voice. There's a real question now whether the US sort of takes this less than 1% of our budget that saves tens of millions of lives and whether we don't prioritize continuing that. So it's a hot debate in terms of is it good for America to be generous and help the rest of the world, live a healthy life.

Ellen : Well, I mean the fact that you're helping so many people all around the world. Because that, to me, is what when you have that kind of money, it's for. That's the best thing you can do actually. You're making such a huge difference. I'm glad you're a billionaire. All right, you can learn more about the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on the website and gatesletter.com.