

## POLITENESS IN GENDER AND LANGUAGE USAGE Shodieva Maftunabonu Adizovna

Asia International University, English chair Email: shodiyevamaftunabonuadizovna@oxu.uz

#### Abstract

The article delves into the differences, in politeness strategies between men and women. How these variations affect the way they communicate with each other. Politeness, in speech mirrors expectations and power dynamics shaped by gender norms. Women typically employ cooperative language that highlights forming connections whereas men usually opt for more direct communication centered around tasks. Nevertheless these tendencies are not. Can change depending on backgrounds, situational contexts and personal traits. Recognizing these distinctions could enhance how people connect with each other and increase recognition of prejudices, in communication.

Keywords: politeness, gendered communication, indirectness, discourse strategies sociolinguistics, intersectionality.

### Introduction

Social norms influencing communication include politeness levels and societal expectations related to language use well as the subtleties of indirect communication methods, in various social contexts, within the field of sociolinguistics and the intersections of identity factors.

The way we use language is closely connected to the expectations and beliefs society has about how men and women should behave in situations." Being using language to show respect or avoid causing offense. Is an essential part of these expectations." Researchers such, as Brown and Levinson (1987)" developed the theory of politeness to explain how people try to avoid hurting others feelings or social status by using different techniques depending on factors like gender." This study explores these techniques. How they are shown differently between men and women, in social settings."The results show that women often prefer using subtle ways to be polite compared to men who tend to be more straightforward; however these behaviors can differ basedon situational factors. The research suggests that it's important to challenge stereotypes in order to promote communication strategies.



Men and women tend to use politeness strategies in ways based on norms and expectations Women tend to lean towards using polite expressions like hedging words ("maybe" or ", in my opinion") tag questions ("right?" or "don't you think?") and subtle requests as a way to foster cooperation and maintain conversation harmony On the contrary men often opt for assertive language and competitive tones showcasing their independence and dominance, in social interactions

The publication named the American Journal of Philological Sciences is quite interesting and informative.

Women tend to use speech acts as compared to men do, in communication scenarios.Contrary to giving orders or commands like men typically do women may opt for a subtler approach by phrasing their requests for instance saying "Could you please close the window?" This method aims to lessen the burden placed upon the listener and showcases a preference, for maintaining harmony (Brown & Levinson 1987). The crux here lies in the utilization of expressions where women employ nuanced language in order to sidestep conflicts. According to Mills (2003) the behaviors, in question are not innate but rather shaped by societys norms and expectations that link femininity to nurturing and masculinity, to power and resilience. Building upon this idea Holmes (1999) adds that women are often pressured to speak while men are typically urged to convey dominance particularly in work environments.

Mens Utilization of Politeness.

On the side of the coin males tend to utilize language to effectively and confidently communicate information. They concentrate on accomplishing goals during discussions resulting in communication styles that're often competitive or task oriented. Although this direct approach may seem courteous it is commonly viewed as a display of self reliance and assurance characteristics typically linked with masculinity according to Mills (2003). Nevertheless men also exhibit politeness in situations within hierarchical settings where showing respect to superiors or clients is considered standard practice.

The correlation, between politeness and intersectionality is crucial in comprehending language fully as various factors like race and social status intersect



with gender to shape how people demonstrate courtesy in contexts within society and across cultures. Expectations around politeness can differ significantly among backgrounds; some societies prioritize respect more than others do. Moreover individuals in roles may not conform strictly to gender norms when it comes to communication styles; they might employ assertiveness or deference based on the situation, at hand.

We should be careful, with statements like these since situations can bring out varied responses from people regardless of their gender – whether its a formal setting or a casual interaction, across different cultures. Also worth noting is how these tendencies change over time with advancements where gender rolesre no longer rigid but more flexible and inclusive in todays world.

Traditional politeness norms are being tested by changes, in gender roles where language expectations are concerned as society embraces inclusivity openly and individuals feel less bound by stereotypes that dictate how they communicate based on gender differences blur in communication styles. Men and women now adjust their strategies for being polite depending on the circumstances they find themselves in and are leaning towards approaches that're more adaptable and situation specific according to Holmes (1999). Moreover as new gender identities emerge beyond the female categories it becomes more complex to analyze politeness using old frameworks which necessitates new research into politeness, within various identities and contexts.

The idea of intersectionality highlights how gender intersects, with aspects of identity such as race and social class when it comes to language use choices. Different cultural backgrounds can impact what is considered behavior. May affect how people show respect or assertiveness. Factors like a persons status and the specific power dynamics in a situation can also play a role in shaping these patterns of behavior which can sometimes defy beliefs, about gendered expressions of politeness.

#### In summary

The way we speak politely reflects the norms and expectations tied to gender roles in society today; women are often encouraged to communicate in a cooperative manner while men tend to be more direct, in their approach. But these guidelines



aren't set in stone. Understanding and acknowledging these communication patterns can foster an environment by encouraging people to question and push back against stereotypes. Further studies could delve into how these communication styles develop over time and vary across settings.

### References

1. Brown, P., & Levinson, S. (1987). Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage. Cambridge University Press.

2. Holmes, J. (1999). An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. London: Longman.

3. Mills, S. (2003). Gender and Politeness. Cambridge University Press.

4. Kaniyazova, A. B. (2024). Gender Differences in Language Use and Politeness Strategies. American Journal of Philological Sciences, 4(4), 17-23.

5. Shodieva, M. (2024). SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACHES: UNDERSTANDING LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL CONTEXTS. *Modern Science and Research*, *3*(1), 69-75.

6. Shodiyeva, M. (2023). SOCIOLINGUISTICS AND IDENTIFICATION IN THE CLASSROOM. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(12), 494-498.

7. Adizovna, S. M. (2023). Code-Switching and Multilingualism: Exploring the Dynamics of Language use in Uzbekistan. *American Journal of Language, Literacy and Learning in STEM Education (2993-2769), 1*(9), 549-553.

8. Shodieva, M. (2023). UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLINGUISTIC APPROACH IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(10), 64-68.

9. Maftunabonu, S. (2023). THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRADITIONAL AND MODERN TEACHING METHODS. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(10), 829-831.

10. Shodieva, M. (2023). MASTERING ENGLISH IN A MONTH: EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR RAPID PROGRESS. In *Academic International Conference on Multi-Disciplinary Studies and Education* (Vol. 1, No. 19, pp. 83-87).

11. Shodieva, M. (2023). DEVELOPING SUMMARY WRITING SKILL IN ACADEMIC WRITING. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(9), 140-144.



12.Surat, F. N. . (2024). DIALOGUE IN THE ANIMATED SERIES"KUNG FU PANDA. JOURNAL OF EDUCATION, ETHICS AND VALUE, 3(4),<br/>202–205.Retrievedfrom

https://jeev.innovascience.uz/index.php/jeev/article/view/624

13. Fayzullayeva, N. (2024). FEEL THE FREEDOM IN THE WORKS OF WALT WHITMAN. MODERN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH, 3(3), 330–335. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10814469

14. Fayzullayeva, N. (2024). WALT WHITMAN WORD ABOUT "A CELEBRATION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT IN POETRY". MODERN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH, 3(3), 336–341. <u>https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10814566</u>

15. Fayzullayeva, N. (2024). WALT WHITMAN AND HIS POEM ABOUT AMERICA. *Modern Science and Research*, *3*(1), 35–39. Retrieved from https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/science-research/article/view/28918

16. Fayzullayeva, N. (2024). "AMERICAN DREAM" IN WALT WITHMAN'S POEMS. *Modern Science and Research*, *3*(1), 220–224. Retrieved from <u>https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/science-research/article/view/27940</u>

17. Sur'at qizi Fayzullayeva, N., & Kilicheva, M. R. (2022). UOLT UILTMAN NASRIDA "AMERIKA ORZUSI" KONSEPTI. *INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING*, 1(8), 574-576.

18. Fayzullayeva, N. (2023). THE IMPROVING OF LISTENING SKILL. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(10), 272–276. Retrieved from <u>https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/science-research/article/view/25086</u>

19. Fayzullayeva, N. (2023). THE CONCEPT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM AND WALT WHITMAN. Solution of social problems in management and economy, 2(11), 137-142.

20. Fayzullayeva, N. (2023). THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN DREAM IN UOLT WILTMAN'S POEMS. *Modern Science and Research*, 2(10), 714–718. Retrieved from <u>https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/science-research/article/view/24676</u>

21. Fayzullayeva, N. (2023). USAGE OF THE FLORA IN THE EARLY MODERN ENGLISH POETRY. Modern Science and Research, 2(9), 36–39. Retrieved from <u>https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/science-research/article/view/24078</u>