A Comparative Study of Cross-cultural Gratitude Strategies among Hausa, the Case of Arab and Chinese Students

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Abstract
The research investigated the thanking/gratitude strategies of three distinct cultures; Hausa, Chinese and Arabic languages with the aim of finding out the different strategies used by them and how different they are in their use of such strategies. The study employs Cheng (2005) Taxonomy of gratitude strategies in analyzing the data which was obtained from 15 participants among the Hausa, Chinese and Arabic students in UPM through the use of DCT (discourse completion Task) which were translated by the researchers into the three languages respectively before retranslated in to English language for analysis. The findings show a significant relationship in the use of “Simple Thanking strategy” among the three cultures as this strategy is utilized in 71.60% of the responses in the Hausa version of the DCT, 62% of the Arabian responses in the Arabic version of their DCT and 63.75% of the responses in the Chinese version of the DCT and were all found to be in the “thanking alone and thanking followed by the favor strategies” consistently. While the least used strategy is the “recognition of imposition” which was only realized by Arabian students and none was found among the Hausa and the Chinese students.

Keywords: Cross-cultural, gratitude, discourse completion task, taxonomy

1. Introduction
According to Crystal (1999) “Pragmatics is the study of language from the point of view of the user especially of the choices they make, the constraint they encounter in using language in social interaction and the effects of their use of language on other participants in the act of communication” As an aspect of Pragmatics, speech acts can be seen as one of the most fundamental in the study of pragmatics and discourse analysis in general. For that fact, Searle (1976) see it as “a basic unit of discourse analysis” just like the sentences and other linguistic units are to the grammar. Austin (1962) defines speech act “as actions performed by saying something”.

Man in his desire to express himself in the real world does not merely make utterances with any grammatical or lexical functions but also makes some acts through the utterances. E.g. the act of saying:
"thank you, apologizing refusing or complaining" According to Bodman and Eisenstein (1988), the strategies of saying “thank you” is not only difficult to the second language users of the language but also to the native speakers with each employing his/her peculiar strategies when saying “thank you” depending on the situation.

This study will examine and compare the thanking strategies used by the Hausa, Chinese and Arabian students in UPM. The data for the study is going to be collected using DCT (discourse completion Task) which the students will complete. In order to compare the participants’ “thanking strategies”, the participants will complete the same version of DCT questionnaire adopted from Bodman and Eisenstein (1988) which will be translated into the different languages of the participants and later in to English for the analysis.

There have been quite a number of weaknesses in relation to the use of the DCT and one among which is that, the data obtained from DCT is unnatural and it does not capture the true responsive situation of the participants. As far as the study is concerned, the use of DCT is considered as most suitable as it simplifies the task of the researchers (The task of observing the natural occurrences of such strategies in a natural situation) and also it saves time and cost. Therefore, the data elicited from such way will be consistent with the naturally occurring data in most aspects or situations.

1.1 Research Objectives

The aims of the study are:
1. To investigate and analyze the thanking/gratitude strategies used by Nigerian, Chinese and Iraqi students in UPM.
2. To examine if Nigerians, Chinese and Arabians differ in expressing gratitude to people of different ages.

1.2 Research Questions

1. What are the common thanking/gratitude expressions used by Nigerian, Chinese and Iraqi male and female speakers?
2. How do Nigerian, Chinese and Iraqi speakers differ in expressing thanks/gratitude to their age-peers, old men and young subordinates?

2. Methodology

2.1 Participants

This research will use 15 participants from Hausa (a Nigerian tribe considered the most populous in the country and here in UPM), 5 from Chinese (from China and not Malaysian Chinese but living in Malaysia) and 5 from Iraqis (who are also living in Malaysia) Their ages can range from 18-60 because our study will see whether age is a determining factor in using some thanking strategies. (Among the 5 participants for each language, 3 males and 2 females will be employed with each participant given a number identification).

2.2 Instrument of data collection

This research will use DCT (discourse completion test) which the participants will be asked to complete some open ended questionnaires which will be adopted from a modified version of DCT designed by Eisenstein and Bodman (1993) the questionnaires will be translated in to the three languages in question into Hausa, Chinese and Arabic before issuing to the participants. The reason for the translation is to get an objective data that is unaffected by the second language influence. The questionnaire will be modified to contain sixteen separate question-paragraphs describing various situations that are close to reality. The participants will be asked to give their responses for each situation described in the blank space that is going to be provided to them after every scenario question. These sixteen scenarios varied on the contextual factors of interlocutor’s familiarity, social status, gender and age. After the data is collected, the data will be translated back to English for the analysis.

2.3 Data Analysis

This study will adopt Cheng’s (2005) strategies of thanking and gratitude. After the data is collected, it will be identified, interpreted and explained based on the 8 thanking/gratitude taxonomies adopted from Cheng (2005). The data will further be analyzed using descriptive statistics for a frequency count.

2.4 Sampling

Quota sampling technique will be adopted in selecting the population for the study. This sampling technique suggests that only a portion of the population that fulfills certain requirements or features will be selected to serve as the representative of the whole larger population (Black 1999) in this study, the researchers intend to use the postgraduate/undergraduate students of University Putra Malaysia for sourcing the data.

3. The Context of the Study

In order to place the work in its relevant context, the researchers adopted Hyme’s SPEAKING model which according to Inayah (2009) can be applied to different types of discourses. Hymes categorizes the sixteen components of different types of discursive contexts into an Acronym of S P E A K I N G which include: message form, message content, setting, scene, speaker/sender, addresser, hearer, receiver, audience, addressee, purpose (outcomes), purpose goals, (key channels) form of speech, norms of interaction, norms of interpretation and genre.
Analysis of the Written DCT and The Study

3.1 Setting

The setting or scene according to Hymes (1971) is the time, place and psychological setting of a conversation. The time when the study was conducted was during the period of one week, but the application of the DCT to the participants and the collection of it by the researchers were in a period of one day. For the place setting, the study was conducted in a laboratory situation, where the participants were given the DCT questionnaires to respond in convenient places such as the library and the graduate students study room which are all within the larger setting of the University and Malaysia. Psychologically, the participants assume themselves as the major agents of different situations within the DCT and as such, they find themselves in the houses, on the bus, or in a shopping store etc.

3.2 Participants

The participants here include both the researchers and the respondents or listeners. Five researchers took part in the present study, among them are: one Nigerian, a Chinese, and three Arabians. On the other hand, 15 participants are chosen from the three languages of the participants to take part in the study.

3.3 Ends

The ends which are purposes or the desired expected outcomes of the study are: To analyze the thanking strategies used by Nigerian, Chinese and Arabian Students and to also compare if they differ in expressing gratitude to their male and female counterparts. Or to the interlocutors of different ages (e.g. the Old and the young)

3.4 Act

The act here is the form and order of the event. First, the participants were issued with a 3-page DCT in their native languages. The DCT includes the instruction, background information and paragraphs of 16 situational questions which require the participants to place themselves in the different situations and answer the questions. The respondents were given enough time to fill in their responses. In that process, they made use of many illocutionary speech acts of gratitude/thanking and locutionary acts which are the statements they used. And as the DCT prompts the participants to write their own responses, the perlocutionary act was also used.

3.5 Key

It is the overall manner of speech, the mood or the spirit of the discourse according to Hymes (1971). The discourse that prompted the participant’s responses was in some way semi-formal and neither in a serious mood or spirit nor in jocular spirit. It gives them a “light and open feeling” by placing the participants in everyday normal situation.

3.6 Instrument

It is the form and style of the speech. The form and style of this discourse is “written and face-to face” as the researchers were there to assist the participants. Therefore, the written Hausa, Arabic and Chinese DCTs are the main instruments available.

3.7 Norm

The rule governing this study was for the respondents to read each situation and place themselves in each situation which will afterwards warrant them to answer some questions using gratitude strategies they deemed fit for the situation. Similarly, the researchers did not lead or give the responses to their participants and so they maintain the rule of only talking when asked to do so by the respondents.

3.8 Genre

Because the research is a cross-cultural pragmatic study, the genre used was predominantly a written informal traditional genre of gratitude among different cultures which according to Hymes (1971) is transcribed or written in different genre. Generally, it belongs to the genre of pragmatic tests (Testing).

4. Data Analysis

4.1 Framework of Data Analysis

Table 1. Theoretical framework [Cheng’s (2005) taxonomy for 8 strategies of expressing gratitude]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
<th>FEATURES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Thanking</td>
<td>A. simple thanking by only using the word &quot;thank you&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. thanking by stating the favor (thank you for your help, and thank you for your notice exemplify this sub-strategy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. thanking and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor (Thank you for helping me cleaning the room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Appreciation</td>
<td>A. using the word &quot;appreciate&quot; (e.g. I appreciate it!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. using the word &quot;appreciate&quot; and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor (e.g. I appreciate the time you spent for me)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3) Repayment
A. offering services, food… (*next time is my turn*)
B. feeling indebted (*I owe you one*)
C. promising future self-improvement (*it won’t happen again*)

4) Recognition of imposition
A. by acknowledging the imposition (exemplified by statements such as *I know you are not allowed to give me extra time*)
B. stating or diminishing the need for the favor (*you shouldn’t do that*)

5) Apology
A. using the apologizer words (*I am sorry*)
B. using apology by stating the favor (*I am sorry for the problem I made*)
C. expressing embarrassment (*I feel embarrassed*)
D. criticizing oneself (*I am such a fool…*)

6) Positive feeling
A. expressing positive reaction to a person (*You are a life saver*)
B. expressing positive feeling to action (such as *This book was really helpful*)

7) Other
Expressions that do not belong to the above strategies are categorized as other strategies. There are four subcategories under the other strategy:
A. here statement (e.g. *Here you are!*)
B. small talk (e.g. *Your face is very familiar to me but I can’t remember where I saw you. What do you study?*)
C. leave-taking (e.g. *Have a nice day!*)
D. joking (e.g. *Don’t forget to pay again next time*)

8) Attention getter
In the thanking situations, attention getter and address term are likely to occur in the same utterance. The alerters include:
A. Attention getter (e.g. *Hey, Hi, Well*)
B. Title (e.g. *Dr., Professor! Sir!*)
C. Name (e.g. *John, Mary*)

5. The Thanking strategies Among Hausa Students of UPM

5.1 Thanking Alone

*Thanking Alone*

28 responses made by the participants portray “thank you alone” strategy. They use “thank you” alone in situations where the favor done is very little and usual.

E.g. Nagode Thank you

*Thanking by stating the favor done/ Moral attachment*

90% of the Hausa speakers are predominantly Muslims. Out of the 30 responses of the participants using this strategy, 17 tend to attach strong moral religious values after saying thank you. E.g.

*Nagode, Allah ya saka da alkhairi* Thank you, may god shower on you his blessings.

While 13 responses were made stating the favour done after the use of “Thank You”

*e.g. Nagode dayimin taimakonnan* Thank you for helping me.

5.2 Appreciation

*Using the word appreciate alone*

None of the participants used the word “I appreciate alone”, and this is because according to the culture, it sounds impolite and ungrateful to the other party.

*Using the word “appreciate” and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor*

Nayi murna kwarai, dajin haka kuma nagode *I really appreciate for hearing this and thank you*
5.3 REPAYMENT

Feeling Indebted

Only 1 participant made use of this thanking strategy in his response. Only participant No. 3 made use of this strategy when he was offered a loan of $500 by his friend. E.g.

Nagode, zan biyaka da izinin ubangiji  Thank you, I will pay you by Allah’s will

Promising Future Self-improvement

Here, only participant No.3 made use of future self-improvement when being added salary. E.g.

Naji dadi kwarai, zan kara zage damtse  I appreciate it, I will add more effort.

5.4 Recognition Of Imposition

None of the respondents used this strategy.

5.5 Apology

Using Apology by stating the Favor

Only participant no.1 made use of this strategy in one response and this is because Hausa culture doesn’t use apology so often where a favor is made. E.g

Nagode, kayi hakuri da wannan wahalar dana sakaka aciki  Thank you, I am sorry for putting you through this.

Expressing Embarrassment

Participant no.2 decided not to say thank you to the elderly driver as he said:

He was embarrassed for showing his impatience (naji kunyane na nuna rashin hakuri na)

5.6 Positive Feelings

Expressing Positive Feeling

Participant no. 3 and no. 2 made use of this strategy in their five responses towards the favor done to them. E.g

Da kyau, aikinka yayi kyau kwarai  that’s good, your work is awesome

5.7 Others

Leave taking

Among the strategies for expressing “thank you” here, only the Leave taking strategies are used by participant no 2. And no.4 in 3 responses, this according to the Hausa culture shows that the participants are not attached personally to the interlocutors. e.g., in the shopping stores, when he was about to leave, participant no. 2 said this to the salesman. E.g sai anjima  later

5.8 Attention Getter

5 responses by three participants used five exclamatory attention getters. Participant no. 2, after returning from work and finding the house clean made use of an attention getter. E.g

Kai! Abu yayi kyau, Allah yasaka  Wow! Everything looks good, may god bless.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanking</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>71.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appreciation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positive feeling</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention getter</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.9 Conclusion

From the table above, one can fathom that the most used gratitude strategy is the “thanking strategy” with 71% of the participant’s responses including it, followed by Appreciation which is close to saying “thank you” in Hausa with 7.41%. The next most used strategy according to the data is “Expressing positive feeling” with 6.17% next after that is the use of “attention getters” within another structure with 6.17%. Finally, “repayment” and “Apology” strategy for gratitude are the least used strategies among the Hausa Graduate students of UPM with only 2.47% each.

6. The Thanking Strategies among Arabian Students of UPM

6.1 Thanking Strategy

a) Thanking alone

Since “thanking alone” strategy comprises utterances made up of thanking words such as ‘thank you’ or ‘thanks’. There were 32 that were made using thanking alone strategy among the participants.

E.g. ‘Shukran’ thank you

b) Thanking by stating the favor done

Out of (50) thanking responses. 18 responses have been utilized to display thanking and stating the Favor as a strategy to express gratitude.

E.g. Shukran li ahtimamk, ant falan sadiq wafi

Thanks for your interest; you are absolutely a best friend.

6.2 Appreciation

a) Using the word “appreciate alone”

Only one of the participants used this strategy, since using the word appreciate alone doesn’t bear a heavy gratitude in its meaning.

E.g. Ana oqder laka ha’a I appreciate it

b) Using the word “appreciate” and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor

Four participants in their responses employed the word "appreciate" and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor. This reveals to what extend that the people used to utilize such expressions among them.

E.g. Ana uqader hatha, hatha lotf mink, atmnh lak al najah aldaeem fi hayatok.

Appreciate it. That is so nice of you, I wish you all success in your life.

6.3 Repayment

a) Offering or promising service

Participants no. 5 and no. 1 have used this strategy in their responses towards the favor of Offering or promising service.

E.g. Ana aml an yakun dawri fi al mara al qadima, ba al faal ant tamtalk qalb kabeer.

I hope to turn it back to you at a nearest time. You absolutely have a good heart.
6.4 Recognition Of Imposition

a) Acknowledging the imposition

Only one participant “acknowledged the imposition” in his response to the action which expresses a kind of modesty I a given situation

E.g. ana uaked lak ina telka al ziyada fi ratbi stjaalni akther mthabra.

I admit this increase in my salary will push me to be more persistent.

6.5 Apology

Using Apology by stating the Favor

This strategy was used by only one participant, although this strategy has a broader use in Arabic conversation. It could be attributed to the type of questions that is included in the DCT which elicits an apology strategy.

E.g. lakad ahsant al ammal, ana jidaa usef li adm musaadatak.

You did a great job and I am sorry for not helping you.

6.6 Positive Feelings

Expressing Positive Feeling

Five Arab respondents made use of this strategy in framing 19 responses over the total no of 80 responses.

E.g. inaka tamaal besorah jayadah, hafeth ala thalek.

You are doing a great job, thank you my friend.

6.7 Others

None of the participants used this strategy.

6.8 Attention Getter

a) Attention getter

Only in two situations that two responses out of all responses demonstrated the use of “attention getter”.

E.g. ma asedek saraha areed ahethnak alaa ali sawetah.

Wow! I really want to hug you for what you did, thank you so much.

Table 3. Frequency and percentage of overall strategy use among the Arabian participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanking</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>62.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appreciation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of imposition</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positive feeling</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention getter</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart 2. Frequency and percentage of overall strategy use among the Arabian participants
Figure and Table illustrate that the thanking strategy with (62.50%) is the most frequently used strategy. The second most commonly used strategy by the Arab participants was positive feeling with (23.75%). Appreciation takes the third most frequently used strategy with the percentage of (6.25%). The fourth most frequently used strategy with (2.50%) is Attention getter. Finally, Arab speakers use of Repayment strategy is only (2.50%), and Apology together with Recognition of imposition with only (1.25%) consistently.

7. The Thanking strategies Among Chinese speakers

7.1 Thanking Alone

Thanking Alone

17 responses were found to include “thank alone” strategy. They use of “thank you” alone is usually made based on the Chinese culture in situations where the favor done is very little and when they received messages from a common friend.

E.g. 谢谢你。（Thank you in Chinese）

Thanking by stating the favor done/ Moral attachment

51 responses were made to include the favour done to the participants after the use of “Thank You”. This tend to show the degree and extent to which they show how grateful they are. This usually comes before or after saying “Thank you”

E.g. 非常谢谢你，我真的很喜欢这个礼物。（Thank you very much, i really like this present）

7.2 Appreciation

Using the word appreciate alone

None of the participants used the word “I appreciate alone”, and this is because Chinese people do not have the habit to use the word I appreciate alone.

Using the word “appreciate” and mentioning the imposition caused by the favor

6 participants made use of this strategy in their 6 responses. This shows the respect to the other person.

E.g. 非常感谢你，你真的是帮了我大忙了。（I really appreciate it. You really helped me.）

7.3 Repayment

There are 17 responses that made use of repayment strategy. Among them, only 10 responses used repayment strategy to show “offering service”.

E.g. 谢谢你，下次我请你吃饭。（Thank you. Next time is my turn to pay for dinner.）

The rest of 7 responses are “Promising Future Self-improvement” by using repayment strategy.

E.g. 谢谢你，我下次会做的很好。（Thank you. I will do even better next time.）

7.4 Recognition of Imposition

None of the respondents used this strategy.

7.5 APOLOGY

Using Apology by stating the Favor

Only participant no.5 made use of this strategy for once in responding to getting off the car.

对不起，我想在这里下车。（Am sorry! I want to alight here.）

Expressing Embarrassment

Only Participant no.3 used the apology strategy instead of “thank you” to decrease embarrassment between him and his friend.

哎呀！不是说好了我做这部分家务的吗？真的是麻烦你了。（Aya! I wanted to do that; u should have let me do the housework at this time. It is really nice of you to help me.）

7.6 POSITIVE FEELINGS

Expressing Positive Feeling

Only Participant no.3 used this strategy for one time.

啊真是太感谢你了，帮了我大忙。（A! I really thank you. You really helped me a lot.）
7.7 Others

Small talk

Only Participant no. 3 using this strategy also for one time.

天呢，你怎么会知道我想要这件毛衣，你真的是太了解我了。（Oh My God. How do you know that i want this blue sweater? You really know me.）

7.8 Attention Getter

None of the respondents used this strategy.

Table 4. Frequency and percentage of overall strategy use among the Arabian participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>51</td>
<td>63.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appreciation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of imposition</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>positive feeling</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Small talk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention getter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart 3. Frequency and percentage of overall strategy use among the Chinese participants

7.9 Conclusion

From the information above, we can conclude that the mostly used gratitude strategy is “thank you strategy” with 63.75%, followed by Repayment strategy with 21.25%. The next is “apprreciation” strategy with 7.5% which we can see all from the chart above. Among all the strategies, “apology”, “positive feeling”, and “other” (small talk) are all realized with only 1.25%. Finally, both “recognition of imposition” and “attention getter” have 0%. 
8. Findings and Conclusion

It can be fathomed according to the findings that, there is a strong relationship between the three cultures (Hausa, Chinese and Arabic) in their use of “Simple Thanking” strategy as 71.60% of the responses in the Hausa version of the DCT, 62% of the Arabian responses in the Arabic version of their DCT and 63.75% of the responses in the Chinese version of the DCT among the participants in UPM all were found to be in the “thanking alone and thanking followed by the favor strategies” consistently. This finding is in conformity with that of Fariba and Sanaz (2014) whose research in the use of thanking strategies among the Iranians shows 80% of their intermediate subjects using “simple thanking” strategy in their English sample of their DCT.

For “Appreciation strategy”, 7.41% responses among the Hausa participants, 6.25% responses among the Arabians and 7.5% responses among the Chinese respondents have been made using “appreciation” strategy. This shows that in the use of appreciation strategy, there is no any significant difference between the three cultures.

However, in the use of “Repayment strategy”, a significant difference was seen between the responses of the Chinese participants which was 21.25% and the other two cultures who only recorded 2.47% for Hausa and 2.50% for Arabic participants which made the researchers to conclude that there is a significant relation between the Hausa and Arabic cultures in their use of “repayment strategy”.

Only 2.47% responses use “apology strategy” for Hausa, 1.25% among the Arabian and the Chinese responses consistently. This indicates that there is also a strong correlation among the two cultures in the use of “apology strategy”.

There wasn’t any use of “recognition of imposition” strategy among the Hausa and Chinese culture while Arabic only recorded 1.25% use.

For “Positive feeling” strategy, 6.17% among the responses in the Hausa version of the DCT made use of this strategy while Chinese recorded only 1.25% but Arabic recorded up to 23.75% making a significant difference between their use of “positive feelings” as compared to Hausa and Chinese.

Finally, in their use of “other strategies” only 3.70% of the responses were recorded in the Hausa version of the DCT while 2.5% was recorded in the Arabic Version and 0% in the Chinese version of the DCT

9. Conclusion

One can conclude therefore that, the most frequently used strategy among the three cultures is the “simple thanking” and this is in conformity with several researches done in the same field. While the least used strategy is the “recognition of imposition” which was not found to be used in the Hausa and Chinese versions of the DCT and with only 1.25% in the Arabic version of the DCT. There is no any significant difference in the use of Gratitude strategies in addressing either females/males or young/old interlocutors among the three cultures.

References


APPENDIXES

ENGLISH DCT

Sample of the DCT adopted from a modified version of DCT designed by Eisenstein and Bodman (1993)

Dear participant,

Thank you for participating in this survey. This study is intended to explore cross-cultural speech behavior. The information you provide below will be used for this study only and will remain confidential. In the following section, please fill in the blank spaces with the correct information.

**Background information:**

Name: ______________________

Nationality____________________

Language____________________

Faculty____________________

Department___________________

Age________________________

Gender________________________

**Instruction**

You will find the following scenarios involve being placed in a situation where you may feel, to different degrees, obliged or grateful to someone who has done something for or requested of/from you. Please imagine yourself in each situation and respond accordingly based on your immediate reaction. If you feel that a specified situation does not warrant a response, please provide an explanation.

1. It is Friday. You look into your wallet and notice that you only have $2.00. Your good friend at work notices this and hears you say, 'I'll have to go to the bank.' Your friend asks if you need money, and you say that you forgot to go to the bank. Your friend says, 'I have plenty. How much do you need?' You say, 'Could you lend me $5.00? I'll pay you back on Monday.' Your friend gives you the $5.00. (Your friend is a male)

You would say:
You would say nothing because:

2. You board a bus, pay your money and take a seat near the front of the bus. Just before you stop, you guess that the driver is not going to stop. You move to the front, and ask the driver to stop and he stops. (The driver is an old man)

You would say:
You would say nothing because:

3. It is your birthday, and you're having a few people over for dinner. A friend brings you a present. You unwrap it and find a blue sweater that you wish to have. (Your friend is a female)

You would say:
You would say nothing because:
4. You work for a large company, which is usually very busy. You send your manager a request for some days off. The vice-president of personnel calls you into his office. He tells you to sit down. You feel a little nervous, because you have only been working there for six months. The vice-president says, ‘You’re doing a good job. In fact, we are so pleased with you that I am going to give you a raise’. (Your boss is younger than you and a female)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

Today is your birthday. X sends you a text, wishing you a happy birthday

5. In the supermarket, you ask the cashier to bag your groceries. He does this, and then turns to begin serving the next costumer. You pay and pick up your bags to leave. (The cashier is an old man)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

6. At the table in a restaurant a friend says, you have something on your face.’ You ask where. Your friend tells you. You rub your face and ask, ‘Is it off?’ Your friend says that it is. (your friend is young and male)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

7. You find yourself in sudden need of money--$500. You mention this to a friend. Your friend immediately offers to lend it to you. At first you say, ‘Oh no, I didn’t mean it as a request. I couldn’t take it.’ Your friend says, ‘really, it’s all right. What are friends for?’ Your friend insists again, and you take the check. (Your friend is a male)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

8. You are studying in another city. Both you and your roommate work. You come home late from work and find that your roommate has done some work around the house that you had promised to do, but had not had a chance to do. (Your roommate is old and a male)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

9. Your friend suggests going out to lunch. You say that you’d like to go, but you only have $2. Your friend says, ‘Ah, don’t worry. I’ll treat you today.’ Your friend takes you to a very nice restaurant—a much more expensive one than you usually go to. You have a wonderful meal. Your friend pays, and you get up to leave. (Your friend is older and a female)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

10. You have just gotten an admission from a foreign university. A close friend in the university tells you she has organized a farewell party for you.
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

11. You have just gotten your hair cut in a new style, and you like it better than the old one. Your friend sees it and you ask him what he thinks. He says, ‘Hey, you’ve got a new haircut. It looks nice.’
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

12. You share an apartment with a friend. You’re both sitting and relaxing in the living room. You ask your friend to hand you the newspaper which is nearby. Your friend gives you the newspaper. (Your friend is a male and younger)
You would say: Thanks.
You would say nothing because:

13. You enter a parking garage. As the parking attendant gives you the parking voucher, You hand him the money and ask him about the empty space. (He is middle age and older than you)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:

14. You have been invited to the home of a rather new friend. You have dinner with him and his family and a few other friends of theirs. The food was great, and you really enjoyed the evening. As you leave, your hosts accompany you to the door. (He is same as your age)
You would say:
You would say nothing because:
15. Today is your birthday. X sends you a text, wishing you a happy birthday. (X is a male)

You would say:
You would say nothing because:

16. You have just got a job offering from a company. X knows about it and X congratulates you. (X is a female and younger)

You would say:
You would say nothing because:

SAMPLE OF HAUSA DCT

Zuwaga mairubutun Amsoshi,

Muna godiyar yarda dakayi kazamo/kizamo daya daga cikin masu taimakawa wajen yin wannan bincike na ilimi. Wannan binciken dai yana so ya gano dabi’un mutane ne a wajen jawabi-tamkar aiki a cikin al’adu daban daban waddanda suka shafi na Hausawa, yan kasar Sin da kuma larabawa.. Rahoton da zaka bayar zaa yi amfani da shine kadai ta wajen wannan binciken sannan muna masu tabbatar maka da cewa sIRRinka bazai bankada ba. A cikin sashen da zai biyo baya, muna so kacike gurbin da aka bari da bayani na kwarai.

Bayani: ____________________
Amsa: ____________________
Tambayovi: ________________

Suna: _______________________
Kasa: ______________________
Yare: ______________________

Fakolti: ______________________
Sashen: ______________________
Shekaru: ______________________
Jinsi: ______________________

Umarni

Zaka sami kanka a cikin yanayi daban-daban a bisa ga tambayoyin da zasu biyo baya. Anaso kasaka kanka a cikin kowanne irin yanayi sannan ka amsa tambayoyin da suka shafi wannan yanayin yazamo idan kaine wani yamaka wani aiki, ko yaba wani abu, ko ya tayaka murnar sunun wani abu to tayaya zaka gode masa? kuma wanna irin kalmomi zakaiy amfani dusu na godiya domin ka nunamasa cewa kagode? Idan kuma kana ganin abinda akayi maka watakila bai kamata kace kagode ba, to kafadi daliin fadin hakan a kowanne irin yanayi. Kagane cewa amsa waddannan tambayoyi babu daidai ko kuskure a ciki. Saboda haka kasaki jikinka ka amsasu batare da wata tanta ba.

1. Yau ranar Jumma’a ce, kaduba aljuhunka kaga baka do komai sai dala biyu. Babban abokinka a wajen aiki da ya fahimci halin da kaces cikin bayan yajie kace kana kajeks banki sai ya tambayeka ko kana son aron kudi a wajensa. Sai kai kuma kace kamanta bakaje banki ba amma yabaka aron dala biyar zaka biyashi a ranar Litinin. Sai yace “katabbata baka neman fiye da hakan?” sai kace/kikace “a’ a” sai abokinka yadauko kudin yabaka. (kaddara abokinki/ki namijine)

Zaka ce masa: ___________________________

Baza kace komai ba saboda:........................................................................

2. Kaddara bayan kashiga mota, ka biya kudin motar sannan kasamu wuri ka zauna. Gab da zuwa wajen da zaka sauka, sai kaiy tsammanin cewa direban bazai tsaya ba. Sai kaiy sauri kataho wajen dayake zaune kafada masa ya tsaya zaka sauka. Sai direban ya tsaya. (Direban tsohone)

Zakace masa: ___________________________

Bazakace masa komai ba saboda:........................................................................


Zakace mata: ___________________________________________

Bazakace mata komai ba saboda:........................................................................

kawai amma kana neman hutu ko? Sai taci gaba da ceewa “lalai muna masu farinciki da irin aikin da kake yi mana a nan saboda haka nema nake maka bushara da munyi maka Karin albashinka”

Zakace mata.

Bazakace mata komai ba saboda.


Zaka ce masa

Bazak ce komai ba saboda

6. A kan teburi a cikin otel, abokinka yace maka akwai wani abu akan fusarka, sai kace “a ina?” sai yafada maka sannan ka goge kase tambayar sa “yafita?” sai abokin ya yace maka eh! (Abokinmkka yarone kamar ka)

Zakace masa

Baza ka ce masa komai ba saboda


Zaka cemasa

Bazakace masa komai ba saboda


Zakace masa

Baza ka ce masa komai ba saboda


Zaka cemasa

Bazakace masa komai ba saboda

10. Kasamu damar yin karatu a kasar turai. Abokiyyarka ta kusa da kai takiraka tace maka ta hada maka gaggarumar liyafar ban kwana

Zaka ce mata

Bazakace mata komai ba saboda

11. Bayan kayi aski mai kyau an yi maka ado na fada a gani kayi kyau sosai, sai abokinka yagani sai katambayeshi ko yayi kyau sai yace “kayi sabon askine? Kai kayi kyau sosai”

Zakace masa

Bazakace masa komai ba saboda


Zaka ce masa

Bazakace masa komai ba saboda

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته.

في البداية أود أن أشكركم على الوقت والجهد الذي سوف تبذلونه في مل هذا الاستبيان وأن يجزيكم الله على تعاونكم معنا في انجاز هذا العمل.

امده أن وضح لكم أن اهتمامكم وحرصكم على مل هذا الاستبيان بجدية تامة هو محل شكرنا وتقديرنا، لأن العين من هذا الاستبيان هو معرفة أنواع التعبير الخطابي المستخدم بين الثقافات المختلفة.

الاسم: __________________________

الجنسية: __________________________

اللغة: __________________________

الكلية: __________________________

القسم: __________________________

العمر: __________________________

الموقف الأول:

في أحد الأيام أثناء وقت العمل، فكر في شراء شيء ما. لكن عندما نظرت داخل المحفظة لم تجد سوى فكاك قليلة وهي غير كافية للشراء. في تلك الأثناء سمعتك أحد أصدقائك المقربين في العمل تردد التوجه إلى المصرف لسحب بعض النقود. حينها عرض على أرخصك بعض النقود، كونه يحمل كمية كافية منهما. جوابك كان: حسناً أعطني خمسين رنداً وسوف أعيدك لاحقًا. أرجوك أريد المزيد كان سؤال صاحبك.

ما هو ردك كون صاحبك أرخصك خمسون رنداً؟

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الموقف الثاني:

أحد الأيام استقلت الباص. وبعد أن أعطيت نقود للجابي جلست في وسط الباص. لكن قبل أن يتوقف الباص في المكان المقصود، انتابك شعور بأن السائق لن يتوقف بالمحطة المقبلة. فتوجهت إلى السائق وطلبت منه التوقف في المحطة المقبلة. (السائق رجل كبير بالسن)

ما هو جوابك للسائق بعد التوقف؟

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الموقف الثالث:

في يوم عيد ميلادك، واتباع الأحتفال أقدم أحد الأصدقاء، وقدم لك هدية. عند فتح الهدية وجدت في داخلها قميص أزرق جميل جداً كنت ترغب بشراءه منذ وقت (صديقك هو امرأة)

ما هو جوابك للسائق بعد التوقف؟

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ماهو جوابك لها؟

الموقف الرابع:
انت تعمل في مؤسسة كبيرة، وهي عادة ما تكون مزدحمة جدا. في أحد الأيام قدمت طلب للحصول على اجازة بسبب الارهاق. عندما طلب المدير في استماعك حالة البقاء اشاد بهدوءك ومتابرك بالعمل، وقرر على منحك زيادة في المرتب. (المدير هو امرأة)

ماهو جوابك لها؟

الموقف الخامس:
انتدك انتهائك من التبضع، طلبت من الكشير أن يضع جميع أغراضك في الأكياس، وبالفعل تم وضع جميع الأشياء وتطرحها عليك بعد أن تم دفع الحساب. (الكشير رجل كبير بالسن)

ماهو جوابك له؟

الموقف السادس:
انت جلسك في المطعم مع أحد الأصدقاء، أشارت إلي ان هناك شيء ما على وجهيك. ثم انت سألته عن الوضع فأجابك، وبعد أن سقط وجهك جدًا سألته هل أزيلت. فأجبت بنعم. (صديقك من الشباب المقربين)

ماهو جوابك له؟

الموقف السابع:
في أحد الأيام اقترح عليك زميلك في العمل بتناول الغداء في أحد المطاعم، كنت ترغب بالذهاب لكنك لاتملك سوى بعض الفئات، اجبت بعدم الالكترات للموضوع وأنه سيدفع الحساب عليك، فالفعل اصطحبك إلى أحد المطاعم الفاخرة، وبعد تناول الطعام دفع الحساب. (زميلك امرأة كبيرة بالسن)

ماهو جوابك لها؟

الموقف الثامن:
كنت قد حصلت للتو على قبول من إحدى الجامعات الأجنبية. فقرر أحد أصدقاءك المقربين على تنظيم حفلة وداع لك.

ماهو جوابك له؟

الموقف التاسع:
بسبب تغيير التسريحة، قمت بتغري التسريحة إلى شكل أكثر جاذبية، وبعد سواك أحد أصدقاءك المقربين عن رأي الشكل الجديد. أجبت بعودت أن تعلم الرسم الحديث، وصلت إلى المجلة التي بجانبها. (صديقك من الشباب المقربين)

ماهو جوابك له؟

الموقف العاشر:
انت تعيش مع أحد الأصدقاء في شقة. وانتدك جلوكس في الصالة لقضاء بعض الوقت معًا. كانت سألته أن يعطائك المجلة التي بجانبها. (مجلة من الشباب المقربين)

ماهو جوابك لها؟

الموقف الحادي عشر:
انت تعيش مع أحد الأصدقاء في شقة، وانتدك جلوكس في الصالة لقضاء بعض الوقت معًا. كانت سألته أن يعطائك المجلة التي بجانبها. (مجلة من الشباب المقربين)
الموقف الثاني عشر:
أثناء دخولك أحد مواقف السيارات. بادر المشرف على الموقف بأعطائك بطاقة الدخول. ثم سألته عن مكان مناسب لإقاف السيارة فاجابيك بكل احترام (الرجل أكبر سنًا منك).
ما هو جوابك له؟

الموقف الثالث عشر:
في أحد الأيام تم دعوتكم من قبل أحد أصدقائكم الجدد، وبالفعل استجبت وامضيت وقت جميل برفقت صديقك وعائلته بالإضافة إلى بعض أصدقاء عائلته. وبعد انتهاء السهرة الجميلة وعند توديعهم لك، أصروا جميعًا على مرافقتك إلى الباب.
ما هو جوابك لهم؟

الموقف الرابع عشر:
فجأة حصلت على فرصة عمل في أحدى الشركات الكبرى. أحد الأصدقاء علم بموضوع العمل وقدم لك التهاني. (صديقك هو امرأة)
ما هو جوابك لها؟

الموقف الخامس عشر:
اليوم هو عيد ميلادك. صديقك يبعث إليك رسالة، متمنيا لك عيد ميلاد سعيد. (صديق هو من الذكور)
ما هو جوابك له؟

CHINESE VERSION OF THE DCT
尊敬的先生和女士:
首先非常感谢您参与这次的问卷调查。这份问卷调查是关于跨文化交际交流的调研。
您所提供的所有信息仅在此次调研中使用。您的回答将被完全保密，请您放心。在接下来的卷面中，请您在空白区域填入相应的信息。

个人信息:
姓名:
国籍:
语言:
学院:
专业:
年龄:
性别:

问卷指导:
在接下来需要填写的问卷里，您将会看到“不同程度的需要表达感谢的场景”。请您想象自己身处在一个不同情景时的第一反应并填写问卷。在回答每个场景时，请注意括号里面的提示信息。在对于部分特定场景，如果在没有回答的情况下，请您提供为什么没有回答的理由。
这是一个周五。你打开你的钱包并发现里面仅有两美元。你的好朋友正在工作，并意识到了你的刚才打开钱包的窘迫情况。这时他听到你自言自语说，“我现在要去银行”。你的这位好朋友立刻问你是否需要钱。你回复他说，你忘记去银行把钱取出来了。紧接着，你的好朋友说，“我这里有足够的钱，你现在需要多少？”你回答说，“你能借给我五美元吗？我到周一的时候还给你。”你的好朋友回答说，“当然没问题，你确定你只需要五美元就够了吗？”你回答说你五美元就够了。然后你的朋友给你借了五美元。（假设你的好朋友是位男性）

你的好朋友给你借了五美元后，这时你会说：

你的好朋友给你借了五美元后，这时你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 2
你上了一辆公交车，付了公交车的钱，并在靠近前排的位置坐下。就在你准备下车的时候，你猜测这位司机可能不会停下车等你下车。所以你走到司机身边，要求他停车。（假设这位司机是位年龄较老的人）

你会走到司机身边说：

你会走到司机身边，什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 3
这天是你的生日，你和你的几个朋友在吃晚餐。其中一个朋友给你带了生日礼物。你打开生日礼物，发现礼物是一件你一直都想要的蓝色毛衣。（假设你的好朋友是位女性）

看到礼物的时候你会说：

看到礼物的时候，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 4
你在一家大公司工作，这家公司的工作通常都非常忙。你给人事部发送了一个邮件，内容是想要请一天的假。然后接到副经理的电话，让你去她办公室。到了副经理办公室，她让你坐下。这时你感觉自己有点紧张，因为你刚在这家公司工作半年。你听到副经理说，“你的工作做的很不错。实际上，我们对你很满意，打算要给你升职。”（假设你的上司是位比你年轻很多的女性）

你听到副经理的话之后，你会说：

你听到副经理的话之后，你什么都没说，原因是：

场景 5
在一个餐厅里，你的朋友对你说，“你脸上有点脏东西”。你问脏东西在脸上的哪里。你的朋友指给你脏东西在的位置。你擦完脸，问你的朋友，“脏东西擦掉了吗？”你的朋友说擦掉了。（你的朋友是位年轻的男性）

在这时，你会说：

在这时，你什么都没说，原因是：
场景 7
你发现你自己突然急需五百美元。你对你的朋友偶然提到这个情况。你的朋友听到之后立刻提出想要给你借钱的想法。刚开始你说，"这怎么可以，我没用想要借你钱的意思，我不能借你的钱。"你的朋友说，"给你借钱是我作为朋友应该做的事。"然后你的朋友再次提出要给你借钱的意思。最后你借了你朋友的五百美元。你借了你朋友的钱之后，你会说：

你借了你朋友的钱之后，你什么都没说，原因是：

场景 8
你在另外一个城市学习。你和你的室友都在工作。你下班之后回家晚了，并且发现你的室友已经做了一些家务活。 (假设你的室友是位年老的男士)
你看到你的室友做了家务之后，你会说：

你看到你的室友做了家务之后，你什么都没说，原因是：

场景 9
你的朋友建议你和你一起出去吃午饭。你说你想去但是你只有两美元。你的朋友说，"别担心，今天我请客。"你朋友带你去了一家非常不错的餐厅。这家餐厅的消费要比你通常去的贵很多。你在这家餐厅吃了一顿很不错的午饭。在你朋友付完钱之后你们准备离开。（假设你的朋友是位比你年长的女性）
在你们准备离开的时候，你会说：

在你们准备离开的时候，你什么都没说，原因是：

场景 10
你刚收到国外大学的录取通知书。其中你的一位好朋友在那所国外大学，并且告诉你，她已经为你准备了一场欢迎会。
你听到这个消息之后，你会说：

你听到这个消息之后，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 11
你刚剪了一个新的发型，并且这个新发型让你看起来比以前好看很多。你的朋友看到你的新发型之后，你问他的想法。他说，"你剪新发型啦，看起来不错。"
你听到你朋友的认可之后，你会说：

你听到你朋友的认可之后，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 12
你和你的一个朋友住在同一间宿舍里。你们坐在卧室里闲聊的时候，你让你的朋友帮忙递一下靠近他手边的报纸。然后你的朋友把报纸递给了你。（假设你的朋友是位比你年轻的男性）
当你朋友把报纸递给你的时候，你会说：

当你朋友把报纸递给你的时候，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 13
你进入一个停车场。当停车场的管理人员把收费单递给你的时候，你把钱递给管理人员，并询问有关是否有空车位的事宜。（假设停车场的管理人员年龄比你大）

这时候你会说：

这时候你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 14
你一位新结交的朋友邀请你去他家做客。你和他的家人，他的几位朋友一起吃了晚餐。晚餐的食物味道很不错，你非常享受这顿晚餐。当你快要离开朋友家的时候，你的朋友把你送到了他家门口。（假设这位朋友和你的年龄相仿）

这时候，你会说：

这时候，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 15
今天是你的生日。朋友 X 给你发送了一条祝福生日快乐的短信。（假设朋友 X 是位男性）

当你看到祝福短信的时候，你会说：

当你看到祝福短信的时候，你什么都没有说，原因是：

场景 16
你刚得到一个公司的录取通知书。朋友 X 知道此消息后，对你表示了祝贺。（假设朋友 X 是位年龄比你小的女性）

这时候你会说：

这时候你什么都没有说，原因是：