CHAPTER 5
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Based on data analysis, it can be concluded that the three main characters in Titanic movies—Jack Dawson, Rose DeWitt Bukater, and Cal Hockley—use the four politeness strategies: negative politeness strategies, positive politeness strategies, Bald-on-record strategies, and off-record strategies. However, the use of these politeness strategies was very much influenced by the social class/status of the characters. The three main characters used different politeness strategies to navigate social hierarchies, build relationships, and to assert power using language.

This study also showed that politeness strategies are not only tools for showing respect but also tools for disrespecting or masking insults to others. As has been discussed, Jack's positive politeness fosters friendship and challenges class divides. On the contrary, Cal's formal negative politeness and off-record politeness reflect his privilege, power, and control. Rose DeWitt Bukater's evolving use of politeness reflects her journey from compliance to defiance, demonstrating the dynamic use of politeness strategies. For instance, Jack's humorous remark about Rose's "artistic" drawings endears him to her while subtly critiquing the elitism of her world. Cal's sarcastic comment, "You could almost pass for a gentleman," ostensibly flatters Jack but reinforces class divisions. Similarly, Rose's sharp retort about preferring to be Jack's "whore" than Cal's "wife" exemplifies politeness used as a powerful act of defiance.

5.2 Suggestion

This study only focused on the politeness strategies used by the three main characters in Titanic movie. Therefore, it is suggested that further research could explore other supporting figures in Titanic movie like Molly Brown or Ruth DeWitt Bukater. This may provide deeper insights into the interplay of power, class, and gender within the use of politeness strategies. Such a study will certainly contribute to understanding how language reflects and challenges societal norms. It is also suggested that, based on the findings in this study, further research can explore politeness strategies in other movies to examine similarities or differences in the use of politeness strategies or to examine how cultural differences or contexts shape language use. Then, analysis can be done not only in linguistic features but also in non-linguistic features.