

Cross-Cultural Impoliteness Phenomena in the Political Context of Iran and The United State of America

Abstract

This study applies the impoliteness strategies proposed by Bousfield (2008) and Culpeper's (1996) to political discourses produced in two culturally different contexts: the USA and Iran. In other words, it specifically aims to investigate how the notion of impoliteness can be realized in the political discourse of Iran and the United State of America. To meet this end, verbal and non-verbal interactions of the last two presidents of each of these countries are the made source of data: Hassan Rohani and Mahmoud Ahmadi Nejad for Iran and Barack Obama and Donald Trump for the USA.

This study will employ both qualitative and quantitative methods of research. The major source of data is presidential debates which will be consulted for both verbal and non-verbal interactions between the targeted participants. Using English transcriptions of presidential debates as the main corpus, this research aims to answer the following questions: What are the types of impoliteness strategies used by each president? If compared intra-culturally and cross-culturally, do the impoliteness strategies employed by each president follow any recognizable patterns?

Keywords: (im)politeness, face, negative/ positive (im)politeness, bald on record, sarcasm or mock politeness, withhold politeness, Face Threatening Act (FTA).

References

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