

**AN ANALYSIS OF GRATITUDE EXPRESSIONS IN “TED
LASSO” MOVIE SERIES**

THESIS

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For “Sarjana” Degree In English Study Program



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Assalamua'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Semoga Bapak selalu dalam kesehatan dan lindungan dari Allah SWT. Dalam setiap urusannya.

Setelah mengadakan pemeriksaan dan juga perbaikan yang penting, maka kami berpendapat bahwa skripsi atas nama **Fitri Ade Sari (21551019)** sebagai Mahasiswi dari Program Studi Tadris Bahasa Inggris, dengan judul "**Verbal and Non-Verbal Expressions Of Thank You In *Ted Lasso* Movie Series**" sudah dapat diajukan dalam Sidang Munaqasah di Institut Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN) Curup.

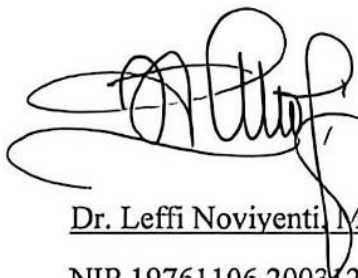
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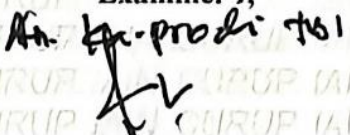
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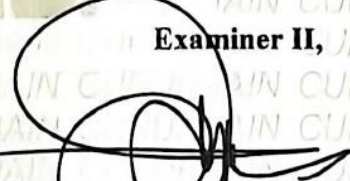

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PREFACE

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Allah SWT for His blessings, guidance, and strength, which have enabled me to complete this research proposal entitled “**An Analysis of Gratitude Expressions in “Ted Lasso” Movie Series**”. as one of the requirements to obtain a Bachelor of Education degree in the English Language Education Study Program, Faculty of Tarbiyah IAIN Curup.

The author realizes that this thesis is still far from perfect, therefore the author is happy to accept all forms of criticism and constructive suggestions for improvement in the future. Hopefully this thesis can provide benefits to readers, especially in the fields of pragmatics and English learning.

Curup, Januari 2026

The Researcher

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MOTTO

“In fact, there's nothing to worry about. Allah doesn't promise your life will always be easy, but Allah promise two things:

“Fa inna ma'al-'usri yusra, inna ma'al-'usri yusra”

(QS. Al- Insyirah: 5-6)

“A LIFE NOT AT THE RISK IS NEVER WON”

-Sutan Sjahir-

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Curup, Januari 2026

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ABSTRACT

FITRI ADE SARI : An Analysis of Gratitude Expressions in “Ted Lasso” Movie Series
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This study investigates the linguistic forms and contextual factors influencing gratitude expressions in *Ted Lasso*. Gratitude, as an expressive speech act, plays an important role in maintaining interpersonal relationships and managing social interaction. However, its realization varies depending on relational and situational contexts. Therefore, this research aims to identify the types of gratitude expressions used in the series and to analyze how contextual factors shape their use. This study employed a qualitative descriptive method. The data were collected from selected episodes of *Ted Lasso* through document analysis techniques. The primary instrument of the study was a document analysis checklist designed to categorize linguistic forms of gratitude and to identify contextual variables, including power relations, social distance, level of formality, and degree of imposition. The data were analyzed using a pragmatic approach focusing on expressive speech acts and interpersonal interaction. The findings reveal five main forms of gratitude expressions: explicit expressions (e.g., “thank you”), implicit expressions (e.g., “I appreciate it”), praise-based gratitude (e.g., “You’re amazing”), extended or elaborated expressions, and nonverbal expressions such as smiling or nodding. The results also indicate that contextual factors significantly influence the choice of form. In hierarchical interactions, gratitude tends to be explicit and respectful. In peer relationships, expressions are generally shorter and more informal. When the assistance is significant, speakers use elaborated and intensified expressions, whereas minor help often results in brief or nonverbal responses.

Keywords: *Gratitude expressions, expressive speech acts, contextual factors, interpersonal pragmatics, Ted Lasso*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Language plays a fundamental role in human social interaction as the primary medium through which people convey meaning, negotiate relationships, and construct social reality. In spoken communication, language is not only used to transfer information but also to express emotions, attitudes, and interpersonal intentions such as politeness, appreciation, and solidarity. Recent studies in pragmatics emphasize that successful communication requires pragmatic competence, which refers to the ability to use and interpret language appropriately according to context, social norms, and speaker intentions. According to Naoko Taguchi¹, pragmatic competence enables speakers to move beyond literal meanings and understand implied messages shaped by social relationships and situational contexts. Therefore, analyzing spoken language in social interaction is crucial for understanding how speakers express emotions and manage relationships through pragmatic choices.

Gratitude is a common expressive speech act in daily communication that functions not only to show appreciation but also to maintain politeness and strengthen social relationships. From a pragmatic perspective, gratitude expressions help speakers acknowledge benefits received while managing interpersonal rapport and social harmony. According to Helen Spencer-Oatey,

¹ Taguchi, N. (2021). Learning and teaching pragmatics in the globalized world: Introduction to the special issue. *Modern Language Journal*, 105(3), 615–622

gratitude is a key relational practice that speakers use to negotiate social bonds, respect, and mutual understanding in interaction². The realization of gratitude varies depending on contextual factors such as the relationship between speakers, the level of formality, and the situational setting, indicating that gratitude expressions are flexible and context-sensitive rather than fixed linguistic formulas.

To connect these perspectives, it is important to position gratitude not only as a social practice but also as a phenomenon that can be systematically examined through linguistic analysis. While gratitude functions to maintain politeness and strengthen social bonds in interaction, its expression is realized through specific linguistic choices that reflect speakers' intentions and sensitivity to context. This highlights the need for a pragmatic framework that explains how gratitude operates both as a relational act and as a meaningful utterance shaped by social norms, situational demands, and interpersonal goals. By viewing gratitude through this lens, researchers can bridge the functional role of gratitude in social interaction with its classification and analysis as a speech act within pragmatics, allowing for a more comprehensive understanding of how gratitude contributes to interpersonal meaning

Pragmatics examines how meaning is constructed and interpreted through language use in context, taking into account speaker intentions, social norms, and interpersonal relationships. Within this framework, gratitude is categorized as an expressive speech act because it conveys the speaker's

² Spencer-Oatey, H. (2022). Politeness and rapport management. In I. Kecskes (Ed.), *The Cambridge handbook of intercultural pragmatics* (pp. 484–509). Cambridge University Press.

emotional and evaluative stance toward a received benefit. From the perspective of interpersonal pragmatics, analyzing gratitude expressions is crucial for understanding how speakers manage relationships and negotiate social meanings in interaction. According to Michael Haugh, expressive speech acts such as gratitude play a central role in shaping interpersonal meaning by reflecting shared expectations, evaluations, and relational positioning between interlocutors³. Therefore, the analysis of gratitude expressions offers important insights into how social norms and interpersonal relationships are enacted through contextualized language use.

Movies and television series are valuable sources of linguistic data because they present language in naturally occurring, context-rich interactions that closely mirror real-life communication. Audiovisual media combine verbal expressions with visual cues such as facial expressions, gestures, and situational settings, allowing researchers to analyze pragmatic meaning more comprehensively than written texts alone. Dialogues in movies and TV series provide clear advantages for pragmatic analysis, as they illustrate how language is used to perform social actions, manage relationships, and convey emotions within specific contexts. According to Ruth Wodak, media discourse plays a significant role in reflecting and shaping social practices, making it a reliable resource for examining sociolinguistic and pragmatic phenomena⁴. Consequently, the analysis of language use in audiovisual media contributes not only to pragmatic and sociolinguistic research but also offers practical insights

³ Haugh, M. (2021). Interpersonal meaning and speech acts: A contextual perspective. *Pragmatics*, 31(2), 159–182.

⁴ Wodak, R., & Meyer, M. (2021). *Methods of critical discourse studies* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.

for language learning by exposing learners to authentic, contextualized examples of spoken interaction.

Building on this pragmatic perspective, the study of gratitude expressions requires data that clearly demonstrate how meaning, intention, and social norms operate in real communicative situations. Since expressive speech acts such as gratitude are highly dependent on context, relationship dynamics, and situational cues, they cannot be fully understood through isolated or decontextualized language samples. This creates a methodological need for data sources that present language as it is used in interaction, complete with social settings and interpersonal relationships. Consequently, audiovisual media become an appropriate and effective medium for pragmatic analysis, as they offer rich, contextualized representations of how expressive speech acts function within naturally unfolding discourse.

The *Ted Lasso* series is a popular television show that follows an American football coach leading an English soccer team, despite his limited experience in the sport. Unlike many other television series that emphasize conflict, sarcasm, or negative interpersonal exchanges, *Ted Lasso* is widely recognized for its consistent focus on positive communication, empathy, and emotional intelligence⁵. The characters frequently use supportive language, appreciation, and encouragement to navigate challenges and build relationships, making gratitude expressions a prominent and recurring feature of the dialogue. This strong emphasis on prosocial interaction distinguishes *Ted Lasso* from other

⁵ Neck, C. P., & Neck, C. B. (2025). *The leadership lessons of Ted Lasso: Enhancing the discussion of influence in learning environments*. *Administrative Sciences*, 15(6), Article 199

series and makes it particularly suitable for pragmatic analysis, as it offers rich, explicit, and varied examples of gratitude expressions across different contexts and relationships. Consequently, the series provides an ideal linguistic resource for examining how gratitude is expressed and functions within contemporary English media discourse.

This research is closely connected to the English Tadris Study Program of IAIN Curup, which aims to develop students' linguistic, communicative, and pedagogical competence in English. By analyzing gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series from a pragmatic perspective, this study contributes to the understanding of how English is used appropriately in real social contexts, an essential component of pragmatic competence for prospective English teachers. The findings of this research can support English Tadris students in enhancing their awareness of expressive speech acts, politeness strategies, and interpersonal meaning, which are crucial for effective classroom communication and English language teaching. Moreover, the use of audiovisual media as research data aligns with contemporary English teaching practices promoted in the English Tadris curriculum at IAIN Curup, encouraging the integration of authentic materials to improve students' speaking, listening, and pragmatic skills. Therefore, this study not only contributes academically but also offers practical pedagogical value for the preparation of competent and context-sensitive English teachers within the English Tadris Study Program of IAIN Curup.

This study is conducted to analyze the forms and contextual use of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series from a pragmatic perspective. By examining gratitude as an expressive speech act, this research aims to reveal how

gratitude is linguistically realized and how it functions in conveying interpersonal meaning, politeness, and social relationships within different communicative contexts. Through this analysis, the study seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of pragmatic competence in contemporary English discourse and to provide insights that are relevant for English language learning and teaching, particularly within the English Tadris Study Program.

B. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates of the study as follow:

1. What linguistic forms are used to express gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* series?
2. What contextual factors influence the use of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series?

C. Objective of the Research

Based on the problem formulation described above, the research objectives formulated in this study are:

1. To investigate linguistic forms are used to express gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* series.
2. To investigate contextual factors influence the use of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series

D. Delimitation of the Research

This research is delimited to the analysis of gratitude expressions found in the *Ted Lasso* television series. The study focuses only on verbal expressions of

gratitude produced by the main and supporting characters in selected episodes, excluding non-verbal expressions such as gestures or facial expressions. It is limited to examining the forms of gratitude utterances and the contexts in which they occur from a pragmatic perspective, without discussing other speech acts or broader sociocultural issues. Additionally, this research does not aim to measure audience interpretation or pedagogical effectiveness, but concentrates solely on the linguistic realization and contextual use of gratitude expressions within the series.

E. Significance of the Research

In this study, there are two significances of the study, namely,

1. Theoretical

- a. this research contributes to the field of pragmatics by providing a detailed analysis of gratitude as an expressive speech act within authentic, context-rich discourse. By examining gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series, the study enriches existing pragmatic and interpersonal pragmatics literature by illustrating how gratitude is linguistically realized and contextually shaped in contemporary English media. The findings are expected to support and extend recent theories of expressive speech acts and interpersonal meaning, particularly in understanding how social norms, relationships, and speaker intentions influence the use of gratitude expressions.

2. Practical

this research offers valuable implications for English language teaching and learning, especially within the English Tadris Study Program. The analysis provides authentic examples of gratitude expressions that can be used as learning materials to improve students' pragmatic competence, speaking skills, and awareness of polite and appropriate language use in real-life communication. Moreover, the findings may assist prospective English teachers in developing more context-sensitive communication strategies in classroom interaction, thereby enhancing effective and empathetic teacher–student communication.

F. Definition of the Key Terms

In order to give clear definition and as guidance for the reader to understand the whole study, the definition of the key terms are given here.

1. Gratitude Expressions

According to Helen Spencer-Oatey Gratitude expressions are verbal realizations of appreciation produced by a speaker in response to a benefit received⁶. From an interpersonal pragmatics perspective, gratitude is viewed as a relational practice used to maintain social harmony and negotiate interpersonal bonds rather than merely a polite formula. gratitude functions as a key communicative resource for managing rapport, respect, and mutual understanding in interaction.

2. Expressive Speech Act

⁶ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2022). *Interpersonal pragmatics: Relational goals in talk*. Routledge.

An expressive speech act is a type of speech act through which speakers convey their psychological state, emotions, or evaluations toward a particular situation⁷. In recent speech act research, gratitude is categorized as an expressive act because it reflects the speaker's affective and evaluative stance toward a received benefit. This definition emphasizes that expressive acts such as gratitude play a crucial role in constructing interpersonal meaning and relational positioning between interlocutors

3. Pragmatics

Naoko Taguchi defines pragmatics as a discipline that explains how speakers use linguistic forms appropriately to achieve communicative goals in specific social contexts⁸. Pragmatics is the study of how meaning is constructed and interpreted through language use in context, taking into account speaker intentions, social norms, and interpersonal relationships. Contemporary pragmatics highlights the importance of contextualized language use in understanding how utterances perform social actions.

4. According to Spencer-Oatey (2022), contextual factors strongly influence how relational meanings such as gratitude are expressed and understood in interaction. Context refers to the situational, social, and relational conditions surrounding an utterance, including participants, setting, power relations, and communicative purpose. In pragmatic analysis, context is essential for interpreting meaning beyond literal words, particularly in expressive speech acts.

5. Ted Lasso Series

⁷ Haugh, M. (2021). *Interpersonal pragmatics: From speech acts to social actions*. Cambridge University Press.

⁸ Taguchi, N. (2021). *Pragmatic development in a second language*. John Benjamins

Ted Lasso is a television series used as the primary data source in this study. The series is characterized by positive communication, emotional intelligence, and supportive interpersonal interactions, which provide rich examples of expressive speech acts such as gratitude. Its dialogue offers authentic and contextually grounded data suitable for pragmatic analysis of interpersonal meaning.

G. Thesis Organization

This chapter provides the organization from chapter one until chapter five. Chapter I is introduction that consists of background of the study, research question, objectives of the research, delimitation of the research, significance of the research and definition of the key terms. Chapter II deals with review of related literature. It provides of review of related theory and review of related studies. Chapter III is research methodology. It deals with kind of the research, subject of the research, technique of data collecting, research instrument and technique of analyzing data. Chapter IV includes finding and discussion and the last is chapter V. This chapter talks about conclusion and suggestion.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATE LITERATURE

A. Theoretical Framework

1. Definition of Pragmatics

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that examines how meaning is constructed and interpreted through language use in context, taking into account speaker intention, social norms, and situational factors. Recent pragmatic scholarship emphasizes that meaning cannot be fully understood by analyzing linguistic forms alone, but must be interpreted in relation to how language is used in interaction. According to Naoko Taguchi, pragmatics focuses on how speakers select and interpret linguistic resources appropriately to achieve communicative goals in specific social contexts⁹. Similarly, Kasper explains that pragmatics is concerned with the relationship between language, users, and the contexts in which communication occurs, highlighting the role of appropriateness and contextual sensitivity in meaning-making¹⁰. Taken together, these perspectives show that pragmatics views meaning as a product of both linguistic choice and contextual understanding.

2. The Scope of Pragmatic

The scope of pragmatics further extends to the study of speech acts, politeness, interpersonal meaning, and interactional discourse. From an interpersonal pragmatics perspective, meaning is not solely produced by the speaker but is

⁹ Taguchi, N. (2019). Second language pragmatics. In J. W. Schwieter & A. Benati (Eds.), *The Cambridge handbook of language learning* (pp. 456–472). Cambridge University Press

¹⁰ Kasper, G., & Rose, K. R. (2002). *Pragmatic development in a second language*. Blackwell.

co-constructed through interaction between participants. Michael Haugh argues that pragmatic meaning emerges from shared expectations, evaluations, and relational positioning among interlocutors¹¹. This view is reinforced by Helen Spencer-Oatey, who emphasizes that pragmatic analysis must account for rapport management and social relationships in communication¹². Therefore, pragmatics provides a comprehensive framework for understanding how language functions as social action and how interpersonal meaning is negotiated in real-life interaction.

3. Pragmatics as the study of meaning in context

Pragmatics is widely understood as the study of how meaning is shaped by context and how language users interpret utterances beyond their literal meanings. In pragmatic analysis, meaning is not inherent in linguistic forms alone but emerges from the interaction between language, context, and communicative intention. According to Jef Verschueren, pragmatics examines language use as a form of socially situated behavior, where meaning is dynamically negotiated through contextual adaptation, choice, and interpretation¹³. This view highlights that speakers constantly adjust their language in response to situational factors such as participants, social norms, and communicative goals. Supporting this perspective, Michael Haugh emphasizes that pragmatic meaning is co-constructed through interaction and shared expectations between interlocutors. Therefore, pragmatics as the study

¹¹ Haugh, M., & Kádár, D. Z. (2021). *Understanding politeness*. Cambridge University Press

¹² Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge

¹³ Culpeper, J., Haugh, M., & Kádár, D. Z. (2021). *The Palgrave handbook of linguistic (im)politeness*. Palgrave Macmillan

of meaning in context provides a comprehensive framework for understanding how implied meanings, intentions, and social actions are produced and interpreted in real-life communication.

4. Role of Pragmatics in Spoken Interaction

a. Interpreting Meaning Beyond Literal Words

Pragmatics enables speakers and listeners to understand meanings that go beyond the literal content of utterances, such as implied intentions, emotions, and attitudes. According to Michael Haugh, spoken interaction relies heavily on shared assumptions and contextual inference to interpret what speakers truly mean¹⁴.

b. Managing Interpersonal Relationships

Pragmatics plays a crucial role in managing social relationships during spoken interaction. Speakers use pragmatic strategies to show politeness, respect, solidarity, and empathy. Helen Spencer-Oatey explains that pragmatic choices help speakers maintain rapport and negotiate social bonds in interaction¹⁵.

c. Performing Social Actions Through Speech

In spoken interaction, utterances function as actions such as thanking, apologizing, requesting, or complimenting. Pragmatics helps explain how these speech acts are performed appropriately in different contexts. Naoko Taguchi highlights that pragmatic competence is essential for using speech acts effectively in real communicative situations.

¹⁴ Haugh, M. (2019). The interactional achievement of speaker meaning. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 145, 50–63

¹⁵ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge

d. Adapting Language to Context

Pragmatics guides speakers in adapting their language according to contextual factors such as formality, power relations, and familiarity. This adaptability ensures that spoken interaction remains socially appropriate and meaningful. Verschueren emphasizes that speakers continuously adjust their language choices to fit the communicative context¹⁶.

e. Co-Constructing Meaning in Interaction

Pragmatics recognizes that meaning in spoken interaction is co-constructed by both speakers and listeners. Meaning emerges through turn-taking, responses, and shared understanding. Haugh argues that pragmatic meaning is jointly negotiated rather than solely produced by individual speakers¹⁷.

5. Speech Act Theory

a. Overview of speech act theory

Speech act theory conceptualizes language as a means of performing actions that are embedded in social interaction. Rather than viewing meaning as fixed, contemporary perspectives emphasize that speech acts are dynamic and context-sensitive, shaped by interactional goals and social expectations. From an interactional pragmatics viewpoint, Istvan Kecskes explains that speech acts are produced through the interaction between individual intention and socially shared knowledge, making them both cognitive and social in nature¹⁸. This approach highlights that speakers rely

¹⁶ Ibid P.24

¹⁷ Ibid P.34

¹⁸ Kecskes, I. (2022). *English as a lingua franca: The pragmatic perspective*. Cambridge University Press

on prior experience, common ground, and situational cues to perform and interpret speech acts effectively. Therefore, speech act theory provides a valuable framework for understanding how utterances function as socially meaningful actions and how communicative intentions are negotiated in spoken interaction.

b. Classification of speech acts

The classification of speech acts used in this study is based on the theory proposed by John Searle, who developed a systematic framework for understanding how utterances function as social actions. According to Searle, speech acts are categorized into five main types: representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations¹⁹.

1.1 Representatives

Representative speech acts are used to state information or describe a situation that the speaker believes to be true. In *Ted Lasso*, a character may say something like “*You really helped the team today,*” which states a fact and can support an expression of gratitude.

1.2 Directives

Directive speech acts are intended to make the listener do something. Examples include requests or suggestions. In the series, a character might say, “*Please help me with this,*” which may later be followed by a gratitude expression such as “*Thank you for your help.*”

1.3 Commissives

¹⁹ Searle, J. R. (1979). *Expression and meaning: Studies in the theory of speech acts*. Cambridge University Press.

Commissive speech acts commit the speaker to a future action, such as promising or offering. For example, a character may say, “*I’ll make it up to you,*” as a response to someone’s help, which can function as an indirect way of showing gratitude.

1.4 Expressives

Expressive speech acts express the speaker’s feelings or emotional reactions. Gratitude belongs to this category because it shows appreciation and positive emotion. In *Ted Lasso*, expressions like “*Thank you,*” “*I really appreciate it,*” or “*That means a lot to me*” are clear examples of expressive speech acts.

1.5 Declarations

Declaration speech acts are utterances that change a social situation immediately after being spoken, usually in formal contexts. Although declarations are less frequent in everyday conversation, examples include announcements or official decisions made by authoritative characters in the series.

c. Expressive speech acts in communication

Expressive speech acts are a category of speech acts used by speakers to convey their psychological states, emotions, and attitudes toward a particular situation or action. In communication, expressive acts allow speakers to share feelings such as happiness, gratitude, regret, or admiration, thereby strengthening interpersonal relationships. From a contemporary pragmatic perspective, expressive speech acts are not

merely personal emotional expressions but function as important relational tools in social interaction. According to Michael Haugh, expressive speech acts play a central role in constructing interpersonal meaning by reflecting speakers' evaluations and relational positioning within interaction²⁰. This means that when speakers express gratitude, apology, or praise, they are also managing social bonds and expectations. Therefore, expressive speech acts are essential in communication because they help maintain politeness, build rapport, and negotiate social harmony in everyday interaction.

6. Gratitude as an Expressive Speech Act

Gratitude is classified as an expressive speech act because it conveys the speaker's emotional response and positive evaluation toward a benefit received from others. In communication, expressing gratitude allows speakers to acknowledge kindness, assistance, or support while maintaining politeness and strengthening interpersonal relationships. From an interpersonal pragmatics perspective, gratitude is not merely a routine expression but a relational practice that helps manage social bonds and mutual respect. According to Helen Spencer-Oatey, gratitude plays a key role in rapport management by signaling appreciation and reinforcing positive interpersonal relations²¹. Additionally, recent pragmatic studies emphasize that gratitude expressions vary depending on contextual factors such as social distance, power relations, and situational formality. Therefore, analyzing gratitude as an expressive

²⁰ Ibid P.56

²¹ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge. P.23

speech act provides important insights into how speakers use language to express emotions, negotiate social norms, and maintain harmonious communication in everyday interaction.

a. Definition of gratitude in pragmatics

In pragmatics, gratitude is defined as an expressive speech act through which a speaker acknowledges a benefit received and expresses appreciation toward the benefactor within a specific social context. Gratitude is not merely an emotional response but a socially meaningful action that contributes to the management of interpersonal relationships. From an interpersonal pragmatics perspective, Helen Spencer-Oatey also explains that gratitude functions as a relational practice used to maintain rapport, respect, and social harmony in interaction²². In addition, Michael Haugh emphasizes that gratitude expressions reflect shared expectations and evaluative judgments between speakers and hearers, highlighting their role in constructing interpersonal meaning²³. Together, these theories show that gratitude in pragmatics is a context-sensitive expressive act that serves both emotional and social functions in communication.

b. Gratitude as an Expressive Speech Act

Gratitude expressions are an important part of everyday communication because they reflect how speakers express appreciation, manage interpersonal relationships, and follow social norms. In pragmatics, gratitude is categorized as an expressive speech act since it conveys the

²² Ibid P.34

²³ Ibid P.21

speaker's emotional response to a benefit received. From an interpersonal pragmatics perspective, gratitude does not merely express thankfulness but also serves multiple social and communicative functions in interaction.

a. Maintaining Social Relationships

Gratitude expressions function to maintain and strengthen social relationships between speakers and hearers. By expressing gratitude, speakers acknowledge the kindness or effort of others, which helps build mutual respect and trust. According to Helen Spencer-Oatey, gratitude plays an important role in rapport management, as it supports positive interpersonal relations and social harmony²⁴.

b. Enhancing Politeness and Managing Face

Another function of gratitude expressions is to show politeness and manage the hearer's face. Expressing gratitude helps protect the hearer's positive face by making them feel valued and appreciated. Michael Haugh explains that gratitude serves as a politeness strategy that reduces social distance and promotes cooperative interaction.

c. Acknowledging Help or Benefit Received

This function aligns with Searle's (1979) theory of expressive speech acts, where gratitude is used to express a psychological state in response to a benefit. It is further elaborated by Haugh (2021), who explains that acknowledging benefits through gratitude fulfills social expectations and confirms mutual recognition between interlocutors.

d. Expressing Positive Emotional States

²⁴ Ibid. P.24

According to Haugh, gratitude functions as an interpersonal practice that communicates positive evaluations and emotions, such as appreciation and satisfaction²⁵. This emotional expression helps speakers construct shared understanding and reinforce interpersonal meaning in interaction.

e. Closing or Softening Interactions

This function is strongly supported by rapport management theory, which views gratitude as a strategy for maintaining social harmony. Expressing gratitude helps soften imposition, manage face concerns, and politely close interactions in spoken communication.

c. Linguistic Forms of Gratitude Expressions

Based on theory proposed by Helen Spencer-Oate, gratitude expressions are realized through different linguistic forms depending on how speakers manage social relationships, politeness, and interpersonal harmony²⁶. In spoken interaction, gratitude is not expressed through a single fixed formula but appears in several linguistic forms that reflect speakers' intentions and social positioning. These forms include:

1.1 Explicit Gratitude Expression

This form directly states appreciation using conventional expressions such as “*thank you,*” “*thanks,*” “*thank you very much,*” or “*thanks a lot.*” theories, explicit gratitude is commonly used when speakers want

²⁵ Ibid P.34

²⁶ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge

to clearly acknowledge a benefit received and fulfill social expectations of politeness. This form is straightforward and often occurs in formal situations or when the speaker wishes to avoid ambiguity.

1.2 Implicit Gratitude Expressions

Gratitude can also be expressed indirectly without using the word “*thank*.” Examples include expressions such as “*I really appreciate this*,” “*That means a lot to me*,” or “*I couldn’t have done this without you*.” This form reflects relational closeness and emotional depth, as speakers rely on shared understanding rather than explicit formulas. Theories explain that implicit gratitude often functions to strengthen interpersonal bonds and convey sincerity.

1.3 Gratitude Combined with Evaluation or Praise

In this form, gratitude is accompanied by positive evaluation, such as “*Thank you, that was really kind of you*” or “*I appreciate your help—you did an amazing job*.” This combination not only acknowledges the benefit but also positively evaluates the hearer’s action, contributing to rapport enhancement. From a rapport management perspective, this form reinforces mutual respect and positive relational alignment.

1.4 Gratitude Embedded in Extended Utterances

Gratitude may also appear within longer utterances, such as explanations, reflections, or emotional statements. For example, speakers may express gratitude while sharing personal feelings or contextualizing the benefit received. Spencer-Oatey notes that this form

allows speakers to manage relational goals more delicately, especially in emotionally meaningful interactions.

Tabel 2.1 Linguistic Forms of Gratitude Expressions²⁷

No.	Forms of Gratitude	Indicators	Examples of Utterances
1.	Explicit Gratitude Expressions	a) Use of explicit thanking words (<i>thank you, thanks</i>).	“ Thank you for believing in me.”
		b) Occurs immediately after receiving help or benefit.	“ Thanks , Coach. I really needed that advice.”
		c) Primary function is appreciation, not request or criticism.	“ Thank you very much for your support.”
		d) Can stand alone or be combined with another clause.	“ Thanks a lot , I appreciate your honesty.”
2.	Implicit Gratitude Expressions	a) No use of the words <i>thank</i> or <i>thanks</i> .	“I really appreciate you being here.”
		b) Use of appreciation-related expressions.	“That means a lot to me.”
		c) Acknowledgment of benefit is implied.	“I couldn’t have done this without you .”
		d) Gratitude inferred from context and situation.	“You showed up when no one else did.”
3.	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	a) Gratitude combined with evaluative language.	“Thank you, that was very kind of you.”
		b) Use of positive adjectives or praise.	“Thanks, you did a great job today.”
		c) Evaluation directed at the hearer’s action or character.	“I appreciate it—you’re an amazing coach .”
		d) Function is appreciation and rapport building.	“Thank you for helping me. You really care about this team .”
4.	Extended or Elaborated	a) More than one clause or sentence.	“Thank you for standing by me, especially when things were tough .”

²⁷ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

	Gratitude Expressions		
		b) Explanation of why the speaker is grateful.	“I appreciate your help because it gave me confidence. ”
		c) Emotional or personal reflection included.	“That meant so much to me—I was honestly struggling.”
		d) Gratitude embedded in a broader interpersonal message.	“I just want you to know how grateful I am for everything you’ve done for me.”

In conclusion, linguistic forms of gratitude vary from explicit to implicit and evaluative expressions, depending on contextual and relational factors. These variations demonstrate that gratitude is a flexible pragmatic resource used to manage politeness, interpersonal relationships, and social harmony, making it a central focus for answering the first research question of this study.

d. Contextual Factors Influencing Gratitude Expressions

According to Spencer-Oatey’s theory, gratitude expressions are shaped by speakers’ efforts to maintain, enhance, or manage interpersonal relationships²⁸. The way gratitude is expressed depends on several contextual factors that guide speakers’ pragmatic choices in interaction.

1.1 Relationship Between Speaker and Hearer

The social relationship between interlocutors strongly influences how gratitude is expressed. In close relationships (e.g., friends or teammates), gratitude is often expressed implicitly or informally,

²⁸ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge. P.12-28

reflecting familiarity and shared understanding. In contrast, in distant or hierarchical relationships, speakers tend to use more explicit and polite gratitude forms to show respect and maintain social boundaries.

1.2 Power and Social Status

Differences in power or status affect the level of formality and elaboration in gratitude expressions. When the hearer holds higher status, speakers often use more formal, explicit, or extended gratitude to demonstrate respect. When the speaker holds higher status, gratitude may be shorter or less formal but still serves to maintain rapport.

1.3 Situational Formality

The formality of the situation also shapes gratitude expressions. In formal contexts, such as professional or institutional settings, gratitude is typically expressed through conventional and explicit forms. In informal settings, speakers may rely on casual, implicit, or humor-based gratitude expression.

1.4 Type and Value of the Benefit Received

The perceived importance of the benefit influences how gratitude is expressed. Minor assistance may receive brief or routine thanks, while significant emotional or practical support often results in extended or emotionally rich gratitude expressions that include explanations or personal reflections.

1.5 Speaker's Interpersonal Goals

Speakers express gratitude not only to acknowledge help but also to achieve interpersonal goals, such as strengthening relationships,

repairing tension, or closing interactions politely. The chosen form of gratitude reflects the speaker's intention to manage rapport and social harmony within the interaction.

Tabel 2.2 Contextual Factors Influencing Gratitude Expressions²⁹

No.	Contextual Factors	Description	Indicators with Examples
1.	Relationship Between Speaker and Hearer	The social closeness or familiarity between interlocutors influences the form, tone, and elaboration of gratitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close relationship: informal/implicit gratitude (e.g., "I really appreciate it, man!" or "Couldn't have done this without you!"). - Distant/unfamiliar relationship: explicit/polite gratitude (e.g., "Thank you very much for your assistance, Coach.")- Indicator: pronouns, nicknames, casual vs. formal address, level of directness.
2.	Power and Social Status	Authority or hierarchical differences affect formality and politeness in gratitude expressions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaker < Hearer (lower to higher status): extended and formal gratitude (e.g., "I truly appreciate your guidance on this project, Sir."). - Speaker > Hearer (higher to lower status): simple or brief gratitude (e.g., "Thanks for helping me out."). - Indicator: choice of formal language, honorifics, degree of elaboration.
3.	Situational Formality	The level of formality in the setting influences whether gratitude is conventional or casual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal setting: conventional, explicit gratitude (e.g., "Thank you for your time and support during the meeting."). - Informal setting: casual, abbreviated, or humorous gratitude (e.g., "Thanks a ton, buddy!" or playful "You're a lifesaver!"). - Indicator: tone, vocabulary choice, and context cues

²⁹ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge. P.23-45

			(workplace vs. casual conversation).
4.	Type and Value of the Benefit Received	The perceived significance of the benefit determines the intensity and length of gratitude.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor benefit: short and routine gratitude (e.g., “Thanks for the help.”). - Major benefit: extended, emotionally rich gratitude (e.g., “Thank you so much for staying late to help me—it really means a lot.”). - Indicator: length of utterance, emotional language, use of intensifiers (“so much,” “really”).
5.	Speaker’s Interpersonal Goals	Gratitude is strategically used to manage relationships, maintain harmony, or politely end interactions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relationship maintenance: expressing gratitude to strengthen bonds (e.g., “I really appreciate you being here—it means a lot to me.”). - Closing/softening interaction: gratitude to end conversation politely (e.g., “Thanks again! I’ll see you tomorrow.”). - Indicator: position in conversation, function (rapport-building, conflict mitigation, politeness).

In conclusion, contextual factors such as relationship, power, formality, perceived benefit, and interpersonal goals determine how gratitude expressions are realized in spoken interaction. These factors explain why gratitude expressions vary across situations and provide a clear analytical framework for answering the second research question of this study.

7. Interpersonal Pragmatics

Interpersonal pragmatics is a branch of pragmatics that focuses on how language is used to manage social relationships, negotiate interpersonal

meaning, and maintain rapport between speakers. Unlike general pragmatics, which studies meaning in context broadly, interpersonal pragmatics specifically examines how speakers use language to achieve relational goals, such as showing politeness, expressing emotions, or maintaining social harmony. According to Michael Haugh, language is not only a tool for conveying information but also a mechanism for constructing and negotiating interpersonal relationships³⁰. Gratitude, as an expressive speech act, is a central feature in interpersonal pragmatics because it signals appreciation, acknowledges benefits, and reinforces positive social bonds. Similarly, Helen Spencer-Oatey emphasizes that interpersonal pragmatics examines how speakers manage face, respect, and rapport in social interactions through relational strategies, including expressions of gratitude³¹. In essence, interpersonal pragmatics provides the theoretical framework for understanding how speakers choose linguistic forms and strategies to achieve emotional, social, and relational goals in communication, making it highly relevant for analyzing gratitude expressions in spoken media like *Ted Lasso*.

a. Relationship Between Language and Social Interaction

Language is not only a system of words and grammar but also a primary tool for social interaction, enabling individuals to convey meaning, express emotions, and manage relationships. In social interactions, speakers use language to perform actions, negotiate social roles, and establish interpersonal connections. According to Michael Haugh, language is a

³⁰ Haugh, M., & Kádár, D. Z. (2021). *Understanding politeness*. Cambridge University Press.

³¹ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge

relational resource, meaning that every utterance carries both informational content and interpersonal significance³². Similarly, Helen Spencer-Oatey emphasizes that communication is a tool for managing face, politeness, and rapport, and the choice of linguistic forms reflects the speaker's attention to social norms and relational goals³³. In this sense, expressions of gratitude are a prime example of language functioning in social interaction: they not only acknowledge benefits but also strengthen relationships, signal respect, and maintain social harmony. The way speakers express gratitude—through explicit, implicit, evaluative, or extended forms—depends on social context, relationship, and interactional goals, illustrating the deep connection between language and social interaction.

8. Context in Pragmatic Analysis

In pragmatics, context is a fundamental factor in interpreting the meaning of an utterance beyond its literal words. Context includes the physical setting, social situation, participants' roles, cultural norms, prior discourse, and speaker intentions, all of which influence how language is produced and understood. According to Michael Haugh, pragmatic meaning cannot be fully understood without considering the interactional environment, because speakers tailor their language to achieve relational and communicative goals. In addition, Helen Spencer-Oatey emphasizes that context shapes how social actions, such as expressing gratitude, are performed, interpreted, and evaluated by participants. For example, the form, politeness level, and elaboration of a

³² Ibid P.23

³³ Ibid P.56

gratitude expression depend on contextual factors such as the speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, power dynamics, and the situational importance of the benefit received. Understanding context in pragmatic analysis therefore allows researchers to explain why speakers choose certain linguistic forms and how these forms function to manage interpersonal relationships in real communicative situations.

9. Audiovisual Media as Linguistic Data

- a. Movies and television series are valuable sources of authentic language because they present naturally occurring, context-rich interactions that closely mirror real-life communication. Unlike scripted textbooks or artificial dialogues, audiovisual media combine verbal expressions with paralinguistic features such as intonation, gestures, facial expressions, and situational cues, making them ideal for pragmatic analysis. According to Ruth Wodak, media discourse reflects and shapes social practices, providing researchers with insights into how language functions in real interactions³⁴. Similarly, Michael Haugh emphasizes that spoken dialogues in movies and TV series offer opportunities to study speech acts, social norms, and interpersonal strategies, including politeness, rapport management, and emotional expression³⁵. In the case of gratitude expressions, media dialogues illustrate how speakers adjust language depending on contextual factors such as relationship, power, social distance, and situational importance. Therefore, analyzing language in

³⁴ Wodak, R. (2021). *The politics of fear: The shameless normalization of far-right discourse* (2nd ed.). SAGE

³⁵ Ibid. P.23

movies and TV series allows researchers not only to observe authentic linguistic forms but also to understand how social and pragmatic functions are enacted in realistic settings, providing a rich dataset for applied linguistics and language learning research.

b. Advantages of Audiovisual Data for Pragmatic Studies

Audiovisual data, such as movies and TV series, provide several advantages for pragmatic research because they present language use in authentic, context-rich interactions. First, audiovisual media combine verbal language with paralinguistic and non-verbal cues—including tone, intonation, facial expressions, gestures, and body language—which help researchers interpret pragmatic meaning more accurately than written texts alone. Second, dialogues in movies and TV series reflect natural conversational patterns, including interruptions, hesitations, repairs, and informal expressions, allowing researchers to study how speech acts, such as gratitude, are realized in real communicative contexts. Third, audiovisual data allow the observation of contextual factors, such as social relationships, setting, and situational constraints, which influence how speakers manage politeness, rapport, and interpersonal meaning. Finally, these resources are highly useful for language learning and teaching, as they expose learners to authentic, pragmatic-rich interactions, helping them understand not just what is said, but how and why it is said in social contexts.

c. *Ted Lasso* Series

Ted Lasso is a television series that follows the story of an American football coach, Ted Lasso, who moves to England to coach a professional soccer team despite having little experience with the sport. The series is widely praised for its emphasis on positive communication, empathy, and emotional intelligence, making it rich in interpersonal interactions and expressive language. According to recent media studies, *Ted Lasso* showcases dialogues that are socially and contextually grounded, reflecting authentic patterns of spoken English, including humor, encouragement, and appreciation.

The series is particularly suitable for studying gratitude expressions because its characters frequently interact in ways that highlight relational and emotional dynamics, such as offering support, acknowledging help, and strengthening team rapport. Gratitude in the series appears in multiple forms from brief “thank you” utterances to extended expressions of personal reflection allowing researchers to observe how linguistic forms vary according to contextual factors such as social relationships, power dynamics, and situational importance of benefits received. Compared to other media, *Ted Lasso* is chosen for this study because its focus on positive interpersonal communication provides a rich and consistent dataset for analyzing gratitude as a pragmatic speech act.



Picture 2.1 *Ted lasso* series

B. Previous Study

Several studies have examined gratitude expressions as an important speech act in communication. For instance, Panjaitan and Ambalegin analyzed expressive speech acts in *The Summer I Turned Pretty* TV series and found that gratitude was the most frequent expressive act, serving as a key tool for interpersonal communication and conviviality³⁶. Similarly, Al-Momani et al. investigated gratitude strategies among Jordanian EFL learners, revealing that while learners used similar strategies to native speakers, cultural norms influenced strategy preference and response patterns³⁷. Aziza and Laili studied gratitude strategies in

³⁶ Panjaitan, S., & Ambalegin, A. (2024). Expressive speech acts in *The Summer I Turned Pretty* TV series. *Journal of Applied Linguistics and Language Research*, 11(1), 56–68.

³⁷ Al-Momani, H., Al-Khawaldeh, N., & Al-Omari, M. (2021). Gratitude strategies among Jordanian EFL learners: A cross-cultural pragmatic analysis. *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 17(3), 1450–1465

online comments on NCT's *Beautiful* music video and found gender differences in the ways gratitude was expressed³⁸, while Mamadaliyeva compared English and Uzbek gratitude expressions and concluded that English uses concise, standardized phrases, whereas Uzbek expressions are more contextually rich and culturally embedded³⁹. Additionally, Eripuddin et al. analyzed gratitude expressions in the drama performance of *The Pursuit of Happyness* and discovered multiple pragmatic functions, including acknowledging major favors and politely closing interactions⁴⁰.

Pragmatic studies using movies and TV series have further highlighted the value of audiovisual media for analyzing authentic language use. Omar and Razi showed that EFL learners' pragmatic competence improved when taught using movie and TV series clips, particularly in producing speech acts like requests and suggestions⁴¹. Research on specific films and series, such as *Poor Things*, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, *Heidi*, and the short film *The Translator*, demonstrated that expressive speech acts including gratitude are richly represented in dialogues, providing naturalistic and contextually grounded examples of interpersonal language use.

Despite these contributions, gaps remain in the literature. Most studies on gratitude focus on EFL learners, written communication, or online interactions,

³⁸ Aziza, N., & Laili, R. (2024). Gratitude strategies in online comments on NCT's *Beautiful* music video: A gender-based analysis. *Journal of Pragmatics and Discourse Studies*, 5(1), 34–47.

³⁹ Mamadaliyeva, D. (2025). A comparative study of gratitude expressions in English and Uzbek: A socio-pragmatic perspective. *International Journal of Linguistics and Communication*, 13(1), 15–29

⁴⁰ Eripuddin, E., Sari, D. P., & Fitri, R. (2022). Gratitude expressions in the drama performance of *The Pursuit of Happyness*: A pragmatic perspective. *Journal of English Education and Linguistics*, 3(2), 120–132

⁴¹ Omar, H., & Razi, S. (2022). Using movie and TV series clips to develop EFL learners' pragmatic competence. *Teaching English with Technology*, 22(4), 3–20

rather than authentic, scripted audiovisual media. Furthermore, few studies analyze gratitude specifically in TV series, considering both forms and contextual factors of expressions. Finally, while pragmatic research often emphasizes requests, suggestions, or apologies, gratitude as an expressive speech act remains underexplored, highlighting the need for studies like this one that examine how gratitude functions in realistic media discourse and interpersonal interactions.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology of this study comprises six main components: (1) the research design, (2) the research object, (3) the data sources, (4) the data collection methods, (5) the research instruments, and (6) the data analysis procedures. Each of these components is discussed in detail in the following sections:

A. Research Design

This study employs a qualitative research design, following Creswell's assertion that qualitative approaches are particularly appropriate for exploring phenomena in depth and obtaining a comprehensive understanding of the experiences, behaviors, or social processes involved⁴².

In contrast to quantitative methods, which emphasize numerical data and statistical analysis, qualitative research prioritizes the detailed features and complexities of the phenomenon being studied, providing rich, descriptive insights. This approach is particularly suitable for the present study, as its primary objective is to examine how gratitude expressions are realized and used in context within the *Ted Lasso* series, allowing for an in-depth understanding of the linguistic forms and pragmatic functions of these expressions.

This study employs a descriptive approach, which seeks to examine and present the characteristics of the variables under investigation—either individually or collectively without drawing comparisons or analyzing causal

⁴² Creswell, J. W. (2014). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.

relationships between them. Descriptive research focuses on observing, identifying, and systematically documenting the characteristics of the variables under investigation, without seeking to compare them or explore their relationships with other variables.⁴³ The researcher applied a descriptive approach to examine the phenomenon under study. Unlike experimental methods, qualitative research is designed to explore natural, real-life conditions in depth. In this study, the researcher focused on analyzing the realization of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series as authentic examples of interpersonal pragmatic behavior.

B. Object of the Research

The research object refers to the specific subject, phenomenon, or entity that is the focus of investigation in a study⁴⁴. The research object serves as the focal point that shapes the development of the research questions, objectives, and methodology. It determines what the researcher aims to examine, analyze, or clarify, whether it involves a specific group, process, event, concept, or variable, and establishes the boundaries and framework for the study, guiding both data collection and analysis. In this study, the research object is the *Ted Lasso* series. The series was selected because it provides rich examples of gratitude expressions in naturally occurring dialogue, making it suitable for analyzing both the forms and contextual factors of gratitude as a pragmatic speech act.

⁴³ Best, J. W., & Kahn, J. V. (2016). *Research in education* (10th ed.). Pearson Education. P.122

⁴⁴ Bryman, A. (2016). *Social research methods* (5th ed.). Oxford University Press

C. Data Sources

the *Ted Lasso* series, which is the primary focus of this study, provides rich, naturally occurring dialogue that illustrates interpersonal communication and pragmatic behavior. The series contains multiple instances of gratitude expressions, which in this research are categorized into four linguistic forms: direct expressions (e.g., “Thank you”), indirect expressions (e.g., “I really appreciate it”), expressive elaborations (e.g., “I can’t tell you how much this means to me”), and nonverbal gestures (e.g., nods, smiles, or handshakes accompanying verbal thanks). In total, this study investigates 120 data points of gratitude expressions across the episodes of the series (three Sessions), allowing for a comprehensive analysis of how gratitude is realized in different contexts and interactions.

The selection of *Ted Lasso* as the primary data source is further justified by its rich contextual and paralinguistic cues, including tone, facial expressions, gestures, and situational factors, which are essential for interpreting the social meaning and interpersonal functions of gratitude. By analyzing these 120 instances of gratitude across the four linguistic forms and considering contextual factors such as speaker-hearer relationship and situational importance, the study aims to provide a detailed understanding of how gratitude is expressed, negotiated, and managed in authentic English-language interactions, contributing to both pragmatic research and practical applications in English language teaching.

Figure 3.1
Ted Lasso Series



D. Technique of Collecting Data

Data collection is a fundamental aspect of any research, as it governs how information is obtained to answer the research questions effectively. In the present study, data are gathered through a systematic procedure aimed at ensuring the relevance, accuracy, and reliability of the information collected. The chosen technique is designed to align closely with the research objectives, providing a robust basis for subsequent analysis. This section presents the specific methods employed to collect the data, including the procedures, instruments, and strategies utilized to ensure comprehensive and valid results.

1. Document Analysis

Document analysis is a qualitative method of data collection that involves the systematic examination of documents produced either by the researcher or by other sources. According to Berg and Lune, documents may

include both written and visual materials, which can be utilized to obtain relevant information that supports the research objectives.⁴⁵

This study analyzes gratitude expressions that occur in the *Ted Lasso* series to examine the different forms in which gratitude is realized and the contextual factors that influence their use in interpersonal interactions. Specifically, the research focuses on identifying and categorizing the linguistic forms of gratitude and exploring how these expressions function within various social situations depicted in the series.

E. Instrument

In qualitative research, the researcher functions as the primary instrument for data collection and analysis. Although the researcher plays a central role, supplementary tools can be developed to support and systematize the process. In this study, a document analysis checklist is employed as an auxiliary instrument to guide the systematic identification and recording of relevant gratitude expressions from the *Ted Lasso* series.

1. Document Analysis

The document analysis checklist for this study is designed to systematically identify and categorize gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series. Guided by Helen Spencer-Oatey's theory of interpersonal pragmatics, which emphasizes the role of relational and social context in shaping expressive speech acts, the checklist enables the researcher to examine each instance of

⁴⁵ Berg, B. L., & Lune, H. (2012). *Qualitative research methods for the social sciences* (8th ed.). Pearson Education

gratitude in detail. Specifically, it records the linguistic forms of gratitude such as direct expressions, indirect expressions, elaborated forms, and nonverbal gestures while also noting the contextual factors that influence their use, including speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, and situational importance. By using this theoretically informed checklist, the researcher ensures a systematic and reliable collection of data, directly addressing the research question: *What linguistic forms are used to express gratitude in the Ted Lasso series?*

To address the second research question *In what contexts are gratitude expressions used in the Ted Lasso series?* the document analysis checklist also incorporates contextual criteria informed by Michael Haugh's interpersonal pragmatics and Helen Spencer-Oatey's rapport management theory. Haugh emphasizes that the meaning of expressive speech acts, such as gratitude, is shaped by the interactional environment, including social roles, relationships, and situational constraints, while Spencer-Oatey highlights how relational goals and social norms influence the performance of speech acts. Guided by these theories, the checklist enables the researcher to systematically record contextual factors for each gratitude expression, such as the speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, power dynamics, and the situational importance of the benefit received. This approach ensures that the analysis captures not only the linguistic forms of gratitude but also the social and pragmatic contexts in which they are enacted, providing a comprehensive understanding of how gratitude functions in authentic dialogue.

Table 3.1
Instrument of Research

No	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic (Forms of Gratitude) Helen Spencer-Oatey's theory	Contextual Factors Michael Haugh's theory	Notes
1		"Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice."	Explicit Gratitude Expressions	Speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, Power dynamics, Situational importance	Direct and concise expression of gratitude; typically used in everyday acknowledgment of help or favor
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

Column Explanation:

- a) **No:** The sequential number for each phrasal verb analyzed.
- b) **Scene** – This column identifies the specific scene or episode in the *Ted Lasso* series where the gratitude expression occurs. It helps contextualize the interaction and allows the reader to locate the expression in the audiovisual source
- c) **Gratitude Expression** – This column records the actual words, phrases, or nonverbal gestures used to convey gratitude. It provides the raw data for linguistic analysis. For example: "Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice."

- d) **Form of Linguistic (Forms of Gratitude)** – This column classifies each gratitude expression according to its linguistic type or category. In this study, the forms are based on five categories
- e) **Contextual Factors:** This column notes the social and situational aspects surrounding the gratitude expression.
- f) **Notes:** This column provides additional remarks about the gratitude expression, including its communicative function, intensity, or any notable features such as emotional involvement, politeness level, or relational significance. For example: “*Direct and concise expression of gratitude; typically used in everyday acknowledgment of help or favor.*”

F. Technique of Analyzing Data

The technique of analyzing data in this study follows Miles and Huberman’s Interactive Model of Data Analysis, which consists of data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. This model was chosen because it provides a systematic and iterative approach, allowing the researcher to move between data and interpretation. The steps and what the researcher has done are as follows:⁴⁶

1. Data Collection

At this stage, the researcher collected all relevant episodes of the *Ted Lasso* series, focusing on scenes containing expressions of gratitude. Each episode was carefully watched, and every instance of gratitude verbal and nonverbal

⁴⁶ Miles, M. B., & Huberman, A. M. (1994). *Qualitative Data Analysis: An Expanded Sourcebook* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

was extracted within its full dialogue and situational context to preserve the intended meaning. The collected data were then organized and compiled into a systematic corpus, ensuring that each expression could be analyzed in terms of both its linguistic form and contextual factors, such as the speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, and situational importance. This procedure resulted in a comprehensive dataset of 120 gratitude expressions for further qualitative analysis.

2. Data Reduction

After data collection, the researcher refined the dataset by selecting only the instances of gratitude expressions that were relevant to the study, removing any dialogue or gestures that did not convey appreciation or thankfulness. From this refined dataset, each gratitude expression was categorized according to its linguistic form such as explicit, implicit, evaluative/praising, elaborated, or nonverbal and analyzed in relation to its contextual factors, including speaker-hearer relationship, social distance, power dynamics, and situational importance. The researcher also observed recurring patterns and variations in the use of gratitude, which facilitated a more organized dataset that aligns with the study's objectives and allows for focused, systematic analysis.

3. Data Display

Following data reduction, the researcher organized the collected gratitude expressions into tables to highlight patterns and facilitate analysis. Each table included the original gratitude expression from the series, the scene or situational context, its corresponding form of linguistic classification, and the

relevant contextual factors. For example, the expression “Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice” would be recorded as an explicit gratitude expression occurring in a scene with a close speaker-hearer relationship and moderate social distance. By presenting the data visually, the researcher could more easily identify the frequency and distribution of different forms of gratitude, as well as patterns in how contextual factors influenced their use, enabling clearer interpretation and systematic analysis of trends

4. Conclusion Drawing and Verification

In the final stage, the researcher analyzed the organized data to identify prominent patterns in the use of gratitude expressions, such as the frequent use of explicit expressions in close relationships or the tendency for indirect and elaborated forms to appear in more formal or emotionally significant situations. These findings were then verified by cross-referencing with pragmatic theories, including Helen Spencer-Oatey on relational goals and Michael Haugh on interpersonal pragmatics, to ensure that the interpretations of forms and contexts were consistent with theoretical expectations. The researcher also revisited selected scenes in the *Ted Lasso* series to confirm the accuracy of contextual coding. Finally, conclusions were drawn regarding how linguistic forms and contextual factors interact to convey gratitude effectively, providing insight into the social and interpersonal functions of gratitude in authentic English-language interactions.

By applying Miles and Huberman’s iterative model of qualitative data analysis, the researcher maintained a structured, transparent, and cyclical process, allowing for continuous validation of the findings. This approach enabled the researcher to

revisit earlier stages of data coding and categorization, refining both the classification of gratitude expressions and the interpretation of contextual factors, which enhanced the accuracy, reliability, and depth of the analysis.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section provides a detailed examination of the data obtained through document analysis to address the research questions. The interpretations drawn from these data enhance the study's findings, providing a comprehensive and evidence-based understanding of the results.

A. Findings

The researcher presented findings based on document analysis to answer the research questions. The aim of gathering this data was to examine and categorize gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series. The study employed a descriptive approach, using qualitative methods to analyze both the linguistic forms and contextual factors of gratitude in the series' dialogue.

1. Linguistic Forms Used to Express Gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* Series.

A. Document Analysis Result

The document analysis sheet was created to assist in collecting data on the linguistic forms and contextual factors of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series. The analysis was conducted between [27th May 2025 to 17th July 2025]. The researcher examined three sessions of the series. Assistance was provided by a rater who helped ensure the accuracy and validity of the data by reviewing the checklist, providing comments, and suggesting additional examples where necessary. The results of the document analysis are presented in the tables below:

Tabel 4.1
Linguistic Forms Used to Express Gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* Series

No	Form of Linguistic (Form of Gratitude) (Helen Spencer-Oatey's theory)	Example	Indicators (Coding Criteria)
1	Explicit Gratitude Expressions	“Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice.”	Presence of lexical items such as <i>thanks</i> , <i>thank you</i> , <i>thank you so much</i> , directly expressing gratitude.
2	Explicit Gratitude Expressions	“Thank you so much for helping me today.”	Direct expression of gratitude followed by mention of benefit or action received.
3	Implicit Gratitude Expressions	“I really appreciate your support.”	Use of appreciation verbs (e.g., <i>appreciate</i> , <i>be grateful</i> , <i>mean a lot</i>) without using the word <i>thank</i> .
4	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation/Praise	“You’re amazing! That really helped me a lot.”	Expression of positive evaluation, compliment, or praise indicating appreciation for the interlocutor’s action.
5	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expressions	“I honestly don’t know what I would have done without you—thank you!”	Gratitude expressed with elaboration, emotional emphasis, intensifiers, or additional explanatory clauses.
6	Nonverbal Gratitude Expressions	Smiling, nodding, or giving a thumbs-up after receiving help	Stage directions or contextual descriptions showing gestures, facial expressions, or prosodic cues signaling gratitude.

The table above presents the classification of linguistic forms used to express gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* series. The categorization was developed based on the analysis of 190 conversational data extracted from selected episodes. Each utterance was examined to identify how gratitude was linguistically realized in context. The classification is divided into five major forms: explicit gratitude expressions, implicit gratitude expressions,

gratitude with positive evaluation or praise, extended or elaborated gratitude expressions, and nonverbal gratitude expressions. The indicators provided in the table served as operational definitions to ensure systematic coding and consistency during document analysis. The following sections explain each category in detail.

1. Explicit Gratitude Expressions

Explicit gratitude expressions refer to direct and clearly marked verbal expressions of thanks. These forms are characterized by the presence of conventional gratitude markers such as *thank you*, *thanks*, *thank you very much*, *thanks a lot*, *many thanks*, or *thank you so much*. The defining feature of this category is the explicit lexical realization of gratitude, leaving little ambiguity about the speaker's communicative intention.

In the analyzed data, explicit gratitude frequently appeared in everyday interactions between characters, especially in workplace or supportive situations. For example:

- a. "Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice."

This utterance is included in explicit gratitude because it begins with the direct lexical marker *Thanks*. The speaker clearly acknowledges the benefit received (advice) and identifies the addressee (Coach). The second clause ("I really needed that advice") strengthens the sincerity but does not change the form the key indicator remains the direct gratitude word.

- b. "Thank you so much for helping me today."

This is categorized as explicit because of the phrase *Thank you*, which is the conventional formula for gratitude. The addition of the intensifier *so much* strengthens the emotional tone, but the defining feature is still the direct expression of thanks.

- c. “Thanks for always believing in me.”

This utterance fits this category because it contains *Thanks* followed by a prepositional phrase explaining the reason for gratitude. The structure “Thanks for + V-ing” is a common grammatical pattern of explicit thanking

2. Implicit Gratitude Expressions

Implicit gratitude expressions convey appreciation without using the word *thank* or *thanks*. Instead, speakers rely on verbs of appreciation, emotional acknowledgment, or statements indicating indebtedness. These include expressions such as *I appreciate it*, *I’m grateful*, *that means a lot to me*, *I owe you one*, or *I couldn’t have done this without you*.

Examples:

- a. “*I really appreciate your support.*”

This is categorized as implicit because it uses the verb *appreciate*, which semantically conveys gratitude. Although *thank you* is absent, the speaker acknowledges the value of the interlocutor’s action. The communicative function is equivalent to thanking

- b. “*That means more than you know.*”

This expression does not contain any direct gratitude marker. However, it acknowledges the emotional impact of the interlocutor's action. Because it occurs after receiving support, it functions as an indirect expression of gratitude

c. *"I owe you one."*

This utterance implies indebtedness. While no direct thanks is stated, the recognition of obligation indicates appreciation for help received. The pragmatic meaning signals gratitude through implied reciprocity.

3. Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise

This category involves expressions in which gratitude is conveyed through compliments or positive evaluations directed at the interlocutor. Rather than directly stating thanks, the speaker highlights the admirable qualities or successful actions of the other person. In this form, gratitude is embedded within praise.

a. *"You're amazing! That really helped me a lot."*

The phrase *You're amazing* functions as praise. Although it does not explicitly say *thank you*, the compliment is delivered in response to assistance. The second sentence confirms the benefit received. Therefore, gratitude is conveyed through positive evaluation

b. *"You're the best, seriously."*

This utterance is categorized here because it contains an evaluative superlative (*the best*). When said after receiving help, it functions as an appreciation strategy.

- c. *“That was brilliant exactly what we needed.”*

The adjective *brilliant* evaluates the action positively. The clause “exactly what we needed” indicates benefit, reinforcing the gratitude function

4. Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expressions

Extended or elaborated gratitude expressions are characterized by lengthier, emotionally intensified, or explanatory statements of appreciation. These forms go beyond simple thanking by adding intensifiers, personal reflections, or explanations about the impact of the help received. They often indicate deeper emotional involvement.

Example:

- a. *“I honestly don’t know what I would have done without you—thank you.”*

This utterance is categorized here because it contains a hypothetical reflective clause that emphasizes dependency and emotional impact. The elaboration strengthens sincerity and intensifies the gratitude.

- b. *“I can’t thank you enough for everything you’ve done.”*

This expression exaggerates gratitude through the phrase *can’t thank you enough*, which indicates that ordinary thanks are

insufficient. The intensity and exaggeration justify its classification as extended gratitude

- c. *“You have no idea how much this means to me.”*

This example elaborates on emotional impact. Although it may not include *thank you*, the extended explanation of personal significance elevates it beyond simple implicit gratitude

5. Nonverbal Gratitude Expressions

Nonverbal gratitude expressions are realized through gestures, facial expressions, body language, or prosodic cues rather than spoken words. Because *Ted Lasso* is an audiovisual series, gratitude can be conveyed multimodally. In several instances, characters expressed appreciation silently through actions such as smiling warmly, nodding appreciatively, hugging, placing a hand on someone’s shoulder, giving a thumbs-up, or maintaining meaningful eye contact.

Example:

- a. *Smiling warmly and nodding after receiving encouragement*

This is categorized as nonverbal gratitude because the smile and nod occur immediately after a supportive act. The timing and context signal acknowledgment and appreciation

- b. *A silent hug after emotional support*

The hug functions as a physical acknowledgment of gratitude. Although no words are spoken, the gesture conveys strong appreciation.

- c. *Giving a thumbs-up after assistance*

This gesture symbolically communicates approval and appreciation. In conversational context, it replaces verbal thanking

2. Contextual Factors Influence the Use of Gratitude Expressions in the *Ted Lasso* Series

A. Document Analysis Result

The document analysis sheet was created to assist in collecting data on the linguistic forms and contextual factors of gratitude expressions in the *Ted Lasso* series. The analysis was conducted between [27th May 2025 to 17th July 2025]. The researcher examined three sessions of the series. Assistance was provided by a rater who helped ensure the accuracy and validity of the data by reviewing the checklist, providing comments, and suggesting additional examples where necessary. The results of the document analysis are presented in the tables below:

Table 4.2
Contextual Factors Influence the Use of Gratitude Expressions in the *Ted Lasso* Series

No	Contextual Factors Michael (Haugh's Theory)	Number of Occurrences in <i>Ted Lasso</i>	Gratitude Expression Example	Indicators (Contextual Coding Criteria)
1	Close relationship; moderate social distance; subordinate to superior; advice important	38 occurrences	"Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice."	Use of address term (<i>Coach</i>) indicating hierarchical relationship; advice delivered by authority figure; acknowledgment of importance (<i>really needed</i>) signals high-value benefit; gratitude expressed in response to professional guidance.

2	Peer relationship; informal; equal power; routine help	52 occurrences	“I really appreciate your support.”	Absence of honorific or title indicating equal status; neutral and informal conversational tone; appreciation verb (<i>appreciate</i>) signals implicit gratitude; context shows ongoing or routine assistance between peers.
3	Mentor–student relationship; close; subordinate; significant help	27 occurrences	“You’re amazing! That really helped me a lot.”	Praise (<i>You’re amazing</i>) directed toward mentor; emotional intensifier (<i>really</i>) emphasizes sincerity; explicit acknowledgment of major benefit; interaction reflects learning or advisory situation with unequal power relation.
4	Close colleagues; informal; equal status; significant effort	41 occurrences	“I’m truly grateful for all the time you put in.”	Intensifier (<i>truly</i>) indicates deep sincerity; explicit recognition of effort (<i>all the time you put in</i>); equal institutional roles; informal yet emotionally expressive tone signaling substantial appreciation.
5	Casual friend interaction; informal; equal power; minor help	32 occurrences	Smiling and nodding after help	Nonverbal cue immediately following assistance; relaxed body language; absence of verbal gratitude formula; minor situational benefit inferred from context; appreciation conveyed through multimodal communication.

The table above presents the contextual distribution of gratitude expressions identified in the *Ted Lasso* series. Each item illustrates how gratitude is influenced by social relationship, power dynamics, degree of imposition, and situational importance. The analysis demonstrates that gratitude realization is not only shaped by linguistic choice but also by

interpersonal and contextual variables. The following sections explain each category in detail.

1. Close Relationship; Moderate Social Distance; Subordinate to Superior; Advice Important

This category refers to situations where the speaker and hearer have a relatively close interpersonal relationship but still maintain institutional hierarchy. The speaker holds a lower power position (e.g., player, assistant, subordinate), while the addressee holds higher authority (e.g., coach, mentor, leader). Although emotional closeness may reduce rigidity, the hierarchical structure still influences linguistic choices.

In such contexts, gratitude often acknowledges both the benefit received and the superior's role. The weight of the benefit (important advice or guidance) increases the need for explicit acknowledgment

a. *"Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice."*

This expression occurs in a hierarchical context where the speaker is in a subordinate position (e.g., player) and the addressee holds higher institutional authority (e.g., coach). The use of the address term *Coach* signals recognition of power difference. Although the relationship is close and informal, moderate social distance still exists due to institutional hierarchy.

2. Peer Relationship; Informal; Equal Power; Routine Help

Example:

"I really appreciate your support."

This expression occurs between individuals with equal institutional status (e.g., teammates or colleagues). The absence of honorifics or titles suggests equality. The tone is informal and conversational. The help provided is categorized as routine or ongoing rather than extraordinary. The use of *appreciate* signals implicit gratitude without strong emotional intensification.

3. Mentor–Student Relationship; Close; Subordinate; Significant Help

This contextual configuration involves unequal power relations similar to hierarchical contexts; however, it is distinguished by emotional closeness and the substantial impact of the assistance provided. In mentor–student interactions, the subordinate speaker often expresses gratitude not only through direct thanks but also through praise and emotional intensification. The utterance “You’re amazing! That really helped me a lot.” exemplifies this pattern. The evaluative phrase “You’re amazing” functions as a compliment that indirectly conveys appreciation, while the clause “really helped me a lot” explicitly acknowledges significant benefit. The emotional intensifier *really* enhances sincerity and signals the importance of the mentor’s contribution. Other examples such as “I couldn’t have done this without you,” or “You changed everything for me,” similarly belong to this category because they emphasize dependency and transformative impact. In contexts where the help is highly meaningful and

developmentally significant, gratitude tends to be emotionally expressive and reinforced through admiration.

4. Close Colleagues; Informal; Equal Status; Significant Effort

This category includes interactions between individuals who share equal institutional roles but where the assistance involves substantial time, energy, or sacrifice. Unlike routine peer help, the effort here carries higher imposition, which influences the intensity and elaboration of gratitude expressions. The example “I’m truly grateful for all the time you put in.” demonstrates this configuration. The intensifier *truly* signals deep sincerity, while the clause “all the time you put in” explicitly recognizes the magnitude of effort. The equal status between speaker and hearer does not reduce the need for elaborated gratitude because the contribution is significant. Similar utterances such as “I can’t thank you enough for staying late,” or “You went above and beyond for this,” further illustrate how acknowledgment of exceptional effort leads to intensified appreciation. In equal-power contexts where the cost of assistance is high, gratitude becomes more detailed to maintain fairness and relational balance.

5. Casual Friend Interaction; Informal; Equal Power; Minor Help

This contextual pattern represents highly informal interactions between close friends or teammates where both power difference and imposition are minimal. The assistance provided is typically minor, such as passing an object or offering brief support. In such situations, gratitude may be expressed economically through short verbal responses or even

nonverbal gestures. The example of smiling and nodding after help reflects this configuration. The gesture occurs immediately following the assistance, functioning as acknowledgment without verbalization. Because the relationship is close and the benefit is small, a nonverbal response is sufficient to convey appreciation. Additional examples include giving a quick thumbs-up after receiving a pass during practice or saying “Nice one” with a grin. These expressions belong to this category because they occur in casual settings, involve minor favors, and rely on shared understanding between participants. In intimate relationships with low imposition, gratitude often becomes subtle and multimodal.

The analysis indicates that gratitude expressions in *Ted Lasso* are systematically shaped by contextual variables. Power differences encourage acknowledgment of authority, equal relationships permit informal brevity, significant assistance leads to emotional intensification, and minor favors in close relationships allow minimal or nonverbal responses. These findings demonstrate that gratitude is not only a linguistic phenomenon but also a sociodramas practice influenced by relational dynamics and situational weight.

B. Discussion

1. Linguistic Forms Used to Express Gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* Series

The findings show that characters in *Ted Lasso* use different linguistic forms to express gratitude, including explicit expressions (e.g., “thank you”),

implicit appreciation (e.g., “I appreciate it”), praise-based gratitude (e.g., “You’re amazing”), extended gratitude (e.g., “I can’t thank you enough”), and nonverbal expressions (e.g., smiling or nodding). These variations indicate that gratitude is not expressed in only one fixed way. Instead, it changes depending on the relationship between speakers and the situation.

Recent research in interpersonal pragmatics, Haugh explains that speech acts like thanking are understood through interaction and context⁴⁷. This means that gratitude does not always need the word *thank you* to function as appreciation. For example, expressions like “That means a lot to me” or “I really appreciate your support” are recognized as gratitude because the listener understands the intention behind them. In *Ted Lasso*, many gratitude expressions are interpreted based on shared understanding between characters, not only based on specific words.

Relational work theory Locher & Graham, 2018; Culpeper et al., also helps explain the findings. This theory suggests that language is used to build and maintain relationships. In the series, gratitude expressions often strengthen teamwork and solidarity⁴⁸. For example, when a character says “You’re amazing! That really helped me a lot,” the speaker is not only saying thank you but also reinforcing a positive relationship. Praise functions as a way to show appreciation while also supporting group harmony.

⁴⁷ Haugh, M. (2019). The interactional achievement of speaker meaning. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 145, 50–63

⁴⁸ Locher, M. A., & Graham, S. L. (2018). Introduction to interpersonal pragmatics. In M. A. Locher & S. L. Graham (Eds.), *Interpersonal pragmatics* (2nd ed., pp. 1–28)

Rapport Management theory Spencer-Oatey further explains how gratitude is shaped by power and social roles⁴⁹. When a character thanks a superior, such as saying “Thanks, Coach,” the expression shows respect for authority while maintaining closeness. In peer relationships, gratitude tends to be shorter and more informal because both speakers have equal status. This shows that power differences influence how gratitude is expressed.

Recent studies in multimodal pragmatics Adolphs & Knight, Taguchi, highlight that communication includes both verbal and nonverbal elements⁵⁰. In *Ted Lasso*, some gratitude expressions are shown through smiles, nods, or gestures. These nonverbal signals are especially common in casual situations where the help is small. When social distance is low, characters do not always need to say “thank you” explicitly; gestures are enough to show appreciation

The data also show that the level of gratitude often matches the importance of the help received. When the assistance is significant, characters use longer or stronger expressions such as “I can’t thank you enough” or “I’m truly grateful.” When the help is minor, shorter expressions or simple gestures are used. This supports recent pragmatic research (Haugh & Kádár, 2021) which explains that people adjust their language depending on the weight of the situation.

In conclusion, the linguistic forms of gratitude in *Ted Lasso* reflect modern pragmatic understanding that gratitude is flexible and context-dependent. The expressions used by the characters are influenced by power relations, social

⁴⁹ Spencer-Oatey, H. (2018). *Culturally speaking: Culture, communication and politeness theory* (3rd ed.). Routledge.

⁵⁰ Adolphs, S., & Knight, D. (2020). *The Routledge handbook of English language and digital humanities*. Routledge

distance, and the importance of the help received. Explicit, implicit, praise-based, elaborated, and nonverbal forms all serve the same purpose: maintaining good relationships and showing appreciation. Therefore, gratitude in the series functions as an important tool for building rapport and strengthening interpersonal connection.

2. Contextual Factors Influence the Use of Gratitude Expressions in the *Ted Lasso* Series.

The findings indicate that gratitude expressions in *Ted Lasso* are strongly shaped by contextual factors, particularly power relations, social distance, and degree of imposition. The variation in linguistic forms—explicit, implicit, praise-based, elaborated, and nonverbal—demonstrates that gratitude is a context-sensitive communicative act. This aligns with recent developments in interpersonal pragmatics, which emphasize that meaning is interactionally constructed rather than solely determined by lexical form⁵¹.

First, power relations significantly influence how gratitude is expressed. In hierarchical contexts, such as subordinate-to-superior interactions, gratitude tends to be more explicit and respectful. For instance, expressions like “Thanks, Coach. I really needed that advice” clearly acknowledge institutional authority. According to Haugh and Kádár politeness and relational balance are closely connected to participants’ recognition of social roles⁵². When there is a power difference, speakers often choose more

⁵¹ Culpeper, J., Haugh, M., & Kádár, D. Z. (2021). *The Palgrave handbook of linguistic*

⁵² Ishihara, N., & Cohen, A. D. (2022). *Teaching and learning pragmatics: Where language and culture meet* (2nd ed.)

explicit and elaborated forms to maintain relational harmony and demonstrate appropriate deference. In *Ted Lasso*, thanking a superior not only acknowledges the benefit received but also reinforces institutional structure and mutual respect.

Second, social distance affects the level of formality and elaboration in gratitude expressions. In peer relationships characterized by equal power and informality, expressions tend to be shorter and less formal, such as “I appreciate your support” or “Thanks for covering for me.” Relational work theory Locher & Graham, 2018; Culpeper et al., explains that language is used to negotiate and maintain relationships over time⁵³. When solidarity is already established, speakers do not need to intensify their gratitude. Minimal expressions are sufficient because relational alignment is secure. This explains why peer interactions in the series often involve concise and informal gratitude forms.

Third, the degree of imposition—or the perceived weight of the assistance—plays an important role. When help requires significant effort or emotional investment, characters use intensified and extended expressions such as “I’m truly grateful for all the time you put in.” The inclusion of intensifiers like *truly* and explicit acknowledgment of effort reflects what Haugh and Kádár describe as proportionality in relational practice: the linguistic strength of appreciation tends to correspond to the magnitude of the benefit received⁵⁴. In contrast, when the help is minor, gratitude may be

⁵³ Ibid P.62

⁵⁴ Culpeper, J., Haugh, M., & Kádár, D. Z. (2021). *The Palgrave handbook of linguistic*

expressed briefly or even nonverbally. This proportional adjustment shows that speakers evaluate the cost and value of assistance before choosing the appropriate form.

Moreover, praise-based gratitude, such as “You’re amazing! That really helped me a lot,” illustrates how evaluation functions as relational reinforcement. Recent research on stance and evaluation suggests that speakers use evaluative language to position themselves affectively toward others. In *Ted Lasso*, praise strengthens interpersonal bonds and reinforces positive team identity. Gratitude in these cases goes beyond simple acknowledgment and becomes a tool for emotional connection.

The presence of nonverbal gratitude further supports findings from multimodal pragmatics, which argue that communication is constructed through both verbal and embodied resources. Smiling, nodding, or using brief gestures after receiving help demonstrates that gratitude can be conveyed without explicit verbal formulas. In low-imposition and high-solidarity contexts, such multimodal expressions are efficient and socially appropriate. This shows that gratitude in audiovisual discourse operates through integrated communicative channels.

In conclusion, contextual factors play a central role in determining how gratitude is linguistically realized in *Ted Lasso*. The variation observed in the series reflects broader principles of interpersonal pragmatics, demonstrating that gratitude is not merely a formulaic expression but a socially negotiated act embedded in relational dynamics.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This study examined the linguistic forms used to express gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* series. The analysis was structured around two main research questions focusing on the types of gratitude expressions employed and the contextual factors influencing their use. The findings offer insight into how characters realize gratitude through various linguistic and nonverbal strategies, as well as how these expressions are shaped by power relations, social distance, and the degree of imposition within interpersonal interactions. The results highlight the pragmatic patterns underlying gratitude expressions and demonstrate how relational dynamics influence communicative choices in the series.

A. Conclusion

1. Linguistic Forms Used to Express Gratitude in the *Ted Lasso* Series

Based on the table findings, this study concludes that gratitude expressions in *Ted Lasso* are realized through five main forms: explicit gratitude expressions, implicit gratitude expressions, gratitude combined with positive evaluation or praise, extended or elaborated gratitude expressions, and nonverbal gratitude expressions. The data show that explicit forms such as “Thanks” or “Thank you” are frequently used in situations where acknowledgment needs to be clear, especially in hierarchical interactions. Implicit expressions, such as “I really appreciate your support,” function as gratitude without using the word “thank,” indicating that appreciation can be conveyed indirectly. Praise-based gratitude, such as “You’re amazing,” combines evaluation and appreciation to strengthen

emotional bonds. Extended expressions, such as “I’m truly grateful for all the time you put in,” appear when the assistance is significant and requires stronger acknowledgment. Meanwhile, nonverbal expressions, including smiling and nodding, are commonly used in casual situations involving minor help. Overall, the findings demonstrate that gratitude in *Ted Lasso* is expressed through diverse linguistic and multimodal forms, and the choice of form reflects the relational and situational context of the interaction.

2. Contextual Factors Influence the Use of Gratitude Expressions in the *Ted Lasso* Series

Based on the findings, this study concludes that contextual factors significantly influence how gratitude expressions are realized in *Ted Lasso*. The data identify five main contextual configurations: subordinate-to-superior interactions involving important advice, peer relationships with routine help, mentor–student relationships with significant assistance, equal colleagues contributing substantial effort, and casual friend interactions involving minor help. These categories demonstrate that gratitude expressions are shaped by power relations, social distance, level of formality, and the degree of imposition. In hierarchical contexts, gratitude tends to be more explicit and respectful, often including address terms and intensifiers to acknowledge authority and the value of the benefit received. In peer interactions, expressions are generally shorter and more informal due to equal power and close social distance. When the assistance is significant, gratitude becomes more elaborated and emotionally expressive to proportionally match the weight of the help.

Conversely, in casual situations involving minor assistance, brief or nonverbal expressions are sufficient to convey appreciation. Overall, the findings confirm that gratitude in *Ted Lasso* is context-sensitive and relationally motivated, with linguistic choices systematically influenced by interpersonal dynamics and situational factors.

B. Suggestion

Finally, the suggestion for better research in the future is proposed by the researcher. The suggestions are;

1. To the Students

Integrating authentic dialogue from television series into classroom activities may help students develop more contextually appropriate language use.

2. The Lecturer

especially in English language teaching, the findings of this study can be used to teach pragmatic competence by highlighting how gratitude is expressed differently depending on power relations, social distance, and degree of imposition.

3. English Département

The department is encouraged to incorporate audiovisual materials, such as television series and films, as learning resources to help students understand how speech acts function in real-life interactions.

4. The others researcher.

future researchers are encouraged to explore gratitude expressions in different genres of films or television series to compare how contextual factors influence

pragmatic realization across various social settings. Comparative studies between cultures or languages may also provide deeper insight into how gratitude is shaped by cultural norms and communication styles.

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A P P E N D I C E S

APPENDIX 1

VALIDATION DATA FROM RATERS

DATA VALIDATION OF GRATITUDE EXPRESSIONS IN MOVIE SERIES

(VALIDATED)

No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
1	Season 1 Episode 1	1.02	Higgins compliments Rebecca's taste	Smiled raising her lips and nodding	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher (club owner); Formality: Workplace semi-formal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Maintain professional harmony
2	Season 1 Episode 1	7.04	Ted greeted by Ollie	Thank you for indulging us, Ollie	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: New acquaintance; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Hospitality; Goal: Build rapport
3	Season 1 Episode 1	9.44	Ted responds to Rebecca	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Opportunity/instruction; Goal: Show respect
4	Season 1 Episode 1	15.53	Rebecca to reporter	Thank you so much	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Public–media; Power: Equal; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Public support; Goal: Maintain public image
5	Season 1 Episode 1	18.29	Nathan happy Ted remembered his name	Smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–subordinate; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Personal recognition; Goal: Express appreciation respectfully
6	Season 1 Episode 1	25.01	Keeley warns Ted	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal:

						Strengthen interpersonal closeness
7	Season 1 Episode 1	25.11	Keeley welcomes Ted	Nods and smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: New colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Friendly acceptance; Goal: Show warmth
8	Season 1 Episode 1	25.23	Ted thanks Nathan	Thank you, and thanks again	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–staff; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Practical help (ride); Goal: Encourage team morale
9	Season 1 Episode 1	25.46	Rebecca responds to greeting	Smiles and waves	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Higher status; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Greeting; Goal: Maintain politeness
10	Season 1 Episode 2	4.03	Beard gives advice	Playfully taps shoulder	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Reinforce solidarity
11	Season 1 Episode 2	5.14	Sam thanks Roy	Thanks	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Roy senior; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Assistance; Goal: Show respect
12	Season 1 Episode 2	7.16	Ted to Beard	I owe you	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Support; Goal: Strengthen friendship
13	Season 1 Episode 2	8.22	Ted nods to Jamie	Nods silently	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Honesty; Goal: Encourage cooperation

14	Season 1 Episode 2	9.48	Jamie reacts	Smirks, taps chest	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Maintain pride
15	Season 1 Episode 2	13.43	Nathan thanks Colin	Thanks	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Donation; Goal: Show appreciation
16	Season 1 Episode 2	14.48	Ted responds	Glad to hear it	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Promise improvement; Goal: Encourage positive behavior
17	Season 1 Episode 2	16.14	Rebecca to reporter	Thank you so much	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Public–media; Power: Equal; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Media support; Goal: Professional image
18	Season 1 Episode 2	18.03	Ted to Rebecca	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Support; Goal: Show respect
19	Season 1 Episode 2	20.18	Sam reacts to surprise	Smiles and laughs	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Birthday surprise; Goal: Express happiness
20	Season 1 Episode 2	21.20	Ted nods at apology	Nods in acknowledgment	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Apology; Goal: Resolve conflict
25	Season 1 Episode 3	7.42	Higgins responds	That’s very kind of you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Compliment;

						Goal: Maintain harmony
26	Season 1 Episode 3	13.12	Rebecca to Ted	You've been a great help	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Employer–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Strategic assistance; Goal: Motivate

27	Season 1 Episode 3	18.23	Ted responds to Beard	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice/support; Goal: Reinforce cooperation
28	Season 1 Episode 3	20.22	Rebecca reacts to compliment	Kisses	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Romantic/personal; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment/affection; Goal: Express emotional appreciation
29	Season 1 Episode 3	23.15	Ted at school event	Thank you for having us	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Guest–host; Power: Equal; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Invitation; Goal: Show politeness and respect
30	Season 1 Episode 3	24.22	Rebecca thanks Keeley	Thank you, by the way	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends/colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher socially; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Maintain friendship
31	Season 1 Episode 3	24.41	Keeley responds to Rebecca	I owe you	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Personal support; Goal: Strengthen bond
32	Season 1 Episode 3	30.55	Rebecca responds to	Smiles in relief	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee; Power: Rebecca higher;

			Ted's support			Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Express appreciation subtly
33	Season 1 Episode 5	00.31	Manager's wife to husband	I love you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Married couple; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Express deep appreciation and affection
34	Season 1 Episode 5	06.30	Keeley to Rebecca	I like that you care	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Encourage and affirm
35	Season 1 Episode 5	10.44	Ted to stranger	I appreciate you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Casual interaction; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Personal kindness; Goal: Express warmth
36	Season 1 Episode 5	17.17	Ted's son responds	Thanks	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Father-son; Power: Ted higher (parent); Formality: Informal; Benefit: Gift/attention; Goal: Show affection
37	Season 1 Episode 5	20.40	Ted responds to son	Thanks guys	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Father-son; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Maintain closeness
38	Season 1 Episode 5	25.25	Roy after match	Shake hands	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Team effort; Goal: Reinforce solidarity
39	Season 1 Episode 6	21.44	Sam to Rebecca	I'm deeply indebted to you	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Player-club owner; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Formal; Benefit: Major career

						opportunity; Goal: Show deep respect and loyalty
40	Season 1 Episode 7	02.59	Isaac to Ted	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Support; Goal: Show respect
41	Season 1 Episode 7	23.13	Sassy to Rebecca	Thank you for saying that	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional affirmation; Goal: Express appreciation for support
42	Season 1 Episode 7	27.23	Ted responds to Rebecca	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Maintain professional respect
43	Season 1 Episode 8	16.24	Rupert to Mae	I owe you	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Business acquaintances; Power: Rupert socially higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Favor; Goal: Maintain influence
44	Season 1 Episode 9	13.14	Rebecca hugs Ted	Emotionally hugs	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee (emotionally closer); Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Informal (private moment); Benefit: Forgiveness/support; Goal: Conflict resolution
45	Season 1 Episode 10	28.43	Ted to Will	I appreciate it though	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–staff; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Assistance; Goal: Encourage team morale

No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
46	S2 E1	09.10	Jan Maas clarifies misunderstanding	Nods and pats Sam's shoulder	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Clarification/support; Goal: Maintain team harmony
47	S2 E1	14.40	Keeley smiles after persuading Roy	Smiling happily	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Romantic partners; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Agreement; Goal: Express emotional appreciation
48	S2 E1	24.55	Roy responds to advice	That sounds good	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Show approval and appreciation
49	S2 E1	25.51	Rebecca smiles warmly	Giggles / smiles warmly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional reassurance; Goal: Maintain closeness
50	S2 E1	31.45	Date proposes toast	That sounds fair. Let's toast	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Dating partners; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Shared moment; Goal: Maintain politeness
51	S2 E1	33.28	Dani thanks for Dr. Shannon	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Player-coaches; Power: Coaches higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Psychological support; Goal: Show respect

52	S2 E1	35.55	Roy cheers Janice	Cheers	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Customer–staff; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Service; Goal: Express appreciation casually
No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
53	S2 E2	05.02	Keeley to Roy	Thanks for the ride	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Romantic partners; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Transportation; Goal: Maintain intimacy
54	S2 E2	10.01	Rebecca reacts to Keeley’s help	Nods, raises hand	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Employer–employee/friends; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Assistance; Goal: Maintain cooperation
55	S2 E2	10.08	Rebecca reacts to advice	Grins, nods	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Strengthen bond
56	S2 E2	24.01	Ted to Higgins	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Praise; Goal: Maintain teamwork
57	S2 E2	27.29	Higgins & Nathan high-five	High-five	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Office solution; Goal: Reinforce solidarity
58	S2 E2	31.14	Ted to Dr. Shannon	I look forward to that	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–therapist; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Show openness

No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
59	S2 E3	04.52	Keeley to team	You guys are the best	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Team members; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Cooperation; Goal: Encourage solidarity
60	S2 E3	08.11	Ted taps Jamie	Shoulder tap	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Understanding; Goal: Conflict resolution
61	S2 E3	12.16	Roy nods to Phoebe	Nods	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Uncle–niece; Power: Roy higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Show appreciation
62	S2 E3	12.52	Rebecca beams	Smiles joyfully	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Godmother–child; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Admiration; Goal: Express affection
63	S2 E3	14.07	Nora shakes hands	Handshake	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Child–adult; Power: Higgins higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Warm welcome; Goal: Show politeness
64	S2 E3	29.16	Keeley laughs & leans	Laughs, leans	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Maintain closeness
65	S2 E3	31.41	Sam nods & smiles	Nods and smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional context; Benefit: Solidarity; Goal: Team unity

66	S2 E3	35.33	Sam to Jamie	I appreciate that	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Praise; Goal: Strengthen bond
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No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
67	S2 E4	03.52	Jamie at gift exchange	God bless you all	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Help covering mistake; Goal: Express collective appreciation
68	S2 E5	08.15	Rebecca reacts to compliment	Giggles happily	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional affirmation; Goal: Show pleasure
69	S2 E5	12.35	Rebecca receives advice from Higgins	Nods with satisfied smile	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Accept support
70	S2 E5	13.59	Nathan responds to Keeley's encouragement	Smiles warmly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Encouragement; Goal: Accept praise
71	S2 E5	15.39	Keeley responds to Rebecca's willingness to help	Nods and small smile	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Help; Goal: Show approval
72	S2 E5	19.38	Nathan receives advice from Rebecca	Nods and smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Mentor-mentee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit:

						Advice; Goal: Express appreciation
73	S2 E6	29.34	Rebecca reacts to Keeley's compliment	Winks	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Express pleasure
74	S2 E6	29.53	Beard responds to Higgins' advice	Hugs	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Show emotional appreciation
75	S2 E8	03.35	Nathan given opportunity by Beard	I owe you	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Opportunity; Goal: Acknowledge indebtedness
76	S2 E8	04.08	Sam speaks to his father	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Father-son; Power: Father higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Support and pride; Goal: Express appreciation
77	S2 E8	04.22	Sam's father responds	I appreciate that	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Father-son; Power: Father higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Respect and acknowledgment; Goal: Express appreciation
78	S2 E8	19.14	Dr. Shannon responds to Ted	That's very kind of you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Therapist-client; Power: Professional equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Concern; Goal: Evaluate kindness positively
79	S2 E8	24.25	Ted responds to Dr. Shannon	I appreciate it, that means a lot	Extended or Elaborated	Relationship: Therapist-client; Power: Equal;

					Gratitude Expression	Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Emotional openness; Goal: Emphasize sincerity
80	S2 E9	07.43	Teenagers respond to Mae	I love you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Help with clothing; Goal: Express strong appreciation
81	S2 E9	10.53	Teenagers respond to Beard	Nodding heads	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Guidance; Goal: Show agreement and appreciation
82	S2 E10	13.09	Rebecca responds to Keeley	I love you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Close friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Express affection and gratitude
83	S2 E10	28.07	Ted hugs Dr. Shannon	Hugging and sobbing	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Therapist–client; Power: Professional equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Show deep appreciation
84	S2 E10	37.46	Rebecca and Dani react	Thumbs up	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Club owner–player; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Generosity; Goal: Affirm appreciation
85	S2 E12	41.54	Ted taps Sam’s shoulder	Taps shoulder	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach–player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit:

						Decision to stay; Goal: Show relief and appreciation
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No	Season	Time	Scene	Gratitude Expression	Form of Linguistic	Contextual Factors
86	S3 E1	15.33	Keeley blows a kiss to Rebecca after being comforted	Blows a kiss	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional reassurance; Goal: Express relief and appreciation
87	S3 E1	31.59	Ted responds to Jamie calming the team	That's very kind of you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Coach-players; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Team encouragement; Goal: Acknowledge supportive behavior
88	S3 E1	37.04	Nate receives a car from Rupert	Waves with big smile	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Mentor-protégé; Power: Rupert higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Expensive gift; Goal: Show excitement and appreciation
89	S3 E2	24.01	Barbara responds to Keeley's encouragement	Snorts and nods slowly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Emotional encouragement; Goal: Accept trust and support
90	S3 E2	37.45	Rebecca reacts to Rupert's good luck wish	Smiles widely	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Ex-spouses/business rivals; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Good wishes; Goal: Acknowledge politely

91	S3 E3	15.53	Ted, Beard, Roy respond to Zava	Nodding	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coaches–player; Power: Coaches higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Commitment; Goal: Show approval
92	S3 E3	22.30	Shandy responds to Roy	Winks	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Friendly interaction; Goal: Express light appreciation
93	S3 E3	25.50	Colin responds to Isaac	You saved my day	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional reassurance; Goal: Directly express gratitude
94	S3 E3	41.27	Jamie responds to Roy offering training	You're the best	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Mentor–mentee; Power: Roy higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Personal coaching; Goal: Praise and appreciate support
95	S3 E4	07.39	Barbara thanks Rebecca for tickets	That's so kind of you	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: VIP tickets; Goal: Positively evaluate generosity
96	S3 E4	25.00	Rebecca reacts to Ted's encouragement	Takes deep breath and giggles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional reassurance; Goal: Show relief

97	S3 E5	17.52	Shandy reacts to Keeley's praise	Smiles confidently	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Accept praise
98	S3 E5	33.32	Edward responds to Keeley's advice	Smiles, raises eyebrows, nods	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Accept guidance
99	S3 E6	02.51	Keeley reacts to Rebecca's permission	Smiles broadly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Permission/support; Goal: Express excitement and relief
100	S3 E6	54.25	Higgins responds to applause	Smiles with respectful hand gesture	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Performer-audience; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Public appreciation; Goal: Acknowledge praise
101	S3 E7	12.56	Nate reacts to compliment from Darek	Amazed and smiling	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Show appreciation
102	S3 E7	23.20	Nate responds to family advice	Much obliged	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Family; Power: Parents higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Verbal appreciation
103	S3 E7	28.15	Jamie reacts to Ted's reassurance	Smiling brightly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach-player; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Trust; Goal: Express relief

104	S3 E7	42.43	Sam reacts to father's advice	Leans and smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Father-son; Power: Father higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Guidance; Goal: Emotional appreciation
105	S3 E7	51.50	Ted responds to Trent	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Coach-journalist; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Encouragement; Goal: Direct appreciation
106	S3 E7	53.53	Sam thanks teammates	Thanks, y'all	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Help rebuilding restaurant; Goal: Collective appreciation
107	S3 E8	02.27	Ted reacts to Mae	Nods with smile	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Encouragement; Goal: Show relief
108	S3 E8	17.39	Ted thanks Rebecca	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Agreement; Goal: Direct appreciation
109	S3 E8	27.24	Keeley responds to Roy	All things considered, yes	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Romantic partners; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Care; Goal: Acknowledge support
110	S3 E8	51.42	Jamie hugs Keeley	Hugging	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Former partners; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Forgiveness; Goal: Express relief

111	S3 E9	04.35	Ted responds to Rebecca	I appreciate it	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Boss–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Permission; Goal: Direct appreciation
112	S3 E9	05.30	Rebecca responds to Roy	Wonderful	Gratitude with Positive Evaluation or Praise	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Agreement; Goal: Express approval
113	S3 E9	26.18	Roy responds to Will	Nodding	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Roy higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Accept guidance
114	S3 E9	26.54	Colin reacts to team acceptance	Nodding	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Acceptance; Goal: Express relief
115	S3 E9	29.15	Colin reacts emotionally to team support	Calm and happy expression	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional support; Goal: Show gratitude and belonging
116	S3 E9	35.41	Rebecca thanks Higgins	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Boss–employee; Power: Rebecca higher; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Assistance; Goal: Direct appreciation
117	S3 E10	03.16	Jamie hugs Sam	Hugging	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Teammates; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Emotional solidarity; Goal: Show support

118	S3 E10	32.38	Roy reacts to Phoebe's compliment	Smiles	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Uncle-niece; Power: Roy higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Accept affection
119	S3 E10	34.33	Barbara reacts to gift	Smiling happily	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Gift; Goal: Express pleasure
120	S3 E10	51.40	Rebecca reacts to Rupert's remark	Smiles softly	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Ex-spouses; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Polite acknowledgment
121	S3 E11	00.25	Ted responds to Susan	I appreciate you	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Support; Goal: Emphasize sincerity
122	S3 E11	18.19	Ted reacts to compliment about his mother	Smiles and raises glass	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Acquaintances; Power: Equal; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Acknowledge warmly
123	S3 E12	13.02	Team reacts to Ted's praise	Cheered happily	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Players-coach; Power: Ted higher; Formality: Informal; Benefit: Appreciation; Goal: Mutual celebration
124	S3 E12	13.20	Keeley responds to Trent	Thank you	Explicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Compliment; Goal: Direct appreciation
125	S3 E12	17.36	Rebecca reacts to teenagers' tribute	Soft moved smile	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Supporters-owner; Power: Rebecca

						higher; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Respect and praise; Goal: Emotional appreciation
126	S3 E12	35.24	Roy responds to Higgins	Nodding	Implicit Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Colleagues; Power: Equal; Formality: Professional; Benefit: Advice; Goal: Accept guidance
127	S3 E12	1:04:08	Ted and Rebecca farewell	Thank you + Hugging while crying	Extended or Elaborated Gratitude Expression	Relationship: Close colleagues/friends; Power: Equal; Formality: Semi-formal; Benefit: Shared journey; Goal: Express deep mutual appreciation

VALIDATION LETTER

After verifying the documents' analysis that will be used in the research entitled "**An Analysis of Gratitude Expressions in Ted Lasso Movie Series**" arranged by :

Name : Fitri Ade Sari
NIM : 21551019
Study Program : English Study Program (TBI)
Faculty : Tarbiyah

With my undersigned :

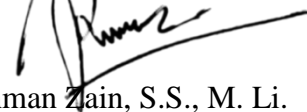
Name : Abd. Rahman Zain, M. Li.
Position : Researcher in Linguistics and Translation

Confirmed that the Rubric is correctly used to check students Descriptive Qualitative writing and the assessment results can be reliably accounted for.

Correction Feedback:

The students have been able to distinguish expressions of gratitude both verbally and non-verbally. However, since the approach employed is multimodal pragmatics, a more detailed contextual elaboration of each utterance is required. This elaboration includes multimodal elements such as gestures, facial expressions, intonation, as well as the use of music or sound effects in the film scenes being analyzed. Such elements are essential for uncovering implicit meanings and pragmatic functions that may not be readily identifiable through verbal utterances alone.

Curup, September 2025
Validator



Abd. Rahman Zain, S.S., M. Li.

BIODATA VALIDATOR

1. Informasi Pribadi

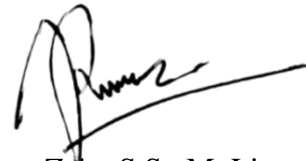
Nama Lengkap : Abd. Rahman Zain
Tempat, Tanggal Lahir : Situbondo, 18 September 1992
Jenis Kelamin : Laki-Laki
Alamat : Situbondo, Jawa Timur
Email : zainarablack@gmail.com

2. Daftar Riwayat Pendidikan

Pendidikan : Magister
Universitas : Universitas Sebelas Maret Surakarta
Tahun Lulus : 2022
Jurusan : Ilmu Linguistik dan Penerjemahan

Curup, September 2025

Validator



Abd. Rahman Zain, S.S., M. Li.

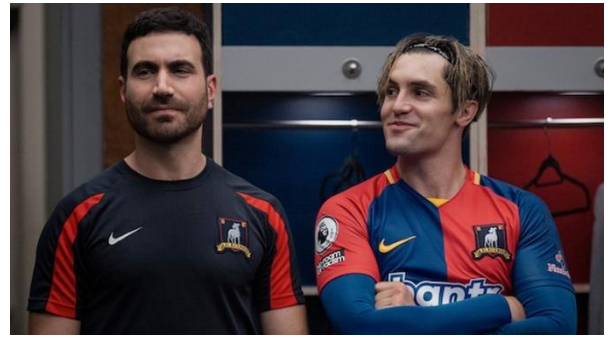
APPENDIX 2
SYNOPSIS OF TED LASSO MOVIE SERIES



Ted Lasso is a comedy-drama television series that tells the story of an American college football coach who is unexpectedly hired to manage an English professional football club, AFC Richmond, despite having no prior experience in soccer. Set in the United Kingdom, the series depicts Ted's adjustment to a new cultural and professional environment, where he faces skepticism while building relationships through optimism, empathy, and emotional intelligence. The series presents various professional and personal situations, including teamwork, emotional support, and conflict resolution, which are conveyed through both verbal and non-verbal communication. *Ted Lasso* consists of three seasons with a total of 34 episodes 10 episodes in Season 1, 12 episodes in Season 2, and 12 episodes in Season 3 and belongs to the comedy-drama and sports genres, making it a relevant source for analyzing expressions of gratitude in realistic social interactions.

APPENDIX 3
DOCUMENTATION OF SCREENSHOOT FROM TED LASSO MOVIE
SERIES







AUTOBIOGRAPHY



The author, Fitri Ade Sari, was born in Curup on December 15, 2003. She is the eldest of two children, with a younger sister named Bella Apriliani. She is the daughter of Erni Aryanti. Her educational journey began at SD 07 Curup, continued at SMPN 05 RL for junior high school, and then at SMAN 01 Rejang Lebong for senior high school. After graduating, the author continued her undergraduate education at IAIN Curup, majoring in the English Language Education Program. During her studies, she actively participated in several organizations, including the Arts Student Activity Unit (UKM Kesenian) and the Student Executive Board (DEMA) of the Faculty of Tarbiyah. In addition to academic and organizational activities, the author has an interest in dancing, which allows her to express herself while preserving cultural arts. With her academic background, organizational experience, and love of the arts, the author hopes to continue developing and becoming a person who is beneficial to society.