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# What interviewers do with words?

- Discourse analysis of TV interviews;

The Oprah Winfrey Show and A Korean show, Healing Camp

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## Abstract

This paper is to closely examine what are the typical linguistic features of TV show interviews with celebrities. To verify the common discourse techniques, each episode of the two popular TV talk shows, one in U.S.A and the other one in Korea were investigated. Although the paper does not represent the overall cross-cultural TV show interviews, it found out that there are some specific linguistic devices in the targeted genre of discourse. First, interviewers are setting the scene following the order of the program; that is, introduction, main part, and closing by using certain linguistic features, for example, casting jokes, prefatory statements, or wrapping-up comments. Second, interviewers are equipped with various verbal techniques to enhance the solidarity with the interviewees such as backchannel continuers like 'uh-uh' and compliments.

## 1. Objectives

An interview is a conversation between two people (the interviewer and the interviewee) where questions are asked by the interviewer to obtain information from the interviewee based on dictionary definition. However, there are different types of interviews whose specific purposes and features differ from one another; interviews in journalism such as on TV, radio, or newspaper are mostly to get information about a celebrity or an event, job interviews for employment are to match the interviewee's merit to a job position, and other interviews are to conduct qualitative research or diagnosis, for instance, between doctors and patients. Structures or features of each type of interviews, for sure, will vary accordingly but I would like to hereby focus on the type of interviews on TV format.

### • *Common characteristics of TV interviews*

First, most of TV interviews, like other types of interviews, consist of questions and answers for a specific purpose. For instance, American journalist, Barbara Walter's famous news magazine '20/20' of ABC is to get information about celebrities in various industries by asking interesting and unknown questions and *Dr.Phil*, hosted by Phil McGraw, is to offer citizens advice as a clinical psychologist taking a form of asking and answering questions regarding a specific problem or issue.

Second, the discourse seen in TV interviews is rather formal, standardized, and structured. It appears that they are having a normal conversation on the screen but often time they use formal language, mostly scripted, and edited by the producer later on unless it is a live show (HK Kim,

2009) Moreover, the interviewers are creating an audience-oriented format by limiting reactions as a recipient and constantly formulating the talks from a neutral perspective (Heritage, 1985).

Third, TV or media discourse has an ‘unusual’ turn-taking process as the interviewer starts the turn and mostly allocates each turn, and closes with own remark, which is rather unnatural and limited process comparing to ordinary conversation (Greatbatch, 1998).

• *Subjects of the analysis*

Now, I would like to narrow down to two contemporary TV interviews, mostly loved by the public in order to observe in detail what the interviewers’ roles are. One is the Oprah Winfrey Show and the other is a Korean TV talk show, Healing Camp – “Isn't that joyful?” The two programs are very much alike in terms of comforting guests, being genuine and fun rather than just being hilarious. They soon became one of the most favored TV shows beloved not only by the audience but also by the celebrities. The overall features of the two programs are as below;



Table 1. overall comparison of the two selected TV interviews

<b>Titles</b>	<b>The Oprah Winfrey Show</b>	<b>Healing Camp - Isn't that joyful?</b>
<b>Network</b>	(Previously ABC) CBS (since 1986~ May 2011)	SBS (since 2011)
<b>Genre</b>	TV talk show with local/international guests sometimes about specific events	TV talk show with local celebrities
<b>No. of hosts</b>	One (Oprah Winfrey, late 50's)	Three co-hosts; IR 1: Senior – KG. Lee (comedian & producer, mid 50's) IR 2: Female – HJ. Han (actress, early 30's) IR 3: Male – JD. Kim (comedian, late 30's)
<b>Setting</b>	Mostly at her studio with 300-400 audiences	Mostly visiting the celebrity's without audience
<b>Significance</b>	The highest-rated talk show in American history with highly influences	The mostly loved talk show of the current time in Korea focusing on healing the guest's heart by sharing unknown stories.

Among many episodes, the most recent and the toughest ones to interview were chosen. First, the Oprah show with J.K. Rowling, right after she finalized the last chapter of Harry Potter series and who says she used to have a phobia in public speaking. The other one is with K-Pop Star, Big Bang's two members, who had suffered recently from two different scandals, car accident involving a death of a driver and a positive result in a drug test.

Table 2. specific comparison of the two selected episodes

	<b>The Oprah Winfrey Show</b>	<b>Healing Camp- Isn't that joyful?</b>
<b>Guests</b>	J.K. Rowling, author of Harry Potter	G-Dragon & Daesung from 'Big

		Bang', K-Pop star
<b>Aired on</b>	Oct. 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2010	Feb. 20th, 2012
<b>Venue</b>	J.K.Rowling's hotel in Edinburgh, Scotland (her temporary workshop)	Big Bang's studio in Mapo, Seoul
<b>Occasion</b>	J.K Rowling has just finalized the last chapter of Harry Potter series, the fastest selling book of all time (sold more than 400 million books in 69 languages so far).	The first appearance on TV show since the scandals in mid 2011; G-Dragon was found positive in a drug-test and Daesung was involved in a car accident resulted in a death of a driver.
<b>Main points of interview</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Behind stories about Harry Potter series from the birth and ending</li> <li>- How she felt about the Harry Potter phenomenon and about the closure.</li> <li>- Other aspects of her life (depression, first marriage, and divorce, ...) and her feelings.</li> <li>- Her philosophies about failure, happiness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Listening to what happened to them each,</li> <li>- How they felt, what difficulties they went through,</li> <li>- How they feel now.</li> </ul>
<b>Overall atmosphere</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Warm, calm, funny, and candid</li> <li>- Natural conversation just like sitting in a café</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A bit heavy yet genuine at the beginning</li> <li>- Consoling with empathy</li> <li>- Funny and joyful at a later stage.</li> </ul>
<b>Other features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On location in Edinburgh, (somewhat unusual)</li> <li>- No audience (somewhat unusual)</li> <li>- Part of the farewell season of Opera show</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Korean subtitles (typical feature of local TV shows today)</li> <li>- Sad and heavy background music</li> </ul>
<b>Setting</b>		

Overall, the common purpose of the two episodes is first, to share unknown information of the interviewee(s), second, to create solidarity or intimacy between the interviewer and interviewee(s), and ultimately, to reduce the emotional distance between the public audience and the interviewee(s).

Therefore, I would like to closely observe;

- how the interviewers achieve those objectives within the structures; opening, questioning, and

ending

- and what are their specific strategies or techniques.

## 2. Structure analysis

### *i. Opening*

The two interviewers are interestingly taking a similar opening format considering that they all paid a visit to each interviewee's office. The two are starting with compliments of the venue and some jokes to break the ice.

#### **[Oprah with J.K Rowling 01]**

IR: So, this is first time we've met.

IE: Yes, it is.

IR: And of our producers tell me that your real name is Joe all this time I thought you're J.K.

IE: [uh-huh] [phahhah (laughs)]

...

IR: When we came, uh, just arrived yesterday it was really beautiful and Scotland is beautiful.

IE: It's stunning, gorgeous.

IR: And the green is greener than any green I've ever seen other than Ireland. So I can understand why you love being here. Is there something about being here in this particular hotel where we are, that, you thought, would be particularly stimulating to your creative process, that's why you wanted to come here to finish?

As soon as the conversation gets started, Oprah is confirming the interviewer's name in an effort to get closer in personal and casts a joke. After brief explanation of her name and initial, Oprah is moving on the topic of the Scotland where she is from and works providing some compliments about her venue. Giving a compliment is a typical strategy commonly used by interviewer and takes a various subject such as the person's appearance, achievement, family, company or even the venue. Compliment strategies will be further discussed later in No. 3 Solidarity Strategies Analysis.

#### **[Healing Camp with Big Bang 01]**

IR 1: 찾아가는 힐링캠프! 계속해서 힐링장소로 직접 저희가 찾아왔습니다. 여기가 말로만 들던 YG 사옥이라고 하는군요. 사옥이에요 사옥! Healing Camp on site! Now, we are here for the healing. This is the famous YG building. Wow, the building!

IR 3: [네, 지문인식! yeah, it's finger printing system!]

IR 1: [이야~ 지문인식. (buzzer alarming)내 지문은 웬만하면 다 통하는데? 하하 Wow, my finger prints should be the matser key!]

IR 3: 여기요! 아이쿠! Hello! Ouch!

All : 안녕하세요! Hello!

IR 1: 대성씨입니다. 우와, 이거 봐 (admiring the studio) This is Daesung! Oh, look at this!

IR 3: 저 YG 음악을 다 이렇게 했던 장소입니까? Is this famous YG music place?  
 IR 2: 아니 그런데 힐링캠프 나오시기 전에 걱정을 두 분이 많이 하셨다구... by the way, you were worrying a lot before making the decision to make this show...  
 IE 2: 많이 했죠. 많이 했고 we were, we did  
 IR 1: 아 그래요? oh, really?  
 IE 2: 저희가 또 모니터를 했었는데 강하더라구요. 질문들이. we've looked over the questions but they were pretty intense  
 All: 어... um (nodding)  
 IE 2: 그래서 솔직히 나올까 말까 정말 망설여졌던 것 같아요. 그리고 또 사건 이후에 공개 석상에서 처음 하는 방송을 하는 거라서. so, honestly, we were really hesitating and this is the first featuring in open public ever since the scandals took place...  
 IR 2: 잘 나오셨어요. you did the right thing  
 IE 1: 걱정이 많이 됐어요. 솔직히. 여러 시각이 있으니까. I was frankly afraid of... because there are different views (silence)  
 IR 3: 그... 두 분이 그. 다른 음악 프로그램에 굉장히 밝게 하던데 조용한 건 저 때문에 그런 겁니까. 내가 나갈까요? 제 눈치를 보는 거예요 지금? Usually, you two are pretty cheerful in other musical shows. Is it because of me that you are now quiet? Shall I go out? Do you feel awkward? (laughs)  
 All: [아하하하 (laughs)]

Likewise, KG Lee, the main interviewer of Healing Camp opens with the admiration about the venue, Big Bang's office where all equipped with the technical edges including a studio, fitness center, restaurant. Then, as the conversation goes a bit silently with the concerns of the guests, he again took an important role to change the atmosphere by overreacting which causes some laughs. Interestingly, the jokes that Oprah and KG Lee made have something in common that they are both talking about their exaggerated beliefs. To be specific, Winfrey says that she thought her name is JK instead of Joe or Joanne and KG Lee is asking if the heavy ambiance is caused by him. Casting humorous comments is also a part of great strategies to creating an intimacy and will further discuss in No 3.

## ii. Main part - questioning

In the second body of the TV interview structure, it will be examined to see how the interviewers are asking serious questions in which order. Heritage & Greatbatch (1991) suggested that the interviewer has to first 'set the agenda' and 'designate the person' to take the turn to answer during the questioning stage. Greatbatch (1988) used the term 'prefatory statements' referring to 'hints' for the following questions. We can also find such 'prefatory statements' that come right before the main questions. After setting the groundwork, slightly surprisingly, I noticed that the interviewers are asking questions quite directly and even very sharply getting to the point. Then, as a result, you will see that interviewees tend to become surrendered and ready to tell they have never spoken.

- *Prefatory statements*

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 02]**

IR 1: 많은 분들이... 마스크를 통해서 이 사건에 대해서 내용을 들었지, 대성씨한테 본인..의 입으로 직접... 들어본 것은 이번이 처음이란 말이에요, 그죠? Lots of people... heard about the accident through the news media. And this is believed to be the very first time to hear directly from you, right?

IR 2: 그죠 right.

IR 1: 그래서 많은 분들이 궁금해 하십니다. 힘드시더라도 어, 그 때 당시 설명을 좀 부탁을 드릴게요. So, they just want to know. It might be painful to recall but um...we would like to ask you to explain the situation back then [pause with music]

The main interviewer here is setting the scene as well by making a ‘prefatory statement’ as underlined. KG Lee is strategically using the term ‘lots of people’ who want to know what happened instead of ‘I’ or ‘we’, underlining the question is for the sake of all the public audience. He is also asking for an agreement by adding an extra question - ‘right?’ given the gravity of the question. Also he puts “*힘드시더라도 (It might be painful to recall but...)*” right in front of the question which can be considered as an ‘empathy device.’

Sometimes the interviewer first asks a question then put an additional remark to mitigate the impact of question of which purpose is basically the same as ‘prefatory statements.’

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 02]**

IR: What did your first marriage teach you about yourself, you know, we’ve heard very little about it we haven’t spoken very much about it. Only that we’re short-lived, I think, Thirteen month and a half?

IE: [yeah, you’re good!]

IR: What did you learn about yourself to never be repeated?

IE: Well, I think the first and most important thing to say about the marriage that I would do it all again, step to step to have Jessica...

Here, Oprah is asking a direct and tough question about J.K. Rowling’s personal life which is somehow from the neutralized point of view. Yet, the question is followed by two ‘mitigating statements’. First one is ‘*you know*’, which is often used to add some explanation or to ask for an unspecific agreement. Second one is the following sentence highlighting ‘we’ or the public hasn’t heard so ‘we’ want to know, similarly to what we have just seen in the KG Lee’s ‘prefatory statements.’

• *Directness without a delay*

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 03]**

IR: During the process of all of this, I understand, are you estranged from your father?

IE: I’m, yeah. Yeah. That’s never neaty thing to do in public eye but they are.

IR: Do you think you’ll ever make peace?

IE: No I don't. I don't, uhm. I think that...it is such a huge thing to be estranged from parents. They would have to be very big reasons for that.

IR: [Do you have your reasons?]

IE I have my reasons.

IR: [Anyone to share?]

IE ... It wasn't a good relationship from my point of view for a very long time

IR: [Uh huh]

IE: But I had to meet to please and I kept back going for a long time and then... they just came a point which I had to pull off and say can't do this anymore... and um...

IR: [Do you regret that he can't be apart of this success...?]

IE: Well, the estrangement happened post success. You know, he was, he was there for a while. Um. For totally honestly with you, I regret much more that with my mother.

As underlined, Oprah is making a chain of questions without giving much time to reflect to those questions. The matter such as estrangement with one's parent seems to be somewhat delicate and cautious to ask directly but she doesn't seem to have hesitated asking it and somehow this scene, like the scene where they are talking about her previous marriage, gives a thrilling tension to the audience. However, in the end, J.K. Rowling confesses the truth that has probably never spoken to anyone in public.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 03]**

IR 1: 자, 지금까지는 어 대성 씨의 이야기를 들어봤는데, 사실 엇친 데 덮친다고 말씀드렸습니다만, 갑자기 지용 씨의 사건이 있었거든요. 그래서 세상에 알려지게 된 단 말이에요. Well, so far we've heard from Daesung but you know, things have gotten worse for Big Bang since we have G-Dragon's another scandal. People got to know about it.

IR 1: 빅뱅의 해체설이 나올만큼, 아주 큰 충격, 큰 사건이었어요. 처음으로 이것도 이야기할 수 있는거죠? It was so shocking with tremendous impact that people even guess the Big Bang group might break up. This time shall be the first time to talk about it, right?

IE 2: 네, 이것 방송에서 처음 이야기하는 건데요. Yeah, this is the first time on air.

IR 1: 지용 씨의 대마초 사건은 조사 시점이나 발표시점이 불투명하다. 뭐 어떻게 된 일이나 굉장히 왜 People say the hashish case of G-Dragon has a lot of uncertainties including the timing for investigation or announcement. Why, what happened?

IR 2: [그래서 의혹을 가지고 계시는 분들도 많아요. 그래서 이 자리를 빌어서 허심탄회하게 이야기해주시면... Right, so many people are indeed suspicious. So, if you could tell us everything with honesty...]

IR 1: 언제부터 검찰로부터 연락을 받은 겁니까? When did you get a call from the prosecutor?

IE 2: 처음 연락을 받은 것은... 6월 중순에서 말... (...) The first call was ... at around mid or end of June.

IR 2: 그런데 모르는 분에게서 왜 담배를 받아서 태우게 된 거예요? Then why did you take a cigarette from a perfect stranger?



IE 2: 그게 많은 분들이 듣기에, 제가 3자였어도 말이 안 되는 것 같아요... (설명) Well, things could have been seen as a total non-sense if I were the third person. (explanation)

IR 1: 근데 그게요, 대마초하고 담배하고는 맛이 좀 다르지 않아요? Well, you know, doesn't marijuana taste different from a cigarette?

IE 2: 맛이 다르다고는 하는데 제가 아무래도 그때 기억에 .. 독한 담배? 시가 정도? 느낌에 생각을 했던 것 같아요. 제가 원래 대마초 냄새를 맡아본 적이 없기 때문에... Some say it's different but as far as remember.. a strong cigarette? I felt like it's a kind of cigar? In fact, I've never smelled marijuana before.

IR 1: 그런데 아무리 그래도 대마와 담배의 모양을 구분을 못했을까 하는 의혹이 있습니다. 그렇게 구분이 안 됐습니까? Still, it doesn't explain how come you haven't distinguished the shape of marijuana from a cigarette? Was it that difficult to tell the difference?

IE 2: 구분이 안되는 정도가 아니라 제가 담배를 ... 흡연을 하는데 그냥 제가 피는 담배 더라구요... It was even a problem, well I do smoke and it is just like an ordinary cigarette I used to smoke...

Generally speaking, Korean shows have more tendencies to ask direct and tough questions to the guests and the above scene shows also a bit extreme case as it is true that lots of local public were indeed curious about the investigation back then - actually KG Lee, interviewer is admitting later that he acted like a detective with some jokes in order to change the atmosphere. Besides, remark that KG Lee again sets the ground in the first three lines by providing some background information about the question he would like to ask. Then, when the time comes, he is also quick, sharp, and non-hesitant in asking very direct questions.

### iii. Ending

Although the ending part is always the job of the interviewers, it clearly differs from one another. In the Oprah Show case, the conversation keeps going until the last minute and the 'on-the-record' ending seems to be very brief - or, probably edited due to time limit.

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 04]**  
 (...)  
 IR: that is pretty good.  
 IE: [Yeah!]  
 IR: That was so much fun, Joe, that was really REALLY fun. (hi-five)  
 IE: [Oh I really enjoyed that] Thank you so much. Thank you.  
 (taking a photo together)

In the second case of Healing Camp, they have a longer ending while asking the guests' overall feeling once again and providing them a cheerful gift. Yet, it is still the main speaker's job to wrap up the show and ask for the closing comment.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 05]**

IR 1: 자, 오늘 그 정말 어떻게 좀 다 털어놓고 나니까 .. 좀 어떤 것 같아요? Well, today, how do you feel after having talked everything?

IE 1: 일단은 그래도 마음이 한결 가벼워진 것 같아요. 진짜...치유가 되네요. 얘기를 하고... 굉장히 좋은 프로그램인 것 같아요. 장수하는 .. 개편에도 끄덕없는. First of all, I feel like less heaviness. It surely heals my heart since I share... This is a great program. Hope it lasts for a long time... regardless of seasonal restructuring..

All: [하하하 laughs]

IR 2: 근데 나오길 참 잘했죠? Was a good decision?

IE 1: 네 나오기 참 잘했던 것 같아요. Yeah, it was an excellent one.

All: [하하하 laughs]

IR 1: 웃는 모습 보니까 참 좋은 것 같아요. 자 그럼 빅뱅을 위한 서프라이즈가 남아 있습니다. It is great to see your smiling face again. Well... then there's one last surprise for Big Bang Team.

IR 3: 다섯 명이 한꺼번에 입을실 수 있는... The thing you-five members can wear altogether... (offering a five-jacket stitched in a row)

IR 2: 네, 힘들 때나 슬플 때나. 기쁠 때나 함께하시라고. Right, wishing you guys to be all together whenever feeling tired, sad, or happy.

All: [clapping]

### 3. Solidarity strategies analysis

We have seen already a few strategies used by the interviewer in each step of interview process, opening, main questioning, and ending. Now I would like to point out additional specific devices that the interviewers are creating in an effort to form solidarity or intimacy with the interviewee(s). These techniques might be used for ordinary conversation by second language learners whose purposes are to facilitate daily talks with native speakers by developing a wider repertoire of listener's responses.

- *Backchannel continuers*

Listener frequently nod and utter paraverbals such as “uh-huh” and “hmm” as the interviewee is talking. Such behaviors are referred to as backchannel continuers and are considered as a signal to the speaker that the communication is working and that they should continue talking (Yngve 1970). This cross-cultural phenomenon is easily and frequently noticed in both programs.

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 05]**

IE: Well, it turned out to be stimulating. As I was finishing the Deathly Hallows, that came a day, the window cleaner came, the kids were home,

IR: [Uhhuh]

IE: The dogs were barking, and I could not work. And this light bulb went up and turned over my head I can through money on this problem. I can now solve the problem.

IR: [Uhhuh]

IE: For years and years and I would just go to a café and sit in different kinds of noise work and I thought I can go to a quiet place. So I came to this hotel because it is a beautiful hotel but I didn't intend to stay here. They were so nice to me here. And I think writings can be a little bit superstitious so the first day's writing went well so I kept coming back to this hotel and I ended up finishing the last of Harry Potter's books in this hotel.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 06]**

IR 2: 밤새 경찰서에서 이렇게 조사를 받았을 것 아니에요 그 때 계속 혼자 계셨던 거예요? 조사 받으시는 동안에? So you've been investigated overnight, right? Were you at that time alone... during the investigation?

IE 1: 아뇨 그때 택시 기사 아저씨와 같이 계셨...있었는데, No, I was... with the taxi driver...

IR 2 [네 yeah]

IE 1: 너무 감사한 게, 택시기사아저씨께서 계속 저를 위로해주셨어요. So thankfully, he kept consoling me.

IR 2: 음.. 어떻게? 뭐라고? hmm...how? By saying what?

IE 1: 너무 걱정하지 말라고. By saying 'don't worry too much'.

IR 1: [Nodding]

IE 1: 내가 이런 경우였어도 충분히 사고 났을 거라구요. 솔직히 그냥 있는 그대로만 말하면 사람들이 다 알아줄 거라고. If I were you, it would exactly be the same. You can just tell honestly what had happened. Then they'll all understand.

IR 1: 음. .. 그래요, hmm... right...

• *Mimicry*

Mimicking what the interviewees say is also frequently used tactics by the interviewer. Mimicry in an ordinary discourse could have different purposes and meanings but in an interview, interviewers seem to use it to show that they understood the guest's message by reflecting what he or she said.

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 06]**

IE: ... So I took my favorite grandmother's... name, Katherine, Joanne Katherine.

IR: [Kath...Katherine, Joe Katherine]

IE: [yeah, Joanne Katherine]

IR: And fooled the boys for a while?

IE: Yeah, not for too long.

IR: Not for too long

IE: Yeah, because I started to give my pictures in the press and no one could pretend I'm a man any more.

IR: yes, I don't think boys have minded it.

IE: No it hasn't held me back.

IR: [laughing] hahahah

IE: Hasn't. Clearly not held me back.

IR: Not a bit.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 07]**

IR 1:그래서 그 유족 분 되시는 분을 우리 저 대성씨가 찾아왔습니까? So you visited the family of the deceased?

IE 1:일단은 찾아가는 게 맞다고는 생각은 했지만, 발걸음이 정말 너무 무겁더라고요. I thought it is right thing to do but was really hard.

IR 2:얼마나 무거웠겠어요. 정말 Sure it was.

IE 1:너무 죄송해서 제대로 정리해서 그 말씀도 못 드리고 죄송하다고만 했는데... 화도 내시고 I felt so sorry I couldn't even speak out appropriately. I had to just apologize. They got so mad at me.

IR 2:흥분되고 화가 날 수밖에 없는 상황.. They should be very upset and embarrassed.

IE 1:네, 당연하죠 Yeah, of course.

Like backchannel continuers, mimicry shows that the listeners are attending the utterance of the other party, therefore, the talks could be continued, and it is interesting to listen to, and so fort. They keep encouraging the interviewees to keep the utterances and this is where the intimacy can be born as the interviewees begin opening their mind and telling what they feel with honesty.

• **Compliment**

We all know that praising someone would perhaps be the most efficient strategy to get closer in a daily speech act, but it still works very well. But I guess this phenomenon is more often observed between women rather than men. Oprah is doing great in finding out positive aspects of the interviewee and complimenting them and herebelow is just one of them;

**[Oprah with J.K Rowling 07]**

IR : I loved the Harvard speech, were you little nervous going to speak to Harvard, even you?

IE: Honestly, easily the most frightening thing I've ever done in my life, easily. It felt very exposing because this wasn't the reading outwards that already have been approved. Do you know what I mean? I used to be boardline phobic about public speaking.

IR : Wow really?

IE: Yeah, with like shaking bodies, I couldn't, I didn't know what sentences .. sauf, I've come a long way. I'm still not, public speaking I've got better at. But there are things like having to give speech on TV still scares me so much I can't deal with it very easily. This feels very easy.

IR : I was gonna say you are so WELL. This is like conversation!

IE: This is different. Well exactly, like conversation. You are quite good of this.

As for the Korean TV interviews, I wonder if the below script is a genuine compliment or an 'actual script' by the screen writer to ultimately show the guest's singing feature. Anyhow, the interviewee must have taken that comment seriously and had the courage to sing after all.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 08]**

IR 1: 사실은 저희가 아이돌 노래를.. 들을 기회는 별로 없어요. 우리 나이대가 되면. 근데 대성 씨가 부른 .. '대박이야'라는 노래가 있어요. 굉장히 제가 차에서 틀어놓고 정말 많이 들었어요. 왜냐하면 그 노래가 그렇게 힘을 주는 거예요. 막 근데 어린 친구가 대박이야 그러니까 정말 대박이를 한번 칠 것 같고. 그런 것들이 사실 대성군에게 힘을 주는 거거든요. In fact, we don't really listen to the idol K-pops for our age. However, you know, there's a song titled '*it's the jackpot*' sung by Daesung. I listened to it so many times in my car because it gives so much of energy. I don't know why but a young boy singing the 'jackpot' and I felt like I could hit the jackpot really. After all, all these things could may give power back to Daesung.

IR 2: 그쵸, 그쵸, 살짝 조금만 불러주세요. Right, right, could you sing a little bit?

IE 1: [singing]

• **Humor**

Making fun at times is like a natural seasoning over some delicious food. The interviewers are telling jokes from time to time to avoid that the talk might go too much serious. However, use of humors are more frequently caught in the Korean TV talk show as it involves three interviewers of which two of them are originally comedians.

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 07]**

IR 1: 이제 운전...? Now, you drive?

IR 2: 어 운전 안 하세요? Uh, you don't drive?

IE 2: 네, 아직 할 용기가... Not yet... I have yet no courage...

IR 1: 그렇죠 right.

IE 2: 당분간은... it will take some time...

IR 2: 아니면, 운전 잘하는 여자친구를... 제가 운전 잘하는 데 otherwise, (you could have) a girlfriend who drives well... I can drive well...

All:

[으하하하] (laughs)

**[Healing Camp with Big Bang 08]**

IR 1: 아니, 우리 저 대성씨도 사고 후에 부모님이 해주시는 따뜻한 밥을 드셨습니까? So, you, Dae-sung, did you also have warm and home-made meal at home after the accident?

IE 1: 저희 어머니는 청국장을 끓여주셨어요. My mom cooked me for Cheongukjang soup.

All: 이야 oh

IE 1: 정말 되게 그냥 음식도 따뜻했지만 밥상 전체가 너무.. 저한테 위로가 되고. 특히나 한식이어서 더 그랬던 것 같아요. It was really, the meals were not only warm but the whole table, you know, it made me feel really good. I think it is kind of some nostalgia of Korean food.

IR 1: 그래요. (웃음) 굉장히 어려움을 당했는데 엄마가 햄버거나 샌드위치를 자른다고 생각해보세요. Right.(giggling) Imagine that you had hard time and mom is slicing an hamburger or sandwich for you.

All: 하하하 (laughs)

• *Showing sympathy*

[Oprah with J.K Rowling 08]

IR: We have a lot of things in common.

IE: yeah

IR: First of all, you know that this is the last year that I am doing the Oprah Show, I will go and do other things. BUT when I came to the end of Hallows...[reading the last passage of the book ] *The...last traces of steam evaporated in the autumn air. The train rounded a corner. Harry's hand was still raised in farewell. "He will be all right," murmured Ginny. As Harry looked ather he lowered his head absent-mindedly and TOUCHED the lightning scar on his forehead. "I know he'll". The SCAR has not pained Harry for 19 years. All was well. I came to into of that (+) I'm mourned not only for the end of the series but FOR YOU, I CANNOT imagine what that was like?*

IE: It was huge.

IR: I can't imagine.

IE: I kept, um, it was bereavement. It was, it was bereavement. It was huge. I think one way (+) although I knew it was coming. We will know that the people love mortal we would know we ain't mortal we know it is gonna end. You cannot prepare yourself for it. So even though I'd always known it was seven books, that was it. I knew how it is going to end. When it ended, I was in a slight status of shock.

Oprah uses various techniques to show the sympathy here in order to get what she wants to hear from. First, she is sending a signal in the first line that they are in the same position by revealing the fact that she is also in the farewell chapter of her show. Second, the no. 1 TV talk show host for many decades is bringing the book and reading out loud the ending passage. Lastly, she expresses her 'condolences' to both the end of the book and the author, maximizing empathy. Such different tactics to disarm the interviewee's all the defense mechanism is truly something unique labeled by Oprah Winfrey.

[Healing Camp with Big Bang 09]

IR 1:그럼 그 사고 피해자의 사망 사실도 음.. 경찰서에서 알았습니까, 아니면 그 사건 현장에서...? Did you learn the death of the wounded, um, at the police office or the spot?

IR 1:사망했다는 것은 경찰서에서... it was at the police office...

IR 3:그 얘기 들었을 때는... 어땠..? How... did you feel when you were told about it?

IE 1:머.. 일단...뭐라고 말할 ... 그냥.. 너무 이게 ... 제가 ... 살면서 이런 일이 저에게 있을 거라고 생각을 못했던 일이기 때문에 약간... 아무 생각이 안 났어요. 진짜.. 어떻게 해야되지 죄송하다 너무 죄송하다. 다 죄송했어요. Um, first of all, what to say... I was just... I didn't know what to do. I've never imagined that such things would happen to me. Didn't know what to say. I just asked for my apologies, my

<p>apologies, my apologies for everything.</p> <p>IR 1: <u>정말 돌발적인... 그런 사고가 일어났기 때문에 본인 스스로 감당하기 너무 어려웠을 겁니다. It would surely be tremendously difficult to handle on your own in front of such unexpected accident.</u></p> <p>IR 2: <u>너무 힘.. 너무 어린 나이고... truly difficult... at such young age...</u> (...)</p> <p>IR 1: <u>그 이 사건 자체는 어떤 결론을 내렸습니까? 무혐의로 판정이 난 겁니까? Uh, what kind of conclusion was made about this case? Were you freed without charges?</u></p> <p>IE 1: <u>일단 그 사건에 대한 것은 무혐의로 first of all, without charges regarding that accident..</u></p> <p>IRs: [네네 yeah yeah]</p> <p>IE 1: <u>판정이 났고요, 전방 주시 태만... 면허...정지랑 벌금하고 but I've got a license suspension and the fines.</u></p> <p>IR 2: <u>그런데 지금도 너무 마음이 아픈게 대성씨가 계속 저희들이랑 보면서 얘기를 하시면서도 잘 눈을 못보고 계속 밑으로, 밑으로 보는 시선이 너무 가슴이 아파요. But the thing hurts me is that while Daesung is talking with us he still can't have an eye contact with us and he keeps looking below</u></p> <p>IR 1: <u>그래요 right...</u></p>
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#### 4. Implication & conclusion

So far, we have looked that the typical structures of the two different TV interviews in which the interviewers used a wide variety techniques and devices accordingly to get attached with the interviewees. To summarize, first, in the introduction stage, the interviewers greet the guests cheerfully by uttering humorous and positive comments in an effort to getting to know. Sometimes background information is given to the audience mostly in a different narration with some relevant music behind. Second, as the interviewers start to ask serious questions, they first 'set the scene' with a few prefatory statements including the gravity of the event, the purpose of asking, and so on in order to make the interviewee get ready for the attack. Then, once they get to the main point, they have almost shown no hesitation and sometimes boldness to ask very personal and deep questions. By doing so, they seem to work hard to achieve the main purpose of interview - getting as much as information from the guest. This is why they are using various devices to open the hearts of the guests from backchannel continues, mimicry, complimenting, telling jokes, and showing the sympathy. Lastly, in the ending phase, the interviewers again take the role of wrapping up mostly by asking for closing comments or expressing that they enjoyed the conversation, which is typical American norm.

An implication of these analytic observation could have is that these strategic approach is worth to be taught in second language classrooms. For example, as suggested by Higgins in Teaching Pragmatics, teachers could raise awareness for the learners of such pragmatic tools in an interaction. Furthermore, students could take turns in 'interviewing' role-play by at least

practicing backchannel continuers, mimicry, and compliments.

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