

# STRATEGIE DI CORTESIA NEL RIFIUTO EDUARDIANO: UN'ANALISI PRAGMATICA

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## ABSTRACT

The study of politeness strategies is basically the study of knowing the way the people use the language while they are having interaction or communication. This study aims to examine the politeness strategies in the speech act of refusal in *Four Plays by Eduardo De Filippo: Ditegli sempre di sì, Il cilindro, Il contratto* and *Gli esami non finiscono mai*. Then we calculated the frequency of politeness strategies according to the effect of interlocutor sex and status on strategy use.

The introduction presents the objectives and importance of the study. In the theoretical framework we referred to the speech act theory, as emerges from the works of Austin and Searle, to the typology of refusals proposed by Bebee et al. (1990) and to the components of Brown and Levinson's approach to politeness. The conclusions include the study results.