

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter there are some subchapters that will be explained. They are the background of the study, statements of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and the scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an interesting thing to learn. Since ancient times, language has been studied by many scientists. What language looks like and how it emerged. Until now, language is still a very interesting research material to be studied. Likewise, the development of language is so rapid and widespread with every uniqueness and difference in each region, which makes language a broad field for research.

In everyday life, language is used as a medium of communication by humans. As humans, they have the nature of being social beings that depend on and need each other. In that case, as intermediaries which connect with each other, they will communicate to get or ask for what they ordered by language. Every aspect of people's daily lives, is influenced by how they communicate with each other, as well as by messages from people they don't even know (Littlejohn et al., 2017). Then, to establish good communication, we need to understand the context in which the language is spoken. This is done to understand what the use of the language is like, so that we can use the language well to communicate with people in verbal and nonverbal communication. Levinson (1983) explained when people understand an utterance, it implicates more than just knowing the meaning of the words they are saying as well as the grammatical relationships that exist. It is a problem to understand utterance in language well so as not to cause miscommunication between speakers.

However, in the delivery process, the things that will be communicated may not necessarily work well and sometimes can lead to misunderstandings. According to Yule (1996), as the time people try to express themselves, not only deliver

utterances that contain grammatical structures and words, but they also take an action through the utterances they speak. When a person speaks, the utterance he utters can contain or produce an action. Then based on Levinson (1983), utterance is the escape of a sentence, sentence equality, or sentence part, in the true context. Actually, when practicing it, sometimes could be struggle and difficult to be understandable. Sometimes speakers may have language that is not grammatical in their pronunciation so that it is difficult for the listener or interlocutor to interpret it. When someone is speaking but not goes with actions that can coordinate the utterances while speaking, then it will be misunderstood, or the information gets will be wrong and the listener cannot get the message from the speaker. It is like when someone says "Take this, please!" without exemplify what they mean, the audience will be lack of information, "What does the speaker mean?" And listeners will be wrong if they don't ask for clearer information. From this phenomenon, it could be concluded that speech act is important to learn so that clearer information will be easy to obtain, not only for the speaker, but also for the listener.

Speech act is one of the Pragmatics branches. Speech act is actions that carried out thru utterances (Yule, 1996). According to Yule (1996) There are three interrelated actions performed by producing the utterance on each occasion, (1) Locutionary Act is the basic action of an utterance or how one produces a linguistic expression that has meaning. When someone forms sounds and words to make utterances that have meaning in a language, then we have succeeded in making a locutionary act. An example is when we say the sentence "she just has her cake done". So, the sentence can normally be considered as a locutionary act; (2) Based on that utterance, someone may aim to make a statement, offer, explanation, or other purposes that also known as illocutionary force. When someone speaks, of course it doesn't just produce utterances without purpose or other intentions. Someone produces an utterance with various functions in mind. This can be called Illocutionary act; (3) Of course, one doesn't just produce utterances with a function without intending those utterances to have an effect. These can be called perlocutionary act. By uttering the speech above, of course the speaker will have the assumption that the listener will recognize the intended effect. Like the effect

of the sentence above, it could be directed to the listener to taste the cake or to see the results of the cake. This is commonly known as the perlocutionary effect.

In this study, the researcher will focus on Illocutionary Act. Illocutionary Act itself, according to Austin via Horn (2007), are actions performed in speaking. In Illocutionary Act, it is not only uttering meaningless utterances, but also forming utterances with several varieties of functions in the mind (Yule, 1996). To understand it, when someone said the utterance "The door is opened", in associating such actions with the speaker's utterance, indicating explicitly what the person said in terms of 'what the person said' does not yet mean 'what sentence the person said' (Alston, 2000). It could be that the utterance is used to ask someone to open a certain door, for example the door in question is closed and the speaker is interested in opening it or it can also emphasize that a certain door is open. This could mean that someone's speech does not necessarily explain what the sentence says. Based on the above statement, one could say that a certain door is open, or it could imply that someone actually opened that door.

As the focus of the research, there are several types or categories of Illocutionary Act proposed by Searle that will be studied in this research. This research also will study the function of Illocutionary Act proposed by Leech. Searle (1979) has categorized Illocutionary Speech Act to five parts, the first being representative, then declarative, directive, expressive, and finally commissive. Searle (Searle, 1979) states that 'in assertive speech, the speaker commits himself to varying degrees of truthfulness of the propositions expressed. According to Searle (1979), in the directive, the speaker tries to get the listener to do something. A directive is an action that makes the speaker do something in the future, which is not right or wrong such as an assertive but must be followed or not followed. In commissive speech act, the speaker commits to do something for some future action (Searle, 1979). Some examples are promises, but other commissions are oaths, threats, promises, contract, and guarantees (Searle, 1979). The commissive speech act makes the speaker perform some voluntary action in the future and this

expresses the intention to the speaker. Based on Searle (1979) in expressive speech act, the speaker expresses his feelings and attitudes about several situations that are determined by the content of the propositional and examples such as apologies, thanks, and congratulations on certain propositions. Searle (1979) argued that 'in the speaker's declaration brings change in the world through his speech, so that the world changes to match the propositional content, solely based on the success of the speech performance.

Then, Leech (1983) classified four types, according to how they relate to the social goal of establishing and maintaining comity, competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive. According to Leech (1983) the first two types are those that mainly involve politeness where in the Competitive illocutionary function, politeness is negative, and its aim is to reduce the implicit disagreement in the competition between what is to be achieved, and what is meant by 'courtesy' which has the goal of which basically as impolite as when asking someone to lend them money. Then, Based on Leech (1983), the second type, the function of suaveness, is otherwise intrinsically polite: politeness here takes the more positive form of seeking opportunities for respect. Positive politeness means paying attention to it, for example, if you have the opportunity to wish someone a happy birthday, you should do it (Leech, 1983). In the third category are the collaborative illocutionary functions, where politeness is largely irrelevant and most of the written discourse falls into this category (Leech, 1983). According to Leech (1983) in the fourth category, in the function of conflictive politeness is out of the question, because the illocutionary conflict is, by its very nature, designed to cause offense.

In accordance with the focus of this research, Illocutionary Act, the researcher will examine them in a field in the form of films. Film can be a medium that portray how human social life is. There are many steads to be taken through watching films ormovies. Besides entertaining, some of them are like learning about moral values in it, such as educational values, value of life and others that can be applied as life lessons. Deal with the object of this research, the Disney film,

Mulan (2020). It is a 2020 action film adaptation of the 1998 Disney animated film with the same title. The story of this film itself talks about the main character named *Mulan* and also other actors in a struggle. *Mulan's* story begins when imperial China issues a decree that a man in each family must serve in the Imperial Army to undergo training to plead and protect the nation from enemy attacks from the north. *Mulan*, who experienced a difficult situation in her life, later became a brave woman. She became the only female fighter at the time and broke the stereotypes that were rooted in her village. There are many good moral values in this film, starting from how brave the figure of *Mulan*, who is a woman, can break existing traditions. Traditions that have been rooted for a long time and sometimes these traditions do not favor women's rights as they should. This film also teaches how a person could suit to new unexpected surroundings. In addition, the diversity of languages contained in this film could also signify several meanings that differ from the actual meaning. So that it is necessary to know the Illocutionary Act that exist in the actors thru the utterances they say in the film.

According to the explanation above, the researcher is interested to conduct a research entitled “An Analysis of Illocutionary Act Found in *Mulan* (2020) Movie” The issue will be discussed collaboratively in result and discussion section.

1.2 Statement of the problems or research questions

To conduct this research, the researcher formulated the problem which is focused on:

1. What are the types of illocutionary act in the dialog of the main character in the *Mulan* (2020) movie?
2. What are the functions of illocutionary act used in the dialog of the main character in the *Mulan* (2020) movie?

1.3 Objectives of the study

Based on the problem or research question above, the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To describe the types of illocutionary act in the dialog of the main character in the *Mulan* (2020) movie.
2. To explain the functions of illocutionary act used in the dialog of the main character in the *Mulan* (2020) movie.

1.4 Significance of the study

1. Theoretically

This study could be used by other researcher who conducts identical study as one of their references and also would contribute in linguistics field mainly in speech act.

2. Practically

- a. The reader

This research would help the readers who want to learn something about linguistics and to give them more knowledge about speech act.

- b. Lecturer

The lecturer can give the information about speech act both in the lecture lessons and daily life about how speech act is especially in illocutionary act and how to apply them for real for the student.

- c. Student

Because of the object of the study is movie, which is easier to understand because sometimes movie is close to our real life so that the researcher hopes this study will give the student representation about illocutionary act in real and also can get information about speech act that will help them to study it.

1.5 Scope and limitation of the study

The scope of this study has specific fields in Pragmatics, which is speech act. This research will be focused on Illocutionary Act and the functions of Illocutionary proposed by Searle (1979) and Leech (1983). The limitation of this study is the researcher only focus on the utterance or the dialogue that uttered by the main character of *Mulan* (2020). Also, to help this research because of the

researcher cannot get the full script of this movie, the researcher uses the English subtitle to help obtain the data.