

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Based on Collins Cobuild Dictionary, Newspaper is a publication consisting of a number of large sheets of folded paper, on which news, advertisements, and other information are printed. Newspaper is usually sold by the peddler in the junction it can find in book store. The journalists argue that newspaper must be perriodic, mechanically reproduced, and available to all who pay for it. In addition the content should be varied, general, timely, and organized.

Meanwhile readers' forum is an explanation or criticism or illustration that is added in the textual material and also includes some opinions and comments with its various form of opinion from every perspective of live such as social and political perspective. It also shows the way of expressing their opinion with own language. In addition, reader's forum is one column for the readers to give their opinion about a topic that is discussed in an update issue. Besides, the language used in the readers' forum not only gives a good but also a bad opinion. It shows us that the readers are not really satisfied of what have been read on the news; the readers also give some comments about their expectation.

Speech act is part of utterance, (Husdon,1980:110). In addition Renkama (1993:3) states that speech acts has close relationship between utterance and act. It means, when people say something to others, they also accomplish certain kind of act and concerned expression to them. For instance, when someone wants to

drink, he thinks how to say it to other about a glass of water which includes asking for a glass of water and ordering someone to drink a glass of water. In this case the speaker does not only do something to himself, but he also requires something to others.

Meanwhile, Brown and Yule (1996:47-48) state that speech act is the actions performed by utterances are generally and commonly given more specific labels, such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, and request. These description term for different kinds of speech acts apply to the speaker's communicative intention in producing an utterance. The speaker normally expects that his or her communicative intention will be recognized by the hearer. Both the speaker and hearer are usually helped in this process by the circumstances surrounding the utterance. In producing utterances speech acts are consist of three related acts. There is first a locutionary act, which is the basic act of utterance or producing meaningfullinguistic expression. If the reader's or hearer's difficult to form the sounds and words to creat a meaningful utterance in a language. The second is illocutionary act, illocutionary act is performed the communicative force of an utterance. The third is perlocutionary act is the message that the addressee gets, the readers or hearer interpretation of what the writer speak or speaker says. This thesis focuses on those types of illucutionary act.

In this research the writer uses Autin's theory which is decline about illocutionary acts by dividing illucutionary act into five types: assertive, directive, commisive, expressive, and declarative.

According to Renkama (1993:21), that illocutionary acts are real actions which are performed by the utterance, where being equal doing, as in betting, plighting one truth, welcoming and warning, illocutionary acts are the acts which are committed by producing an utterance; by uttering promise, a promise is made, by uttering a threat, a threat is made. The illocution is the focus attention of speech act.

In performing speech act, someone usually directly perform illocutionary act in his or her utterances. The illocution acts are about accomplishing some communicative purpose in performing speech act utterance. In addition according to Austin in Semantic Book (1993:181) in every speech act we can distinguish three things; locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act.

According to Austin's preliminary informal description, the idea of "illocutionary act" can be captured by emphasizing that "in saying something, we do something. For example, "I sentence you to ten years imprisonment". This sentences is become an action because the speakers says a word to decide the punishment to the prisoner. Then, it can be concluded that sometimes someone uses word not only to say things but also he or she use it to do things, it means that when someone says something, it has something, it has some action behind it.

In such cases, however, the speaker can say something and mean it. This complexity of the act performing illocutionary acts make the hearer is unable to understand the meaning of the utterance well. Therefore, illocutionary act is chosen as the topic in this present study because the complexity of the meaning of utterance uttered by the speaker is interesting to be discussed.

In this study the writer focuses on the illocutionary acts of the utterances used in the forum of Jakarta post newspaper. As an example of illocutionary acts: *“People of Indonesia, let’s hear your voice as we heard in the demonstrations about the fuel price, it will work.”*

Based on the example, the utterance *People of Indonesia, let’s hear your voice as we heard in the demonstrations about the fuel price, it will work* is an illocutionary act. It is a commissive act, because the speaker commits to some future actions.

The writer wants to know about the types of illocutionary acts in readers’ forum. In this research, the writer chooses reader’s forum in Jakarta Post newspaper to be analyzed because of some reasons. First, Jakarta Post is one of the most well known Indonesian newspapers. Readers forum also is part of Jakarta Post newspaper which is one of columns which contains some opinions and comments on up to date issues. Second, the reader’s forum deals with the study about the illocutionary act. Third, the readers forum has many illocutionary acts which are expressed in many utterances. Those are the reason why the writer is eager to analyze this object.

1.2 Statements of the Problems

In line with the above discussion, the problems proposed are:

1. What are the types of illocutionary acts in reader’s forum?
2. What are the functions of illocutionary acts in reader’s forum?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To know the types of illocutionary acts in readers forum of the Jakarta Post Newspaper.
2. To describe the utterance functions of illocutionary acts in readers forum of the Jakarta Post Newspaper.

1.4 Significance of the study

The present study provides some significance:

1. This helps the readers of Jakarta Post to understand clearly about the types of illocutionary acts.
2. For the next research, the researcher hopes it can be easy to the readers to get the points what the writers mean, they also can use this study to know the speech act types and the analysis to function maximally and also it can give basic concept of illocutionary acts theory.
3. The researcher also hope this research is able to be a useful reference for student of English department who interest in discourse analysis especially in illocutionary acts, thus the student can understand more and will be able to enrich their knowledge about speech act.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

Due to the available time, the writer limits the data of readers forum discussing about some comments and opinions from readers forum of Jakarta Post published on Mei 2012.