

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, there are five subchapters regarding the research. The components of this study include the background, research questions, study objectives, significance, as well as the scope and limitations.

1.1 Background of the Study

As social beings, language is the one of the most essential things in human interaction. People need language to maintain a social relationship. Language functions as an instrument of communication for people to interact with the surrounding environment. Each time they interact with one another, they take part in the creation of communication.

Throughout the scope of social interactions, people can do many ways to communicate using speech, body language, gestures, eye movement, etc. Words can be used by humans to deliver their thought such as sharing idea, expressing emotions, making request, offering help, apologizing and more.

Communication is not always straightforward. When we communicate with other, we interpret and sometimes people possibly misinterpret. In the other words, sometimes people cannot understand correctly the purpose of the utterance. The speaker only says it and the listener must find out the purpose of the utterance. This can be worst if the listener cannot find the meaning of the utterance. This case shows how miscommunication occurs when both the speaker and the listener don't understand the intended meaning of the speech.

What people do by saying something is called speech acts. Speech act is one of Pragmatic field. As explained by Yule (1996), speech act is an action via utterances. It is defined by how people use language to convey intentions such as making promises, expressing gratitude, offering apologies, and others. It means that when an individual communicates information, people additionally perform action.

Speech acts occur when two people or more are communicating. Speech acts are divided into three parts, locutionary is the basic utterance or what we say, illocutionary is what we mean when we say, and perlocutionary is effect or result after the speech or what we perform by saying it. It can be seen in daily life conversation. For the example when she says “I’m going to make an orange juice. Do you want some?”, in this case, the speaker is asking a question to the hearer in order to get the information. And then her friends reply, “I still have a cold. Maybe you can bring me a glass of water.” In this utterance the speaker is requesting the hearer to perform an action by giving a command.

Speech acts occur not only in everyday life but also in movies. Movie is an art form that reflects human’s life. The dialogue in the film serves as a valuable example of a speech act, as it portrays the speech act in order to examine the actions of the main character through their words. In this situation, dialogue is important thing in movie because when the characters speak each other, they produce an utterance and then perform an act. There are two ways how people perform speech act. It can be performed directly or indirectly.

The writer chooses *Do Revenge* movie as the object of this research. *Do Revenge* was released in September, 2022 directed by Jennifer Kaytin Robinson. Beside the movie is greatest movies on Netflix in 2023, it also the movie is reflection of reality of knowledgeable about illocutionary act of American teenagers. The movie is about teenager life in which the popular girl “Drea” wants revenge because of her personal video purposely published in public by her boyfriend and the girl known as "Eleanor," who has tomboyish characteristics, becomes the subject of a gossip. The two teenagers help each other to make it their revenge.

This movie has a good moral value that can be learned about friendship. The movie mostly features teenage characters who use their daily language. It is really interesting because it presented good plot twist and lots of debates which there are so many utterances spoken especially by the main characters. The writer uses speech acts classification based on Searle’s theory of speech act.

The writer attempts to analyze the speech act of the main characters in *Do Revenge* movie based on those reasons.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background, this research is aimed to analyze the speech acts used in movie entitled *Do Revenge*. In order to support this research, two primary questions will be discussed. Those questions are:

1. What are the types of illocutionary acts that performed by the main characters in *Do Revenge* movie?
2. What are the ways of performing illocutionary acts in *Do Revenge* movie?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

As indicated earlier in the research questions, the following are the objectives of the study aimed at answering the issues identified in the research questions. The objectives are:

1. To investigate the types of illocutionary acts which are performed by the main characters in *Do Revenge* movie.
2. To find out the ways of performing illocutionary acts in *Do Revenge* movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

It is hoped that this research can be helpful and beneficial for the readers, especially those who study linguistics whether in English or other languages. The theoretical significance of this research is expected to enrich the readers knowledge about one of topic in Pragmatics that is speech acts. The reader must have knowledge and comprehension of the concept of speech act and have the ability to use it correctly. Hence, by reading this research, the readers know how the application of applied linguistics analysis is. Moreover, the practical significance of this research is expected that the results of this research may

function as a valuable resource for other researchers who conduct language studies especially in Pragmatics.

Not only for the reader, but it also contributes to the writer's knowledge and serves as a reference for future research. Once the writer obtains the findings of this study, they should incorporate them into the teaching process and apply them to educational activities.

1.5 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study focused on the main characters, Drea and Eleanor utterances in the *Do Revenge* movie directed by Jennifer Kaythin Robinson. The theory of illocutionary acts used in this research proposed by Searle (1979) and for the ways of performing illocutionary acts used theory of Yule (1996).

The analysis will concentrate only on identifying the types of illocutionary acts and the ways of performing illocutionary acts used in the movie. The writer exclusively investigates the utterance produced by Drea and Eleanor as the main characters. The illocutionary acts classification is based on Searle's theory and then the ways of performing illocutionary acts based on Yule's theory.