# The analysis of illocutionary act in "big four movie"

# Muhammad Ridho Latuapo<sup>1</sup>, Wening Sahayu<sup>2</sup>

Faculty of Language, Arts, and Culture Yogyakarta State University<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Email: ridholatuapo@gmail.com

**Abstract** - Speech acts are a part of pragmatic science that examines the meaning expressed by the speaker and involves the listener. A speech act is a statement or utterance that has the effect of action and social impact. This study aims to identify the illocutionary act performed in "Big Four" movie This research used descriptive qualitative study which reveals the data collection on the film transcript through the character's dialogue in the film. The result of the study will be discussed are: first, the function of illocutionary act in the movie are: representative act is used to inform, prohibition, assert and claim while directive act is used to ask, warning, command, request, and suggest. Then expressive is used to thank, greeting, apologize, compliment, and commissive act is used to promise, refuse, and plan. The last, the types of illocutionary act which is frequently used by the characters in the movie is directive act.

Keywords: pragmatics, speech act, illocutionary act.

### 1. Introduction

Nowadays, there are many learning media based on information and communication technology that can be a source of learning that can be accessed anywhere and anytime. Learning media today are very diverse, such as PowerPoint, learning videos, e-books, movies, and others. A movie is an effective tool in the language learning process because it provides an authentic, interesting, and diverse context. Movies are a reflection of the real world because in movies there is dialog, vocabulary, and expressions that can cause many different views from the audience regarding the meaning and message implied in them according to the existing context. Aslinda and Syafyahya (2007) states that if someone wants to express something to others, then what the person wants to express is the meaning or purpose of the sentence.

Speech acts are a part of pragmatic science that examines the meaning expressed by the speaker and involves the listener. A speech act is a statement or utterance that has the effect of action and social impact. Speech acts are stated by Austin, he makes the point that by saying something, we are performing something (Austin, 1962; cf. Wajdi, 2018; Wijana, 2012; Christianto, 2020; Rohbiah et al, 2022; Ari Astuti & Herry Chandra, 2021; Kamarudin, 2020; Harris et al, 2018; Ricca & Ambalegin, 2022; Dewi et al, 2020, Mubarok et al, 2021; Rahayu & Eripuddin, 2023; Bach, 199 Yulian & Mandarani, 2023; Britanica, 2024; Amandari et al, 2024; Andiopenta & Suyadi, 2024; Mekt et al, 2024; Hamdi, 2023; Ghafar, 2023; Dewi, 2023). It signifies that there is an action associated with the stated utterances. He divides speech acts into three types: locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. In addition, speech acting is one of the disciplines that becomes an analytical tool in discourse studies. In this case, the researcher is interested in using illocutionary acts. Illocutionary action refers to the purpose and intention contained in a speech act. In another sense, illocutionary acts are a reflection of the speaker's intention. In illocutionary acts, there are five types as follows: representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives. Illocutionary act is an utterance with some kind of function mind. Someone might utter to make a statement, an offer, and an explanation or for some

other communicative purpose. This is also generally known as the illocutionary force of the utterance (Yule, 1996).

In addition, Searle (1969) proposed that speech acts could be classified into broad categories according to their relation of word and world. Searle (1969) then proposes five fundamental functions performed by speech acts; they are; the first. Representative is a speech act that states the speaker's belief is true or not, such as a statement of fact, affirmation, conclusion, and description (Yule, 1996). example; "Today, Jogja weather is very nice!" (Informing). The second, directive is a speech act that is intended by the speaker so that the interlocutor does something, for example, the act of forcing, commanding, inviting, ordering, warning, allowing and so on. Example: "This place will be a grave for you" (warning). The third, commissive is a speech act that is understood by the speaker to bind himself to future actions. This speech act expresses promise, threat, and refusal. (Yule, 1996). Example: "I promise to find and expose whoever is responsible for this mess." (Promising). The next type is expressives, expressive is a speech act that expresses something felt by the speaker, such as psychological statements of joy, difficulty, pleasure, hatred, pleasure or misery (Yule, 1996).

Example: "Thank you nuns, we will take good care of him." (thanking). The last type is declarative, declarative is a type of speech act that alters the world through their utterances; in other words, words alter the world. In other words, the speaker alters the circumstances. Example: "We will fight here at 7 o'clock"

The researcher will analyze the data using illocutionary acts which are divided into five; representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. The researcher will examine the illocutionary types in the "Big Four" movie. The reason why the researcher chose the title of this movie is because in this movie there are expressions of speech acts therefore the researcher is interested in examining this movie. This research is expected to reveal the speech acts used in comedy movies.

#### 2. Method

This research uses a qualitative descriptive method. Descriptive research reveals descriptive data, a person's spoken and written language, and observable behavior (Bogdan & Taylor, 1975). The method used is a descriptive method that uses a qualitative approach, so this research is part of qualitative descriptive research. Bogdan and Bilken (1982) state that in qualitative descriptive research the data are words or pictures and not numbers.

The researchers got the data source from the movie "Big Four". In this movie, the researchers checked the utterance that the characters said in the movie. And then found out the Illocutionary act especially the five types of Illocutionary acts in the movie that had the total duration.

The next data collection technique is note-taking, which is an advanced technique. (Sudaryanto, 1993) states that recording can be done immediately when using the first or second technique or after recording is done and certain tools are used. Information was collected through statements made in the dialogue of the characters in the film. The researcher watched the movie carefully to get a good and correct understanding of it. In this study, the researcher also identified linguistic units related to the problem formulation. The researcher recorded the data in the data collection table and classified the data according to the form and function of Searle's (1969) speech act theory.

## 3. Results and Discussion

#### 3.1 Research Finding

Based on the theories presented, the material is collected, grouped and analyzed according to the form and function of speech acts. The forms of speech acts found in this study are representative, expressive, commissive and directive. Examples of data contained in this research in the form of speech acts can be seen in the review below.

# (a) Representatives act

Representative is a speech act that states the speaker's belief is true or not, such as a statement of fact, affirmation, conclusion, and description (Yule, 1996). These excerpts below are the analysis of representative act, just includes in asserting and informing.

# (1) Informing

https://ojs.ptmjb.com/index.php/JESCS

In this movie, the researchers have found several utterances having the act of informing. The analysis of informing utterances is explained bellow.

### Utterances 1

Petrus: You all know, **the nickname big four comes from our enemies**. And our enemies are so many that's why you train to be the best.

### (2) Asserting

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of asserting. The analysis of asserting utterances is explained bellow.

#### Utterances 1

Jenggo: I'm the second brother, I'll protect you!

#### (b) Directives act

A directive is a speech act that is intended by the speaker so that the interlocutor does something, for example, the act of forcing, commanding, inviting, ordering, warning, allowing, and so on. (Yule, 1996).

These excerpts or utterances below are the analysis of the directives act which includes of asking, warning, commanding, and requesting.

### (1) Asking

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of warning. The analysis of warning utterances is explained bellow.

#### Utterance 1

Doctor : You're new, right?

Alpha: Yes sir.

#### (2) Warning

In this movie, the researcher had found several utterances having the act of warning. The analysis of warning utterances explained bellow.

## Utterance 1

Antonio: This place will be a grave for you

Antonio's utterances show a form of warning speech act. Antonio said "this place will be a grave for you!", Antonio meant to ask the Big Four to be careful otherwise this place would be a grave for them or in other words they would die in this place.

#### (3) Commanding

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of commanding. The analysis of commanding utterances is explained bellow:

# Utterance 1

Jenggo: Hey Pelor, it's time for you to act, take the gun!

#### (4) Request

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of Request. The analysis of request utterances explained below.

# Utterance 1

Jenggo: Stop it! Stop it! All this madness.

## (c) Expressive act

Expressive is a speech act that expresses something felt by the speaker, such as psychological statements of joy, difficulty, pleasure, hatred, pleasure, or misery (Yule, 1996). These excerpts or

https://ojs.ptmjb.com/index.php/JESCS

utterances below are the analysis of expressive acts, including thanking, apologizing, and complimenting.

#### (1) Thanking

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of Thanking. The analysis of thanking utterances explained below.

Utterance 1

Nurse: Thank you, nuns. we will take good care of him.

Nun: May god bless you!

# (2) Apologizing

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of apologizing. The analysis of apologizing utterances is explained below.

Utterance 1

Topan: Hey, don't leave me out of this!

Jenggo: Oh yeah, I'm sorry.

#### (3) Compliment

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of compliment. The analysis of compliment utterances is explained bellow.

#### Utterance 1

Child: Brother is a real champ!

Pelor: I already told you!

#### (d) Commissive act

Commissive is a speech act that is understood by the speaker to bind himself to future actions. This speech act expresses promise, threat, and refusal (Yule, 1996). The excerpts bellow is the analysis of the commissive act, just includes of promising, and planning

## (1) Promising

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of promising. The analysis of promising utterances explained

Utterance 1

Reporter: Is there any estimation of the perpetrator of this murder?

Hassan: someone like him must have a lot of enemies. **I promise** to find and expose whoever is responsible for this mess.

# (2) Planning

In this movie, the researcher found several utterances having the act of planning. The analysis of planning utterances explained bellow.

Utterance 1

Alpha: You take them out, and we'll meet on the ship.

Pelor: okay!

## 4. Conclusion

Based on the findings of the research and discussion, the following are the study's conclusions: This study examines there are four types of speech acts: representative speech acts, expressive speech acts, directive speech acts, and commissions speech acts. Based on the data analysis, the frequent utterances are used by the characters in the "Big Four" movie. The last, the functions of speech acts considered in this study are subdivided based on the forms of speech acts, namely the function of illocutionary acts in the movie are: representative act is used to inform, prohibit, assert, and claim while directive act is used to ask, warning, command, request, and suggest. Then expressive is used to thank, greet, apologize, compliment, and commissive act is used to promise, refuse, and plan.

### References

- Andiopenta, A., & Suyadi, S. (2024). Speech action patterns of Indonesian at multi-language campus. Journal of Education, Social & Communication Studies, 1(2), 46–55. Retrieved from https://ojs.ptmjb.com/index.php/JESCS/article/view/8 (Original work published April 26, 2024)
- Amandari, N. P. M., Netra, I. M., & Suwari, N. M. (2024). Critical discourse analysis on BTS commencement speech in dear class of 2020. Journal of Education, Social & Communication Studies, 1(2), 70–76.

  Retrieved from https://ojs.ptmjb.com/index.php/JESCS/article/view/11 (Original work published April 26, 2024)
- Ari Astuti, D., & Herry Chandra, O. (2021). Speech Acts And The Common Problems Involved In A Humor Text. Culturalistics: Journal of Cultural, Literary, and Linguistic Studies, 5(1), 65-72. https://doi.org/10.14710/culturalistics.v5i1.11470
- Aslinda dan Syafyahya, Leni. (2007). Pengantar Sosiolinguistik. Bandung: PT. Refika Aditama.
- Austin, J.L. (1962). How to Do Things with Words. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bogdan, R. and Biklen, S. K. (1982). Qualitative Research for Education: an Introduction to Theory and Methods. Massachusetts: Newbury House.
- Bogdan, R. and Taylor, S. J. (1975). Introduction to Qualitative Research Method. Canada: John Wiley & Sons.
- Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia. (2024, March 12). Speech act theory. Encyclopedia Britannica. https://www.britannica.com/topic/speech-act-theory
- Christianto, D. (2020). Speech Acts in EFL Classrooms. *Journal of Pragmatics Research*, 2(1), 68-79. doi:https://doi.org/10.18326/jopr.v2i1.68-79.
- Dewi, N. M. S. C. (2023). Lexical and grammatical cohesion analysis of "nothing like us" song lyrics: written discourse analysis. *Journal of Language and Pragmatics Studies*, 2(1), 19–27. https://doi.org/10.58881/jlps.v2i1.9 (Original work published March 31, 2023)
- Dewi, I. A. P. A., Kardana, I. N., & Muliana, I. N. (2020). Functions of Speech Acts in "Critical Elevenâ€□. *RETORIKA: Jurnal Ilmu Bahasa*, 6(1), 1-6. https://doi.org/10.22225/jr.6.1.1275.1-6
- Ghafar, Z. N. (2023). The experimental pragmatics: A review of language constructing and interpreting. *Journal of Language and Pragmatics Studies*, 2(2), 89–99. https://doi.org/10.58881/jlps.v2i2.30
- Hamdi, S. (2023). Cohesion in Ali Douagi's sleepless nights and Shirley Jackson's the lottery: A comparative study. Journal of Language, Literature, Social and Cultural Studies, 1(3), 218–231. https://doi.org/10.58881/jllscs.v1i3.97
- Harris, Daniel W., Daniel Fogal, and Matt Moss (eds). (2018). 'Speech Acts: The Contemporary Theoretical Landscape', in Daniel Fogal, Daniel W. Harris, and Matt Moss (eds), *New Work on Speech Acts* (Oxford, 2018; online edn, Oxford Academic, 23 Aug. 2018), https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198738831.003.0001, accessed 4 Aug. 2024.
- Kamarudin, K. (2020). Speech Acts Analysis and Its Application Within the Interlocutors' Communication. Cordova Journal Language and Culture Studies, 10(1), 67–83. https://doi.org/10.20414/cordova.v10i1.2228.
- Mekt, Y., Getahun, A., & Meseret, T. (2024). A critical discourse analysis (CDA) of a political speech of Mr. Christian Tadele speech in the parliament. Journal of Education, Social & Communication Studies, 1(2), 56–62. Retrieved from https://ojs.ptmjb.com/index.php/JESCS/article/view/16 (Original work published April 26, 2024)
- Mubarok, Y., Anggraeni, D., & Sugiyo, S. (2021). Directive speech acts in the school slogans. *Englisia: Journal of Language, Education, and Humanities*, 8(2), 148-160. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.22373/ej.v8i2.7960.
- Rahayu, P., & Eripuddin, E. (2023). The Illocutionary Speech Acts in Students' Public Speaking. *AL-ISHLAH: Jurnal Pendidikan*, 15(1), 834-844. doi:https://doi.org/10.35445/alishlah.v15i1.3158
- Ricca, H., & Ambalegin, A. (2022). Expressive Speech Acts Found In Love At First Swipe Web Series. *CaLLs: Journal of Culture, Arts, Literature, and Linguistics, 8*(1), 13 24. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.30872/calls.v8i1.6403
- Rohbiah, T.S., Al-Fariatunnisa, A., and Sa'dia, S. (2022). Speech Acts In Newspapers of Cable News Network. Humanus: Jurnal ilmiah Ilmu-ilmu Humaniora, Vol. 21/2
- Searle, J. R. (1969). Speech Acts: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Sudaryanto. (1993). Metode dan Aneka Teknik Analisis Bahasa: Pengantar Penelitian Wahana Kebudayaan secara Linguistis. Yogyakarta: Duta Wacana University Press.
- Wajdi, M. (2018). Classroom Discourse: A Model of Language Classroom Research. Surabaya: CV. Jakad Publishing.
- Wijana, I. (2021). On Speech Acts. Journal of Pragmatics Research, 3(1), 14-27. doi: https://doi.org/10.18326/jopr.v3i1.14-27
- Yule, George. (1996). Pragmatics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Yulian, A. A., & Mandarani, V. (2023). A Speech Act Analysis: Illocutionary Acts Produced By Teacher In Esl Classroom. *Celtic : A Journal of Culture, English Language Teaching, Literature and Linguistics*, 10(1), 1–13. https://doi.org/10.22219/celtic.v10i1.23276