An analysis of Illocutionary acts in *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* Movie

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Abstract

An illocutionary act is an act that happens when the speaker utters something to the hearer. The purpose of the current research is to find out the types of illocutionary acts dominantly used in the Fantastic Beast: The Crime of Grindelwald movie spoken by the main character “Newt”. The source of the data was Fantastic Beast: The Crime of Grindelwald movie and the movie script. The research design used in this study was a descriptive qualitative research with documentation analysis as the technique of data collection. In analyzing the data, the researcher used content analysis proposed by Miles & Huberman (1994). The research shows that there were 131 illocutionary acts found in the movie. The findings show representative type is the most dominant used by the main character in this movie with 78 data. The second place is the directive type with 26 data. And then expressive type with 18 data. Commissive type with 8 data and the last type is declarative with only 1 data. Those 131 illocutionary acts are then categorized as types of illocutionary acts proposed by Searle (1969). The results of these Illocutionary acts enhanced the deep meaning in the utterances of the movie mentioned above and made it understandable.

Key Words : Pragmatics, Illocutionary Acts, Movie

1. INTRODUCTION

Humans use language not only to communicate but also to express an idea, give information, convey the message and so forth. Furthermore, Armstrong & Ferguson (2010) define language as the tool to convey information and to maintain a relationship through communication. In using the language to convey the message people often make the meaning hidden or implicit. Ones often make implicit meaning in their language in order to make their expression more beautiful and aesthetic. According to Goldstein (2008), language is a communication tool used by humans to express their feelings, thoughts, ideas, and experiences through sound or symbols. Based on the definition above, it can be said that language is one of the important tools for humans in expressing their ideas, thoughts, and experiences.
According to Yule (1996), pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by a listener or reader. In pragmatics, we study the meaning of the context between the speaker and the listener. From the explanation above, it means people can talk about their intended meaning, their assumption, their goals, and their various actions that they are performing when they speak. Furthermore, according to Cruse (2000), study of language cannot be done without considering situational context, such as; participation, the act of participation (verbal and nonverbal), the characteristic of relevant situations with continuous things, and the impact of speech acts which is showed by types of change, occurs by participant's action. Furthermore, Cruse (2000) points out that the most important part of a language is the situational context. For example, we need to know who the participants are, the expression of the participants, the relevant situations of the acts, and then the types of speech acts that will occur by the expressions of the participants. This should be noted in order to get the message that is implied by the speakers are well received.

In addition, Yule (2010) suggests that there is a specific rule that should be obeyed in doing a conversation. This rule is considered as people’s understanding of how language is used in particular circumstances to convey a message. In addition, Austin (1962) showed that the rule can be followed by the speech act theory, which suggests that the action performed when an utterance is produced can be analyzed based on the three different levels; Locutionary acts, Illocutionary acts, and Perlocutionary acts. Locutionary act is the production of meaningful utterances and expressions, for example: “go away!”, “come here”, “who are you?”, etc., which leads to illocutionary act; the intention of producing meaningful expression (promises, offering, etc.) and then causes the performance of perlocutionary act, which is the effect of the locutionary and illocutionary act (behavior, feeling, belief, etc.).

In the context of the present study, the researcher is interested to analyze the illocutionary act, which is an utterance with some kinds of fiction in mind. There are five basic kinds of actions that one can perform on speaking, which are: representatives, directive, commissive, expressive, and declaratives. Speech acts consist of difficult actions, which someone utters in order to make a statement, an offer, and an explanation or even for some other communication purpose. This is also generally known as the illocutionary force of the utterance Yule (1996). In the current research, the writer selected Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, released in 2018, to be analyzed since the main character, Newt, has unique and various ways of doing communication and he is a shy but caring man who is barely able to make eye contact. Newt’s character is interesting and challenging enough for the writer to analyze the illocutionary acts in this movie. Moreover, no previous studies had provided a similar analysis in this movie yet.

Illocutionary acts become the main analysis of the main character (Newt) in Fantastic Beast movie since they are concerned with what the speaker intends to achieve by uttering something. The illocutionary acts in the movie were observed randomly by the writer, which means the writer just see several acts frequently used by the main character in the movie. It was found that the use of illocutionary acts exists in the movie, but its frequency of use remains unknown by far. That is the reason why illocutionary acts have been selected to be analyzed in this study, considering that speech acts itself is one of the important topics in pragmatics.
2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Pragmatic

Pragmatics is the study of language that has been becoming popular. Linguistics is aware that the effort to get the essence of language will not give the best result without the understanding of pragmatics. Yule (1996) states that pragmatics is concerned with the study of interpreting the meaning of what being produced by a speaker. It means that in pragmatics, the main focus is on the people's meaning of what they utter the utterances rather than the meaning of the words or phrases in those utterances mean. Levinson (1983) states that pragmatics is a study of the use of language. It is the study of the relation between language and context which are essential to an account of language understanding. In other words, in pragmatics, the study is about a meaning that is uttered by the speaker and then interpreted by the listener. Levinson also stated that “pragmatics is the study of those relations between language and context that are grammatical or encoded in the structure of a language”. It can be said that in pragmatics the study is about the language and its context. Pragmatics studies the context within which interaction and intention of the language user occur simultaneously.

2.2 Speech Act

According to Searle (1969), a speech acts are basic analysis in pragmatics. This opinion has a relationship with the objects of pragmatics which most of them are speech acts in communication. Speech acts’ term appears as a result of uttering something, the speakers solely do not just utter something, and there is a meaning behind it. So, it can be concluded that speech acts are an act done by uttering something. Speech act is one of the pragmatic elements. The term of speech acts was used for the first time by Austin (1962), who is known as “Father of Speech Acts’ Theory”. For him, uttering something means something, for example:

“Shoot her!” – Austin, 1962, PP. 101-102

One may say that this utterance, in appropriate circumstances, has the illocutionary force (speaker intention) of variously, ordering, arguing, advising the addressee to shoot her; but the perlocutionary effect of persuading, forcing, or frightening the addressee to shooting her.

2.2.1 Illocutionary Act

According to Austin (1962), an illocutionary act is an utterance that has a certain force. Illocutionary acts would include stating, promising, thanking, congratulating, apologizing, threatening, ordering, and requesting. Yule (1996) states that the illocutionary act is performed via the communicative force of an utterance. Most people do not just produce well-formed utterances with no purpose. An utterance is usually formed with some kind of function in mind. This is usually what people are doing with words.

According to Searle (1969), the speech act is often meant to refer just to the same thing as the illocutionary acts_term, which Austin (1962) had originally introduced. Searle’s work on speech acts is also commonly understood to refine Austin’s conception. However, some philosophers have pointed out a significant difference between the two conceptions: whereas Austin (1962) emphasized the conventional interpretation of speech acts, Searle (1969) emphasized a psychological interpretation (based on beliefs, intentions, etc.)

According to Searle taxonomy, there are some types of illocutionary acts classified by Searle (1969).
1) Representative  
   The first one is known as a representative, which is an illocutionary act used to state what the speaker believes. The subtypes of assertive acts are: stating, arguing, informing, clarifying, convincing, agreeing, describing, protesting, reminding, reporting, etc. For example: “The earth is flat” the speaker believes that the earth is flat. That means that the example represents the demonstrations of the speaker’s beliefs to be the case in the world. Yule (1996) stated that a representative force is used to state what the speaker believes.  

Here are the examples of illocutionary acts with representative force:

   a. “The earth is flat” – Yule, 1996, pp.53  
   b. “It was a warm sunny day” – Yule, 1996, pp.53  

By asserting that, the speaker wants to show that the fact that the earth is flat and this is an absolute fact that is believed by the speaker. In the second example, the speaker expresses his or her belief that the weather was a warm sunny day. It shows by the speaker’s utterance.

2) Directive  
   Second is directive, which is an illocutionary act for getting the hearer to do something. The forms of this act are ordering, commanding, daring, defying, challenging. For example: “Shut up!” the speaker orders the hearer to shut up. It means that it shows the speaker’s intention from the hearer to do. This is called commanding. In this act, the speaker is trying to get the listener to carry out some action. In other words, this act represents what the speaker wants. An example is taken from Yule (1996) as follows:

   “Give me a cup of coffee. Make it black”. – Yule, 1996, pp. 54  

The example shows that the speaker wants the listener to do what the speaker said which is to make a cup of coffee and also make it black. In short, this speech act embodies an effort to direct the listener towards the speaker’s goal.

3) Commissive  
   The third act is commissive, which is an illocutionary act for getting the speaker (the one performing the speech act) to do something.

4) Expressive  
   Another type is expressive, which is a type of act that expresses what the speakers feel. That could be expressing of psychological state or a statement of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy or sorrow. For example: “I am so sorry” can be the example of the subtypes act of apologizing to express the speaker’s feeling that he/she really sorry and regret.

   When saying something, the speaker of a language often expresses feelings to the listener when they speak. The speaker doing so in order to make the listener can feel what the speaker wants to show. This kind of acts expresses the speaker’s inner state which says nothing about the world. the examples are:

   [a] “I’m really sorry!” and – Yule, 1996, pp.53  

Both of the speakers in the example [a] and [b] show their psychological states. The speaker [a] expresses their Psychological state of pardoning and the speaker [b] expresses their psychological state of congratulating. In this case, the speaker makes words fit the world (feeling) by uttering that expressive.
5) Declarative

The last one is known as a declaration, which is an illocutionary act that brings into existence the state of affairs to which it refers. On other words, declarative is a kind of act that changes the world or situation through utterance. For example: “I now pronounce you husband and wife!” (priest). It can be concluded that, when the priest utters the utterance, the utterance can change the situation of the couple because before that they are single and now they are married. Searle & Vanderveken (1985) indicate that declarative force can be presented in many forms, such as declaring, approving, endorsing, excommunicating, naming, christening, resigning, abbreviating, and blessing.

2.3 Movie

Movie or film is one of the art forms made by adopting human cultures as a representation of real life. According to Hornby (2000), a movie or film is a series of visual elements that give motion pictures combined with sounds such as music, tone, and instrument that have a story’s theme in it. After all the editing process, the movie is showed on television or at the cinema and being watched by the people. Movie is usually created by many processes. Such as shooting with a good quality camera, and then the scene will be edited by the expert, and one of the important parts of a movie is adding some visual effects and using a few techniques in order to make the movie interesting to watch.

2.3.1 Fantastic Beasts

Fantastic Beast is a British-American film series directed by David Yates. Fantastic Beast is a cinematic work inspired by the previous story entitled Harry Potter. This movie is produced and written by J.K. Rowling and inspired by her 2001 guide book of the same name. The movie is produced by David Heyman, J.K. Rowling, Steve Kloves, and Lionel Wigram and then the series is distributed by Warner Bros. Below is a synopsis of the movie taken from Delnaz(2018).

This movie consists of two fantasy series, beginning with Fantastic Beast and Where to Find Them (2016) and the second installment is Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald (2018), and this movie still has the up-coming series in the future. The series was mainly produced by David Heyman, and star Edie Redmayne, as the leading character: Newton Scamander or “Newt”. The selected movie in this study entitled Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, a fiction movie from the United Kingdom which is directed by David Yates based on the novel of the same title by J. K. Rowling, released in 2001. The main character of this movie is Newt Scamander, a shy and caring man who barely able to make eye contact and is sometimes painfully awkward. Nevertheless, he has the desire to help others even when he has no reason to help them.

3. METHODS

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. Where the writer describes and analyzes the selected illocutionary acts which are taken from the script of the movie, and then classifies them according to the types of illocutionary acts. To analyze the types of illocutionary acts that are found in the movie, the researcher chooses to use a qualitative approach research method since it was intended to find out the kinds of illocutionary acts and dominant types used by the main character in the movie. The current research uses the qualitative model because the researcher wants to know what messages in each utterance are.
The subject of this study is *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* movie. The theme of this study is about good and evil, death and family. Whereas the objective of this study is to analyze the illocutionary acts which are found in the movie uttered by the main character. In the current research, to get useful and accurate data, the writer also followed some steps of the research neatly. In collecting the data, the researcher will use two forms of instrument, namely observation, and documentation. An observation is a means of measuring what the writer heard, saw, and thought when collecting the data during the movie played. In this case, the writer also uses note-taking in case the possibility of losing the relevant data. Besides the observation from the movie, the writer also uses documentation as an instrument of this research. It is obtained in the form of a printed document or movie script. According to Bowen (2009), analyzing a document is easier than conducting our own research because documents are stable and non-reactive data sources, meaning that they can be read and reviewed multiple times and remain unchanged by the researcher's influence or research process.

There were three major steps in analyzing the data. In the current research, the researcher used the stage of data analysis by Miles & Huberman (1994) to process the data until the result was established. Those steps are data reduction, data display, and conclusion: drawing/verifying. Then the trustworthiness of research can be gained by conducting credibility, dependability, transferability, and conformability. Meleong (2009) Credibility is concerned with the accuracy of the data. Dependability refers to the stability and trackability of the changes in data over time and condition. The conformability is the neutrally in which the conclusion and explanation of the data depend on the subject and condition of inquiry rather than on the researcher. Transferability is concerned with generalizability in the fittingness of findings to other social settings, populations, and contexts. In the current research, the writer focused only on credibility. The credibility of the data obtained by means of inter-rater reliability.

### 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Results

Based on Searle’s classification, illocutionary acts divided into five categories. They are representatives, commissive, expressive, directive, and declarative. In the data finding, the researcher took the data from the utterances of Newt as the main character in *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* movie. Below are the frequencies of the classification of illocutionary acts that have found in the movie.
Figure 4.1 Subtypes of Representative That Occur in the Movie

Based on the analysis, the graph chart showed that in the representative act, there are 12 subtypes found in the movie. The highest frequency belongs to informing with 22 data out of 78 total data.

Figure 4.2 Subtypes of Commissive that Occur in the Movie

The highest frequency in this act is refusal with 3 data out of 8 data from all subtypes in commissive.
Figure 4.3 Subtypes of Expressive that Occur in the Movie

As shown by the chart, the most dominant subtype in this act is dislike with 8 data out of 18 data. Moreover, the lowest frequency belongs to the subtype of joy with 1 data that occur in the movie.

Figure 4.4 Subtypes of the Directive that Occur in the Movie

It can be concluded that the most dominant subtype used by the main character in directive act is asking with 13 data out of 26 data.
Figure 4.5 Subtype of the Declarative that Occurs in the Movie

From the chart above, it can be concluded that there is only one subtype of declarative that occurred in the movie, that subtype is *declaring* with only one data. The results of this study as can be seen from figure 4.1 to 4.5 which is represented in one chart below.

Figure 4.6 The number of Illocutionary Acts Found in the Movie

The results of this study as can be seen from the table above indicate that there are five types of illocutionary acts produced by the main character in *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* movie. Those acts are representative, commissive, expressive, directive, and declarative. It means that all types of illocutionary acts are used by the main character in this movie, but not all of the subtypes of acts are used by the main character in this movie. As shown in figure 4.6, the representative type is the most commonly used by the main character in the movie with 78 (59.5%) data. This means that mostly utterances give information about the case. The second shows directive type with 26 (19.8%) data. It happens when the main character in the movie asks the listener to do something in the future by his utterances. The third is the expressive type with 18 (13.7%) data, the expressive happens when the speaker expressing his expression by uttering something. Fourth, commissive with 8 (6.2%) data, these data happen when the speaker wants to do something in the future. Then the last is declarative with only 1
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act (0.8%) that is uttered by the main character, which means most rarely uttered. This act happens when the speaker declares something that changes the situation or status of a person through an utterance.

4.1.1 Acts found in Fantastic Beast: The Crimes of Grindelwald Movie

Representative

Excerpt (protesting)

MINISTRY OF MAGIC – NIGHT

Newt and Leta are talking and walking around in the ministry of magic.

Leta

Why do strange creatures love you so much?

Newt

Well, there are no strange creatures...

Leta

Only blinkered people

(Leta cut Newt’s words and said the words “blinkered people”)

IA/00:09:37/U3

Newt disproves Leta’s statement that called Pick as a strange creature. Newt wanted to say that there are no strange creatures, there are only blinkered people. But before Newt says that, Leta said it first because Leta knew that Newt would protest her with that statement. So, for Newt, Pick is one of the blinkered people and Leta knew that.

Based on Searle’s (1969) classification, this utterance categorized as a part of the representative with the subtype of protesting because what Newt said is what he believes. Newt believes that there are no strange creatures, for Newt that would be better if Leta calls Pick as a Blinkered people rather than a strange creature.

Commissive

Excerpt (refusing)

MEETING ROOM IN MINISTRY OF MAGIC – NIGHT

The committees offer Newt a deal. If Newt agrees, they will leave Newt’s travel ban.

Committee

The Committee will agree to leave your travel ban under one condition...you join the ministry... specifically, your brother’s department.
Newt

No, I...that isn't my kind of...Theseus is the aura. I think my talents lie elsewhere.

Newt was banned to travel internationally because he made a mess in New York and it is not allowed in the ministry of magic. In the meeting, the committees offer Newt to join the ministry so that the ministry will lift the Newt's travel ban. But Newt refuses the offer because he doesn't want to work in the ministry. He doesn't want to be an aura as his brother, he thinks his talents lie elsewhere. Newt interest in Magizoologist and magical creatures. That's why Newt's very knowledgeable about beasts.

Based on Searle’s (1969) classification, this utterance categorized as a part of commissive because the speaker (Newt) refused the offer of a committee that wanted Newt to join the ministry. As a return, Newt can travel internationally as much as he wants and there is no ban for that anymore. Unfortunately, that’s not what Newt wants. Newt likes to travel internationally but doesn’t mean Newt agrees to work in ministry.

Expressive

Excerpt (dislike)
MINISTRY OF MAGIC - NIGHT

Leta and Newt are talking about their past.

Leta

and I set off a dung bomb under his desk. So, I could join you, do you remember?

Newt

No, I actually don’t remember that.

When Newt and Leta are talking, suddenly Theseus come to them. At that moment, Leta was talking about their past when Newt and she were together as best friends and Leta mentions something that she did as she could join with Newt. That was a beautiful memory for Leta. But when she asked Newt does he remember that moment, Newt answered No, he does not remember that. Newt lied to Leta while actually he still remembers that moment, but he doesn't like to talk about that at that time. Newt saying so because he saw Theseus come to them and Theseus is his brother and also Leta’s fiancé. Newt knows if Theseus know that, Theseus would be jealous.

Based on Searle (1969) classification of illocutionary acts, this data belongs to the type of expressive because Newt showing his dislike expression through his utterance. He said he does not remember that in order to make Leta stop talking about their past especially those memories that Leta thinks beautiful. Newt does not want it because he knew that his brother really loves her. at a glance, this act
doesn’t look like a dislike expression if you only read the conversation above. But according to the illocutionary definition and the guidelines of illocutionary acts, this belongs to the dislike subtype of expressive. As previously stated, Cruse (2000) points out that the most important part of a language is the situational context. For example, we need to know who the participants are, the expression of the participants, the relevant situations of the acts, and then the types of speech acts that will occur by the expressions of the participants. This should be noted in order to get the message that is implied by the speakers are well received. In short, when you decide to choose which act is right for the utterance, you need to consider the situational context.

**Directive**

*Excerpt (ordering)*

NEWT’S HOUSE – NIGHT

Bunty’s work hours are over and Newt wanted Bunty to go home and let him taking care of the beasts.

Bunty

*Elsie’s droppings are nearly normal again.*

Newt

*Wonderful.*

*You can clock off now...*

IA/00:23:22/U31

Newt orders Bunty to go home and let him taking care of the beasts because Bunty’s schedule is up. Based on Searle (1969) classification of illocutionary acts, this utterance classified as a directive type because Newt wanted Bunty to do something, that is Newt wanted Bunty to go home and just let him taking care of the beasts by himself because her works are done.

**Declarative**

*Excerpt (declaring)*

DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Newt felt something is wrong with Jacob. Newt is sure that Jacob is in the enhancement.

Newt

*Surgito* (the spell to remove an enhancement).

*Congratulations on your engagement, Jacob.*

Jacob

*Wait, What?*

IA/00:28:52/U46
After removing the enchantment on Jacob, Newt tries to congratulate Jacob on his engagement to see Jacob’s reaction. Indeed, Jacob is confused when Newt congratulates him. And of course, at that time, after Newt lifts the enchantment, the status of Jacob and Queenie no longer as a fiancé. Because Jacob is unconscious when they are engaged.

Based on Searle’s (1969) classification, this utterance considered as declarative because Newt used Surgito to lift an enchantment that was placed by Queenie to Jacob. The enchantment caused Jacob to be happy with whatever Queenie wanted but had a side effects that caused him to act strangely. After Newt declared that Newt was engaged Queenie by congratulating him, Jacob was surprised and then their status was no longer as a fiancé because Jacob realized that Jacob and Queenie cannot be together as Queenie wanted, even though Jacob loves her too. The congratulation that is uttered by Newt was not really to give them a blessing. But there is an implied meaning inside those words. Newt wanted to let Jacob know that he is engaged to Tina. Newt did that in order to make everything clear.

4.2 Discussion
Based on the data presented in section 4.1 and 4.2, it suggests that the most dominantly occurrences acts in Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald movie is representative. The writer analyzed the acts by using the theory of illocutionary acts proposed by Searle (1969). There are five types of illocutionary acts in speech acts theory, there are representative, commissive, expressive, directive, and declarative. The writer uses the theory of Searle (1969) to analyze the types of illocutionary acts uttered by Newt. Then, the analysis of the data based on the stage of data analysis by Miles & Huberman (1994) to process the data focused on the three steps, namely, data reduction, data display, and data conclusion.

This research enriched the knowledge and understanding of the variety of functions and classification of language in society. Based on Searle’s (1969) classification, some utterances that are uttered by Newt categorized as a part of representative because the speaker says something based on what he knows and what he believes. Some of the utterances classified as the subtype of informing because what the main character said is what he believes and he wants to inform somebody else about the case.

Usually, in a study of illocutionary acts, the acts that often occur are representative and directive. This evidenced by the existence of research from Oktaberia (2012), the result of the data analysis showed that the use of directive speech acts is more dominating in the form of order. Next research is by Surahman (2015), the result of this study revealed that representative is the dominant act used in the movie script, with 15 data. Based on the data findings, the current research suggests that the most dominant acts uttered by the main character “Newt” in the movie is representative with 78 data.

This can be concluded that, in doing communication, people usually say something based on what they believe and sometimes people like to inform somebody else about something being the case, according to Searle (1969), this is a part of representative type. This not much different as in a movie, in a movie, the characters also do the same dialogue as people do in the daily life interaction. Sometimes people also make a hearer to do something in the future by an utterance and based on Searle’s (1969) speech acts classification, this belongs to the directive type.
5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the research finding and discussion about the types of illocutionary acts dominantly used by the main character in Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald movie, the current research confirmed that, all the types of illocutionary acts are used by the main character in this movie. It has 78 acts representative, 26 of the directive, 18 of expressive, and 1 of declarative, with the total acts of 131 acts. It can be indicated that in his utterances, Newt presented more illocutionary acts of representative than other acts, and then directive in the second place, followed by expressive, commissive and declarative with the least type that rarely used.

6. REFERENCES


