

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Research

Throughout human life, language appears as an influential tool of communication. Language is never excluded from every aspect of human life along with its role. The role of language as communication tool enables every language user to communicate freely. However, language cannot always contribute to the avoidance of misunderstanding and ineffectiveness in communication. Those communication failures still occur when a speaker is unable to clearly convey an utterance and the interlocutor cannot comprehend the implied meaning. Accordingly, the inability to convey an utterance and grasp the implied meaning causes misunderstanding and ineffectiveness in communication.

To avoid communication failures, language users need to understand pragmatics as a study of contextual meaning. A language user cannot understand the nature of language unless the language user understands pragmatics as the study of how language is uttered in communication (Leech, 1983). It emphasizes that pragmatics needs to be comprehended to establish effective communication. The study has speech acts as the thing that cannot be excluded from communication. In speech acts, illocutionary acts involves a classification that is particularly performed to direct an interlocutor to take action is directive acts. Directive acts is performed when a speaker expects an interlocutor to take action. Fact that is conveyed by a speaker to cause a hearer to do something is directive acts (Searle,1979). It infers that a speaker delivers directive acts to direct an

interlocutor to do something. As specified by Searle (1979), the types of directive acts are ask, order, command, request, beg, plead, pray, entreat, invite, permit, and advise. Those are the directive acts types, which a speaker uses to get an interlocutor to do an action. The impossibility arises when an interlocutor does as intended without requiring a speaker to perform directive acts. To have an action fulfilled, a speaker needs to perform directive acts. Directive acts is useful since the performances allow the speaker to attain desire by influencing other hearers to carry out the action (Perez & Hernandez, 2021). Therefore, directive acts is indeed important to comprehend and the importance also led to the selection of directive acts as the object of this research.

The phenomena of directive acts are widespread in daily utterance. Directive acts is performed for the rest of lives and used on the daily basis (Perez & Hernandez, 2021). In daily utterance, there is virtual communication as communication that grows in popularity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The use of virtual communication is required to reduce physical interaction. It also causes the offline learning should be shifted to online learning by implementing a virtual meeting platform. Consequently, the teaching-learning process requires the lecturer to ensure everything by virtual. Following is the performance of directive act discovered in online class.

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Lecturer | : “I’ve already shared screen my slide. <b>Can you see it on your screen</b> , class?”   |
| Students | : “Yes, sir.”  |
| Lecturer | : “Okay, then. Okay let’s just begin our TPKE class this evening. We are already in fifth meeting and continuing the thing that we have already discussed so far. This evening we are going to look at the third chapter of your thesis or for some of you, third chapter of your proposal.” |

The utterance above was delivered during one of online classes conducted to Microsoft Teams. There had a lecturer and students, who attended the online class. The lecturer as the speaker mentioned the utterance to ask about the visibility of the slide that the speaker had just shared on the screen. The question that the speaker uttered was explicitly stated to get the answer from the interlocutors. The the interlocutors responded by answering that the slide could be seen. Because of the intention, it highlights that the speaker presented the performance of ask. As determined by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), directive act of ask is performed when a speaker intends to get an answer from hearer. Accordingly, the speaker performed the directive act of ask because the utterance was used to get an answer about the visibility of slide.

Besides virtual communication, face-to-face communication also includes directive acts. Indeed, social media is well-known for connecting people, exchanging ideas, providing information, and connecting with users virtually. In contrast, social media also has face-to-face communication that a speaker and an interlocutor establish. Then, it is further uploaded to various platforms of social media. One of social media platforms is YouTube, which enables its users to upload and watch videos. Directive act occurred on the YouTube channel of Master Chef World as a cooking competition broadcasted on television that has its international versions. The phenomenon of directive acts specifically appeared in the Master Chef Canada series entitled "Joe Bastianich Critiques Italian Dishes" YouTube video published on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. In that video, the directive acts was

performed by a guest judge named Joe Bastianich to a contestant named Marida.

The performance of the directive act is as shown in the conversation below.

Joe : **“Okay, Marida. Tell about the dish.”**  
 Marida : “I did Mediterranean Calamari... a little bit of roti and olives and fresh parsley.”

(World, 2019)

The utterance was mentioned in the minute of 02:00-02:10. It featured Joe as the speaker and Marida as the interlocutor. They were standing around other judges as the interlocutor’s dish would be tasted. The utterance was produced after the interlocutor put the dish on the table. As the guest judge, the speaker commanded the interlocutor to explain the dish that she cooked. In this case, the speaker had the power to direct the interlocutor seeing that the speaker was the judge of the competition. After hearing the command, the interlocutor did as commanded by mentioning Mediterranean Calamari, little bit of roti, olives, and fresh parsley as the ingredients of the dish. Therefore, the utterance shows that there is the directive act of command. In agreement with Searle and Vanderveken (1985), command requires a speaker to have authority in order to influence a listener. On the whole, the speaker performed the directive act of command as the speaker had the power or authority to control the interlocutor.

Directive acts is also performed in talk show published on YouTube. As examined by Sasanaputra and Mubarak (2021), directive acts appeared in several videos of “The Late Late Show with James Corden” YouTube channel. One of the videos was “Spill Your Guts or Fill Your Guts w/ The Jonas Brothers” and it had James Corden as the person who interviewed Nick, Kevin, and Joe Jonas. The interview was done by playing a game named “Spill Your Guts or Fill Your

Guts”. James, Nick, Kevin, and Joe Jonas played the game by spinning wheel to find out what food that the guest stars had to eat. However, if the guest stars could answer the question, they did not need to eat the food. The conversation between the host and guests during the game is as follows.

James Corden : **“Can we bring a milk for Joe, please.”**  
 Crew : [Brought three glasses of milk]  
 (Sasanaputra & Mubarak, 2021)

The speaker named James Corden conveyed the utterance to the crew as the interlocutor in the minute of 06:23-06:33. The utterance was produced when the guest star named Joe could not answer the speaker's question. By not answering the question, the guest star had to drink chili pepper smoothies. Then, the speaker requested the interlocutor to bring milk before the guest star started drinking the smoothies. Because the speaker only requested, the interlocutor could refuse to do the action. The interlocutor did not answer the request, but the interlocutor brought three glasses of milk. The intention of the speaker made that the speaker used the directive act of request. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) defined that directive act of request allows the interlocutor to reject or accept to do the action. Referring to the explanation, it reveals that the speaker performed directive act of request to request the interlocutor.

Being regarded as an advantageous media, mass media also include directive acts. The media is designed to provide both information and entertainment. Because of the roles, there is a connection between mass media and society. The connection is built through movies, television, newspapers, and others. Movie as the mass media that reach large numbers of people performs

directive acts. A movie entitled “Get Out” is a movie that has the performance of directive acts. This movie is an American horror movie written and directed by Jordan Peele. It follows Chris Washington as an African-American man, who revealed a mysterious secret of the Armitage family. The family did the brain transplantation to the bodies of young African Americans. Curiosity, confusion, and hypnosis are the things that cause the various types of directive acts in the movie. Following is the conversation that shows directive act in the movie.

Officer Ryan : “Sir..? **Can I see your license, please?**”  
 Rose : “Wait, why?”  
 Chris : “Oh... Yeah. I have a state I.D”

(Peele, 2017)

The utterance above was conveyed in the minute of 00:12:26-00:12:31. It involved Officer Ryan as the speaker and Chris as the interlocutor. The interlocutor and her girlfriend were on the way to visit the family, but his girlfriend unintentionally hit a deer. It caused them to stop the car in the woods. There was the speaker, who approached them and talked to the interlocutor. The speaker desired to see the driver’s license of the interlocutor, even though the interlocutor was the person who drove the car. To be permitted to see a driver’s license, the speaker uttered the utterance to interlocutor. Relating to the response, the interlocutor tried to show his state ID, but speaker was not permitted by the interlocutor’s girlfriend to see it. From the utterance, it implies that that there is the directive act of permit. As emphasized by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), permit is performed for asking permission to make a speaker is allowed to do a certain thing. Thus, it proves that the directive act type in the utterance above is permit as the speaker permitted to see the driver’s license.

Aside from the directive acts types, directive acts also has its forms. Kreidler (1998) argued that imperative, interrogative, and declarative are the directive acts forms. Similar to the previous conversation, the conversation below was also produced in the “Get Out” movie. The conversation that has directive act in the movie is as shown below.

|       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| Missy | : | <b>“Can you hear the TV? What do you hear?”</b> |
| Chris | : | “Rain.”   |
| Missy | : | “Rain. It was raining.”                         |

(Peele, 2017)

The utterance above was produced during the minute of 00:32:58-00:33:05. It had Missy as the speaker and Chris as the first interlocutor. The speaker and the interlocutor were in the living room. At that time, the speaker was hypnotizing interlocutor. Seeing that the speaker desired to get an answer, the speaker asked a question by producing the utterance. The utterance above includes the modal verb ‘can’ that appears at the beginning of the utterance. The modal verb at the beginning is functioned to ask the confirmation about hearing the sound of rain. The utterance is also ended with a question mark (?), which shows that the utterance is a question. It implies that the utterance appears in the form of interrogative. As emphasized by Kreidler (1998), interrogative sentence refers to the sentence that appears to ask a question. Referring to the explanation, it clarifies that the speaker performed directive act in the form of interrogative.

Numerous researchers have explored directive acts. In this chapter, the researcher provided two previous research of directive acts. The first research was examined by Fitria (2019). The researcher discovered the types and the most frequently conveyed type of directive acts that the characters produced in a movie

entitled “Koi Mil Gaya”. The data was taken from the movie entitled “Koi Mil Gaya”. The researcher used the theory of Searle (1979) regarding the directive acts types. The findings showed that command, suggest, and request were produced in the movie. Further, the type of command was the most frequently produced directive act in the movie.

Another research was done by Azizah, Suparno, and Supriyadi (2020). The researchers determined the directive acts types in the utterances of an English teacher of eighth-grade class. Also, this research analyzed the directive acts types in utterances that the teacher delivered to four students in the classroom. In analyzing the data, the researchers applied the theory discovered out by Searle (1979). The results found that the teacher frequently conveyed the directive acts of command and request in utterance. Command became the most commonly produced due to the teacher’s role in teaching.

Both previous and present research has similarity and dissimilarity. In light of the similarity, the previous and present research used the theory developed by Searle (1979) to analyze the directive acts types. In addition to the theory, this research added the explanation of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) because the definition of each type of directive acts was further explained by Searle and Vanderveken (1985). The combination of those theories was done as the expert is still John Rogers Searle. Besides directive acts types, this present research also identified the directive acts forms. It was identified by using the theory of directive acts forms discovered by Kreidler (1998).



Relating to the dissimilarity, the present and previous research used the different data source. This present research took “Get Out” movie as the data source. It was chosen because there were many utterances that involved directive acts in the movie and the performance is important to be performed by the characters, especially the main character to reveal secret. The important roles of directive acts can be seen from the situation that the characters uttered directive acts in the movie. Furthermore, the phenomena of directive acts in the background led the researcher to propose the research entitled “An Analysis of Directive Illocutionary Acts Performed in “Get Out” Movie: Pragmatics Approach.”

### **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

Problems mentioned in the background are as follows:

1. The existence of misunderstanding and ineffectiveness in communication.
2. The discovery of directive illocutionary acts in daily utterance.
3. The directive illocutionary acts as existed in social media.
4. The directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.
5. The types of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.
6. The forms of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Following are the limitation of the problem:

1. The types of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.
2. The forms of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.

#### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

In accordance with the background, there are two main problems as formulated below:

1. What are the types of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie?
2. What are the forms of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie?

#### **1.5 Objectives of the Research**

The objectives of this research are as presented below:

1. To find out the types of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.
2. To find out the forms of directive illocutionary acts performed in “Get Out” movie.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

##### **1. Theoretical Significance**

This research theoretically has several significant purposes. The first is this research is hoped to provide a broader comprehension of linguistics, especially directive acts for readers. The second is this research is also hoped to enrich experience and knowledge regarding the inclusion of materials towards scientific research of directive acts. The last is this research is expected to be a worthy comparison and reference for the relevant research that will be conducted.

## 2. Practical Significance

This research is practically hoped to be essential for several purposes. The first is speakers and interlocutors can comprehend all directive acts types and forms. By comprehending all types and forms, there will be no misunderstanding in regard to directive acts. The misunderstanding will not occur because speakers and interlocutors can understand the implied meaning of the directive acts. The second is speakers can perform the appropriate directive acts, which are in accordance with the intention that the speakers want to show by uttering utterances. The last is interlocutors can reveal the intention of the speaker in performing directive acts.

### 1.7 Definition of Key Terms

- Pragmatics** : Study of invisible meaning or related to how language users understand the speaker meaning without having said or written by the speaker (Yule, 2014).
- Illocutionary Acts** : Type of speech acts that relates to the performance of a certain linguistic function, which specifically in line with the intention of the speaker (Searle, 1979).
- Directive Illocutionary Acts** : Classification of illocutionary acts that is conveyed by a speaker to influence a hearer to do a particular action (Searle, 1979).