

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Research

Language is a communication tool used by everyone in their daily life. The use of language enables people to convey information and expressions to another communication partner. Regarding information, a speaker provides information by delivering everything that is desired to be communicated. Language delivers expression by expressing the speaker's feeling about particular thing or a person. The role of language is impossible to be experienced if there is no interaction between one another. A speaker and hearer as the two parties have to interact in order to make the information and feelings are well delivered. However, all utterances have implied meaning that cannot be found out without context. By interpreting the meaning based on context, the utterance meaning will be in line with speaker meaning.

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistic that finds out meaning by interpreting the context. It is the study of contextual meaning, or how we recognize what is meant even when it is not actually said or written (Yule, 2005). Hence, the study of contextual meaning in communication between speaker and hearer is known as pragmatics. Moreover, as a speaker or hearer, it necessitates that individuals comprehend the conversation's underlying meaning. There will be misunderstanding in a conversation or communication if the interlocutor do not understand the implicit meaning Pragmatics often occurs when the speaker conveys utterances to the hearer. In contrast, it is possible to produce utterances that cause

ambiguity to the hearer. Misunderstanding or failure occurs because the listener is not able to absorb what is meant by the speaker. It can be defined as the difference between the recipient's pragmatic expectations and the message's real pragmatic force. As said by Grice (1975), the benefit of learning a language pragmatically is that it enables you to ascertain other people's intents, aims, and sorts of behaviors when they communicate. Therefore, the use of appropriate communication in social circumstances is referred to as pragmatic language.

In fact, being unable to interpret what is being said, which frequently results in misunderstanding or ambiguity, is the failure of pragmatics. It cannot state that the pragmatic force of an utterance is incorrect, however it failed to reach the speaker's goal. The existence of a speech act is needed in analyzing errors. As described by Searle (1969), in general, the meaning of the phrase affects the speech or actions that are made during sentence utterances. In speech acts theory, illocutionary speech act is a subcategory. Illocutionary suppression happens when the hearer fails to perceive the speaker's illocutionary goals; the hearer does not understand what the speaker is attempting to accomplish with her words, and therefore the speech act fails.

When these structures enable speech by enabling the speaker to make commitments to the listener, the phenomenon of commissive speech actions takes place. The study derived by Searle & Vanderveken, (1985), that the following English commissive are commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, consent, refuse, bid, assure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, bet. The speaker undertakes the world to fit the words when utilizing commissive.

The phenomena of commissive speech acts that researcher was found in the Instagram post. The researcher found the phenomenon in Instagram application that taken from celebrity feeds named Selena Gomez. It was posted on March 22nd, 2022. It was found the utterance which contain of commissive speech acts in her caption feeds.

Selena Gomez : " **Our first initiative for @officialwondermind will be an email newsletter dedicated to taking time for your mind!**"

Commentator : "CAN'T WAIT"

In the above phenomenon, Selena informed that the account is planning to send an email newsletter to give some pleasure for the fan's mind. The commentator replied with caps lock. Hearer's responses were expressing the feeling of his impatience. This response indicated that Selena's utterance illustrates the existence of a commissive speech acts. It included the act of commissive action, namely offer. An offer is a promise that is conditional on the acceptability of the hearer (Searle & Vanderveken, 1989).

Additionally, the researcher of this research found another issue in Instagram application that taken from the same celebrity feeds named Selena Gomez. It was posted on March 25th, 2022. In her caption feeds, utterances with commissive speech acts were discovered.

Selena Gomez: " **Season 2 of @OnlyMurdersHulu is coming June 28!**"

Fans: "The best show is back."

Selena is the famous American singer and actress. Selena played the character of Mabel Mora in the TV series Only Murders. Selena informed her fans that season 2 would be showing. It included the act of commissive, namely assure. To assure is to agree to something in the future while pretending someone else will do it and thinking the listener will reluctant (Searle & Vanderveken, 1989).

Aside from Instagram post, another phenomenon can be caught on Netflix tv series that taken from "Never Have I Ever". The main tv series role is Maitreyi Ramakrishnan as Devi Vishwakumar. Never Have I Ever tells the story of Devi that

she wants to improve her social standing following a horrible first year in terms of her social standing, but her friends, family, and feelings make it difficult for her. She will be attending a school next year and attempting to deal with her loss as well as her Indian-American heritage. It released on April 27, 2020. It was found the utterance which contains of commissive illocutionary speech acts in the TV series. Kamala: “Devi, I made you a lunch!”

Devi: **“I don’t bring lunch on Tuesdays. It’s square pizza day”**. (30:01 – 30:02)

In above conversation, Kamala as a speaker and Devi as a hearer both produces utterances. It started with Kamala made a lunch for her cousin. She offers it to Devi. Then, Devi responded was refusing Kamala's lunch because today she ate pizza and she didn't bring lunch on Tuesday. The utterances of both belong to the acts of commissive illocutionary speech acts. As stated by Searle & Vanderveken (1989), refuse is negative counterparts to accept someone.

Comprehension of commissive illocutionary speech acts is require because humans frequently face issues communicating through language in spoken or written communication. Daily speech, speech, interviews, discussion shows, and other settings are all good places to look for utterances of commissive illocutionary speech acts. Therefore, commissive are speech acts employed by speakers to commit oneself to subsequent activities. It is described as a discourse that bears the speaker's endorsement or action.

Briefly, the phenomenon related to the commissive illocutionary speech acts can be in a Netflix TV series that taken from “Never Have I Ever”. It tells the story of Devi that she wants to improve her social standing following a horrible first year in terms of her social standing, but her friends, family, and feelings make it difficult for her. She will be attending a school next year and attempting to deal with her loss as well as her Indian-American heritage. It released on April 27, 2020. It was found the utterance which contains of commissive illocutionary speech acts in the TV series.

“TV series” and “movie” are both synonyms for “motion picture”. Movies have to be understood essentially as media of communication (Flick, 2014). In the

other hand, the film is an audio-visual communication tool that describes social activities therefore that it is easy to understand the message content in the film. Furthermore, although the film is engineered, the script in the film is made in such a way that it resembles the actual situation. Hence, by observing how the structure of the film works, conversations can be found.

Many writers have looked at Searle (1969) theory of commissive speech acts. Desica and Ambalegin (2021) studied commissive speech acts in *Onward* movie by Dan Scanlon. The researchers discovered the types of commissive speech acts that occurred in *onward* movie such as promising threatening, accepting, refusing and offering. The discussion was appropriate with acts of commissive speech acts that uttered Ian and the result is he often used the act of refusal.

Yédia & Servais (2022) identified the utilization of speech acts in the utterances of “Frank Ogodo Oghebece's Harvest of Corruption book”. The data consisted of movie utterances that were analyzed using Searle’s theory. The researcher have found one type of commissive speech acts namely commit. In other words, generating an utterance constitutes a speech act. The results illustrated how the frequency distribution of the speech acts in the extract is similar and different. In Extract 1, commissive acts are ranked third, but second in Extract 2.

Previous study has shown that the commissive speech act is used in a number of situations. Commissive speech acts is one of the subjects that can be studied in pragmatics from movies because everyone uses it in their daily activities to interact with others and convey their emotions through different types of dialogue. In this case, this present research focused on the commissive speech act in the “Never

Have I Ever” TV series. The reason of the researcher chooses Never Have I Ever series is because the utterances between Devi, her mother, her friends, and cousin contain of future action. This investigation, same as the previous study, employs Searle theory (1969). In this research is the data source will be from the TV series between Devi, social background and school life. The researcher will identified the commissive speech acts from the dialogue. The objective of this research, as stated above, is to analyze and explore the types of commissive speech acts and forms of sentences uttered by the characters in the TV series.

Nowadays people watch TV series and there is a lot of reasons why people watch television for example some people watch it for entertainment, some to get the news and catch up on what is happening in the world, and some watch it to waste time. However, people do not know that there is knowledge or lessons to be learned in it. According to Flick (2014) stated that TV and movies was a media of communication that show us their world without needing any imagination or thought; we simply get to see someone else's life. The researcher took the “Never Have I Ever” TV series as a data source because it reflected in the social life.

According to previous research above, the theory was used to the data source to analyze the types of commissive illocutionary speech act. Because this research will use the "Never Have I Ever" TV series, the future action was in the data source. Therefore, the researcher interested in conducting research entitled **“An Analysis of Commissive Illocutionary Speech Acts in “Never Have I Ever “TV Series: Pragmatics Approach”**.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

On the basis of the research's context, there are a number of issues that can be recognized based on the background, including:

1. The misunderstanding utterance occurs in communication in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.
2. Phenomena of the commissive illocutionary speech acts in daily life from “Never Have I Ever” TV series.
3. Factor of commissive illocutionary speech acts applied in “Never Have I Ever” TV” series.
4. The acts of commissive illocutionary speech acts delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.
5. The forms of sentences delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever TV” series.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The analysis was the subject of the limitation as a result of the research identification. The restriction, as can be seen, is focused on two main concerns.

1. The acts of commissive illocutionary speech acts delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.
2. The forms of sentences delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The problem's limitation led to the development of research questions. Questions based on the limitation of the following research problem:

1. What are the acts of commissive illocutionary speech acts delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series?
2. What are the forms of sentences delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

This research was finally created to solve research problems and focus on achieve a goal. The aims of this research are:

1. To discover the acts of commissive illocutionary speech acts delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.
2. To discover the forms of sentences delivered by characters in “Never Have I Ever” TV series.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

This research theoretically serves a number of important purposes. The first is this research is hoped to broaden the understanding of how employing utterances to carry out some intentions, mainly commissive illocutionary speech acts for reader. The second is this research also aims to develop understanding and knowledge in the area of incorporating materials into scientific studies of

commissive illocutionary speech acts. The last is this research is hoped to be a reference in analyzing data for the pertinent research that will be organized.

2. Practical Significance

This research is expected to be crucial for a number of reasons. The first is that speakers and interlocutors can understand all acts and forms of illocutionary commissive illocutionary speech acts. There will be no misunderstandings about commissive illocutionary speech acts if all acts and forms are understood. The second is speakers are capable of doing the appropriate commissive illocutionary acts in accordance with the intended outcome. The last is the speaker aimed in executing commissive illocutionary acts can be revealed by interlocutors.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Pragmatics : Pragmatics is allows you to examine people's supposed meanings, assumptions, intentions or aims, and the manner in which they interact when they communicate.

Speech Act : Beyond just using words or phrases, a speaker always has a purpose in mind. This is an aspect of pragmatics. Speech acts are the functions that the produced utterances carry out. Language-based activities are a component of every communication.

Illocutionary Act : The minimal units of human communication are speech acts of a type. Some examples of these are statements, questions, commands, promises and apologies.

Commissive Speech Acts : Speakers utilize these acts of speech acts to commit themselves to a future action. The following English commissive are commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, consent, refuse, bid, assure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, bet.