

**AN ANALYSIS OF COMMISSIVE ILLOCUTIONARY
SPEECH ACT IN “AFTERMATH” MOVIE:
PRAGMATIC APPROACH**

THESIS



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PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY**

2023

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
English Sarjana Sastra**



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APPROVAL PAGE

**AN ANALYSIS OF COMMISSIVE ILLOCUTIONARY
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THESIS

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Sarjana Sastra (S1)**

By:

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ABSTRAK

Dalam bertutur, penutur tidak sekedar menghasilkan ujaran, tetapi setiap ujaran memiliki kekuatan untuk menimbulkan efek pada pendengar. Tindak tutur komisif diujarkan oleh penutur untuk mengikatkan dirinya pada tindakan yang akan datang. Film "Aftermath" dipilih sebagai sumber data karena mengandung fenomena tindak tutur komisif. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tindakan dan fungsi komisif berdasarkan teori Searle dan Vanderveken (1985) dan Leech (1983). Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Dalam mengumpulkan data, penelitian kualitatif ini menggunakan metode observasi karena peneliti mengamati penggunaan bahasa berdasarkan konteks dan ujaran. Teknik mencatat digunakan untuk mendapatkan data mentahan. Dalam menganalisis data, penelitian ini menggunakan metode mengidentifikasi secara pragmatis dan teknik penyamaan untuk menyamakan data dengan teori. Hasil penelitian ini disajikan secara naratif dan deskriptif. Peneliti menemukan sebelas tindakan dari tujuh belas tindakan komisif dan empat fungsi komisif. Tindakan tersebut adalah melakukan, menjanjikan, mengancam, bersumpah, menerima, menyetujui, menolak, menawarkan, menawar, menjamin, dan bertaruh. Tindakan menolak adalah yang paling banyak diujarkan oleh karakter dalam film. Itu karena sebagian besar karakter bermaksud menolak tawaran yang diberikan oleh karakter lain. Selain itu, fungsi yang ditemukan adalah kompetitif, konflikatif, konvivial, dan kolaboratif. Fungsi yang paling sering diujarkan adalah konvivial. Ini menunjukkan bagaimana karakter sering mengungkapkan kesantunan dalam ucapan mereka. Keenam tindakan komisif lainnya yang tidak ditemukan dalam penelitian ini yaitu berjanji, berikrar, bergaransi, menjamin, mengontrak dan melakukan perjanjian karena tokoh-tokoh dalam film "Aftermath" lebih banyak mengalami perasaan cemas dan mendalami misteri di dalam rumah dibandingkan membuat perjanjian dan sumpah.

Kata kunci: Pragmatik, Tindak tutur komisif, Ujaran

ABSTRACT

In speaking, the speakers do not just produce utterances, but each utterance has a power to have effect on the hearers. Commissive act is uttered by speakers to commit themselves to the future actions. The “Aftermath” movie was chosen as data source because it contained the phenomena of commissive acts. This research aimed at identifying the acts and functions of commissive based on the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) and Leech (1983). This research used qualitative research. In collecting data, this qualitative research applied observational method because the researcher observed the use of language based on the context and utterances. The note-taking technique was used to get the raw data. In analyzing data, this research used the pragmatic identity method and the pragmatic competence in equalizing technique to equalize the data with the related theory. The results of this research were presented narratively and descriptively. The researcher discovered eleven acts out of seventeen commissive acts and four functions of commissive. The acts were commit, promise, threaten, swear, accept, consent, refuse, offer, bid, assure, and bet. The refuse act was the most performed by the characters in the movie. It was because the characters mostly intended to refuse an offer given by other characters. Besides, the functions found were competitive, conflictive, convivial, and collaborative. The most commonly uttered function was convivial function. It demonstrated how the characters frequently expressed politeness in their utterances. The other sixth commissive acts that were not found namely pledge, vow, guarantee, warrant, contract and covenant since the characters in the “Aftermath” movie mostly experienced a feeling of anxiety and explore some mystery inside the house rather than making agreements and vows.

Key words: Pragmatics, Commissive acts, Utterances

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

MOTTO

“Embrace the Journey, Empower the Mind”

DEDICATION

I dedicated this thesis to my family who always encourage and love me.

I also dedicated this thesis to the readers who read this research.

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First and foremost, all praises are delivered to almighty God for His grace blessings, and strength so the researcher can complete this thesis entitled "An Analysis of Commissive Illocutionary Speech Act in "Aftermath" Movie: Pragmatic Approach" for the requirements to complete the undergraduate study program (S1) in the English Literature Study Program, University of Putera Batam.

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The researcher apologizes for all mistakes made along the studies and also the researcher hopes this thesis would be useful for the readers.

Batam, 23 Agustus 2023



Cindy Erika Damanik

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

People interact with each other through language. Language is the foundation of human communication. Language is essential because it allows individuals to express feelings and ideas effectively. In social life, speaker and hearer generally communicate to express their feelings and ideas. On the other hand, the speaker and hearer still can face misunderstanding in communication. It often occurs in daily life if the speaker cannot clearly express the utterance and the interlocutor cannot understand the implied meaning of the utterance. Hence, understanding the implied meaning of utterance helps to create the effective communication.

Study the relation between language and context that is basic to an account of language understanding is pragmatics (Levinson, 1983). It means that pragmatics is one of the fields of linguistics that specializes in the relationship between language and speech context. To determine the meaning of a certain utterance, context should be discovered because each utterance can have different meaning. According to Searle (1969), the basic unit of linguistics communication is speech act. It has connection to the speaker's meaning, context, speaker's intention, hearer's interpretation, and rules for uttering specific elements of linguistic. The speech act is performed in the form of utterance to convey information and to deliver specific elements of linguistics.

In linguistics, a speech act refers to the act of communication performed by the speakers when they use language, not only conveying information but also performing various actions through their utterances. There are three kinds of speech acts namely locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts (Austin, 1962, p. 102-103). One of the speech acts kinds that attracts attention of the researcher is illocutionary acts. Illocutionary act is an act performed when a speaker says something. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) said that illocutionary acts occur when a speaker says something in a specific context for a specified purpose. Searle (1979, p.viii) mentioned there are five categories of illocutionary acts, namely assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. One of the illocutionary acts categories that was analyzed in this research is commissive acts. Commissive acts is uttered by the speakers to commit themselves to a certain future course of actions. The acts of commissive are commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, consent, refuse, offer, bid, assure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, and bet (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.192).

The phenomena of commissive speech act exist on social media. Social media is dealt to socialize and communicate with others. People tend to discuss and express anything connected to a future action in the middle of a conversation. The conversation below was found on YouTube channel of Late Night with Seth Meyers entitled “Jud Apatow Had to Write a Love Scene for His Wife and David Duchovny”. It was published on April 6th, 2022. Seth Meyers was a host and Judd Apatow was a guest. The phenomenon of commissive illocutionary act occurred as follows.

- Judd : “You know, I’m going to do a soft-cover version where I add more interviews.”
 Seth : “Oh, wow.”
 Judd : “You know we could do a little piece of it now. So, **we’ll just do a little bit of the interview.**” (00:01:42-00:02:09)
 Seth : “Okay, great.”

That dialogue happened during the talk show in a television studio. The utterance was said by a speaker named Judd to a hearer named Seth. The speaker firstly uttered that he was going to do a soft-cover version of the book which added more interviews. It indicated that the speaker wanted to do an interview with the hearer. The hearer was mesmerized by the speaker’s utterance. The speaker then promised to do an interview with the hearer. The hearer accepted the promise. As a result, the speaker took action to fulfill his promise which was doing an interview with the hearer. The speaker's utterance was classified as **promise** act. As stated by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), one who creates a promise is obligated to perform the action in the future. The function of that utterance was **convivial**. According to Leech (1983), promise acts tend to be **convivial** as they are delivered for the hearer’s benefit. The hearer received the benefit because after being interviewed by the speaker, the speaker put the hearer’s name in his soft-cover version of the book.

Another phenomenon was found on the YouTube channel of The Daily Show with Trevor Noah. The video was entitled “Daniel Ricciardo – The Taste of Victory” published on April 30th, 2022. In that video, a guest star named Daniel Ricciardo and a host named Trevor. Daniel Ricciardo is a professional racing driver from Australia. The following conversation is the performance of a commissive illocutionary act.

Trevor : “When you look forward to races, what are the ones you think, man I can’t wait to get back on the race track. You can’t say Australia. That’s home. Pick another one.”

Daniel : “And I’m not just saying this because we’re on American soil, but Austin. Like, I get so excited for Austin.”

Trevor : “Really? Why?”

Daniel : “**I Swear I have some like, some DNA, like Texan DNA in me or something.** I don’t know. I love it.” (00:07:04-00:07:30)

Trevor as the speaker asked Daniel as the hearer about what country he would like to visit as a race track instead of Australia. The hearer replied that he was so excited for Austin. Austin is a city in the United States located in the south, precisely in the state of Texas. Moreover, the speaker asked question why the hearer chose Austin. Then, the hearer produced a **swear** act to express the truth that he had Texan DNA in him. Swear refers to the expression of the speaker to tell the truth as his utterance will be relied on (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.188). In addition, the utterance above indicated a **collaborative** function. As defined by Leech (1983, p.105), collaborative function is indifferent to the societal goals and politeness is not relevant to this function. The expressions are reporting, asserting, instructing or announcing. Thereby, the hearer’s utterance was referred to collaborative function because it contained an expression of asserting.

The phenomena of commissive acts also occurs in artwork, such as movies. In this research, the “Aftermath” movie was taken to be specific phenomena. The movie released on August 4th, 2021. It was an American horror movie based on the true story and tells about the life of a married couple who decided to move into a house that has many mysteries. As agreed by Flick (2014, p.409), “analyzing movie is becoming increasingly important in a mediatized society”.

Movie is embedded in a situation where society communicates and associates because it is a media of communication. He also stated that movies are part of discursive and social practices which represent the situations and structures of society. Movie should be analyzed systematically through examination of the structures of movie texts, the circumstances of production as well as reception circumstances, and social contexts (Mikos as cited in Flick, 2014, p.409).

The specific phenomena of commissive acts can be found at the following conversation. Kevin became a speaker and Nathalie appeared as a hearer had a conversation inside their house. Kevin was going to purchase a luxury house that had been the site of a murder-suicide. He asked for permission from his wife to purchase it.

Kevin : “Uh, I want to run something past you. You have a minute?”
 Natalie : “Are you fucking insane?”
 Kevin : “No. I’m trying to heed the advice that we’ve been paying for. Just take a look at the house.”
 Nathalie : “**No, thank you.**” (00:10:02 – 00:10:07)

The speaker firstly told he wanted to run something past the hearer. The hearer became shocked with his utterance. Then, the speaker offered the hearer to take a glance at the house. The hearer finally refused the speaker’s offer. It was because the hearer did not want to move into the house that has been a murder-suicide place. Accordingly, the bold utterance was categorized as an act of **refusal**. Refusal is used to express someone’s rejection (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985). That utterance highlighted a **competitive** function as it was delivered with a forceful tone. It can be said this utterance reflects impoliteness. As stated by

Leech (1983), the competitive function is designed to compete with societal goals and considered impolite.

There is another specific phenomena found in the “Aftermath” movie that identifies the acts and functions of commissive. Following is the conversation between Kevin as the speaker and Natalie as the hearer.

Natalie: “And you have to go back to college. Kevin, I can’t watch you throw your life away anymore.”

Kevin : “Okay.”

Natalie: “Promise me.”

Kevin : “**I promise.**”

The dialogue showed up during the time set of (00:12:12 – 00:12:32) minutes. Kevin and Natalie were on the couch talking seriously. Natalie requested Kevin to continue his study. Then, Kevin accepted her request. Natalie asked Kevin to promise that he would actually do it. As a result, Kevin promised her and he fulfilled his promise. His utterance was categorized as **promise** act. Promise is an obligation stated by speaker with intention of performing future action (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985). Moreover, the function of the utterance is **convivial**. This was because Kevin politely promised Natalie to go back to college. Convivial function coincides with the societal goals and contains politeness (Leech, 1983).

The theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) had been analyzed previously by many researchers. Devi and Degaf (2021) investigated the commissive speech act types and functions uttered by the characters in the “Knives Out” movie. The qualitative descriptive method was taken to conduct the analysis of the research. The data were collected into the types of commissive speech acts based on Searle

and Vanderveken (1985)'s theory. The results of this research revealed the data of commissive speech acts were found such as guarantee, promise, offers, refuse, threat, and volunteers.

Virginia and Ambalegin (2022) identified the types of commissive speech acts uttered in "Senior Year" movie. The theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) was employed to examine the types of commissive speech act. The observational method and non-participatory technique were used to gather all the data. The results demonstrated the types of commissive acts including accept, threaten, promise, offer, and refuse. The most frequent type found was accept.

There are similarities and distinctions between prior and present research. Both prior and present research investigated commissive illocutionary speech act. In order to distinguish between the prior and present research, the researcher adopted two theories with different data source. The data source for this present research came from the "Aftermath" movie. This research aimed to identify the acts of commissive using the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) and to identify the functions of commissive illocutionary speech acts that were shown in the movie using theory of Leech (1983). As a result, the researcher attempted to conduct research entitled "An Analysis of Commissive Illocutionary Speech Act in "Aftermath" Movie: Pragmatic Approach."

1.2 Identification of the Problem

From the background of the above research, the research found several problems that can be analyzed as follows:

1. The importance of context to reveal the meaning of the utterances appeared in “Aftermath” movie.
2. The phenomenon of commissive illocutionary speech act appeared in “Aftermath” movie.
3. The acts of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie.
4. The functions of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The limitation of the problem is required to focus on the analysis some problems stated in the identification of the problem are as follows:

1. The acts of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie.
2. The functions of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

The main problems were formulated by the researcher as follows:

1. What are the acts of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie?
2. What are the functions of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

The researcher discovered the objectives of this research as follows:

1. To find out the acts of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” movie.
2. To figure out the functions of commissive illocutionary speech act performed by characters in “Aftermath” Movie.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

This research has some purposes theoretically. First, the results of this research are expected to increase knowledge about pragmatics studies specifically commissive acts. Second, this research is intended to be guidance for the readers in understanding the speech acts.

2. Practical Significance

There are some advantages of this research. First, this research will broaden the readers’ knowledge in linguistics, specifically commissive act. Second, the results of this research will assist the researchers in describing the phenomenon of commissive illocutionary acts that utilized movie as a data source. Third, the topic in this research will help the speaker and hearer to implement the expression of commissive act in daily activity such as promise, threaten, offer, swear.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Pragmatics : The study of pragmatics examines how language and context interact in ways that are essential to an account of language understanding (Levinson, 1983).

- Speech acts** : Speech acts are related to the utterance, meaning, and context (Searle, 1969).
- Illocutionary act** : Illocutionary acts occurs when a speaker says something in a specific context with a specific intent (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985).
- Commissive act** : Kind of speech acts that speakers perform to formally commit to a future course of action (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Pragmatics

Pragmatics is the study of the relations between language and context that are basic to an account of language understanding (Levinson, 1983). It means that pragmatics is one of the fields of linguistics, specializing in the assessment of the relationship between language and speech context. This means that pragmatics is a knowledge that deals with the meaning interpreted by listeners. As explained by Yule (1996), the field of pragmatics is concerned with the interpretation of what is meant by speakers in certain contexts and how that context affects the meaning of speech. Speech act is one of the fields studied in pragmatics.

As stated previously, pragmatics about the use of language to communicate by looking at the context of the goal. The study of pragmatics is closely related to the context of the speech situation at the time the utterance is spoken. The context of speech is very important in understanding the meaning of the utterance. Leech (1983) revealed that pragmatics is the study of meaning and its relationship to speech situations. Thus, the meaning studied in pragmatics is the meaning that is contextual or in other words examines the meaning of the speaker.

Pragmatics can be used by every speaker to understand the meaning of the interlocutor. Speakers and interlocutors can take advantage of shared experiences to facilitate interaction. Based on the opinion above, it can be concluded that pragmatics cannot be separated from language and context. Therefore, pragmatics

is a branch of linguistics that examines the use of language in communication to find out the meaning of speech conveyed by speakers to the interlocutor to produce clear information according to the context of speech.

2.1.1 Speech Act

Speech act is the theory that investigates the meaning of language based on the relationship between speech and actions performed by the speaker. A speaker performs speech act with the specific intent, which is completed by a hearer. According to Searle (1969), the basic unit of linguistics communication is speech act. It means the speech act have their own objectives, which refer to how individuals act through their speech. In addition, Austin (1962, p.102-103) divided speech acts into three kinds namely locutionary acts, illocutionary acts and perlocutionary acts.

According to Austin (1962, p.108), locutionary act is the act of producing a meaningful sentences with a certain sense and reference in the literal sense. Illocutionary act is uttering something that has a conventional force such as informing, ordering, threatening, warning, requesting, or swearing. Moreover, perlocutionary act is what we achieve by uttering something, such as convincing, persuading, deterring, and even, say, surprising or misleading. In conclusion, from all the three kinds of speech acts, this research only focused on illocutionary act.

2.1.2 Illocutionary Act

An illocutionary act is one of the speech acts that function both to say something and also known as the act of doing something (Austin, 1962). In speaking, speakers do not just produce utterances, but each utterance has a force

which aims to have effect on the hearer. These utterances can have the intention of promising, asking for help and so on depending on the speaker's intention which is interpreted by the hearer. According to Yule (1996), illocutionary force of an utterance is defined as illocutionary acts. This means that for every utterance produced, another act is performed within the utterance. Furthermore, Searle and Vanderveken (1985) said that illocutionary acts occur when something is said by a speaker in a particular context with a specific intent.

It can be concluded from the explanation above, that an illocutionary act is an utterance to state something in carrying out a real action. Illocutionary acts aimed to inform or express an action in the form of speech. When performing it, the speaker must say anything with significant meaning to the listener in regard to the context and situation. By analyzing illocutionary act, it might assist to comprehend the speaker's utterance in a certain situation. There are several kinds of illocutionary act namely commissive, expressive, directive, assertive, and declarative.

2.1.3 Commissive Illocutionary Speech Act

Commissive act is illocutionary acts that commit the speaker to some future course of action in differing degrees (Searle, 1979, p.14). It indicated the speaker's intention to accomplish something in the future. Someone may desire to accomplish something in the future by making a promise, threat, warning, or refusal. The actions can be performed by the speaker to self or acted as a part of a social group. Furthermore, Searle and Vanderveken (1985, p.37) also stated that commissive act is utterance that commits the speaker to carry out the future

actions: commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, consent, refuse, offer, bid, assure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, and bet.

2.1.3.1 Acts of Commissive Illocutionary Speech Act

As stated on the background of the research, the acts of commissive illocutionary speech act are commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, consent, refuse, offer, bid, assure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, bet (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, pp. 192-200).

A. Commit

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985), commit is the basic English verb for expressing commitment. It refers to the act of committing one's time, money, or commitment to a certain idea, person, or specific action.

B. Promise

A promise involves a special kind of commitment which is obligation. Promise always makes the speaker to do something for hearer's benefit. One who created a promise is obligated to perform the action in the future (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.192).

C. Threaten

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985), threaten act have several differences from promise act. First, the purpose of threaten act is not to benefit the hearer, but rather to harm. Second, there is no obligation. Third, threaten act is a hybrid verb which means one can threaten someone without delivering speech act by making threatening gestures toward someone. For example: **“Dogs can make**

threatening noise, and clouds can threaten bad weather.” (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.193)

D. Vow

Searle and Vanderveken (1985, p.193) mentioned that vow can do better performance in the future or to take revenge on opponents who are no longer around. A vow is a formal commitment to an act, obligation, or condition conveyed by someone to God or saint. The level of vow is stronger than a commitment because of its solemnity. For instance: **“I may simply vow to perform better in the future”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.193)

E. Pledge

Pledge is a solemn commitment to take action in the future (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.194). Pledge is similar to vow. However, the solemnity of vowing is not required for a pledge. Besides, pledge often involves a formal declaration to carry out a particular responsibility. For instance:

“We pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.” (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.194)

F. Swear

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985, p.188), swear has the stronger level than promise or pledge. Swear is a declaration of solemnity to the commitment or the assertion that invokes God or other religious entities. Further, swear is the ways of someone telling the truth since the utterance will be relied on to undertake certain actions in such belief.

G. Accept

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985), an offer, application, or invitation can be accepted or rejected, and in each case, acceptance binds the speaker in certain ways. When someone accepts something, it signifies that the acceptor has granted acceptance to the speaker to accomplish the commitments he has made. For instance: **“If you offer to sell me your house for \$100,000 and I accept, I am committed to buying your house for \$100,000. And even if you simply offer to wash my car and I accept, I am committed to letting you wash my car.”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.194)

H. Consent

Searle and Vanderveken (1985) claimed that consent is regarded as giving the permission to perform something with the condition that one has capability to say no and would not comply if not requested. For instance: **“When I consent to your proposal that you do something I give you permission to do it.”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.195)

I. Refuse

Refuse can be considered as the negative opposite of acceptance. According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985, p.195), the offers, invitations, and applications can be accepted or refused. The speaker's expression of denial with the requests, offers or invitations are illustrated as negative reaction. This negative reaction is called refusal. For instance : **“I refused the offer”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985)

J. Offer

Searle and Vanderveken (1985) claimed that offer is referred to a conditional commissive illocution. An offer is an expression of specific reason that requires acceptance by the hearer. When an offer is accepted by the hearer, it signifies that the speaker is committed to do something for the hearer.

K. Bid

Searle and Vanderveken (1985) determined that a bid is a highly specific and organized type of offer. Purchaser who makes the best offer will be the one who buys the item that has been offered for a sale. In this case, offers are called “bids”. Thus, a bid is an offer to purchase item at a specific price. For instance, **“When auctioneers say Sold, he is accepting the highest offer.”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.196)

L. Assure

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985), assure refers to commit someone to do action in the future with the intention of convincing the hearer while the hearer has doubts. In addition, assure is a way of giving confidence to the interlocutor about the truth of the utterances.

M. Guarantee

Guarantee is used to deliver a challenging speech act which is both assertive and commissive. As determined by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), a speaker who guarantees a specific object or certain condition will promise the hearer a compensation. After delivering a guarantee statement, the speaker must be responsible for performing the act. For instance:

“Exchange or repair if this turns out not to be the case.” (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.197)

N. Warrant

According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985, p.197), warrant is generally within a legal document, involved the properties and commercial items. It helps to secure the service or commercial products. Warranties are often associated with commercial products or service and exist in a legal context.

O. Contract

A contract is formed when a speaker and a listener establish conditional obligations that are dependent upon one another. As examined by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), contract is an legally binding agreement between two parties in a contract. For instance, **“Party A promises to do something for party B in return for which party B promises to do something for party A.”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.197)

P. Covenant

Searle and Vanderveken (1985) stated that a covenant is a legally binding contract that is more solemn, archaic, and dignified. It is preferred in both law and religion. In religion contexts, covenant is solemn agreement between God and individual. For instance, **“Covenant has the same meaning as contract in English, but it is more solemn, archaic, and dignified.”** (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.198)

Q. Bet

A bet occurs when the speaker agrees to do something (for example, pay a specific amount) if a specific event occurs, the listener commits to perform a certain thing. In the typical case of betting, where one party makes a bet with another party that means we have a similar mutuality. Accordingly, bets are joint conditional promises in which one participant's promise is the negation or opposite of the others (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985). For instance:

“I bet \$5.00 the giant will win” (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985, p.198)

2.1.3.2 Functions of Commissive Illocutionary Speech Act

Leech (1983, p.105) divided commissive illocutionary speech act functions into four categories namely competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive. The functions are described in the section below.

A. Competitive

As explained by Leech (1983), this function intends to compete with the societal goals including asking, ordering, begging, demanding. This function has the purpose to reduce the competition between what speaker wants and what is good attitude. An utterance can be considered impolite if it has the potential to make inconvenience to the hearer. For example: **“Getting someone to lend you money.”** (Leech, 1983, p.105)

B. Convivial

Leech (1983) claimed that the purpose of this function coincides with the societal goals. Positive politeness is included to express the speaker's attitude toward the hearer. Positive politeness encourages good manners and finds out

opportunities to develop a good relationship with society. The expressions are offering, inviting, greeting, thanking, and congratulating. Besides, offer, promise and vow acts tend to have convivial function as it is delivered for the hearer's benefit. For instance: **“If you have an opportunity to congratulate *h* on his 100th birthday, you should do so”** (Leech, 1983, p.105)

C. Collaborative

Leech (1983) stated that collaborative is indifferent toward the societal goals. Politeness does not include as it is not relevant to this function. Besides, this function can be found in written discourse. The expressions of collaborative namely reporting, asserting, announcing, and instructing.

D. Conflictive

As mentioned by Leech (1983), conflictive is meant to result in violations because it aims to conflicts with the societal goals. Politeness is not necessary as it is designed to cause offense or violation. Conflictive expressions are threatening, accusing, cursing and reprimanding. For example: **“The only way to make sense of the idea is to suppose that the speaker does so ironically.”** (Leech, 1983, p.105)

2.2 Previous Study

Gea and Johan (2020) determined the commissive speech act types uttered by Donald Trump's speech. The data source was taken from Donald Trump's utterances. This research aimed to discover the types of commissive and the functions of commissive speech act. The theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) was applied in their research. Moreover, the researchers used descriptive

qualitative as a research method. For the result, this research indicated eight types of commissive speech act namely promise, threaten, swear, guarantee, warrant, refuse, assure and vow.

Desica and Ambalegin (2021) analyzed the types of commissive speech act found in the “Onward” movie. The researchers used the “Onward” movie as data source. The researchers used theory proposed by Searle and Vanderveken (1985) for analyzing the types of commissive speech act. Moreover, the researchers used descriptive qualitative as a research method. For the result, the researchers discovered the types of commissive speech act, which were promising, threatening, accepting, refusing, and offering. The most dominant type found was refusing.

Rachman (2021) evaluated the commissive speech acts uttered by characters in the movie entitled "Hobbs and Shaw". The researcher applied theory developed by Searle and Vanderveken (1985). This descriptive qualitative research aimed to describe the linguistics feature's form of commissive act and its function uttered by the characters in Hobbs and Shaw's Movie. The results of this research found 6 linguistics feature's form of commissive act: must, will, can, would, want, and be going to. Moreover, the functions of commissive speech act was also found including information, capacity, compassion, invite, order, persuade, offering opinion, threaten, and ending conversation.

Nugraheni and Sari (2022) discovered types of commissive speech act uttered by characters in Cinderella movie. This research used a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the data. The researchers analyzed the utterances

based on the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985). The results of this study showed nine types of commissive speech act including refuse, threaten, promise, accept, offer, bet, commit, consent, and assure.

Sihotang and Ambalegin (2022) aimed at finding out the types of commissive speech act that characters applied in “Fractured” movie. The data source was taken from utterances said by the characters in the movie. The theory was applied based on theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985). Moreover, the researchers used descriptive qualitative as a research method. For the result, the types found in the movie were accept, promise, threaten, refusal, and offer. The most common types in “Fractured” movie was promise.

Dewi (2022) investigated the types and functions of commissive speech act in Joe Biden’s speeches. Furthermore, the researchers used the descriptive qualitative as a research method. This study aimed at discovering the types and functions of commissive speech acts in Joe Biden's speeches by using theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985), and found the types of direct or indirect speech acts used theory proposed by Yule (2017). The results of this study indicated 6 types of commissive speech act namely 2 data of commit, 12 data of promise, 4 data of refuse, 1 data of offer, 2 data of assure, and 1 data of guarantee. Then, direct speech acts with 2 data and indirect speech acts with 20 data were found on this study.

Widianingsih and Pratama (2023) aimed at examining the functions of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's speech on wiretapping. The utterances of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono were taken as data source. The data was analyzed based on

Searle (1969) theory. The result of this study showed that there were 6 types of commissive, including promise, threat, refusal, offer, volunteer, and guarantee. Whereas, there were 3 functions were found on this study, namely repairing and maintaining relationships, showing loyalty, and showing compassion.

As what demonstrated above, there are similarities between the previous and current research. The theories of Searle (1969) and Searle and Vanderveken (1985) were applied in both previous and current research. Both previous and current research focused on analyzing the commissive illocutionary speech act. Nonetheless, there are few differences between previous and current research. First, this present research used “Aftermath” movie 2021 as data source. Second, the theory of Leech (1983) was added to explore the functions of commissive acts delivered by characters in the movie. Third, this current research revealed eleven acts of commissive including commit, promise, threaten, swear, accept, consent, refuse, offer, bid, assure, and bet. Further, four functions of commissive was included in this research: competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive. The most frequently used in the movie was the refuse act and the convivial function.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

Pragmatic approach is employed to begin this research. This research used the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) to examine the acts of commissive illocutionary speech act and theory of Leech (1983) to analyze functions of commissive illocutionary speech act.

There are 17 acts of commissive: commit, promise, threaten, vow, pledge, swear, accept, assent, refuse, offer, bid, ensure, guarantee, warrant, contract, covenant, and bet. The functions of commissive illocutionary speech act are divided into four categories, competitive, convivial, collaborative and conflictive. Therefore, commissive illocutionary speech act theories are used to investigate the acts of commissive and the functions of commissive in the “Aftermath” movie (2021)

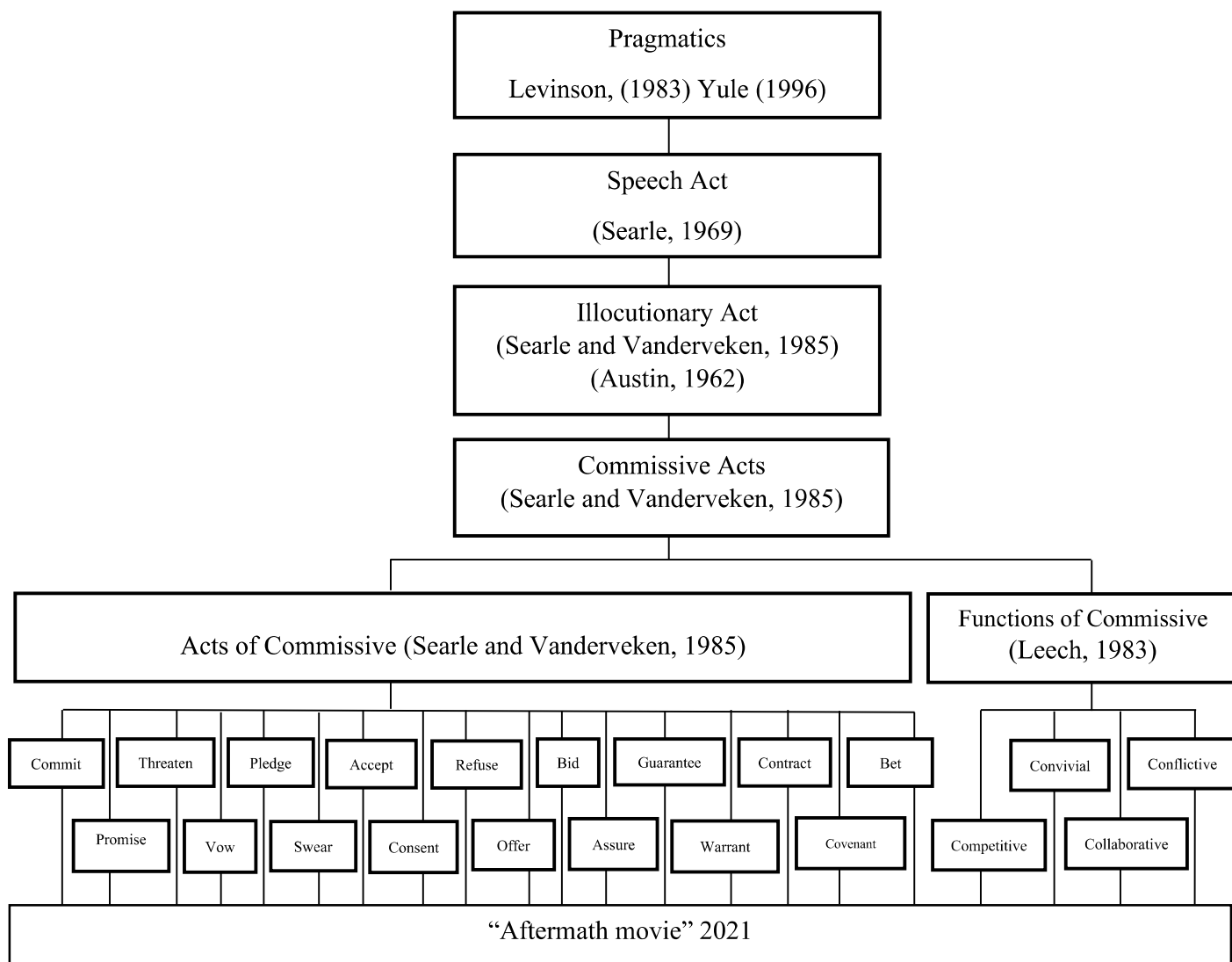


Figure 2.1 Theoretical Framework

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

Research design is certainly one of the most significant aspects of research. This research used qualitative research. According to Creswell (2013), qualitative research is conducted by a researcher as a certain phenomenon needs to be clarified in detail way. Qualitative research is a type of research that discusses social phenomena. Taking social phenomenon, looking for utterance meaning, and providing a detailed understanding become the main thing of qualitative (Leavy, 2017). Moreover, Taylor et al., (2016, p.7) claimed that the data in qualitative research used observable behavior and people's own written or spoken words as its primary sources of data. Therefore, this research applied the qualitative objective to gather the data from the spoken utterances found in the movie. Those utterances help the researcher to analyze the data based on the context of utterances in the form of written words.

The data in this research was collected from utterances, therefore only words and sentences that included. Relating to research result, the result came with words because it was explained descriptively. This research aimed to elaborate the acts of commissive and functions of commissive illocutionary speech acts in “Aftermath” movie. Hence, the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) was adopted to analyze the acts of commissive and theory of Leech (1983) was taken to analyze the functions of commissive illocutionary speech act.

3.2 Object of the Research

Object of the research is also the important part of every research. This research aimed to discover the acts of commissive and functions of commissive acts. The theories of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) and Leech (1983) were taken to analyze the acts and functions of commissive. This research focused on analyzing all characters' utterances in "Aftermath" movie. This movie refers to horror, thriller, mystery genre. It was directed by Peter Winther, starring Ashley Greene and Shawn Ashmore. The movie was released on August 2021. This movie tells the story of a husband and wife who decided to move into a luxury house that has been a site of murder-suicide. Therefore, various troubling events reveal the grim history of the house. The characters' utterances were used to identify the acts of commissive. After identifying the acts of commissive, the functions of commissive were discovered. Therefore, the "Aftermath" movie was chosen as data source due to existence of commissive acts utterances produced by all characters.

3.3 Method of Collecting Data

Data collection is the first step in the process of obtaining the data. The data in this research were taken from utterances because it is pragmatics research. Moreover, the data were collected through the application of observational method. As outlined by Sudaryanto (2015), observational method is used to gather the data by capturing and observing human activity and behavior via the use of language. In this research, the researcher observed the context and utterances of commissive acts. The observational method theorized by Creswell and Poth

(2018, p.232) was also employed. They determined that observational method is a way of taking notes on the phenomena in its natural environment using the researcher's five senses namely sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste.

The researcher provided data in the form of conversational text to identify and analyze raw data. As stated by Sugiyono (2013, p.224), the data collection is a crucial step in the research process as it can produce the standard data. Thereby, the researcher would not be able to get the standard data if does not have knowledge of data collection techniques. According to Neuman (2014, p.139), researchers may encounter a feeling of being swamped with a substantial volume of information during the process of conducting the research. Hence, the note taking technique is necessary to find the data. Taylor et al., (2016, p.170) declared that note-taking technique is used during process of data transcription by way of coding and analyzing.

Following the earlier discussions, the researcher applied certain steps when employing the observational method in this research. Initially, the researcher took part in watching the movie to capture the contexts through the sight sense. Subsequently, the researcher perceptively listened to the utterances through the hearing sense. Further, the researcher noted the movie script from start to finish. During such activity, the note-taking technique was adopted. Furthermore, the researcher highlighted and classified the utterances based on the acts and functions of the commissive illocutionary speech act. Thus, the coloring was applied to highlight the data. Lastly, a sense of taste was required to fully grasp the context and experience the situation in the movie.

3.4 Method of Analyzing Data

This research used pragmatic identity method to analyze the data. It was used because data analysis had the involvement of speaker, hearer, and context. This pragmatic identity method was used to analyze data if an utterance can produce the reaction from the hearer (Sudaryanto, 2015). This pragmatic identity method was relevant to this research because the researcher focused on analyzing the implied meaning based on the context and utterances produced by the speaker and the hearer. Besides, the researcher also used pragmatic competence in equalizing technique to analyze the collected data. Sudaryanto (2015, p.31) expressed that pragmatic competence in equalizing technique equalizes data with the related theory. Hence, the process of analyzing data was completed by equalizing the data of commissive acts in “Aftermath” movie with the theory proposed by Searle and Vanderveken (1985) and Leech (1983)

Before starting the analysis, the researcher applied coloring to highlight the data found. In order to highlight the acts of commissive, the researcher colored orange to symbolize commit, dark green to symbolize promise, light blue to symbolize threaten, purple to symbolize swear, chocolate to symbolize accept, grey to symbolize consent, red to symbolize refuse, olive green to symbolize offer, dark blue to symbolize bid, pink to symbolize assure, and dark teal to symbolize bet. Moreover, the researcher wrote down the functions of commissive and colored them such as; red to symbolize competitive, pink to symbolize convivial, teal to symbolize collaborative, and bright green to symbolize conflictive.

After determining the acts and functions, the researcher analyzed the context of the dialogue, which was describing the history of the events that led up to the utterances. After providing the context, the researcher cited a brief dialogue derived from the gathered data. Subsequently, the researcher equalized the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) in order to examine the acts of the commissive and equalize the theory of Leech (1983) in order to investigate the functions of commissive acts.

3.5 Method of Presenting Research Result

After analyzing the data, the last step of this research went to presenting research result. The informal method proposed by Sudaryanto (2015) was employed in this research. According to Sudaryanto (2015, p.241), informal method involves words in presenting the research result. The researcher analyzed the research result within words to make it easier in analyzing the data found. Furthermore, the results of the analysis were presented descriptively. Thereby, the results of this research were presented with words in order to give clear explanation to the readers.