

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

A language is a communication tool used by two or more people to carry out daily activities. Language is also very valuable for everyone who wants to interact because with the language they can channel their own opinions, feelings, and thoughts. Expressing opinions through language does not always help users to avoid misunderstandings in communication. Opinions that want to be conveyed through language must be stated clearly, this aims to be accepted and understood by others. To avoid these misunderstandings, both speakers and hearers need to understand pragmatics. Birner (2013) stated that pragmatics is a study that roughly describes a study of the use of language in context. The context is what helps in revealing the implied meaning. This explains that pragmatics requires the role of context in determining the meaning of an utterance.

However, someone who is communicating can express the attitude they want to convey, or indirectly they have shown the meaning of the utterance they want from the attitude. The attitude referred to here is when someone has expressed himself by making a speech act. Searle (1979) stated that the basic unit of language is speech acts or illocutionary acts themselves occur in the production of signs in the context of speech acts, not from words, types of sentences, or theories

Through pragmatics, language attracts people's interest in interactions by discovering the intentions of the interlocutor such as assumptions, goals, and the types of activities carried out by the interlocutor when people convey opinions or other things. Yule (1996) stated that illocutionary acts occur through the communicative power of an utterance, such as to make statements, offers, explanations, or it could be for other communicative purposes.

Mey (1993) stated that pragmatics is the study of how people themselves use language to communicate through situations Public. Furthermore, studying pragmatics does not only think about how people can do language but also involves the context in which the communication occurs. This discussion helps people understand how to think in communication. Pragmatics is also used for interpersonal communication, which deals with the choices chosen by the speaker and the application of the speech to existing social interactions. This discussion also discussed the consequences of the use of language taken by participants in the act of communication.

Speech act is one of the fields of pragmatics that discusses an action taken using oral speech in a communication situation that has occurred. According to Searle (1979), illocutionary acts have five categories, and these categories are directives, expressive, declarations, commissives, and representatives. However, this research focuses on expressive illocutionary acts that contain emotions, attitudes, and feelings. According to Searle (1979), expressive illocutionary acts aim to convey the emotional conditions of the speaker. This shows that the purpose of expressive illocutionary acts is to convey feelings. Meanwhile, the feelings that

a speaker wants to convey can be conveyed face-to-face or virtually, which allows for a conversation between the speaker and the hearer.

Nowadays, people have access easily to find conversations between the speaker and the hearer virtually via social media. Therefore, one of the social media platforms that can be easily accessed by the wider community is YouTube. On this social media platform, many conversation videos contain utterances regarding illocutionary acts, especially expressive illocutionary acts. And one of the conversation videos can be found at a talent search event.

Howie : **“You’re going right to the finals! Oh, you’re amazing!”**

Madison : “Thank you!”

These utterances appeared on the talk show America’s Got Talent 2022. There is Howie as a speaker and Maddison as the hearer. After the hearer finished singing a very extraordinary song at the event, she received a lot of enthusiastic applause from both the audience and the judges. And one of the judges who was the speaker immediately gave the golden ticket to the hearer. While giving the golden ticket, the speaker uttered “You’re going right to the finals! Oh, you’re amazing!” to the hearer. Thus, the utterance from the speaker is included in the act of congratulate. It is because the utterance shows that the speaker feels happy about the success achieved by the hearer. The success achieved by the hearer lies when the speaker gives a golden ticket, which means that the hearer goes straight to the final round. As defined by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), an act of

congratulations is when a speaker expresses his pleasure at the success achieved by his interlocutor.

The next utterances containing expressive illocutionary acts are found in a video taken from YouTube. The video contains a conversation carried out by Meyers host of his talk show and Taylor who was invited as a guest star at the event. And in the conversation between Meyers and Taylor several utterances contain expressive illocutionary acts, one of these utterances is as follows.

Meyers : **“Welcome back to the show!”**
Taylor : “Thanks for having me back.”

This expression appeared on the talk show Late Night with Seith Meyers. There are Meyers as the speaker and Taylor as the hearer. They were on a talk show at that time. At that time the hearer had just returned to the stage to sing after a period of absence. Therefore, the speaker utters “Welcome back to the show!” and the utterance from the speaker is included in the act of welcome. This is because the speakers welcomed the hearer’s arrival to make music again on stage after being on hiatus. In line with Searle and Vanderveken (1985), an act of welcome is when a speaker gives an expression of welcome to his interlocutor in a polite manner.

The next phenomenon taken from social life is still found on the YouTube platform. The following utterance contains an expressive illocutionary act that occurred to Bill who had been invited to a talk show hosted by Ellen.

Ellen : “Well, you’re a great guy, and say hello to Melinda, and thank you so much, and I’ll see you soon!”

Bill : “All right. **Thanks, Ellen.**”

The conversation took place on the talk show of The Ellen Show. There is Ellen as the speaker and Bill as the hearer. The hearer was being invited to the speaker's talk show at that time. After the speaker talked about many things with the hearer, the talk show came to an end. Before the speaker closed the event, he expressed his praise to the hearer. Therefore, the praise given by the speaker to the hearer made the hearer express his gratitude to the speaker by saying “Thanks, Ellen”. Thus, the utterance by the hearer was included in the act of thank. It is because the hearer received benefits in the form of praise from the speaker directly. As stated by Searle and Vanderveken (1985), an act of gratitude is when a speaker expresses his gratitude for the benefits that the speaker has received from the person he is speaking to.

Mass media is also still closely connected with society. Media has a purpose to provide information from various things in the world and provide a means of entertainment to the public (McLuhan, 1964). Movie is one of the mass media in which there are many people and also the utterance (Flick, 2014). And the movie with the title “Captain America the First Avenger” is one of the movies in which the characters performed expressive illocutionary acts. This movie is an action movie incorporated in Marvel Studios and directed by Joe Johnston in 2011. This movie tells of a hero from the United States in 1942 during World War II. This is because in the movie there are many expressive illocutionary acts, and some examples of these actions are as follows.

The utterances were stated at minutes 00:08:45-00:08:59. There is a doctor as the speaker and Steven Rogers as the hearer who occurs at the medical selection site to become a soldier. The conversation begins when it is the hearer's turn to do a test with the speaker.

Doctor : "Your mother?"
 Rogers : "She was a nurse in a TB ward. Got hit. Couldn't shake it."
 Doctor : "**Sorry, son.**"
 Rogers : "Look, just give me a chance."
 Doctor : "You'd be ineligible on your asthma alone."

In the utterance above the speaker said "Sorry Son" because the speaker couldn't help the hearer in giving a chance to be a soldier. This happened because the hearer had asthma and could not be cured, and made the hearer fail to get the opportunity that was discussed in the conversation. In this expression shown in the conversation, especially by the speaker, is "apologize" which is shown to the hearer. In line with Searle and Vanderveken (1985), apologize is an act that aims to express an unpleasant or unpleasant feeling that a speaker has done to his interlocutor.

Meanwhile the function used in the utterance above was included in the "collaborative". This is because in that conversation the utterances of the speaker were aimed at providing information to the hearer that he could not take the test to become a soldier. In line with Leech (1983), collaborative is an expression from a speaker whose aim is to express, report, or provide information to the interlocutor.

Similar to the previous conversation, the utterances below were produced in the "Captain America the First Avenger" movie. The utterances took place at 00:16:54-00:17:08 minutes. Dr. Abraham as the speaker and Steven Rogers as the

hearer are in the medical examination room to enter the army. But without knowing the test results of the hearer, the speaker immediately allowed the hearer to become a soldier.

Dr. Abraham : “So where is the little guy from? Actually?”
 Rogers : “Brooklyn.”
 Dr. Abraham : “**Congratulations soldier.**”
 Rogers : (Breathes deeply)

In the utterance above, Dr. Abraham as the speaker started the conversation by asking whether Rogers wanted to kill Nazis. Meanwhile, Rogers as the hearer realized that the question addressed to him was a test conducted by the speaker. Then the hearer answered that he didn't want to kill anyone, and he didn't like bullying. Based on the hearer's answer, the speaker gave the hearer one opportunity to enter as a soldier, because the speaker knew that the hearer failed the test many times in the selection to become a soldier. Therefore, the speaker said “Congratulations soldier” to the hearer, and “soldier” means that the hearer had succeeded in entering and becoming a soldier, and in the conversation above it was also depicted that the hearer was silent and took a deep breath. Meanwhile, the phrase uttered by the speaker to the hearer was included in the “congratulate”. This happened because the speaker pressed his joy to the hearer. After all, he had succeeded in entering as a soldier. In line with Searle and Vanderveken (1985), congratulations are used to express the speaker's feelings of happiness to his interlocutor for his goodness and success that his interlocutor has achieved.

However, the function in the conversation above is “convivial”. In this conversation, Dr. Abraham as the speaker showed respect for Rogers for his success

in joining as a soldier. This respect was found in the phrase “Congratulations soldier” from the speaker and based on the conversation it appears that the speaker appointed the hearer as a soldier just by asking the hearer questions in the form of tests. Therefore, convivial means an expression of respect shown by a speaker to his interlocutor. In line with Leech (1983), friendly is polite. In this context, being polite means looking for opportunities to show respect. The purpose of this function is to be consistent with the goals of society.

Based on this expression, expressive illocutionary acts are to be discussed further. The researcher chose expressive illocutionary acts for several reasons. The first reason is because expressive illocutionary acts convey the feelings of the speaker and knowing how the speaker feels when delivering something is important. The second is that the speaker does not know what the method of the performance is and the third is the function of the expressive illocutionary acts when it has been spoken.

Research on this expressive illocutionary act has been previously studied by several previous researchers. The researcher took the research from previous researchers, for the first is from (Wahyuningtyas & Sirniawati, 2023). This research examined the types of expressive acts in the movie “The King’s Speech”. Thus, it was found several types of expressive acts such as congratulating, expressive attitude, wishing, thanking, and apologizing. Therefore, the expressive act of thanking is the most frequently used in that movie.

Then there is research conducted by (Rahmawati, 2021). This research determined types and analyzes them more deeply to find out the functions of these types in the “Crazy Rich Asian” movie. In the analyzed data it was found several types such as apologize, thank, congratulate, complain, lament, protest, deplore, compliment, greet, and welcome. And from the results, thank became the most produced in the movie.

Based on the explanations of the two studies that have been carried out previously, there must be similarity and difference. The similarity in this research and the previous research is using the same theory. While the dissimilarity of this research with previous research lies in the source of the data to be taken. In this research, the researcher was taking the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie as the data source. Flick (2014) stated that to analyze the movie, one must understand the essentials of the movie as a medium of communication, this analysis must be in the form of a systematic investigation of the structure of the text contained in the movie along with the conditions of production and the context of the community.

Thus, the researcher chose the movie because the utterances carried out in the movie involved many expressive illocutionary acts that deserve to be investigated and analyzed more deeply about the function of these expressive acts. Moreover, in this research, the researcher used theory to analyze the function of expressive illocutionary acts, which is usually only used to identify the function of utterances in general in types of illocutionary acts. In analyzing the acts and functions of expressive illocutionary acts, the researcher used Searle and

Vanderveken (1985) and Leech (1983) theory. From some of these explanations, it encourages researcher to submit research with the title “An Analysis of Expressive Illocutionary Acts Used in “Captain America the First Avenger” Movie: Pragmatic Approach.”

1.2 Identification of the Problem

There are six problems mentioned in the background as follows

1. The existence of misunderstanding in communication.
2. The attitude in the utterance when expressing in the conversation.
3. The use of speech acts found in the social media.
4. Expressive illocutionary acts found in social media.
5. The acts of expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.
6. The functions of expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Following the identification, there are two limitations, such as

1. The acts of expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.
2. The functions of expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

There are two main problems following limitations of the problem as follows

1. What are the expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie?
2. What are the functions of expressive illocutionary acts found in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem, there are two objectives as follows

1. To find out the expressive illocutionary acts in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.
2. To find out the functions of expressive illocutionary acts in the “Captain America the First Avenger” movie.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

This research in a theoretical form has several objectives. The first objective is to provide an understanding of linguistics, especially in the wider field of pragmatics, and especially in expressive illocutionary acts. The second objective is to enrich knowledge and experience related to the inclusion of material for scientific research on expressive illocutionary acts. And the third is that it is expected to be a proper comparison and reference to use for expressive illocutionary acts research that will be held.

2. Practical Significance

This research also has practical purposes which are expected to be essential. The first goal is that speakers and hearers can understand all acts and functions of expressive illocutionary acts because by understanding all acts and functions there will be no significant misunderstandings. The second goal is for speakers to perform expressive illocutionary acts per the intent to be conveyed. And the third is so that the interlocutor can express the speaker's intention in carrying out expressive illocutionary acts.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

- Pragmatics** : Pragmatics is the study of meaning in which there is communication between speakers or writers and interpreted by hearers or readers (Yule, 1996).
- Speech Acts** : Speech act can be defined as actions that can be carried out by an utterance that has specific meanings or phrases (Yule, 1996).
- Illocutionary Acts** : Illocutionary act is a performance of certain functions in linguistics, which precisely aligns with the speaker's objective (Searle, 1979).
- Expressive Illocutionary Acts** : Expressive is expressing a mental attitude or it can also be referred to as a psychological attitude for a situation by showing it in an attitude or action (Searle, 1979).