

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Linguistics is a science used to discuss the sound, structure and development in a language (Chomsky, 2006). Over time, the discussion of language development leads to changing terms, definitions, and theories in linguistic field. Basically, Linguistics studies all phenomenon related to language. While linguistics examines various phenomena related to language, it categorizes these phenomena into distinct areas such as phonology, phonetics, morphology, and syntax, even though those are inherently interconnected in communication. These aspects of language work together to facilitate coherent conversation. In addition, it also studies the meaning of language. It describes a language that people use at a particular condition.

In everyday conversation, people say words with many different meanings. The meaning is highly dependent on the context. Thus, interlocutors who cannot grasp the context of the words will cause misunderstandings. Misunderstandings in communication are certainly not desired by the speaker and the interlocutor. Then, knowing and learning a language is important to avoid misunderstandings. Pragmatics is an approach in linguistics that deals with meanings and perhaps it can reduce misunderstanding in a conversation. By studying pragmatics, speakers are able to know the nature of language and learn how language is used in

communication. Pragmatics is a study of contextual meaning in communication conveyed through writing or speaking. It examines the intention and effect of the speaker's utterances (Yule, 1996).

Speech act is a branch of pragmatics that studies deeply the intention of an utterance. Speech act examines what action is intended in an utterance. The use of speech acts in society has actually been used for a long time. It is just that many people do not realize that the sentence that is used is speech acts. When someone in communication wants the interlocutors to do an action spoken or written in the form of criticism, suggestions, information, orders, then it is called a speech act. Speech act can be classified into several types. Representative acts are one of the types. It includes words that contain facts or statement (Cutting, 2002).

People perform representative acts in today's life, through many media, such as TV, newspapers, and social media. Life is now closely related to social media, such as YouTube. YouTube provides a lot of information in written and spoken form. The existence of speech acts can be found in videos on YouTube. In a show called the little big shot, the performance of a speech act occurred. It is an interview show where the children are the interviewee. The show is hosted by Steve Harvey, a famous presenter and comedian. In the video, titled "Little Big Shots Meet Micro Mayor James Episode Highlight", the speech act performance has been done by Steve Harvey.

Steve : He got the black shoe like me and you
Kid : Yeah
Steve : **It's black shoes day (00.02.07 - 00.02.12)**

This utterance was found in the middle of the video. This sentence was spoken by the presenter in response to the child's reaction. The kid previously said that kids and the presenter wore the same shoe color, namely black. Then Steve Harvey said the utterances to agree and conveyed the opinion in the form of a claim. It is considered a claim because its purpose is to convey what the speaker believes with little commitment and a subjective or debatable point of view. This utterance belongs to the category of representative speech act. Representative acts are used to describe a case in the form of statements, claims, descriptions and statements of facts (Tsohatzidis, 1994).

Representative acts can also be found on other platforms, namely HBO. HBO is a streaming service from the United States. HBO can be accessed through TV, paid applications and websites. This TV offers movies from many countries. HBO is a streaming service that contains many movies, TV shows and series with various genres. Series on HBO is one of the options for many people to spend their time. One of the most famous series is The Last of Us. The Last of Us is a series set in an apocalyptic world where zombies threaten humanity. Ellie, a 14-years-old girl, is known as brave girl but sometime reckless. The following are Ellie's words in the series.

Ellie : **I've never been in the woods.** He gives a little shrug. There's more bugs than I thought. **(00.09.11- 00.09.13)**

Ellie's words above are at the beginning of episode three. At that time, Ellie and Joel traveled to the distant fireflies headquarters. Ellie and Joel stay overnight in the forest and sleep on a mattress. In the morning Ellie woke up and saw many insects and was a little scared but also curious. In the sentence above

the girl says *I've never been in the woods*. These words are spoken when many insects are nearby and she has never seen anything like that before. Ellie uses a sentence in the form of a statement. The sentence describes a real state or condition that she had before seeing the insects. According to Searle (1969), statement is one type of representative acts.

Expanding on above phenomenon, movies are one of the best media to examine the phenomenon of representative acts in verbal expression. This is because movie provides good quality of sound therefore it is almost impossible to mishear the utterances. It makes a researcher easier to process the data. The context is also understood clearly. Moreover, movies can convey an opinion, message, and fact with comprehensible framework. In addition, various factors such as genre and setting play an important role in shaping language choices in a movie. Those factors significantly influence the vocabulary and other linguistic phenomena used by the characters. Therefore, the language scope of a movie may vary depending on whether the movie is set in historical time, a rural setting, or an urban environment. Representative act is more likely to be used in a movie that tells a lot of information or fact.

The movie "The Social Network" contains a lot of information and facts. It is because the movie based on a true story of a billionaire. It is a biographical drama movie from United States of America. The director of the movie is David Fincher. It was released in 2010. It talks about the story of the founder of Facebook when he was in university. The protagonist, namely Mark, faces many obstacles to achieve the goal. Misunderstanding happens several times in the

scenes of the movie and lead to problems. Therefore, in some scenes the characters feel guilty and apologize. The movie also shows the main problem coming from Mark's workmate. His workmate tried to sue him for stealing the idea of an application that later became famous. This application is called Facebook. During the prosecution, both parties use evidence to support their arguments. The evidence is both a fact and a claim. This shows that the characters in the movie are performing representative acts.

The phenomena of representative acts in “The Social Network” movie can be seen in the sentence “*The truth is, she has a nice face*”. The sentence is said by a protagonist named Mark. The sentence was uttered in a monologue. Mark in this movie play role as a main character. The utterance above appeared when Mark sitting in front of his computer and writing a blog about a girl. The utterance is a praise. Praising means stating that a situation is good and showing agreement (Searle & Vanderveken, 1985). Mark said the utterance for showing something positive about the girl. It is shown in the words “*nice face*”. In other word Mark said the girl is beautiful. Furthermore, the word “*the truth is*” show the sincerity of the speaker when utter the utterance in which sincerity link to the agreement. It means the speaker is not against the utterance.

The utterance conveyed by the speaker above has declarative structure. It is a typical declarative that starts with a noun or article. According to Yule (2010), an utterance is delivered in three structures, namely imperative, interrogative, and declarative and each has a different function. Declarative is a statement, interrogative is a question and imperative is a command. The sentence is more

likely to have declarative structure because it follows SVO order and based on the function, the utterance conveyed by the speaker in the conversation belongs to declarative structure because it serves as a statement. The utterance expressed the opinion of the speaker. The speaker conveyed the utterance to state utterance to be the case.

Research on the representative speech act has been investigated by several researchers. First was conducted by Lukman et al. (2022). The research found representative speech act performance in the news. Theory used to classify the utterance using theory by Searle (1979). The data were analyzed using the theory by Sudaryanto (1988). In research, the data source was taken from news in the mass media in Middle Eastern countries.

Second research was conducted by Anam et al. (2019). The research focused on the use of representative acts which was done via telephone. Theory used to classify the utterance using theory by Surtono (1999). The data were analyzed using the theory by Sudaryanto (1993). The conversation between the call center and the customer was the data source in this study. The results showed that there were 4 types of representative acts found. Those were proposals, brag, mention, and report.

Both previous and present researches have similarity and dissimilarity. The dissimilarity is the data source. In this research, the data source used is “The Social Network” movie. This research is interesting because the utterances are from true-story movies which means the utterances and story related to everyday conversation. Representative act is used a lot in the movie. The characters use

representative acts to affect others' opinions. The theory used to classify the utterances in the movie "the social network" is the theory by Searle and Vanderveken (1985) and is used theory by Yule (2010) to categorize the structural functions of representatives act utterances. Yule's theory is also the difference that has not any researcher used to categorize the function of representative acts. Then the phenomenon and the instruments that are shown above, the researcher decides to do a research entitled "Analysis of representative acts in "The Social Network" movie: A pragmatic approach".

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the background above, identification of the problems can be written as follows.

1. The categories and functions of speech acts in "The Social Network" movie.
2. The locutionary acts are discovered in "The Social Network" movie.
3. The discovery of perlocutionary acts in "The Social Network" movie.
4. The types of representative acts in "The Social Network" movie.
5. The functions of representative acts structures in "The Social Network" movie.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem, the limitations of the problem are as follows.

1. The types of representative acts in “The Social Network” movie.
2. The functions of representative acts structures in “The Social Network” movie.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem, the formulations of the problems are as follows.

1. What are the types of representative acts found in “The Social Network” movie?
2. What are the functions of representative acts structures found in “The Social Network” movie?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem, then the objectives are as follows.

1. To analyze the types of representative acts structure in “The Social Network” movie.
2. To analyze the functions of representative acts structures in “The Social Network” movie.

1.6 Significance of the Research

1. Theoretical Significance

This study is expected to help others in understanding speech acts and is also expected to contribute to a more in-depth study of speech acts. Hopefully it can help other researchers in studying speech act.

2. Practical Significance

It is expected to contribute knowledge or reference, especially to students who are researching representative speech act and also readers can understand what is said in the form of a representative act while avoiding misunderstandings in communication.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

Pragmatics : A study in linguistics that deals with the meaning of utterances. Specifically, pragmatics study contextual meaning. It discusses the meanings people want to convey, how people convey their predictions and goals, and the actions people take when communicating. Context is the main thing that is involved to understand what the speaker is saying.

Speech Acts : A term is used to describe actions delivered by words or utterances. Words or utterances influence the listener to perform an action. Words

contain a meaning that makes or forces the interlocutor to do an action. The actions differ depending on who, where, when the speech is delivered. Thus context is very important to know what action the speaker wants.

Representatives Acts : A sub of speech acts that deal with fact, opinion, or faith of a speaker. Representative acts are actions that communicate the speaker's beliefs or opinion and which can be judged on the basis of truth or untruth. Accordingly, it can be noted that representative acts are part of speech acts whose purpose is to represent a situation or fact in the world from a speaker's perspective.