Investigating the Types and Strategies of Expressive Illocutionary Acts

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Abstract-This research aims to identify the types, the strategies and the functions of expressive illocutionary acts employed in The Longest Ride movie by George Tillman. The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method. The results of this study indicate that from 30 data analyzed: 1) the six types of expressive illocutionary acts are found with the following description: expressive illocutionary act thanking 12 data (40%), expressive illocutionary act congratulating 1 data (3%), expressive illocutionary act pardoning 3 data (10%), expressive illocutionary act blaming 1 data (3%), expressive illocutionary act praising 10 data (34%), and expressive illocutionary act condoling 3 data (10%). 2) there are two types of speech act strategies, namely: direct speech act 29 data (97%) and indirect speech act 1 data (3%).

Keywords: pragmatics; speech acts; illocutionary acts; expressive illocutionary acts

1. Introduction

In socializing, humans use language as a communication tool that aims to convey information, and ideas. Tarigan (2009) states in oral form, those who commit speech acts are the speaker and the hearer. While in written form, the speech is conveyed by the writer to the reader. Speech in oral form can be expressed through dialogue or electronic media. One of them is visual communication media, namely film. Interaction in a film can be realized in speech acts through conversations expressed by the characters in a film. This study specifically examines the use of language, especially expressive illocutionary acts of speech in film dialogue. Speech act is an utterance that not only contains information, but contains a direct action in communication. In pragmatics, speech acts are divided into three types, namely locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts.

Locutionary act is speech acts that state something without any other meaning. Illocutionary acts can be said to be the most important speech acts because they talk about the purpose of the speech delivered by the speaker to the hearer. Perlocutionary acts is effects that result from the speech acts. Searle (1979) classified illocutionary speech acts into five categories: assertive, directive commissive, expressive, and declarative. Of the five speech act categories, this study focuses on expressive illocutionary acts.

Expressive illocutionary acts can be interpreted as speech functions that aim to express the feelings of the speaker to the interlocutor. Expressive illocutionary acts often found in everyday conversation. Expressive illocutionary also can be found in dialogues between characters in The Longest Ride movie. In romantic genre films, expressions of illocutionary are usually found because characters in romantic genre films tend to express their feelings or express the psychological attitude of the speaker to the hearer such as thanking, apologizing, congratulating, and so on so as to make this film worthy of research.

2. Literature review

In order to fulfill the purpose of this study, several theories about pragmatics, speech acts, types of illocutionary act, and types of expressive illocutionary acts are reviewed. Regarded to pragmatics, Leech (1983: 9) states that aspects studied in pragmatics include speakers and hearer, context, purpose of speech, speech as speech acts, and speech as verbal acts. This makes it possible for speakers to use and understand language according to the context. Finnegan (1997: 345) states "The essential element in the interpretation of an utterance is the context in which it is uttered.” An important element in the interpretation of an utterance is the context being taught. Based on the theories, Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics related to the meaning of a speech or the use of language based on the context and the situation both the speaker or interlocutor.

Richard (1985) in Gunawan (2007: 3) explains the definition of pragmatics, which is a study of the use of language in communication, especially the relationship between sentences and the context and situations of sentence use.
Speech act is the activity of someone using language to the hearer in order to communicate or express something. Supri (2017) stated “When people need to know something that they do not know, they would ask other people to let them know the information. In order to get information they need, they have to realize it through speech acts”. Yule (1996: 47) added "Speech act as action performed via utterances". Searle (1969: 23-24) divides speech acts into three types of actions, namely locutionary acts, illocutionary acts and perlocutionary acts. Locutionary act is the act of saying something. Illocutionary acts are central to understanding speech acts. That is because they have to consider who the speaker and hearer are, when and where the speech act takes place, and so on. Perlocutionary acts is speech act that to get someone to do or realize something. Simatupang (2019; Chico et al., 2019) added “The difference between illocutionary act and perlocutionary act is, illocutionary act is an utterance said by the speaker in order to the addressee doing something for that, while perlocutionary is the effect caused by the utterance.”

Yule (1996: 53) states "Expressives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker feels". Yule explained expressive speech acts as speech acts that are used to express something that is felt by the speaker. The expressive speech acts types contained in an utterance delivered by the speaker to the hearer, which can function for thanking, congratulating, pardoning, blaming, praising, andcondoling.

Speech acts strategies can be delivered in two ways, namely direct speech act or indirect speech act. The success of a speech depends on the strategy used by the speaker in influencing the hearer. Yule (1996: 54) states "A different approach to distinguishing types of speech acts can be made on the basis of structure". According to Yule (1996) there are three forms of sentence structure in English: declarative, interrogative, imperative. Each of which has a function as statement, question, command.

Direct speech act is a speech with a clear form of delivery and in accordance with the structure and function of the sentence. Yule (1996: 54), "Whenever there is a direct relationship between a structure and a function, we have a direct speech act." While indirect speech act is a type of speech acts that has a hidden or implicit form of delivery.

According to Leech (1983: 104), functions of illocutionary acts are classified into four types based on the relationship between these functions and social goals in the form of courtesy. The functions of illocutionary acts include competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive.

Searle in Leech (1983: 104) states that the competitive function is speech which is basically discourteous, for example asking in a pushy tone, so that it involves courtesy. The function of this competitive illocution, courtesy has a negative character and competes with social goals such as commanding, requesting, demanding, and begging.

Convivial or fun functions are manners of speech. The aims of the illocution are in line with social goals. In this function, courtesy is more positive in shape and aims to find opportunities for hospitality; for example, offering, inviting or inviting, greeting, saying thank you, and saying congratulations.

Cooperation function does not involve courtesy because in this function courtesy is irrelevant. The objective of the focus does not involve social goals; for example, stating, reporting, announcing, and teaching.

The contradictory function does not contain any polite elements at all because this function is basically aimed at causing anger. Illocutionary aims conflict with social goals; for example, threatening, accusing, cursing, and scolding.

3. Methodology

A. Research Question

1. What types of expressive illocutionary act are found in The Longest Ride movie?
2. What speech acts strategies used by the character in uttering expressive illocutionary act?
3. What are the functions of the expressive illocutionary act?

B. Object of the Research and Source of Data

The object of research in this research is the expressive illocutionary act found in the movie directed by George Tillman entitled The Longest Ride. The data source in this research is from The Longest Ride movie by George Tillman. The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method with the following steps: paying attention to every utterance that uttered by the characters in The Longest Ride movie, classifying the data based on types of expressive illocutionary acts and speech acts strategies, analyzing data according to research question,
and drawing conclusion. Bodgan and Taylor (1975: 5) define qualitative methodology as a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behavior.

4. Findings and results

There are 6 types of expressive illocutionary acts found in film The Longest Ride. They are expressive of thanking 12 data (40%), expressive of congratulating data 1 (3%), expressive apologizing 3 data (10%), expressive of blaming 1 data (3%), expressive of praising 10 data (34%), and expressive of condoling 3 data (10%).

A. Expressive of Thanking

Data 1 (00.13.52 – 00.14.02)

Context: The conversation took place during the day when Luke came to the Sophia’s dorm. Luke came over to Sophia's dorm with the intention of asking her out on a date. Just then, Luke came to bring a bouquet of flowers, then gave it to Sophia.

Sophia: "Hi"
Luke: "Hi. Um ..."
Sophia: "Thank you. So sweet"

Analysis:
Speech "Thank you. So sweet." in Data 1 can be identified as expressive illocutionary speech of the thanking category because in the speech the speaker clearly says the word thank you. Moreover, the speaker also expresses his gratitude to the hearer for what he has done to her by thanking the hearer. In Data 1’s speech, "Thank you. So sweet." Sophia expressed her gratitude to Luke for giving her a bouquet of flowers.

Speech act strategies used in Data 1 "Thank you. So sweet." is a direct speech act. From the structure of the sentence, "Thank you. So sweet." This utterance is delivered in the form of declarative sentences because it expresses a statement and ends with a period (.). Meanwhile, from its function "Thank you. So sweet.". The speech serves to express statements without any other purpose. It can be concluded that Data 1 "Thank you. So sweet." can be identified as direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and function of the sentence. The speaker expresses his expression of thanks without any other purpose.

B. Expressive of Congratulating

Data 2 (00.08.08 - 00.08.13)

Context: Conversation takes place at night after the bull riding race has finished. At that time, Larry approached Luke, the bull rider who managed to win the race.

Larry: "... How are you doing? Congratulations, man. I know it feels good to get a win under your belt, doesn't it? "

Analysis:
"Congratulations, man." in Data 2 can be identified as expressive of congratulating because in the speech the speaker clearly pronounces congratulations. Moreover, the speaker expresses his happiness by congratulating the hearer. In Data 2, Larry congratulates Luke for winning the bull riding competition that night.

Speech act strategies used in Data 2 "Congratulations, man." is direct speech act. From the structure of the sentence, "Congratulations, man." This utterance is delivered in the form of declarative sentences because it expresses a statement and ends with a period (.). Meanwhile, from its function, the speech functions to express statements without any other purpose. It can be concluded that Data 2 can be identified as a direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and function of the sentence that the speaker expresses a statement of congratulations without any other purpose.

C. Expressive of Apologizing

Data 3 (0002.34 - 00.02.35)

Context: The conversation took place during the day while Marcia was looking for her friend, Sophia. She walked in the hallway of the hostel, then met a group of Sophia's friends and asked where Sophia was.

Marcia: "Hey, do you guys know where Sophia is?"
Sophia's friend: "No, Sorry."

Analysis:
"No, sorry." in Data 3 can be identified as expressive of apologizing because in the speech the speaker clearly says the word sorry. Moreover, the speaker expresses her apology to the hearer because she cannot provide the information that the speaker needs. In the Data 3 statement "No, sorry", Sophia’s friend conveyed her apology to Marcia for being unable to provide information regarding Sophia's whereabouts.
Speech act strategy used in Data 3 is direct speech act. From the sentence structure, this speech is delivered in the form of a declarative sentence because it expresses a statement and ends with a period (.). Meanwhile, from its function, the speech functions to express statements without any other purpose. It can be concluded that Data 3, "No, sorry." can be identified as direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and function of the sentence that the speaker expresses an apology without any other purpose.

D. Expressive of Blaming

Data 4 (01.14.42 - 01.14.53)

Context: Conversations take place at night when Luke and Sophia come out of the exhibition they are attending. Previously, Luke and Sophia talked with Sophia’s boss. Then Luke uttered an inappropriate thing to Sophia’s client. Sophia was angry, and blamed Luke for what he had said to her client.

Sophia: "How could you say that to her?"
Luke: "It was a joke"
Sophia: "To the woman who’s gonna be my boss? To the woman who I hope is gonna launch my career?"

Analysis:
"How could you say that to her?" in Data 4 can be identified as an expressive of blaming because in the speech the speaker clearly says the expression of blame. Moreover, in the speech the speaker clearly expressed the speech of blaming to the hearer for what he had done to her. In Data 4, "How could you say that to her?" Sophia revealed a blame speech to Luke for saying something inappropriate to her boss.

Speech act strategy used in Data 4 is the direct speech act. From the structure of the sentence, "How could you say that to her?" This speech is delivered in the form of an interrogative sentence because it expresses a question and ends with a question mark (?). Meanwhile, from its function, the speech serves to express a question without any other purpose. Therefore, Data 4 "How could you say that to her?" can be identified as direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and function of the sentence that the speaker expresses his question to the hearer without any other purpose.

E. Expressive of Praising

Data 5 (00.08.40 - 00.08.52)

Context: Conversations take place at the parking lot of a bar. That night, Luke stood in the parking lot enjoying the night breeze. Shortly after, Sophia came to the parking lot and stood not far from where Luke was standing. Luke glanced over at Sophia, then greeted her.

Luke: "I got a hat just like that"
Sophia: "Yeah, sorry"
Luke: "No, you hold on to it. Looks better on you."

Analysis:
"No, you hold on to it. Looks better on you." in Data 5 can be identified as expressive of praising because in the speech the speaker clearly expresses the praise speech. Moreover, the speaker feels amazed at the appearance of the hearer. In the Data 5 statement, "No, you hold on to it. Looks better on you." Luke expressed his admiration to Sophia because Sophia looks good when wearing a hat.

Speech act strategies used in Data 5 “. Looks better on you.” is direct speech act. From the sentence structure, “. Looks better on you.” This utterance is delivered in the form of declarative sentences because it expresses a statement and ends with a period (.). Meanwhile, its function, the speech functions is to express statements without any other purpose. Therefore, Data 5 “. Looks better on you.” can be identified as direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and function of the sentence that the speaker expresses a statement of praise without any other purpose.

F. Expressive of Condoling

Data 6 (01.40.11 - 01.40.23)

Context: The conversation took place at night when Andrea McDonald visited Ira’s house to give information about the death of her husband, Daniel McDonald. As a child, Daniel McDonald spent a lot of time with Ira. Ira already considers Daniel as his own child.

Andrea: "He collapsed in his classroom early one morning before school. A brain aneurysm. That was six years ago."
Ira: "I'm very sorry to hear that."

Analysis:
"I'm very sorry to hear that." in Data 6 can be identified as an expressive of condloning because the speaker expresses his condolences to the hearer by saying I'm sorry or grieving. In Data 6, Ira expressed his condolences to Andrea after hearing the sad news of Daniel's death. Ira also felt what Andrea felt.

Speech act strategies used in Data 6 “I’m very sorry to hear that” is direct speech act. From the sentence structure, “I’m very sorry to hear that.” this utterance is delivered in the form of declarative sentences because it expresses a statement and end with a period (.). Meanwhile from its function, “I’m very sorry to hear that” has the function to express statements without any purposes. Therefore, data 6 can be identified as a direct speech act because the speech has a direct relationship between the structure and the function of the sentence that the speaker expresses his condolence statement to the hearer without any other purposes.

5. Conclusions

The types of expressive illocutionary acts in film "The Longest Ride" are 6 types. They are surface expressive of thanking 12 data (40%), expressive of congratulating 1 data (3%), expressive of apologizing 3 data (10%), expressive of blaming 1 data (3% ), expressive of praising 10 data (34%), and expressive of condoling 3 data (10% ) Therefore, it can be concluded that the type of expressive of thanking appear more often in conversations on film The Longest Ride.

Speech act strategies found in the film The Longest Ride by George Tillman in this study are: direct speech acts 29 (97%), indirect speech acts 1 (3%). Therefore, it can be concluded that direct speech acts are more often found in conversations between characters in the film The Longest Ride.

References