CHAPTER I
INTORDUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

When someone needs a help, requests, gives suggestions or comments for something and so on, she/he must use a language. Therefore in daily life, a language takes important parts to make the interaction to one another. For example, when someone needs a help to bring a dictionary to him, he will say, *"Can you bring my dictionary?"* This sentence is a language. Language is a form of human speech. One of the functions of language is for communication. The term is important for human to communicate, either spoken or written. As Kreidler (1998:19) defines that a language is a system of symbols through which people communicate. The symbols may be spoken, written, or signed with the hand.

The speaker sometimes uses language in semantic and pragmatics form. Semantics means the speaker says the words in literary meaning that connect to thing while pragmatics means the sentences used more than saying the words, the speaker needs the hearer to do things. For example, *"This tea is too hot!"* there are two meaning, the speaker needs a cold tea or the tea is not too hot.

The way of human to speech in order to ask or say something to the hearer to get to the point depends on the hearer's understanding. The hearer needs to know not only what the speaker says but also what he/she is talking about, why he bothers to say it, and why he says it the way he/she does.

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Related to those explanation above, linguistics explain about aspects of language in its use. In linguistics, there are many sub-fields that focus on a structure-focused study of language. One of them is pragmatics. Pragmatics studies how people comprehend to mean something and procedure a communicative act or speech act in concrete speech situation, which is usually a conversation and become the bridging the explanatory gap between sentences meaning of the sentences, while the speaker is trying to convey.

People do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words, they perform via those utterances. Yule (1998:47) states that actions performed via utterances are generally called speech act. Speech act is a kind of verbal communication. For example, the situation is in the office and a boss has a great deal of power, then the boss's utterance is *"You're fired!"* this is more than a statement but the utterance can be used to performed the act of ending the employment.

Fromkin (2011:178) defines that speech acts as means of language people use to do things such as lay, bets, issue warnings, or nominate candidates. In both definitions, people can understand that studying the speech acts should pay attention of different kinds of speech act apply to the speaker's communicative intention in producing an utterance. As Yule (1998:48) states that there are three elements of the action performed by producing an utterance, there are a locutionary acts, illocutionary acts and perlocutionary acts. These three elements of speech act will be discussed later.

In many times, people not only saying but also forcing hearer to do something. When the hearer is doing an act it means that he or she is doing speech act. The hearer tends to do action. McGowan in his journal *A Partial Defense of Illocutionary Silencing* (2011: 133) in Austin demonstrates that, "in addition to making true or false claims about the world, speech can constitute action. promises, bets, and apologies are all actions that can be performed by saying certain words under certain circumstances." Those situation not only perform in daily conversation but also reflected in literary works, for instance through movie.

Dialogue in movie is one of the ways in communication which consists a written or spoken conversation between characters by two or more people. Dialogue is communication doing by the collaboration of conversation so they can speak each other. The usage of speech act also used in the movie because a movie is actually a representation of the real conversation in naturally society.

Dialogue itself is the utterances and it is the application of language. With language people can speak to one another. This is can be known in speech act term. Speech act more focus on sense, it means that what make language work. With speech acts language allow people to regulate and modify human reality based on power of words. It means that people not only treats language as advice for communication but also an instrument of action.

From the explanation above, the writer understand that speech act occur not only in human's daily life but also reflected in the movie. It is because of movie has conversation, and certainly the sentences contains of pragmatics and in specific to be categorized in speech act. The writer will discuss the usage of

speech acts, especially in the movie and by doing this research, the writer will help people to understand about speech act.

Here one of the example of utterance that uttered by the main character and the utterance is belong to Directive type.

Example:

Situation : Home

Features : Mike, John Q

Mike   : What are we going to do? You're not going to do something, right, Dad? You know what I'd do? I'd get so big and mad, I'd just go crazy and kick someone's butt.

John Q.   : **Watch your language**.

For bold sentences above explained that language has an action. People understand that sentence can be form of semantics or pragmatics meaning. In this case, if it is semantic meaning the speaker's utterance does not intend to get the hearer to do something, but in pragmatics meaning, John Q's utterance not only saying the word or statement but also have meaning or purpose to hearer (Mike) that is forced him to do something.

In speech act term, these utterance is categorized on directives type. Directives means what the speaker use to get someone else to do something. They express what the speaker wants. It can be uttered in a form of requesting, commanding, warning, permitting, urging, questioning, suggesting, advising, begging, challenging, and insisting. So, *John Q*'s utterance is belong to

commanding form because he command Mike, his son for saying something that is polite.

Those paragraph above is one example that categorized in directives, and there are four another kinds of speech act. Yule's theory explained about five types of speech act that is declarations are those kind of speech acts that change the world via their utterance. Representatives are those kinds of speech acts that state what speaker believes to be the case or not. Expressive are those kinds of speech acts that states what the speaker feels. Directives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something. Commissives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to commit themselves to some future action.

This condition makes the writer is interested in analyzing the speech act in a movie because there will be a challenge to define what context of each sentence that uttered by the main character and to understand more about the function of pragmatics itself besides in a text, especially speech acts subject.

In this chance, the writer chooses "John Q" movie as the object of the research. It is an interesting movie. Indeed, the purpose of the film was to highlight many issues surrounding poor health care in the United States, and even less empathy from hospital administration and insurance companies. This issues is familiar for people even they are trapped by this poor condition and this also happens among poor people in Indonesia.

This is about justice for every people to get the health care and it is about loyalty of every employee to help the patient in the hospital or community. This

condition is not a new term for people but it is ordinary problems. This situation happened not only in the develop nations but also in every developing nations especially in Indonesia.

For this, the writer wants to study every utterances by the main character, namely *John Q*. The writer believes that the main character's utterances have meaning or contains pragmatics especially for all of the kinds of speech act because in the movie the main character works as a factory worker, besides he is poor economic and the life is simple.

Besides analyzing every utterances based on Yule's theory, she wants to find out which is the dominantly used by the main character, namely *John Q*. This is not just about how he solve it but this is more about the utterances when he produce a language. After finding the dominantly type of speech act, she analyzed what is the implication of the dominant type of speech acts used in "John Q" move's script.

B. The Problem of the Study

The problems of the study are formulated as the following:

1. What are the types of speech acts used by the main character, namely *John Q* in "John Q" movie's script?

2. What type of speech acts is dominantly used in "John Q" movie's script?

3. What is the implication of the dominant types of speech acts used in "John Q" movie's script?

C. The Objectives of the Study

Related to the problems of the study, the objectives of the study are:

1. to find out what are the types of speech acts used by the main character, namely John Q in "John Q" movie's script

2. to derive the most dominant type of speech acts that is used in "John Q" movie's script

3. to analyzed the implication of the dominant type of speech act which used in "John Q" movie's script.

D. The Scope of the Study

The scope of this study is limited to the main character's utterances, namely *John Q* in the "John Q" movie's script. The writer discusses the five types of speech acts based on Yule's theory (1996:53), such as: declarations, representatives, expressive, directives and commissives and to analyzed what is the implication of the dominant type of speech act used in "John Q" movie's script

E. The Significance of the Study

The analysis of speech acts on "John Q" movie's script is expected to be success in determining the types of the speech act, the most dominant types of speech act and the reason why the dominant type of speech acts occur in the movie. The benefits of the study are in theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, the result of research can be a reference for the researcher or those who plan to do the further researcher in the similar topic in linguistics field especially on speech act and the reader who wants to increase their knowledge about pragmatics, especially the application of speech acts in the movie.

Practically, the writer hopes that this study will be useful for the students of English Department who are interested of analyzing the study or research using pragmatics subject.