

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Language is one of media which cannot be separated from human life. Human uses language in their speech, either spoken or written. Language is used every day by everybody to communicate with others.

According to Littlejohn (2002) communication is one of the most persuasive, important and complex aspects of human life.

In many forms of communications, people need language to deliver their message and also express themselves. When people express themselves, they do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words, they also perform actions via those utterances (Yule 1996).

For example, when someone said “can you stop by in a minute?”, he or she performed a request although the sentence he or she produces in the form of a question. This kind of action performed via utterances is called a Speech Act.

According to Yule (1996) speaker normally expects that his or her communication intention will be recognized by the hearer. Commonly, speech is given for specific intention, such as apology (I’m sorry), complaint (yesterday’s show was the worst), compliment (I really like your tie), invitation (we’re having a party tomorrow. I’d like you to come), promise (I’ll visit you next week), or request (could you pass me the mashed potatoes, please?).

Most people know that speech is just a matter of producing utterances containing grammatical structures and words. In fact, there are actions implied in those utterances. Speech Act discusses what other people mean in their utterances.

People might be mistaking between Speech Act and Speech Function. Both are discussing about what is performed by a speaker in his utterances. In Speech Function, it focuses on analyzing the function performed in one's utterances, meanwhile Speech Act focuses on the action implied in an utterances.

Speech Act can be found in a communication. One of them is in a movie, since a movie tells a story about human activities.

Considering of how people are addicted toward movie, the writer decided to analyze speech acts in a movie. A movie consists of many dialogues between its characters that can be analyzed using the speech act theory. Therefore, the writer chose a movie entitled *The Great Gatsby*, which is based on a 1920's novel with the same title.

Considering how the speaker uses the language in the social interaction with others, the usage of speech is also used in a movie because a movie is actually a representation of a real conversation in natural society and also one of the medium where Speech Act can be found.

The writer studied pragmatics and becomes interested in Speech Act which studies natural language understanding and realized that Speech Act can be found in daily conversation. While watching a movie the writer may find some difficulties in understanding what the characters' dialogues mean. It motivated the

writer to choose analyzing Speech Act in a movie. By analyzing Speech Act uttered in a movie, it helps the audience to understand more about the movie.

The research about Speech Act has also been done by Maeda Elsera Siagian (2010) with the topic "An Analysis of Speech Act in Billboard". Maeda focuses on the words contained in cigarette billboards. The researcher concerned about how cigarette is advertised through the words. After analyzing the data, she found out that there were some Speech Acts in Billboard and the dominant one used is representative.

Other study on Speech Act field was conducted by Caleb T. Carr (2012), who was focusing on Speech Act within Facebook Status Messages. Content analysis of the data revealed that status messages were most frequently constructed with expressive speech acts, followed by assertives. Additionally, humor was integrated into almost 20% of the status messages.

Illyas and Khushi (2012) also studied about Speech Act in facebook status updates. The results revealed that status messages were most frequently constructed with expressive speech acts, followed by assertives and directives. In addition, a new category of poetic verses was also found in the data. The findings also showed that various socialization patterns emerge through the sharing of feelings, information and ideas.

The other study was done by Ariff and Mugables (2013), the result of the analysis of Speech Act of Promising among Jordanians was that Jordanians for either one or more of the strategies when issuing their promises: discourse conditionals, tautological-like expressions, body-part expressions, self-

aggrandizing expressions, time expressions, courtesy-like expressions, swearing in Jordanian Arabic that are utilized by Jordanians to forge promises with reference to expressions, adjacency pairs and false promises.

Moreover, the analysis of this article have shown that there is a gender difference in the use of linguistic forms in the speech act of promising among Jordanian, i.e, use of body-expressions among women once they issue their promises. In account of that, women typically speak and hear a language of connection and intimacy stressin confirmations and support within their specific online communities.

The reason of choosing this movie is because the writer wanted to let people know that Gatsby is a fictional character from a novel. The name Gatsby is known by many people but only a few know where it is come from.. And the other reason is The Great Gatsby explores themes of decadence, idealism, resistance to change, social upheaval, and excess, creating a portrait of the Jazz Age or the Roaring Twenties that has been described as a cautionary tale regarding the American Dream. Roaring Twenties is the era known for the unprecedented economic prosperity, the evolution of jazz music, flapper culture, and bootlegging and other criminal activity.

Based on the explanation above the writer decided to analyze Speech Act in The Great Gatsby movie because she wants to know the meaning of the dialogues said by the characters. It is also very helpful to understand more about this movie.

B. The Problem of the Study

1. What types of Speech Act are uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie?
2. What is the dominant type of Speech Act are uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie?
3. What is the implication of the dominant type of Speech Act uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie?

C. The Objective of the Study

1. To find out types of speech act uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie.
2. To find out types of Speech Act that is dominantly uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie.
3. To find out the implication of the dominant type of Speech Act uttered by Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby movie.

D. The Scope of the Study

This study focuses on analyzing Speech Acts in The Great Gatsby movie. To avoid a wider discussion, the writer limits this study only on the analysis of Jay Gatsby's utterances in the movie.

The writer uses George Yule's theory to identify the Speech Act found in The Great Gatsby movie. All the kinds of Speech Act that are classified according

to its function become the scope of the study such as; declarations, representatives, expressives, directives, and commissives.

E. The Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give valuable contribution theoretically and practically.

Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to contribute on the development of pragmatic study, especially on how to analyze text using the speech act theory.

Practically, the result of this research is expected to be useful:

1. For Student of English Department. It is expected that the students obtain more information about Speech Act, especially Speech Act of action based on appropriate situational context.

For readers, this research will give information and enrich their knowledge about speech act and how speech act used in