CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Illocutionary act is one type of speech acts covered in Pragmatics. It is an act performed in saying something (Austin 1962:99). By learning illocutionary acts, the listener can interpret the speaker's meaning to avoid miscommunication.

In communicating language, miscommunication frequently occurs in daily conversation. This is a result of many different factors as information is transmitted through the channel of communication. The one of the most common reason for miscommunication would be becausethe hearer does not understand the speaker's utterances in conversation. For example: if someone said "It's too hot in this room". Actually the speaker didn't only want to inform the hearer that the room was hot, but the speaker also requested the hearer to do an action to switch on the fan or air conditioner or maybe open the window. Searle (1976:355) said that Illocutionary act makes the hearer to do something.

Illocutionary act can always be found in the human daily conversation. Language or communication cannot be separated from speech act especially Illocutionary act. Because, the function of speech act especially Illocutionary act is to make the conversation be interesting and more effective. Day by day people do interact with each other employing various kinds of Illocutionary acts depending on the nature and situation of the interaction. Illocutionary acts can be found in movie which becomes the reflection of the social life of human. In analyzing a movie, a dialogue cannot be separated from the topic illocutionary act.

Dialogue is the lines spoken by a character or characters in a play, movie, essay, story, or novel, especially a conversation between two characters (Wheeler 2014:4). Through dialogue people can understand what happened in the movie and the meaning of the speaker. In the movie also many utterances are performed by particular kinds of action such as stating, promising, and warning which is a part of illocutionary act.

The reason why the writer chooses illocutionary actsis because the writer's experience that found some problems which happened when he studied Pragmatics in the sixth semester. In that semester, Pragmatics has two semester credit systems and studied about illocutionary further but in the real life he did not understand yet. And also he got difficulties to interpret someone's meaning when speaks and how to distinguish among warning, informing, suggesting, commanding, promising and requesting utterances. Those utterances have similar meaning and purpose which is difficult to be analyzed. Thus, by doing this research the writer hopes that it will be able to enrich the writer in comprehending about illocutionary acts that he didn't really understand in previous semester and after he finished this research, he will tell to the next students who will studies this topic and to the next researches who will analyze this topic.

The other reason of choosing illocutionary acts is to explain the relationship between theory of language especially illocutionary acts theory and its practice in movie. For example when watching *Eat Pray Love* movie the writer found the utterances by main character Liz Gilbert to her hearer and uttered the locution "*Thanks for the day. And the leg room.*".In this case the writer realized

the existence of Illocutionary act in dialogue of the movie. By using illocutionary act theory, the writer can conclude that Liz Gilbert as the speaker is not only just speaking, but she also performed Illocutionary acts (Expressive) by thanking to the hearer for the day and the meaning of leg room is a free ride of the car.

The reason of choosing *Eat Pray Love* movie as the media is caused by some possible answers. First, the movie is very popular for many people especially Indonesian because most of scenes are taken in Bali, Indonesia. This movie is based on true story from the author who tries to find the happiness after she divorced from her husband. This movie is also adapted from the novel *Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert. The novel is bestseller, and it has been translated into many languages. Second, there are a lot of illocutionary that the writer found in the movie. There are almost of every utterances in this movie contain of illocutionary acts. Third, this movie is inspiring. In other word, not only has so many illocutionary acts, but also this movie will inspire someone when they watch it.

Sketchily, the communicative act or verbal communication is usually represented by the utterances, in attempting to express themselves, people do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words, they perform action via those utterances (Yule 2000:47). In the movie, there is a conversation that shows Liz Gilbert as the hearer uses Illocutionary acts to avoid miscommunication and the speaker says*"Nice to meet you, Groceries!"*.Then Liz Gilbert responds *"Groceries?"*. This conversation shows that Liz Gilbert as the hearer does not understand what the speaker's meaning well. In consequence,she

as the hearer performs Illocutionary act to avoid miscommunication during conversation. If she does not asks the speaker, miscommunication will be occurred in the conversation. In this case, Liz Gilbert performed the type of Illocutionary acts (Directives) that makes the hearer to do something by asking and the word "groceries" uttered by speaker to Liz Gilbert (the hearer) is because the speaker never seen anybody eat so much at one time like Liz Gilbert, so the speaker attached that name to her.

Therefore, based on the explanations above, the writer would like to analyze the illocutionary act on Liz Gilbert's dialogue in *Eat Pray Love* movie. The writer interests to analyze illocutionary acts on this movie because it is important to get the meaning of illocutionary acts utterances found in the conversation and get a good understanding on the whole story.

B. The Problems of the Study

As related to the background of the study, the problems of the study were formulated as the following:

1. What types of the illocutionary acts are used by Liz Gilbert in *Eat Pray Love* movie?
2. What is the most dominant type of illocutionary acts used by Liz Gilbert in *Eat Pray Love* movie?
3. Why does the dominant type of illocutionary acts occur on Liz Gilbert's dialogue in *Eat Pray Love* movie?

C. The Objectives of the Study

In relation the problems, the objectives of the study were:

1. To find out the types of the illocutionary acts used by Liz Gilbert in *Eat Pray Love* movie.
2. To find out the most dominant types of illocutionary acts used by Liz Gilbert in *Eat Pray Love* movie.
3. To find out the reason why the dominant type of illocutionary acts occur on Liz Gilbert's dialogue in *Eat Pray Love* movie.

D. The Scopes of the Study

The scope of the study was based on the Pragmatic theory about speech acts, especially illocutionary acts. The writer will limit the analysis of the five types of illocutionary acts based on Searle's theory, they are: Representatives, Directives, Commissives, Expressives, and Declarations. The writer will focus the analysis of Liz Gilbert's dialogue in *Eat Pray Love* movie.

E. The Significance of the Study

The research findings were expected to be useful in theoretically and practically. In theoretically, the findings of the research will give useful information to the speaker or hearer about their problems and difficulties in understanding Illocutionary acts in daily conversation. Practically, it is hoped that this research can give a contribution to other researchers who want to conduct the same research about Illocutionary act by using another media.