



JELIM

Journal of Education, Language, Social and Management

<https://jurnal.rahiscendekiaindonesia.co.id/index.php/jelim/>



ANALYSIS OF THE FILM “THE MAN WHO KNEW INFINITY : SPEECH ACT STUDY

Syahrul Effendi Lubis

¹ STOK Binaguna Medan, Indonesia

KEYWORDS

Forms And The Meaning, Speech Acts

A B S T R A C T

The research method employed was descriptive qualitative research, and the goal of the study was to examine the forms and meanings of speech acts in the film The Man Who Knew Infinity's dialogues. The results show that there are 45 forms and meanings of speech acts in fifteen dialogues containing Locutionary, Illocutionary, and Perlocutionary Acts in the dialogues of Matthew Brown's film "The Man Who Knew Infinity," focusing on the analysis of speech acts of the theory of a British philosopher of language, namely John Langshaw Austin as described in his book "How To Do Things" (1962).

INTRODUCTION

Language is an important part of human life in the world. Every country in the world has its own language. Languages have their own characteristics and rules depending on their origin. Language is an important element used in daily life. In social life, language is used as a tool for communication and interaction with people and other people. Language is not only a means of communication, but also has a specific meaning depending on its purpose. When people communicate, language is used to express them. Language is also used to convey information about the content of a person's thoughts, ideas, feelings, and emotions. Moreover, the language presented during communication usually has implicit meanings directed towards the interlocutor. Sometimes people cannot understand or misunderstand the meaning of their interlocutor's speech. This can lead to misunderstanding of the interlocutor's information. When communicating, it is important to understand what the other person is saying. Therefore, learning languages is very important for humans. Learning a language requires linguistic research.

It is commonly said that linguistics is the science of language, or knowledge of language as a subject of study. More precisely, it is the scientific study of human language (Chaer, Linguistik Umum, 2014, p. 2), such as Martnet (1987: 19), Linguistics is divided into various fields such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. “Pragmatics is the study of meaning conveyed by a speaker (or author) and perceived by a

listener,” says George Yule (Pragmatics, 2014, p. 3). Therefore, it is more important to determine what an individual means in an utterance than to determine what the words or phrases in the utterance mean to the person themselves. Pragmatics therefore becomes the study of what speakers mean. Deixis, implicature, presupposition, and speech act are all studied in pragmatics. Speech acts are actions carried out through utterances (Yule, Pragmatik, 2014, p. 82). To say anything is to do something, according to John L. Austin (How To Do Things With Words, 1962, p. 94). He divided speech acts into three events that occur simultaneously (at the same time), namely the locutionary act, which is the act of saying something, the illocutionary act, which is the act of saying something, and the perlocutionary act, which is the act of achieving certain effects by saying something. Understanding of the speech act is important for people so that when people have a conversation or communicate with others, someone who is invited to speak or the interlocutor can understand the express or implicit meaning of the action in the speech of the speaker. In fact, in daily life people generally still have difficulty understanding the meaning of an utterance. An utterance has various meanings and does not only contain literal meaning but also contains actions in it according to the situation when the event occurred. For example, the utterance sentence “It is very cold here!” has various meanings. In accordance with the formulation from John L. Austin, the utterance can be identified as a form of locutionary act that has meaning as a statement. The utterance spoken by speaker is only to express a fact that the current air condition at that time is cold. On the other hand, the utterance can be identified as a form of illocutionary act which means that the meaning of the utterance is not just a statement.

The utterance also contains the action to be conveyed by the speaker. The utterance is intended by the speaker as a signal to ask for help or response so that the person who hears the utterance turns off or lowers the temperature of the air conditioner. Then, the utterance also can be identified as a form of perlocutionary act that there is an effect by saying the utterance to the listener. The effect is the listener turns off or lowers the temperature of the air conditioner. In daily life, communication is not only a direct conversation between a person and another person, but there is also a mass communication media that contains certain information. The media is film. Film is one of the media that is liked by many people both among children, adolescents, and adults. Each film contains a different story according to the purpose of the making. Film can be about education, entertainment or raising from a true story. In the film, there is a dialogue which is the most important thing in a film. Dialogues created between characters make the storyline more interesting. The dialogues presented in each of the scenes in the film contain meanings or messages either express or implied. The dialogue or conversation is used with the aim that the speech meaning or message contained in a film can be delivered to the audiences or viewers. One of the interesting films is *The Man Who Knew Infinity*. This film is a 2015 British biographical film that is taken from a 1991 book of the same name by Robert Kanigel. The film is directed by Matthew Brown. This film tells the true story of the life journey of a mathematician from Madras, India, named Srinivasa Ramanujan. Ramanujan is a person whose life is poor but he has a genius brain. He is able to formulate a mathematical theorem by himself. He really wants his work to be published. Then, he sends a letter which also contains his theorem to Prof. G.H. Hardy who is a professor at Trinity College, Cambridge, England. The aim is in order to his work can be recognized and publicized there. Shortly, Prof. Hardy invites him to come to Trinity College, Cambridge. However, the reality is that to publish a work or invention is not easy because it requires proof to be justified. Over time, Ramanujan finally succeeded in publishing his work which had been proven both by himself and the help of Prof. Hardy. Then, he is finally accepted as

a fellow of Royal Society (FRS). However, a year after Ramanujan become a fellow of Royal Society, he passes away at the age of 32 years old and left behind his great inventions. From the film, many lessons can be learned such as that success can be achieved because of the intention, hard work and perseverance. The research is about a film directed by Matthew Brown with the title "The Man Who Knew Infinity" as the object of research that refers to the forms and meanings of speech acts in the dialogues of the film and identifying 1. The forms of speech acts contained in the dialogues of the film "The Man Who Knew Infinity", and 2. The meanings of speech acts contained in the dialogues of the film "The Man Who Knew Infinity".

METHOD

Design of Research

The researcher employed a descriptive qualitative research method, which means that the data was collected in the form of words and pictures rather than numbers (Moleong, 2017, p. 11). Bogdan and Taylor (1975:5) define qualitative approaches as "research procedures that yield descriptive data in the form of written or vocal words from individuals and observable behavior" (Moleong, 2017, p. 4). According to Moleong (2017, p. 6), qualitative research aims to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the subject of the study, such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and others, in their entirety through description in the form of words and language, in an intact of natural context, and through the use of a variety of scientific methods. In the film *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, this method is used to identify the sorts of speech actions and to describe the meaning of the speech acts in the dialogues.

Instrument of the Research

According to Nasution (1988) cited by (Sugiyono, Metode Penelitian, 2017, p. 223) states "In qualitative research, there is no other choice than to make humans as the main research instrument. The reason is that, everything has no definite form. Problems, research focus, research procedures, hyphothese used, even expected results, all of them cannot be determined definitively and clearly beforehand. Everything still needs to be developed throughout the research. In a situation that is completely uncertain and unclear, there is no other choice and only the researcher itself is the only tool that can achieve it". Humans are a study tool, according to Moleong (2017, p. 168). In qualitative research, the role of the researcher can be rather challenging. The researcher is also a planner, an executor of data collecting, analysis, and data interpretation, and finally, a reporter of the research's findings. Understanding the instrument or research tool here is appropriate because it becomes everything from the whole research process. However, research instrument here is intended as data collection tool such as test on quantitative research. Based on the theory above, The instrument used in this research is the researcher herself who is assisted by tools such as books on speech acts theory and stationery that are used to write data as a result of listening to dialogue in the film "*The Man Who Knew Infinity*". The task of the researcher as an instrument is to determine the problem, find data source, collect data, analyse, and draw conclusions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter the researcher will present a discussion of the form and meaning of speech acts contained in the dialogue of the film "*The Man Who Knew Infinity*" by Matthew Brown. The research focuses on the analysis of speech acts of the theory of a British philosopher of language, namely John Langshaw Austin as in his book entitled "*How To Do Things With Words*" (1962). Based on his book, speech acts are divided into three, the first, locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act which will then be the topics in this research. The sequence of explanations will begin with the form of locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act contained in the dialogue of the film "*The Man Who Knew Infinity*", and then the meaning of locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act contained in the dialogue of the film "*The Man Who Knew Infinity*".

The Form and Meaning of Locutionary, Illocutionary and Perlocutionary Act contained in the dialogue of the film “The Man Who Knew Infinity”

The locutionary act, according to John L. Austin (How To Do Things With Words, 1962, pp. 94-95), is the act of saying something.¹ An illocutionary act is an utterance with a specific goal that includes not just stating something but also stating the act of speaking something. Persuasion, persuasion, deterring, and even surprise or misleading consequences can all be achieved through the use of perlocutionary acts (How To Do Things With Words, 1962, pp. 99-120). The writer discovered certain forms and meanings of locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts in the speech of the film "The Man Who Knew Infinity" when analyzing the data. The following is a summary of the analysis:

Ramanujan : “You can also see I’ve been conducting my own mathematical researches.”

Man : “You’ve no degree. You’re unemployable.”

Man : “I’ll write you a recommendation. Maybe someone...”

Ramanujan : “With All due respect, sir. I have recommendations. What I need is a Job. Please, I have a wife.”

Man : “You people are all the same. Now, get out! Now!”

Situation : When Ramanujan was in an office with clothes wet from the rain, he showed his findings to a man. Then the man gave a response of rejection.

1. Locutionary act : The utterance “You’ve no degree. You're unemployable." spoken by the speaker is only a statement that slolely spoken without the tendency to do something or to influence the hearer.
2. Illocutionary act : The illocutionary act contained in the dialogue above is act of Exercitives by paradigm case dismissing in which the speaker dismisses the hearer for certain action. Therefore, the utterance "You’ve no degree. You're unemployable." has intended meaning that the speaker directly dismisses the hearer to give a job at his office. The utterance of dismissing in this case marked by the expression of the speaker who feel distrustful of the findings shown by the hearer, because the hearer is a person who does not have a good educational history.
3. Perlocutionary act : By saying the utterance “You’ve no degree. You're unemployable." to the hearer, the speaker upsets the hearer.

CONCLUSION

The result of the research shows that there are 45 forms and the meanings of speech acts in fifteen dialogues consisting Locutionary, Illocutionary and Perlocutionary Act contained in the dialogues of the film “The Man Who Knew Infinity” by Matthew Brown focusing on the analysis of speech acts of the theory of a British philosopher of language, namely John Langshaw Austin as in his book entitled “How To Do Things With Words” (1962).

REFERENCE

- Afriani, S. H. (2015). *An Introduction to Linguistics (Second Edition ed.)*. Yogyakarta: Penerbit Ombak.
- Austin, J. (1962). *How To Do Things With Words*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Birner, B. J. (2013). *Introduction to Pragmatics*. UK: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Chaer, A. (2014). *Linguistik Umum*. Jakarta: PT RINEKA CIPTA. Chaer, A. (2014). *Linguistik Umum*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.
- Colman, F. (2009). *film. theory, and philosophy*. America: McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Fitria, T. N. (2019). An Analysis of Directive Speech Act Found in 'Koi Mil Gaya' Movie. *Journal of Pragmatics Research*, 1(02), 89-99. Fitria, T. N. (2021). Speech Act Analysis Found in Instagram Captions of 'Who Indonesia'.
- Fitria, TN (2021). Speech Act Analysis Found in Instagram Captions of "Who Indonesia". *Kajian Linguistik dan Sastra*, 6(1), 33-45.
- Ghesa Ririan Mitalia, dkk. (2012). *Behind The Silver Scene : Cinema Movies in Surabaya 1950- 1970*. Surabaya: Verleden (Jurnal Kesejarahan).
- Griffiths, P. (2006). *An Introductions to English Semantics and Pragmatics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. Jenlink, B. H. (2005). *Dialogue as a Means of Collective Communication*. The United States of America: Kluwer Academic Publisher.
- Kecskes, E. W. (2018). *From Pragmatics to Dialogue*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Lonergan, J. (1984). *Video in Language Teaching*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Moleong, P. D. (2017). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: PT Remaja Rosdakarya. Reiss, D. I. (2008). *I-Language ; An Introduction to Linguistic as Cognitive Science*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Riemer, N. (2010). *Introducing Semantics*. UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Searle, J. R. (1979). *Expression and Meaning*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Sugiyono, P. D. (2017). *Metode Penelitian*. Bandung: Alfabeta.