

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter deal with the background of the research that tell about general description about the research, introduce the reason why took this research, research problem, research objective, research significance, and research scope so that the research not float in another direction and also the key terms related with the tittle of this research.

Background of Study

Speech acts are important in the study of pragmatics. Context is something that clarifies a meaning. Someone will be able to understand the purpose of the ongoing speech by understanding the context. If someone gives an interpretation or translation of a sentence or utterance without looking at the context, then that person is doubtful to be able to capture the information that the speaker really wants to convey.

Referring to the view of Yule (1996) an action performed through utterance is called speech act. Speech acts are various forms of action taken by the speakers in using their language. Speech acts are focused on the meaning of an act. In this speech act, a speech carried out by the speaker to the hearer is to convey information. The meaning that communicated can not only be understood based on the use of language in speaking but also determined by aspects of communication comprehensively, including situational aspects in communication.

Moreover, in an utterance, there is what is called an utterance which has the intention of telling the listener to do something. As state by Searle (1976) the utterances that have attempts by the speaker to get the hearer to do something is

called Directive Act. The utterance occurs because of the speaker's encouragement to do something which is usually also driven by the conditions that require the speech to occur. For example, the utterance that forbids the listener to do something "do not open that door" means that the speaker forbids the listener to do something which is not open the door.

Whereas, directive acts can be found in daily conversation, movie in particular. According to Effendi as cited in Sugianto (2017) movie is defined as the result of culture and a means of artistic expression. Movie as mass communication is a combination of various technologies such as photography and sound recording, fine arts and theater arts, literature and architecture as well as music. Utterance in movie quiet interesting to become the research, cause of, analysis utterance in the movie can directly identify the words in the movie through the hearer's reaction, and even connect them with the context of the movie.

Afterwards, in this study, the researcher interest to do the research about directive act in the movie *Songbird*. This movie tells the story of the Covid-19 virus mutating to covid-23, it becomes more virulent and causing a brutal lockdown in 2024. People are required to carry out temperature checks on their cellphones, while those infected with COVID-23 are taken from their homes without their consent and forced to quarantine camps, also known as "Q-Zones" or concentration camps, where some fight back the brutal restrictions. In these camps, infected people are either left to die or forcibly recovered.

Considering the explanation above, there is some reasons make researchers use this movie for analysis. The reason is, this movie tells the story of Covid 23 where the world is currently still at war with the ferocity of Covid 19. The tense situations cause directive acts, whether by Nico and Sara as the main character in this movie or the government officials who have the right to say prohibiting or ordering citizens to do as the regulations are made based on the existing situation. *Songbird*, on the other hand, was dismissed by film critics as fear propaganda that failed to capitalize on its premise. Some Twitter users believe that this movie trailer is tone deaf, and that it is not the right time to make a film about a deadly pandemic. They claim that the film exploits people's fears in the midst of a pandemic in order to make a profit. Aside from the problems associated with the film's release, the researcher discovered numerous utterances containing directive acts spoken by the actors in the film. As a result, the researcher intends to analyze this film using the directive act theory.

In addition, directive acts in this movie occur because there is a situation that gave rise to the speech. In this movie, the tension is triggered by the Covid 23 virus outbreak. This virus causes panic in the entire American community. The community has to stop outdoor activities. Some people have to resign from their jobs and look for other jobs. This atmosphere also causes fear in the community due to the enactment of government regulations that will impose a shooting penalty for people who violate the rules. Therefore, directive act utterances appear in this movie. Directive utterances such as warn, command, prohibit, forbid, and so on. Here the following example of directive acts in this movie:

When Nico and Sara spoke on the phone, Lester called Nico to check if Nico was up to the task.

Lester: what the hell are you doing? Don't you have somewhere to be?

Like a high-priority drop on the west side?

Nico: I'm on it. Say hi to Sara

Based on the conversation above, the researcher determined Lester's utterance as directive act category 'command'. It is because, when Lester said "*what the hell are you doing? Don't you have somewhere to be? Like a high-priority drop on the west side?*" Even though Lester's utterance contains a question, but that sentence intends to command. It can identify form "*Like a high-priority drop on the west side*" So, Lester command Nico to deliver the package to the west side.

Furthermore, based on the explanation of this study's background, the researcher attempts to conduct this research entitled *Directive act in songbird Movie*.

Research Questions

From the background above the research question of this research is, "What are the Types of Directive act in *Songbird* movie"?

Research Objective

The objective of this research is to describe types of directive act in *Songbird* movie.

Research Significance

This research is expected to contribute to academic objectives related to theoretical and practical. Theoretically significance, this research is expected to increase reader or students' ability, especially English department students, in understanding Illocutionary act, especially in understanding the types of directive acts in movies. As a practical significance, for the lecturer, this research is expected to help the lecturers in describing directive act in the movie; also for the student, it can be a reference to the next researcher who needs to write other research about illocutionary act, especially directive act.

Research Scope

The scope of this study is to find out the types of directive act in *songbird* movie using Searle and Vanderveken's (1985) theory of illocutionary act. There are 24 types of directive acts. Those are direct, request, ask, urge, tell, require, demand, command, order, forbid, prohibit, enjoin, permit, suggest, insist, warn, advise, recommend, beg, supplicate, entreat, beseech, implore, and pray. The researchers used their theory because they defined the types of directive act in detail.

Research Key Terms**1. Speech Act**

Yule (1996) stated that speech act is actions performed via utterance. So, when someone says something, he is not only saying but also used it to perform act like ordering, suggesting, stating and so forth.

2. Directives

In the directive, the speaker tries to make the listener do something.

Examples are orders, requests, and commands.

3. *Songbird* Movie

This movie tells about Covid-19 virus mutating to covid-23 that becomes more virulent and causing a brutal lockdown in 2024.