

CLASSIFYING SPEECH ACT IN THE MOVIE *TO ALL THE BOYS ALWAYS AND FOREVER*

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Abstract: Language is a critical component of communication tools. People can form good relationships by communicating with one another. They must understand what the speaker says in order to communicate effectively. In this case, learning speech act theory is critical to addressing these issues. Speech acts are actions that can be performed through utterance. This study aims at analyzing types of speech act and the classifications of speech act through the conversation in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever* since the movie used a common language which contextually engaged well with the theory. The descriptive method was applied in this research to analyze the utterances of the main character and the interlocutor through the transcriptions of the “*To All The Boys Always and Forever*” movie. The writer analyzed the data by categorizing the utterances of the main character by using John Searle’s theory then matching the meaning of context with the definitions of locutionary, illocutionary and, perlocutionary. The result shows that only 2 perlocutionary acts found in the speaker utterances since the main character. The locutionary act are uttered 33% in the conversation that required less effort to obtain the ideas of what the speakers saying. The illocutionary acts were dominantly found in the utterances and define as the most prominent language used by the main character as we need to understand the meaning by looking at the speaker context.

Keywords: Speech Acts, Locutionary, Illocutionary, Perlocutionary, Movie.

Abstrak: Bahasa adalah komponen penting dari alat komunikasi. Orang dapat menjalin hubungan baik dengan berkomunikasi satu sama lain. Mereka harus memahami apa yang dikatakan pembicara agar dapat berkomunikasi secara efektif. Dalam hal ini, mempelajari teori tindak tutur sangat penting untuk mengatasi permasalahan tersebut. Tindak tutur adalah tindakan yang dapat dilakukan melalui ujaran. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis jenis-jenis tindak tutur dan klasifikasi tindak tutur melalui percakapan dalam film *To All The Boys Always and Forever* karena film tersebut menggunakan bahasa umum yang secara kontekstual sesuai dengan teori. Metode deskriptif diterapkan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis ucapan tokoh utama dan lawan bicara melalui transkripsi film “*To All The Boys Always and Forever*”. Penulis menganalisis data dengan mengkategorikan ujaran tokoh utama dengan menggunakan teori John Searle kemudian mencocokkan makna konteks dengan definisi lokusi, ilokusi, dan perlokusi. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa hanya 2 tindak pralokusi yang ditemukan dalam ujaran penutur sejak awal. karakter utama. Tindak lokusi diucapkan 33% dalam percakapan yang memerlukan sedikit usaha untuk memperoleh gagasan tentang apa yang dikatakan pembicara. Tindak ilokusi dominan ditemukan dalam ujaran dan didefinisikan sebagai bahasa yang paling menonjol yang digunakan oleh tokoh utama karena kita perlu memahami maknanya dengan melihat konteks pembicara.

Kata kunci: Tindak tutur, Lokusi, Ilokusi, Perlokusi, Film.

1. INTRODUCTION

As human beings, people need to socialize with other people. When socializing with other people, human needs language as a tool for our communication. A language is an object

coming from the inside of the speaking subject to reveal the meaningful, intentional desire of the individual. Wardhaugh (2010) states that language is a scheme of articulation figures used for communication. Language has an important act because it is used to deliver information, ideas,

feelings, and desires in communication. Communication has always been an essential part of human life. Through communication, people can exchange ideas and directly promote the development of the quality of life itself. When people communicate with others, they use articulation to express what they have in their minds to the listener. Communication is essential because it can create a relationship with other individuals and groups. Communication can happen in both verbal and nonverbal forms. Buck & VanLear (2002) distinguish between two types of communication: verbal and nonverbal. The process of exchanging information using words in the following ways is known as verbal communication. Gestures, body movements, eye contact, facial expressions, and general appearance are all examples of nonverbal communication. Newspapers, televisions, magazines, news, social media, YouTube, and other media outlets are all used to spread information. The purpose of communication itself is informative, which means requirements done by a speaker and delivered through language. Under normal circumstances, listeners provide help, record promises, congratulate and provide information. In the process of comprehension, the audience will figure out the meaning of the sentence. To make communication more effective, we need a partner or hearer. People can understand speech acts without misunderstandings. Speech act learning is a solution because it can overcome common misconceptions. Divergence can cause listeners to have a misunderstanding about what the speaker is talking about. Many ways can be done to study speech acts; one of them is by watching movies.

Based on these cases, it is possible to study speech acts to apply them in our daily social interactions. The speech act is the primary component of communication. By performing speech acts, the speaker attempts to convey the purpose or intention of communication so that the hearer or addressee can understand. Speech acts are both types of verbal communication and pragmatic subdivisions that occur in both verbal and nonverbal communication. According to Yule (1996), speech acts assess how speakers and listeners use language. Speech acts are a combination of the words speech and act. The utterance that occurs is known as speech, and the action is known as an act. In the procedure, there are at least three different types of speech acts (Searle, 1969).

The speech act theory has been a distinguished pragmatic approach imbued with analysis. According to the historical tracers of this theory, it was first sparked by the German philosopher Wittgenstein but was later tainted by Searle and Austin. According to Searle (1969), the speech act or acts performed in the utterance of a sentence are specifically an activity of the meaning in the sentence. Because the meaning of a sentence does not consistently uniquely achieve what speech act is achieved in given utterances of that sentence, a speaker may mean more than what he says, but this is not always the case; he can always tell what he is saying. Speech act theory, which is most famously attributed to John Searle, is intended to help us understand how people accomplish things with their words.

These are the types of Speech Act:

1. Locutionary

Locutionary speech acts seem to be roughly equivalent to uttering specific utterances with specific sense and reference, which are also approximately equal to meaning in the traditional sense (Austin, 1962). Cutting (2002) agrees, stating that what is said is locutionary. Yule (1996) defines the locutionary act as the act of generating meaningful utterances.

2. Illocutionary

The communicative force, such as promising, apologizing, or offering, performs the illocutionary act (Yule, 1996). This is also known as the act of doing something to say something.

3. Perlocutionary

According to Hufford and Heasley (1983), a perlocutionary act is the act of a speaker when making an utterance that affects the hearer and others.

Searle (1969) developed a theory of Austin by adding some classifications of the Speech Act in illocutionary. According to Levinson (1983), the types of the Speech Acts in the illocutionary are representatives, directives, commissive, expressive, and declarations.

It is roughly equivalent to uttering a precise utterance with a specific sense and reference to uttering a locutionary speech act, defined as producing meaningful utterance (Yule, 1996). The illocutionary act is performed by using the communicative power of an utterance, such as promising, apologizing, or offering. According to Hufford and Heasley (1983), A perlocutionary act is the act of a speaker when making an utterance that affects the hearer and others. The significance of comprehending the various aspects of speech acts to communicate effectively can be well

established. This means that when people speak, they use language to perform multiple functions, including expressing multiple emotions, forming opinions, or even insulting someone. When the speaker says something, in addition to a word or phrase, there are specific purposes. Tsui (1994) established speech acts as actions performed by generated words. In line with this, Yule (1996) stated that speech acts are acts performed through words, and for this study, the writer used a movie as the object of study to understand the speech act in a real contextual conversation.

A movie is one of the visual and communicative media to learn language. it conveys meaningful information to the audience. The characteristics of communication reflect ordinary communication in daily life. As part of the entertainment media, most people watch movies, especially when bored or have free time. This film not only brings entertainment to the audience but also provides specific information. By watching and learning movies, we can also improve our vocabulary, moral values, educational values, etc., especially for non-native speakers trying to learn the language of movies. As a literary work, a movie script contains a dialogue with a specific background. One of the contexts that can often be learned in the communication between characters in movies is a speech act.

Some previous studies are talking about speech act, they are: The first previous research was conducted by Paswasari Yuani Kiuk and Ghozali (2018). Their study talked about speech acts in the movie of *Hacksaw Ridge*. Their study only focused on the illocutionary act and the element of illocutionary using a theory of John

Searle. The genre of *Hacksaw Ridge* movies is action, war, drama, and Sci-Fi. However, in this study, the writer used the same theory from John Searle but not only focused on illocutionary acts. The writer focused on all types of speech acts: locutionary, illocutionary and, perlocutionary acts. Furthermore, Zulfa, et al., (2018). Their study talked about speech acts in the movie *London Has Fallen*. Their study only focused on the illocutionary act and the element of illocutionary using a theory of Austin. The *London Has Fallen* movie genre is an action movie, while in this study, the writer used a romance comedy movie as the object of the study. through this study, it is hope to clearly figure out the types of speech act in the movie as well as the classification using theory of John Searle.

Through this thesis, the writer suggested that speech act could be one of the topics for future researched studies, especially for English language students. It is expected that other writers will make some progress on this study even though it could only analyze very limited data due to time and knowledge constraints. It is also hoped that other writers will be able to cover a broader range of linguistic and educational topics.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is descriptive. Descriptive research primarily focuses on describing the characteristics of the research samples. In addition, Sugiyono (2012) states that descriptive research is research conducted to determine variables, either one or more, without making

comparisons or relating to other variables. The research used the descriptive method because the writer described the utterances in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever* by Lara Jean as the main character. The writer categorized the utterances into the kinds of speech acts. Furthermore, the writer described the classification of speech acts using a theory by John Searle which termed into three categories, Locutionary, perlocutionary and illocutionary and the object of this study is *To All The Boys Always and Forever* movie. The movie was released on February 15, 2021. The writer used the utterances of Lara Jean as the main character in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever*.

To collect the data, the writer defined documentation and note taking data techniques to collect the important data. As the writer watched the movie and read the movie's script *To All The Boys Always and Forever*, the writer noted the utterances by the main character, Lara Jean, to get the essential data for this study which possibly show speech acts used by Lara Jean in the movie

The collected data of the study was analyzed by categorizing the utterances of the main character in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever* as the data for this study by using John Searle's theory since his theory systematically focuses on the speech delivering way and process of those speeches that might have contain particular meaning. Then the writer categorized the utterances by matching the meaning of the context with the definitions of locutionary, illocutionary and, perlocutionary acts.

3. RESULT

The data in this finding section was found after watching the movie, then reading the movie transcript as its supporting. The writer presented the findings of speech act classification according to John Searle's theory that is classified as illocutionary act perlocutionary act and locutionary act.

The finding is related to the locutionary acts performed by Lara Jean. that statements performed by Lara Jean have 100% frequency. It is because the locutionary act is the literal meaning of the utterances.

Linguists use classifications to convey information about speech acts. The classifications are based on the illocutionary act, which was proposed by Austin (1962) and later developed by Searle (1979). Searle (1979) divided illocutionary acts into five categories. Representatives, directives, commissive, expressive, and declaratives are the categories.

3.1. Locutionary act performed by Lara Jean

In the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever*, the writer analyzed the classifications of Illocutionary acts in the utterances produced by the main character.

The literal meaning of what it said is defined as a locutionary act (Paltridge, 2012, p. 40), so the meaning of the speaker's utterance is based on the meaning of the phrase in the dictionary.

The examples of this locutionary can be seen as follows:

Data 1

Peter: Character socks! Come on, Thanks!

Lara: They were kind of hard to find in your size.

In the conversation above, Lara and Peter are in the living room. Lara gives a gift that she brought from Korea. Lara gave the character socks. Peter said "Character socks! Come on, Thanks!" Peter was delighted with what Lara gave him, and he thanked her. Then Lara gave the statement, "They were kind of hard to find in your size." Lara had a hard time finding the right size socks for Peter.

Data 2:

Lara: We are a terrible rom-com couple.

Peter: I remember how we met.

In the conversation above, Lara and Peter are talking about how they met; Lara feels that she and Peter do not have a meet-cute as that Kitty had with her boyfriend in Korea. Then Lara said, "We are a terrible rom-com couple." then Peter tried to persuade him by saying, "I remember how we met."

Data 3:

Lara: We're having an amazing time together.

In the utterance above, Lara is stating something it is "We're having an amazing time together." Stating is the definition of locutionary, and it is included in locutionary.

The examples of this locutionary can be seen as follows :

Data 1: Lara: We're having an amazing time together.

3.2. Illocutionary act performed by Lara Jean

Data 1:

Peter: Kitty met a boy, that is insane!

Lara: They met at the love lock, such a meet-cute

What Lara Jean says in the dialogue is to explain that Kitty, her sister, met a boy in Korea. Peter looks surprised because Kitty is a child who hates love and is very tomboyish all this time. Then Lara tries to explain to Peter that they met at Love Lock by accident when they were about to take a family photo together, and she also explains that their meeting was funny and memorable. That is why he said, "They met in the lock of love, a funny meeting," which is interpreted as his statement that the speech in the example above is representative.

Data 2:

Trina: You sure you don't wanna do it?

Lara: I can't; I'm bad luck!

In the conversation, Lara and her family were in the living room and talking about the University that Lara Jean had registered for. Lara Jean tries to explain to her stepmother that she feels unlucky in everything, including getting into university. That's why he said, "I can't; I have bad luck." Previously, her stepmother asked her if she was sure she refused to check the admission herself.

Lara also refuses because she is not confident and afraid of failing to enter the university she is applying for. Lara's statement "I can't, I'm unlucky" was the summed-up statement by her representative. He was already

disappointed because previously, Lara Jean also applied to the University of her dreams and Peter Kavinsky, namely Stanford University, but she did not pass.

Data 3:

Kitty: And she's nicer than you are.

Lara: You could at least pretend to miss me. It's only decent. Also...

In the dialogue above, Kitty and Lara Jean are at Lara's door, and they are talking about Lara going out of the house to study at the University. Kitty explains that her sister (Margot) is friendlier than Lara Jean. In that situation, there is a scene where Lara asks Kitty if she will miss her, then Kitty's answer does not match what Lara wanted, and Lara Jean is so angry and upset that she says, "You could at least pretend to miss me. It's only decent. Also..." He hoped Kitty would miss him when he went to university and was away from his family, but Lara did not get the answers she wanted. The phrase Lara said was representative because Lara complained to Kitty about why she did not want to tell the truth or pretended to miss her. Therefore, the classifications of Illocutionary performed by Lara Jean

Declarations are those illocutionary acts that, when something will change, as it is said. This is aligned with Yule's assertion (1996), who claims that declarations are the types of speech acts that change the world with your words. In this case, the speakers' utterances, when they produce, they immediately change the world. The writer found nothing (0%) on the declarative part in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever*.

Representatives are speech acts that state whether the speaker believes something to be

right or wrong (Yule, 1996). The person reveals something that he or she believes to be true. This type of illocutionary act is the most common in Lara Jean utterances, as the highest frequently occurring type up to 53.01%.

Stating is the way of saying something carefully, completely, and clearly in spoken or written words. It is used to organize, fix, or announce something in advance. People make a statement that expresses something in words to express what they are thinking.

The examples of stating performed by Lara Jean are as follows:

Data 4:

Chris: Are you ready to talk to Kavinsky?

Lara: No, No. I'm gonna wait. Tell him when I get there.

In the text, Chris, one of Lara Jean's friends, asks if Lara is ready to tell Peter Kavinsky the truth about the rejection by Stanford University. In the scene, Lara and Chris are lifting Chris's suitcase to be put on the bus they will ride to New York. Then Lara Jean said, " No, No. I'm gonna wait. Tell him when I get there". Lara didn't seem ready to say it before they left for New York for the University Tour. Lara also confirms to Chris that she will tell Peter Kavinsky when they get there (New York). Based on the conversation above, Lara Jean's utterance states that she will wait until they arrive there (New York), concluding that it is a statement given by Lara and it is part of the representative in the illocutionary.

Data 5:

Peter: Times Square! This place is massive!

Lara: I could never drive here.

In the text above, Lara Jean, Peter, and other friends are on a bus bound for New York. They were very excited and happy on their way to New York. They saw many famous places and did not think they were in New York. Then Lara said, "I could never drive here" to Peter Kavinsky. He explained that it was a long way from where they lived, and Lara could not afford to drive that far. Based on the narrative above, Lara Jean stated that she was not willing to drive to New York because of the long-distance, and that was part of the representation because Lara made a statement.

Data 6:

Peter: Stanford and Berkeley are rivals!

Lara: So, that makes us like Romeo and Juliet of college.

In the text above, Peter Kavinsky and Lara Jean are talking about their university at a cafe they frequent. Long story short, Lara tells Peter that she doesn't qualify for admission to Stanford University. Peter tells Lara that Stanford and Berkeley are two universities that compete with each other on everything. Then Lara replied, "So, that makes us like Romeo and Juliet in college." like Romeo and Juliet, whose relationship not everyone agrees on. What Lara Jean had said was what she thought was true, and she stated that to Peter, who is part of the representative in illocutionary acts.

Explaining basically tells someone about something in a clear and easy-to-understand sense.

Data 7:

Dr. Covey: So is space, and a good relationship has both.

Lara: Three thousand miles seems like maybe too many space.

In the text above, Lara Jean is talking to her father. They were in the kitchen; Lara was baking a cake to perfect the cake recipe she would make for her father's wedding. They talk about distance and love. Lara Jean expressed that she could not have a long-distance relationship with Peter Kavinsky because she felt that she would be very sad to be away from Peter. Later, his father (Dr. Covey) advised him by saying, "So is space, and a good relationship has both." but Lara Jean still felt that she could not make it, and she said, "Three thousand miles seems like too many space." In the text, Lara explains her disability in long-distance relationships, and it's included in the representation in the illocutionary because she explains something.

Complaining is an act of expressing displeasure or annoyance about something. We complain to express our dissatisfaction with something.

Data 9:

Kitty: Oh, great. Then wear a tux.

Lara: You're gonna ruin the whole look.

Lara Jean, Kitty, and Trina are in the dining room, and they are talking about the clothes they will wear to their father and stepmother's wedding in the text above. Kitty is a tomboyish child; he has a fashion sense that resembles that of a boy. In comparison, Lara Jean is a beautiful and feminine

young girl. Lara Jean loves anything beautiful and cute. During the conversation, Lara Jean complained about the outfit Kitty suggested saying, "You're gonna ruin the whole look." complaining is part of the representative in illocutionary.

3.3. Perlocutionary acts performed by Lara Jean

Perlocution in this Movie can be seen through these following utterances.

Data 1:

Lara: Peter, I found it, our song. Chris and I are at some random NYU party, and then the band started playing it. And it's perfect. I'm going to send you a video.

In the conversation above, Lara Jean calls Peter Kavinsky and talks about a song about their love story. Previously, Lara wanted to have a song that told about their love story, and they were looking for the right song for their story. Then Lara goes to a party hosted by NYU, and one of the guest stars sings an exciting song. Then Lara decided to make it a song that told their story. Lara said into the phone, "and it's perfect. I'm going to send you a video." she will send the video she has recorded before. The utterance issued by Lara is part of the perlocutionary because she will surprise Peter.

Data 2:

Lara: I know how to pick our song.

Peter: Do you?

Lara: Choose a number, any number, and whatever plays that's it. It's fate.

Peter : Do I have quarters?... Ah...

Lara : Yay.

Peter : One quarter?

Lara : *Alright.*
Peter : *Ummm... I pick?*
Lara : *Yes..*
Peter : *Six... C26.*
Lara : *Okay..*

In the conversation, Lara Jean was at the cafe with Peter. They are waiting for their order to arrive. Meanwhile, they talk about the song they want as a song that tells about their love story. When at the cafe, there is a song machine, and you can listen to songs by inserting a coin and selecting the desired number, then the song will play. Lara said, "I know how to pick our song." when starting a conversation about the song they wanted. Then Peter responds with "do you?" while laughing, and Lara answered, "Choose a number, any number, and whatever plays that is it." Lara told Peter Kavinsky to pick a number, any number for their song. Then, Peter said "Six. C26". It is part of perlocutionary because in that conversation, Lara asking Peter to do something.

In this study, there are speech acts in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever*. The results of this study consisted of 188 data referring to locutionary because locutionary is the action is what people said literally, no hidden meaning. Lara Jean lets out a lot of utterances that have no hidden meaning and she just says them without any reason. Second, in the illocutionary there were 83 data which were divided into representative, declarative, directive, expressive and commissive. The representative section consisted of 44 data of informing, stating, describing, explaining, affirming, complaining, predicting, arguing, convincing and agreeing. In the declarative there was 0 data because Lara Jean's words do not refer to the declaration of war

or the declaration of fate, that is why the writer did not find any data from the declarative part. Then in the directive there were 34 data. The data consisted of warning, questions, commanding, suggesting, requesting and inviting. Next, in the expressive section, there were 4 data found in the expressive section. The parts of the expressive are greeting, complementing, mocking, expressing anger, expressing possibility, expressing dislike, expressing regret. In commissive, there was 1 data found. The commissive part is promising and pledging but the writer only found 1 data, namely promising, the words spoken by Lara Jean as the main character. The last is perlocutionary. In this study, the writer found 3 data that was spoken by Lara Jean. Part of perlocutionary are to convince the hearer, to surprise the hearer, to bore the hearer, to annoy the hearer, to frighten the hearer, to cause the hearer, to insult the hearer, to alarm the hearer, to enlighten the listener, to inspire the listener, to get the hearer to do something, to get the hearer to realize something. In this study, the writer only found 1 data from to surprise the hearer and 2 data from to get the hearer to do something. Overall, the data that has been found are 274 of speech act in the movie *To All The Boys Always and Forever*.

4. CONCLUSION

Locution is the utterance of what the speaker says, illocution is the aim of what the speaker says, and perlocution is the impact of what the speaker says (Swastiana et al., 2020). Therefore, based on the findings and discussions, there were 188 utterances that were uttered by

Lara Jean in the movie. for illocutionary acts got the highest percentage of Lara Jean's utterances which are up to 53.01%. This showed that Lara Jean always interacts with her friends, family and others. In terms of perlocutionary acts, there were two acts which occur to Lara Jean's utterances. They were to surprise the hearer with 33.33% and to get the hearer to do something with 66.66%. related to speech events and speech acts being discussed by researchers, the film shows that the incident Locutionary speech acts that provide literal meaning are reflected in each dialogue delivered by a character and provides information for other characters. as stated by Rahayu, Syahrizal, and Sadikin (2019) state that speech acts are actions in language that arise when speaking something. Meanwhile, the incident related to illocutionary speech acts, namely speech events that contain the power to perform a particular action in conjunction with saying or committing to something.

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