



## **Illocutionary Acts Found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* Movie**

**Ni Wayan Dita Novita Sari<sup>1</sup>, Ni Wayan Suastini<sup>2</sup>, Ni Nyoman Deni Ariyaningsih<sup>3</sup>**

English Study Program Faculty of Foreign Languages, Mahasaraswati Denpasar University,  
Jl. Kamboja No. 11 A Denpasar - Bali, 80233

Correspondence Email : [Ditanovita08@gmail.com](mailto:Ditanovita08@gmail.com), [suastini28@unmas.ac.id](mailto:suastini28@unmas.ac.id),  
[nym.deni@yahoo.com](mailto:nym.deni@yahoo.com).

### **Abstract**

This study focused on analyzing the types of illocutionary acts and the implied meaning of illocutionary act found in the characters utterance in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie. This study used the theory proposed by Searle (1979), about the types of illocutionary acts and a theory from Leech (1981), about the meaning. The data were collected by using library research. The method of analyzing the data was descriptive qualitative method. Formal and informal method is used to present the finding. The finding of this study shows that there are 35 data of illocutionary acts found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie. Those five types of illocutionary acts consist of 10 ( 29%) data of representatives, 14 (40%) data of directives, 5 (14%) of commissives, 5 (14%) data of expressives and 1 (3%) datum of declaratives.

**Keywords:** *Illocutionary acts, implied meaning*

### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini difokuskan untuk menganalisis jenis-jenis tindak ilokusi dan makna tersirat dari tindak ilokusi tersebut yang terkandung di dalam ucapan karakter dalam film *Sonic, The Hedgehog*. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Searle (1979), tentang jenis-jenis tindakan ilokusi dan teori dari Leech (1981), tentang makna. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan studi pustaka. Data di analisis menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Metode formal dan informal digunakan untuk menyajikan temuan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 35 data dari tindak ilokusi yang ditemukan dalam film *Sonic, The Hedgehog*. Kelima jenis ilokusi tersebut terdiri dari 10 (29%) data representatif, 14 (40%) data direktif, 5 (14%) data komisif, 5 (14%) data ekspresif dan 1 (3%) data deklaratif.

**Kata kunci:** *Tindakan ilokusi, makna tersirat*

### **Introduction**

Communication becomes the most important things in human life, to interact with other people. During the process of communication, people need language as a tool to convey their idea, though, and emotion—the study about language which focused on the way of the speaker in using a language called speech act. According to Searle (1979), speech acts are the basic unit of language used to perform the action through the utterance. Besides, people can perform some action by saying something to someone without doing it themselves. Searle (1979) also proposed that there are three basic aspects of speech acts such as locutionary acts, illocutionary acts and

perlocutionary acts. The speech act discusses the action performed by the speaker by saying something is called illocutionary acts.

There are five categories of illocutionary acts based on a theory proposed by Searle (1979), which are representatives, directives, commissives, expressives and declaratives. Representative is the act that states what the speaker believes to be case or not. This act included informing, describing and claiming. Directive is the act that used by the speaker to make the interlocutor to do something based on the speaker utterance such as in commanding, requesting. Commissive is the act that commits the speaker to some future course of action such as promising, threatening and guarantee. Expressive is the act that used to express the speaker's feeling and emotion such as in thanking, apologizing, expression of like or dislike. Declarative is the act that brings some alteration to the object referred and it can change the world via utterance. This act included declaring, approving and blessing. Those types are used to convey the speaker's intention by utterance a particular function and based on the situation and condition. Commonly, people do not convey their intention directly on the utterance or on its literal meaning. It can be said that what has said by the people has a meaning more than what it is said.

The implied meaning of illocutionary acts can be classified into some types. According to Leech (1981: 9-19) in his book entitled *Semantic*, there are seven types of meaning such as Conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, collocative meaning and thematic meaning. Conceptual meaning is the literal meaning of the word that indicates with the idea or the concept to which it refers. Connotative meaning is the meaning of word that over and above its conceptual content or its literal meaning. Social meaning is a piece of language conveys about the social circumstances of different dimensions and levels of style within the same language. Affective meaning is the meaning of word used to express the emotion. Reflected meaning is the meaning of word that can response to another sense based on its context. Collocative meaning consists of the associations a word acquires on account of meanings of words which tend to occur in its environment. Thematic meaning is communicated by the way in which a speaker or writer organizes the message, in terms of ordering, focus, and emphasis.

Based on Situmorang and Handayani (2020), in their study entitled *Illocutionary Acts in Anger Management Movie* stated that illocutionary means what is the speaker achieved by communicating their intention through the utterance. In their research, the five types of illocutionary are found. It is included representative/assertive, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. The most common types of illocutionary acts found in *Anger Management* movie is directive. It is meant that some people would like to describe their feeling through their utterance and people also liked to make other people to do something or not to do something based on their intention by using directive types of illocutionary acts (Situmorang and Handayani: 2020).

Setiani and Utami (2018), in their study entitled *An Analysis of Illocutionary Act in "How To Train Your Dragon 2" Movie* found there are five types of illocutionary acts in that movie. Those are included representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. As the result, representative becomes the most dominant types of illocutionary acts in *How To Train Your Dragon 2* movie produced by the

main character named Hiccup. It means that Hiccup mostly convey his intention by describing states or events in the world as what he believes. (Setiani and Utami: 2018).

Prakarsa (2017), in his study entitled *The Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in the Titanic Movie*, stated that from the five types of illocutionary acts, there are only four types of illocutionary acts found in Titanic movie. Those are assertive, directives, commissives, and expressive. He also stated that declarations could not be founded due to the story and the setting in that movie did not include the situation which declaration can be occurred. Therefore, it can be seen that the context of situation is necessary to know the speakers intention contain their utterance. (Prakarsa: 2017)

The types of illocutionary acts can be found not only in daily communication. However, it can be found in a literary work such as a movie. According to Hornby (2006: 950), the movie is a series of pictures and sound that recorded by camera. It represents a story of human life. There are many conversations occurs between the characters in movie. Thus, it is possible to find the types of illocutionary acts in the characters utterance. Furthermore, this study focused on identifying the types of illocutionary acts found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie based on a theory about the types of illocutionary acts from Searle (1979). Besides that, this study also analyzing the implied meaning behind the characters' utterance. It is necessary to know the implied meaning contained in their utterance to make the communication going well. Therefore, a theory about meaning from Leech (1981) is also applied to analyze the implied meaning contains in the character's utterance in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie. Furthermore, to analyse the implied meaning, it is important to know the context of situation. According to Halliday (1978: 10), "the context of situation is a theoretical construct for explaining how a text relates to the social processes within which it is located." It means that the context of situation is used to explaining the setting of the story in the movie such as where it takes place, when it occurred and who is involved in the story. By knowing the context of situation, the implied meaning in the speakers' utterances can be analyzed.

## Method

The data of this study were taken from the utterance of the characters in *Sonic, the Hedgehog* movie. The data were collected using library research methods such as watching the movie and reading the script, then classifying the data based on the five types of illocutionary acts. Those are representatives, directives, commissives, expressive, and declaratives. Descriptive qualitative method was applied to analyze the data by using two theories. First theory applied is proposed by Searle (1979), to identify the types of illocutionary acts and theory from Leech (1981), to analyze the implied meaning of the utterance. In presenting the data, this study used formal and informal method. In the formal method, the data is presented in the form of table to show the occurrence of the types of illocutionary acts found in the movie. The informal method is used to explain the meaning contained in the characters utterance.

## Result and Discussion

The finding of this research showed that there are 35 data of illocutionary acts found in the movie *Sonic, the Hedgehog*. Those data consist of five types of illocutionary such as representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives based on the Searle (1979) theory. Besides that, there are only five types of implied meaning found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie. Those are conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning, and thematic meaning based on Leech's theory (1981). Meanwhile, Leech proposed seven types of meaning in his theory such as Conceptual meaning, connotative meaning, social meaning, affective meaning, reflected meaning and thematic meaning.

### Result

The finding is presented in the table to show the amount of Illocutionary acts found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie and the implied meaning contained in the characters' utterance. It can be seen in the table 3.1 below.

Table 1. Types of Illocutionary Found in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* Movie

No	Types of Illocutionary Acts	Frequency	Meaning	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Representatives	10	Connotative	7	29%
			Conceptual	2	
			Affective	1	
2.	Directives	14	Connotative	8	40%
			Conceptual	4	
			Thematic	1	
			Reflected	1	
3.	Commissives	5	Connotative	4	14%
			Conceptual	1	
4.	Expressives	5	Affective	5	14%
5.	Declaratives	1	Conceptual	1	3%
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>100%</b>

Based on Table 3.1, the most dominant types of illocutionary acts found in the characters' utterance in *Sonic, The Hedgehog* movie is directives. Thus, the characters mostly perform the actions such as commanding, requesting, ordering, asking and begging to make the other characters do something based on the speaker's utterance. Besides that connotative meaning is mostly used in by the characters in their utterance. The total of connotative meaning found in the characters utterance is 19 data. It can be seen that the characters mostly used connotative meaning to convey their intention.

## Discussion

In this part, the data analysis is presented by showing the conversation between the characters that contained the illocutionary acts. Then, it continued by explaining the types of illocutionary acts contained in the utterance and its implied meaning. The italic form is used to show the part of the utterance that contained illocutionary acts. Meanwhile, there are only five examples of the data which have been selected showed in this study. Those data are consisted of representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives. The analysis of the data can be seen below.

## Representatives

Searle (1979) stated that representative is used to commit the speaker to something being case or to the truth based on what the speaker believed. This types can be included describing, boasting, informing and claiming. Meanwhile, this study only provides one type of representative which is informing. The analysis of the data can be seen as follow.

### Data 1

Tom : Hey, Wade.

Wade : Hi, Tom. Wade here, what is going on?

Tom : (pressing a nearby light switch) Oh, gosh. I think the power is out.

Wade : *You don't durr! The lights are out and the whole town is freaking out.*  
W- what should I do?

(Minute 16.21)

The above conversation occurred on the telephone between Tom and Wade. They both talked about what was going on in their town San Francisco, which caused the power outage and made all the people panic. The utterance *The lights are out and the whole town is freaking out* is considered representative of informing. It can be seen that Wade informs Tom about the current situation in San Francisco that the lights are out and the whole town is freaking out. Besides, Wade intends to tell Tom the cause of the great power outage in San Francisco.

The meaning contains behind Wade's utterance can be categorized as connotative meaning because Wade uses the above expression to convey what he refers to in his utterance. The expression *You don't durr!* means that Wade disagrees with Tom that only said this case is only unserious power outage. Besides that, the expression *The lights are out and the whole town is freaking out* here is connoted to the current situation at San Francisco that shows the entire town becomes dark because of the power outage, and all the people become panic. Besides, Wade intends to say

that this power outage case is severe because it occurs in the whole town, and no one knows what has made it occurred.

### **Directives**

According to Searle (1979) this types of illocutionary acts can be used to get someone to do or not to do something based on the fact attempts by the speaker. Furthermore, this act can be used to convey the speaker's intention or desire through the utterance. In addition, the types of directives include commanding, requesting, ordering, begging and inviting. In this study, requesting is used as the example of directives.

### **Data 2**

Maddie : Hi...Tom?  
Tom : Yeah?  
Maddie : *Can I talk to you please?*

(01.06.27)

The conversation above occurred at Maddie's house. Tom needed Maddie's help to wake up Sonic, who was fainted. At the time, Maddie was shocked seeing Sonic after Ozzy pulls away the towel wrapped Sonic's body. Maddie needed Tom's explanation about what was happening to him and Sonic. Then, she asked for a moment to talk to Tom. Maddie's utterance can be classified as a directive in the types of requesting. It can be seen that Maddie wants to talk to Tom about Sonic and what has happened on him until he was suspected to have done a criminal action due to the power outage case.

The meaning contains in Maddie's utterance can be categorized as conceptual meaning. The expression *Can I talk to you please?* has literal meaning that is requesting someone's availability to talk about something. In this case, it indicates Maddie's intention in her utterance. It is an expression she used to request Tom's availability to talk about Sonic. Moreover, Maddie needs Tom explanation about who is Sonic and what has happened toTom until he was suspected doing criminal action. Thus, she wants to have a talk with Tom.

### Commissives

Searle (1979) proposed that this type of illocutionary acts has the point to commit the speaker to some future course of action. The types of commissives include promises, threats and guarantees. The datum below is shown a type of commissives which is promising.

#### Data 3

Tom : Sonic! Get back in the truck!  
Sonic : *You go! I'll catch up.*

(Minute 56.27)

The data above was taken from a conversation between Tom and Sonic. At the time they were struggling to escape from Dr. Robotnik's tank that attacks them. After crashed Dr. Robotnik's tank, Tom asked Sonic, who still talked and mocked Dr. Robotnik's tank, to immediately get back into the truck to escape the attack that might come soon. Sonic's utterance *you go! I'll catch up* can be classified as commissive. It belongs to *promising* since Sonic commits to do a future action to catch up Tom to get back into the truck after. Furthermore, Sonic intends to say that Tom can leave him because he is still not finished mocking at Dr. Robotnik's tank, which can be destroyed again. Then Sonic will catch up soon into the truck.

Furthermore, Sonic put implied meaning in his utterance that can be considered as connotative meaning. His utterance has a meaning beyond what it has said. It can be seen in the expression *you go! I'll catch up*, it represents that *Sonic will immediately get into the truck after Tom leaves him first*. It is related to the situation that Sonic has extraordinary power that can make him run fast. Therefore, even Tom leaves him. He still can reach Tom in a short time.

### Expressives

Based on Searle (1979), expressives of illocutionary acts can be used to express the speaker feeling or the psychological state such as sincerity condition that experienced by the speaker. The types included expression of like or dislike, greeting, wishing, and apologizing. This study provided an example of expressives which is expression of dislike that has been described below.

#### Data 4

Sonic : *This feels excessive!*

Tom : Stay behind me!

(Minute 33.13)

The above conversation took place at Tom's house. At that time, Dr. Robotnik found that Tom was hiding something in his house, and he threatens to shoot Tom if Tom does not tell him right away. Hearing all that Sonic was the things Tom hides, he finally came out of his hiding place and asked Dr. Robotnik not to shoot Tom. However, Dr. Robotnik did it and then ordered his drones to shoot them both. Sonic was annoyed and tried to avoid the drone attack. The utterance *This feels excessive!*, can be classified as expressive because it is a displeasure expression that shows Sonic does not like what Dr. Robotnik has done. He thinks that it is excessive because Dr. Robotnik is still going to shoot Tom and himself.

Moreover, the utterance above contains meaning that can be considered as affective meaning. It is because Sonic's utterance contains a meaning that shows his emotion. As shown in the data above, the expression *this feels excessive!*, represents Sonic's feeling that he assumes Dr. Robotnik's action that wants to shoot Tom is excessive, and he does not like that. Therefore, the expression used by sonic in his utterance is categorized as an expression of displeasure.

### **Declaratives**

Searle (1979) stated that declaratives are the acts that bring some alteration in the status or condition of the referred based on the fact that after it declared by the speaker. The types of declaratives consist of approving, betting, and declaring. The datum below is shown a kind of declaration.

### **Data 5**

Dr. Robotnik : I don't mean to be indelicate here, but... someone should get some ice to keep the body fresh. He's just a silly little alien. He didn't belong here!

Tom : That little alien... knew more about being human... then you ever will. His name was Sonic. This was his home. *And he was my friend.*

(01.21.26)

The conversation was between Sonic and Tom. Tom got mad when Dr. Robotnik said Sonic as a stupid little alien who lived on the earth. By hearing that, Tom told Dr. Robotnik that Sonic even knew how to be human than Dr. Robotnik.

Tom finally admits Sonic as his friend after for a long time, he through many things together with Sonic. Tom also fulfils Sonic's desire to look for a real friend, as Sonic had written in his bucket list. Tom's utterance *and he was my friend* can be classified as declarative since Tom has the authority to decide whether Sonic deserves to be his friend or not after many things they have through together. After Tom declaring Sonic as his friend, it brings an alteration to Sonic's status that previously Sonic was only a stranger to Tom. Meanwhile, after Tom declaring him as Tom's friend, Sonic now becomes Tom's best friend. Besides that, it also brings alteration to Sonic's condition. It is related to the situation in the conversation, at the time Sonic was about to die. But when he heard the word *friend* in Tom's utterance, he suddenly woke up and became even stronger than before. He has promised that he will only use his power to help his friend and not for running anymore. He is ready to kick Dr. Robotnik out from the earth.

Moreover, the above utterance has a meaning which can be categorized as conceptual meaning. The utterance *and he was my friend* has a literal meaning that represents *considering someone as a friend*. In this case, Tom considers Sonic as his friend. The words *friend* in the utterance above represents someone whom the speaker has well known. Furthermore, in this story, Sonic has been well known by Tom, since they through many things together, and it makes them know each other as well. Thus, Sonic is considered as Tom's friend.

## Conclusion

This study analyzed the types of illocutionary acts and the implied meaning of illocutionary acts found in Sonic's characters' utterance, *The Hedgehog* movie. There are 35 data of illocutionary acts found in Sonic, The Hedgehog movie. Those are consist of 29% data of representatives, 40% data of directives, (14%) data of commissives, (14%) data of expressives and (3%) datum of declaratives. Directive becomes the most common types of illocutionary acts found in Sonic, The Hedgehog movie. It is because the genre of the movie is action, adventure and comedy. This move tells about the adventure of Sonic and Tom's main characters to find Sonic's rings and escape from Dr. Robotnik. Therefore, the characters do many kinds of action and use directive acts such as giving a command, making request or offer, begging and inviting. Furthermore, the most dominant type of meaning found in the character utterance is connotative meaning. It is because the characters mostly use connotation if the word to convey their intention in the utterance. Moreover, it can be concluded that the types of illocutionary acts are more focus on the intention contain in the utterance said by the speaker. Therefore, to know the speakers' desire, it is important to know the meaning of the utterance by connecting it with the context of the situation when the speakers say their utterance.

## **Reference**

- Austin, J.L. 1962. *How to do things with words*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Halliday, M.A.K & Hasan, R. (1989). *Language, context and text: Aspects of language in a social-semiotic perspective*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Hornby, A. S. 2006. *Oxford advance learner's dictionary*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Leech, G. 1981. *Semantics*. New York: Penguin Book Press.
- Prakarsa, D.G.B. 2017. The Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in the Titanic Movie. *LINGUAL: Journal of Language and Culture*, 21 (1), e-ISSN 2302-920X.
- Pratiwi, D. P. 2017. *Semantics*. Denpasar: College of Foreign Language STIBA Saraswati Denpasar.
- Searle, J. R. 1979. *Expression and Meaning : Studies in the Theory of Speech Acts*. United states of America: Cambridge University Press.
- Setiani, A., Utami, D.P. 2020. An Analysis of Illocutionary Act in “How to Train Your Dragon 2” Movie. *PROJECT: Professional Journal of English Education*, 1(3), e-ISSN 2614-6258.
- Situmorang, F., Handayani, N. 2020. An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in Anger Management Movie. *IDEAS: Journal of English Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistic and Literature*, 8 (1), e-ISSN 2548-4192.
- Sonic the Hedgehog*. 2020. Retrieved October 1, 2020, from [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3794354/plotsummary?ref=tt\\_stry\\_pl#synopsis](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3794354/plotsummary?ref=tt_stry_pl#synopsis).