



Illocutionary Acts in Spider-Man: No Way Home

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Abstract

Illocutionary act refers to an act of doing something. This study was focused on the types of illocutionary act that found in the movie entitled Spider-Man: No Way Home. This study applied descriptive qualitative method in conducting the research. The library research was also used to collect the research data. In analyzing the data, the theory that proposed by Searle (1976) was applied in identifying the types of illocutionary act in the movie. Based on the results of this study, there were 100 data of illocutionary act that can be divided into 34 (34%) data of assertive act, 18 (18%) data of directive act, 24 (24%) data of commissive act, 22 (22%) data of expressive act, and 2 (2%) data of declarative act. The most dominant illocutionary act that occurred in this movie was assertive act.

Keywords: *illocutionary act, context of situation, spider-man: no way home, pragmatics*

Abstrak

Tindak ilokusi merujuk pada suatu tindakan untuk melakukan sesuatu. Penelitian ini difokuskan pada jenis tindak ilokusi yang ditemukan pada film yang berjudul Spider-Man: No Way Home. Penelitian ini mengaplikasikan metode deskriptif kualitatif dalam melakukan penelitian. Penelitian kepustakaan juga digunakan untuk mengumpulkan data penelitian. Dalam menganalisis data, teori yang diajukan oleh Searle (1976) diaplikasikan dalam mengidentifikasi jenis tindak ilokusi yang ada pada film. Berdasarkan hasil dari penelitian ini, ada 100 data tindak ilokusi yang dapat dibagi menjadi 34 (34%) data tindak asertif, 18 (18%) data tindak direktif, 24 (24%) data tindak komisif, 22 (22%) data tindak ekspresif, dan 2 (2%) data tindak deklaratif. Tindak ilokusi yang muncul paling dominan dalam film ini adalah tindak asertif.

Kata Kunci: *tindak ilokusi, konteks situasi, spider-man: no way home, pragmatik*

Introduction

Language critically becomes a social connector when the communication is running in society. It manages the expression of human being including feelings, thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors from one to another. As a result, an individual can deliver any information differently depending on its contexts. Pragmatics refers to the discipline of linguistics that focuses on the study of language and its context. In producing the comprehensive meaning in the conversation, language plays an important role to build a relationship between the social actors (speakers and listeners)

to give their actions as a part of contribution in the situational context. Therefore, the speaker can influence the listeners or audience to take any actions after delivering their utterances in the conversation where this phenomenon is called as illocutionary act.

In influencing the listeners or audience to give their actions as a part of contribution to the conversation is the role of illocutionary act. According to Austin (1962), illocutionary act is the act of doing something. Besides, Yule (1996:49) also stated that illocutionary act refers to the speaker's strategy that delivers their utterances into the conversation in order to make other listeners or audience to give their response in the form of actions or performances. Moreover, Searle (1976) classified illocutionary act into 5 categories namely, assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative.

Nowadays, movie is one of the famous literary works that has numerous consumers in the world. Movie refers to a sequence of story that is arranged through visual images performance. This literary work aims to be a platform of entertainment, information, and also motivation. There are some genres that are usually adapted in the movie such as action, comedy, horror, romance, mystery, and so on. Spider-Man: No Way Home is an American superhero movie that is directed by Jon Watts and released on December 2021. This movie consisted of all types of illocutionary act since it showed a story of Spider-Man or Peter Parker who known as a talkative young student. Therefore, illocutionary acts frequently occurred in the dialogue between each character in the movie.

Several studies from different scholars were provided as comparison of the results and analyses in conducting this research. First, the study that was written by Hutajulu and Nommensen (2019) entitled "*Analysis of Illocutionary Act in the Movie Your Are My Home English Subtitle*". Second, the study that was written by Subandi, et. al. (2020) entitled "*Illocutionary Acts in Lost in Thailand Detective Humor Movie*". Third, the study was written by Sihombing, et. al. (2021) entitled "*An Analysis of Illocutionary Act in Incredible 2 Movie*". Those studies were similar with this research in conducting the analysis regarding to the types and meaning of illocutionary acts that found in the selected movie and also applied the theory that proposed by Searle (1976) and also descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the research problems. However, the data source that were analyzed in those studies were different with this research.

This study is focused to identify the types of illocutionary act in the movie entitled Spider-Man: No Way Home. The data were analyzed through the theory of illocutionary act that proposed by Searle (1976). There are at least two reasons why this study is important to be analyzed. First, it provides a comprehensive understanding for the next researchers in conducting speech act analysis especially illocutionary act. Second, it helps to provide an additional knowledge for the readers or students who are interested in the pragmatics study.

Method

The data source was taken from a live-action movie that is adapted from Marvel Comics entitled Spider-Man: No Way Home. This movie released on December 2021 in the United States. Spider-Man: No Way Home is an American superhero movie that tells about Spider-Man or Peter Parker's journey to meet Dr.

Stephen Strange when he wanted to bring his reputation back after accusing by Mysterio as a murderer. However, Peter Parker made a big mistake because he accidentally opened the portal for all villains in the multiverse who knew Spiderman's identity.

This study was conducted through descriptive qualitative method to analyze the research problem factually, systematically, and accurately based on the theory that proposed in this study. The library method was applied in collecting the research data. The data were collected through several steps namely, (1) downloading Spider-Man: No Way Home movie from the internet, (2) watching and reading script Spider-Man: No Way Home movie, (3) listening the conversation carefully to analysis on Spider-Man: No Way Home movie, (4) taking a note as the data that has been collected based on the research questions, (5) classifying the illocutionary acts and context of situation. After collecting the data, it was analyzed by applying Searle's theory (1976) regarding to the types of illocutionary act. Then, the results were presented formally and informally in this study.

Result and Discussion

After collecting the data, this study found that all types of illocutionary act contained in the selected movie entitled Spider-Man: No Way Home. Based on Searle' theory (1976), the types of illocutionary act are classified into; assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. The results of this study were formulated in the table below.

Table 4.1 Types of Illocutionary Act on *Spider-Man: No Way Home* Movie

No.	Types of Illocutionary Act	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Assertive Act	34	34%
2.	Directive Act	18	18%
3.	Commissive Act	24	24%
4.	Expressive Act	22	22%
5.	Declarative Act	2	2%
Total		100	100%

From the table above, it could be seen that the occurrences of the types of illocutionary act were divided into 34 (34%) data of assertive act, 18 (18%) of directive act, 24 (24%) of commissive act, 22 (22%) of expressive act, and 2 (2%) of declarative act.

Assertive Act

Assertive act refers to the speaker's strategy when they deliver their utterances in order to reveal the truth or reality based on the situation where it is delivered. In this movie, most characters delivered the assertive act through their dialogue which aimed to make the other social actors realized the real situation.

Data 1:

May Parker : “[with an attitude shifted 180 degrees] Oh, hey! *You must be MJ!*”

Michelle Jones : “Nice to meet you.”

May Parker : “So nice to meet you.”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:03:48)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between two characters, May Parker or Spiderman’s aunt was greeting Michelle Jones for the first time in her apartment. She was trying to be kind and friendly to Peter Parker’s girlfriend by asserting a statement “*You must be MJ!*” which means that May Parker built a relationship with Michelle Jones in their first meeting by delivering an assumption about herself. The writer considered that this utterance as **assertive act** since it was asserting something about the real situation. In this conversation, May Parker was asserting an information that was actually true and related to the reality.

Data 2:

Peter Parker : “*I didn’t kill Quentin Beck. The drones did.*”

Agent Cleary : “The drones that are yours.”

Peter Parker : “No... Well, look... Nick Fury was there the entire time. Just ask him and he can explain everything.”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:06:02)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between Peter Parker as the main character was talking with Agent Cleary about the death of Quentin Beck or also known as Mysterio. Agent Cleary was trying to get more information from Peter Parker, but he defended himself by mentioning a statement “*I didn’t kill Quentin Beck. The drones did.*” This utterance was considered as **assertive act** since it was explaining something that was related to the real situation where the people should be aware with the truth. In this conversation, Peter Parker responded to Agent Cleary’s question that was related to a case of Quentin Beck’s death by revealing the situation at that time, therefore, it could be concluded that Quentin Beck committed suicide after trying to shoot Peter Parker in their final battle.

Data 3:

Agent Cleary : “What’s up?”

Ned Leeds : “I knew way before MJ did. *I was Spider-Man’s guy in the chair.*”

Agent Cleary : “Oh, I know about those. I mean, half the guys have guys in the chair.”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:07:07)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between two characters, Agent Cleary and Ned Leeds as Peter Parker's best friend were talking about Spider-Man's identity. Agent Cleary was interrogating Ned Leeds for revealing the secret about his friend, but he actually described about himself as the first person who knew Spider-Man's identity. This statement could be seen when he said "*I was Spider-Man's guy in the chair.*" which means that he acknowledged himself as someone who has the biggest access for Spider-Man's action or it could be concluded that Ned Leeds was Spider-Man's 'right hand'. This utterance was considered as **assertive act** since it was informing something that was related to the truthful information about the role of Ned Leeds as Peter Parker's best friend as well as Spider-Man's right hand, therefore, he was very confident to give this information to others.

Directive Act

Directive act refers to the speaker's strategy when they deliver their utterances in order to make the other social actors including the listeners or audience to take any particular actions based on the speaker's requests or commands. In this movie, some characters delivered the directive act through their dialogue which aimed influence other characters to show their actions as a response to the context of conversation.

Data 4:

Peter Parker : "MJ! Uh... They had nothing to do with it, sir!"

MJ and May : "[in unison] *Don't say anything, we got a lawyer!*"

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:06:18)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between three characters, Michelle Jones and May Parker were talking with Peter Parker who was still being interrogated. Both speakers delivered an utterance to him by saying "*Don't say anything, we got a lawyer!*" which means that they commanded Peter Parker to be kept silent if the agents asked a couple of questions that were related to Spider-Man's secret. The writer considered that this utterance as **directive act** since it was commanding something to another social actor to take a particular action after hearing the speakers' statement. In this case, Michelle Jones and May Parker commanded Peter Parker to be silent and did not deliver anything that related to their privacy and security because they got the lawyer who could support them to solve this case.

Data 5:

Peter Parker : "*Strange, stop!. Can we please just talk about this?*"

Stephen Strange : "Parker, don't you realize that in the multiverse, there are an *infinite* number of people who know Peter Parker is Spider-Man? And if that spell gets loose, they're all coming here!"

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:58:04)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between the main superheroes Peter Parker and Doctor Strange when they were talking about the decision to give the super villains the second chance and save them back in their universes. Peter Parker was begging to Stephen Strange by saying “*Strange, stop!. Can we please just talk about this?*” which means that he would like to negotiate with him for the win-win solution regarding to their conflict. On the other hand, Doctor Strange denied his request because he thought that it would not work for being kind to the bad guys. The writer considered that this statement as **directive act** since it was requesting another social actor to take an action after mentioning the utterance. In this situation, Peter Parker wanted to have a negotiation with Doctor Strange who understood with the context of multiverse and the way of giving the second chance to the super villains. However, he disagreed with Spider-Man’s decision and tried to take the box back.

Commissive Act

Commissive act refers to the speaker’s strategy when they deliver their utterances in order to influence the other social actors (listeners or audience) to conduct some future actions. In this movie, some characters delivered the commissive act through their dialogue which aimed to make others have a commitment to do something in the future.

Data 6

Stephen Strange : “It’s over, Parker. *I’ll come pick you up when it’s done.*
[Opens a portal to the dungeon]”

Peter Parker : “[finishing his geometric trap] Hey, Strange. You know what’s cooler than magic?”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:59:24)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between two main superheroes, Peter Parker was begging to Doctor Strange for helping those super villains to bring them back to their own universes. However, Stephen Strange disagreed with Peter Parker’s plan because he believed that the bad guys should be not given another chance anymore. As a result, he trapped Peter Parker in the mirror dimension since he was being a troublemaker in this conflict. Doctor Strange also promised to him by saying “*I’ll come pick you up when it’s done*” which means he would release the traps when everything has been solved. The writer considered that this statement as **commissive act** since it was promising something to another social actor to have a commitment for doing something in the future. In this situation, Doctor Strange promised to Peter Parker to pick him up later after solving the conflict, therefore, he might wait for him.

Data 7

Peter Parker : “There’s nothing we can do. But we’ll be okay.”

Ned Leeds : “You promise?”

Peter Parker : “*Yeah, I promise. [They embrace] I’ll come find you. Okay?*”
Ned Leeds : “[crying] I know you will. [Peter lets him go and turns to his girlfriend.]”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 02:04:22)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between two characters, Peter Parker and Ned Leeds, his best friend, they were talking about their friendship after the reality forgot who Peter Parker was. He promised to his best friend that he would find him again as like their first meeting in the past. Peter Parker delivered an utterance “*Yeah, I promise. I’ll come find you. Okay?*” which means he convinced Ned Leeds to be patient for that moment in the future. The writer considered that this statement as **commissive act** since it was promising something to another speaker regarding to their commitment related to the action in the future. In this situation, Peter Parker promised to his best friend, Ned Leeds about his patience for waiting him when they would meet again.

Expressive Act

Expressive act refers to the speaker’s strategy when they deliver their utterances in order to show something that related to their attitudes and emotions regarding to the situation where they were interacting with others. In this movie, some characters delivered the expressive act through their dialogue which aimed to perform the psychological matters in the conversation.

Data 8:

MIT Admin : “You do know you're in the street, right?”
Peter Parker : “*Yeah, I know. I'm sorry. I just, I really needed to talk to you, I know you're on your way to the airport... MJ Watson and Ned Leeds are the two smartest people I've ever met in my entire life, and I'm the dumbest person, because.... I let them help me, but if I didn't let them help me, then millions of people would've died, so please... don't let MIT be dumb like me.*”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:28:07)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between two characters, when Peter Parker was talking with MIT Administrator about an opportunity for his friends to pass the university’s admission. However, MIT Administrator thought that he was a crazy guy who wanted to make his life in danger because he was standing in the street just for talking with her. Peter Parker immediately apologized for this stupid action since he did not know how to release his friends from the trouble. His apology could be seen from the statement “*Yeah, I know. I’m sorry.*” which means that Peter

Parker understood he was foolish but it was conducted by him for making his friends got their better life. The writer considered that this statement as **expressive act** since it was apologizing to others about a stupid thing that was conducted by the speaker. In this situation, Peter Parker sent his apology to MIT Administrator because he was not polite to have a discussion in the street.

Data 9:

May Parker : “Hey. He trusts you. And so do I.”

Peter Parker : “*Thanks for cleaning my suit. I'll see you later.*”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:51:58)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the conversation between the two characters, May Parker and her nephew, Peter Parker were talking about Norman Osborn who was looking for Spider-Man in their universe. On the other hand, she was also cleaning Spider-Man's suit after being covered by green liquid just like ‘slime’. Peter Parker saw his aunt's kindness and then he said “*Thanks for cleaning my suit.*” which means he was very lucky to have someone who always treats him just like his biological parents. The writer considered this statement as **expressive act** since it was thanking another social actor who has conducted an action that was beneficial for him. This utterance showed something that related to a compliment which was given to his aunt for being kindhearted and care to him.

Declarative Act

Declarative act refers to the speaker's strategy when they deliver their utterances in order to change the reality in accord with the proportion of the declaration. In this movie, some characters delivered the declarative act through their dialogue which aimed to declare or change the status of people especially on the ownership of something.

Data 10:

Peter Parker [vo] : “*Do it! Execute them all!*”

(**Spider-Man: No Way Home**, 00:00:33)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that the monologue that delivered by Peter Parker after being reported by Daily Bugle. In this situation, Peter Parker or also known as Spiderman was accused as the person who was trying to kill Mysterio with numerous drones that automatically launched from the sky. He delivered a statement by saying “*Do it! Execute them all!*” which means that he wanted to execute something that actually was the drone but the Daily Bugle reported as Peter Parker wanted to kill Mysterio at that time. The writer considered that this utterance as **declarative act** since it was declaring an order by whom was powerful to the drone's control. Peter Parker knew that those drones were Tony Stark's legacy, therefore, he believed that those drones could be shut down by him.

Conclusion

Based on the results of this research, it can be concluded that the types of illocutionary act in Spider-Man: No Way Home movie can be classified into 5 categories namely; assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Those types express that the speakers' utterance can show an order, command, apology, or even declaration in the conversation. Each character in the selected movie in this study entitled Spider-Man: No Way Home performed the utterances that contained all types of illocutionary act. The most dominant type of illocutionary act that occurred in the movie was assertive act. Moreover, the character who mostly uttered the speech act in the statement was Peter Parker or also known as Spiderman.

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