ILLOCUTIONARY SPEECH ACT ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERS IN PURL SHORT-FILM

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the pragmatics-linguistics of illocutionary speech act and to describe the types as well as the function of illocutionary speech acts produced by the characters of Purl movie. The data focuses on the characters' utterances in Purl movie that is about the woman yarn which is worked at B.R.O Company and she is different from other employee. In particular, this study adopts a framework proposed by Searle (1976) and employs a qualitative descriptive method, with the subject of the analysis referring to the film transcript data collected through the dialogues of the characters in the film being observed. In this study, it was discovered that several speech act functions were used in the film, including expressive speech act, representative speech act, directive speech act, and commissive speech act. The expressive speech act is used to express emotions and attitudes through propositions. The representative or assertive speech act, commits the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition. The directive speech act causes the listener to take a specific action. The commissive speech act commits the speaker to some future actions. Furthermore, the researchers also found that the most dominant type of illocutionary act used is expressive speech act. It is indicated by the characters' dialogues, which show that the characters quite often use expressive speech acts, such as when Purl, the main character, works on her first day at work, she expresses her enthusiasm many times by saying "It's unbelieveable" and "I'm so excited."

Keywords – *Illocutionary Speech Acts, Linguistics, Pragmatics, Short Film, Speech Acts*

Introduction

Language plays an important role in human life, particularly in the social aspect, since it is defined as a human communication tool used in daily life (Felicia, 2001:1). It allows a person to convey ideas, thoughts, and even feelings to others, both verbally and non - verbally (Walija, 1996:4). However, it should be noted that a person uses language not only to emphasize something through speech, but also to take action in a communication. It is supported by Searle's (1983) statement, which reveals that an utterance can have intentionality, just as a belief has intentionality, but whereas the intentionality of the belief is intrinsic the intentionality of the utterance is derived. In other words, there are strategies or tactics used by the speaker in a communication to make the speech partner to do or not do something in accordance with the content of the speaker's speech (Austin, 1975). This fact indicates that the speech act of uttering a sentence contains the principle of the speaker's possibility to state what he or she means imprecisely (Verharr. *Revita*, 2014:3). Austin (1965:94) refers to this phenomenon as "by saying something, we do something," implying that every time a speaker delivers a speech, the speaker is attempting to accomplish something with the words strung together in the sentence. He also affirms that a speech act is a piece of speech produced as part of social interactions related to speech analysis based on the behavior of language speakers with their interlocutors. According to Searle (as cited in Rahardi, 2005: 35-36), there are three types of speech acts in

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practice: locutionary acts refer to the literal meaning to be conveyed when speaking, illocutionary acts refer to specific intentions that the speaker actually wants to convey, and perlocutionary acts refer to the effect on the speech partner that the speaker actually expects.

Many researchers have conducted on Illocutionary Speech Act such as Isnawati et al (2015), she conducted a research on "Speech Acts Analysis of The Main Character in Shrek Movie Script." This study examines the various types of speech acts through the dialogue of the main character in the Shrek film and determines the purpose of using these speech acts by using Austin's (1961) speech act theory as the main theory of the study. Meanwhile, Rahayu et al (2018) did a research on "Illocutionary Act in The Main Characters' Utterances In Mirror Mirror Movie" using Searle's illocutionary act theory, this study aims to determine the types of illocutionary acts from the utterances of the main character in the film Mirror Mirror, as well as to find the context behind the illocutionary acts of the main character in the film Mirror Mirror employing Hymes' SPEAKING framework. Next is Mulya et al (2019) made a research on "An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in Azzam's Character in Novel Ketika Cinta Bertasbih" This study employs a fictional Islamic novel as the research subject, and it focuses solely on the types of illocutionary acts utterance by Azzam, the main character in the novel, using Searle's (1979) theory as a framework. Based on those previous studies, the reserachers conducted a research on "Illocutionary Speech Act Analysis of The Characters in Purl Short-Film". This study focuses on the types of illocutionary speech acts expressed by the characters in the short film Purl, with the film dialogue transcript serving as the research subject, and it also uses Searle's (1976) theory of five illocutionary points as the research framework.

Film belongs to the category of audio-visual communication media with a mass audience (Effendy, 1986:134). Apart from being commercialized for profit, this mass media serves as a means of transmitting messages from filmmakers to the public through a one-way communication process (Effendi, 1984:13-14). Since there is no direct contact between the sender and the receiver of the message, the one-way communication process in the film is referred to as a linear communication model. The filmmaker works as a sender in this communication model, sending messages through the film as a channel, with the story idea conveyed in the film serving as a message addressed to the audience as a receiver (Ibrahim 2011). As a result, short films as part of mass media are referred to as a means of communication that connects filmmakers as senders and audiences as receivers in conveying a message through acting and dialogue of the actors, which includes language as one of the main elements. It indicates that the illocutionary act is implied in the short film due to the use of language as manifested in the characters' dialogues. This study examines the characters' speech acts in the short film Purl. This Pixar animated film is part of the SparkShoots project, which was distributed online in 2018 and has a running time of approximately 8 minutes and 43 seconds. The plot revolves around Purl, a cheerful skein of wool who can walk and talk like a human that gets to work at B.R.O Capital. However, after being rejected by her colleagues due to her feminine appearance, Purl attempts to adjust to her work environment by transforming herself into the hyper-masculine employees around her. Kristen Lester, the writer and director, attempts to raise issues of discrimination, misogyny, and tribalism that arise in the workplace based on her own experiences. More specifically, this film emphasizes the importance of inclusiveness in the workplace, where employment should be managed with the aspect of respect for each individual in the work environment. The script for the film Purl was chosen for this study because each character's utterances have a communicative purpose expressed in them.

Speech acts are typically found in conversations, and conversations in films are also included. Dialogues in films are typically manifested in a variety of models, one of which is conversations (Lengsfield, 2021). Conversations in films can represent cases of complex speech

acts, in which the correlation between the actions taken and the speeches uttered by the actors can be revealed through the identification of the characters' speeches (Isnawati. et. al, 2015). The script is an important part of this research in this case since the dialogues spoken by the characters are contained in the script (Miyamoto, 2017), and thus the film script Purl is used as the object of study. Furthermore, this paper focuses on the analysis of speech acts used by all characters in the Purl film script, so that it does not only refer to Purl as the main character but also other characters. Aside from the dialogue of the main character, the dialogues of other supporting characters play an important role in the development of the storyline, as the issues that are developing in the office environment that are attempting to be highlighted can be indicated through the dialogues of the characters.

Methods

Descriptive qualitative method was applied in conducting this study. The object of this study was the dialogues produced by the characters in the *Purl* movie. The data source of this study was collected by downloading the short film entitled *Purl* from Pixar Youtube channel purposively. Meanwhile, in collecting the data, the researchers transcribed the dialogues of the characters' Purl movie into written form. After collecting the data, the researchers analyzed and observed the types of illocutionary acts from the dialogues produced by the characters' Purl movie. Furthermore, the most dominant used was also described in this research. In analyzing the data, the researchers used a framework proposed by Searle (1976) to classify the types of Illocutionary speech acts.

Result and Discussion

This study focuses on one of speech act that is illocutionary act. According to Searle (1669), illocutionary act is the act of doing something with a specific purpose. In 1976 he also classified types of illocutionary act into five category, they are representative, directive, commisive, expressive, and declarative. In this study, the researchers analyze the illocutionary speech acts produced by the characters' Purl movie and classify the data into five categories of illocutionary speech acts. The data analysis is presented as follow:

Table 1. The percentage of illocutionary speech acts

No.	Types of speech acts	Quantity	Percentages (%)
1.	Expressive	23	34,3%
2.	Assertive	22	32,8%
3.	Directive	20	29,8%
4.	Commissive	2	3%
5.	Declarative	0	0%
	TOTAL	67	100%

a. Representative

Representative is kind of speech act that the speaker becomes committed to the truth of the propositional content (Searle, 1976). According to Searle (as cited in Suryanti, & Afriani, 2020), representative speech act is the utterance with the intention to commit the speaker to something with the truth of expressed proposition. The representative speech act classes are state, claim, believe, remind, inform, report, assure, agree, predict, insist, hypothesis, boast, complain, conclude. In this study, the researchers found 22 utterances and categorized it into representative speech act. It consists of 12 utterances of informing, 7 utterances of stating, 2 utterances of asserting, 1 utterance of reporting.

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According to the data collected, the representative speech acts found in the short film Purl can be classified into the following categories based on their function:

1. Informing
   - "I missed my stop and then I didn't know what floor we were on, cause…."
     This utterance was said by Lacy. Lacy wanted to inform the hearer that she was trying to find this place. Lacy was a new employee of the company, so she didn't know where her workplace is. The above example, it shows that the speaker is informing the hearer something the truth. This utterance is categorized into representative speech act because the speaker informs the hearer that she tried to find a place.
   - "Uh, yeah, so you'll be up on the fourth floor with investment and uh."
     This utterance was said by Drew to Purl. Purl was a new employee. In the elevator, Drew wanted to inform Purl that Purl will be up on the fourth floor. The utterance indicates that the speaker want to inform the hearer about the Purl's workplace.

2. Stating
   - "Anyway, it's entry level, but your resume was by far the strongest. I'm sure you'll fit right…in."
     Drew said to the new employee named Purl when he was in the elevator. In the elevator, Drew states that Purl can be fit right in because her resume was by far the strongest. In the above utterance, it is stating the speaker opinion. The speaker wants to deliver his opinion.
   - "whoaaa, she tells better joke than you do"
     This utterance said by man when he stated that Purl joke is a better one. The speaker wants to deliver his opinion to the hearer. The utterance indicates that man made some statement to the Purl's joke.

3. Asserting,
   - "What, Nah, You're being too soft!"
     In this utterance, man wanted to assert that Purl that she is being too soft. The speaker is asserting the hearer that she is too soft. This utterance is categorized as representative speech act because the speaker assert something to the hearer.

4. Reporting.
   - "As you can see, we've got a big fat failure on our hands."
     Troy was in the meeting and he was chaired of the meeting. He wanted to report the finance of the investment to the employees. This utterance was produced by Troy at 2:49. The above example, it shows that the speaker is reporting the finance. The speaker wants to deliver the hearer about the truth. The utterance was categorized as representative speech act. Troy informed the employees about fat failure of the finance. The speaker said the true thing about the finance. Therefore, it can be said that representative in this utterance is used to report the finance result to the hearer.

b. Directive
Directive is the utterance that consist the attempt by the speaker to the hearer in doing something such as order, command, request, beg, advice (Searle, 1976). It expresses what the speaker wants and it can be positive or negative. According to Searle (as cited in Ratnasari and Edel, 2017), directive speech act is utterance with the intention for the

hearer in doing something such as ordering, commanding, requesting, advising or recommending. In this study, there are 20 utterances that are categorized into directive speech act. It consists of 4 utterances of commanding, 4 utterances of inviting, 6 utterances of requesting, 3 utterances of questioning, 1 utterance of demanding, 2 utterances of allusion. According to the data collected, the directive speech acts found in the short film Purl can be classified into the following categories based on their function:

1. Commanding,
   - "Hey, Guys. Stuff meeting!"
     This utterance was said by Troy at 2:43 minutes. He asked all employees to do meeting and all the employee come to the meeting room. In the above example, it shows that the speaker is giving command to the hearer for meeting which means the hearer gets the intention of the speaker's command because the hearer come to the meeting room after the speaker said. So that, the utterance is categorized into directive speech act because the speaker commands to the hearer to do something. Therefore, it can be said that directive speech act in this utterance is used to express a command in what the speaker intend the hearer to do.
   - "Uh, excuse me hm. Ooh! Guys! Let's bring finance in and knit out strategies together."
     The utterance "Uh, excuse me hm. Ooh!", it shows that the speaker is commanding to the hearer. Purl commands the other employee to move and give some space for her chair. So that, the utterance "Uh, excuse me hm. Ooh!" is categorized as directive speech act which the speaker commands to the hearer for giving some space. Therefore, it can be said that directive speech act in this utterance is used to express a command in what the speaker intends the hearer to do.

2. Inviting
   - "Well, Come on. Let me show you around."
     Purl said to the new employee to ask him come with her. This utterance is produced by Purl in minutes 7:41. Purl asked the new employee to come with her and the new employee come with her. In this utterance, it shows that the speaker is inviting the hearer which means that the hearer get intention what the speaker asked because the hearer come with the speaker. This utterance is categorized as directive because the speaker invites the hearer to do something. Therefore, it can be said that directive speech act in this utterance is used to express some invitation in what the speaker asking the hearer to come with the speaker.
   - "Let's go! Happy hour at swifty's"
     Man asked all employees to go to swifty's after the stuff meeting. In this sentence, it shows that the speaker is inviting the hearer to go to swifty's.

3. Requesting
   - "As you can see, we've got a big fat failure on our hands. So, finance wants answer. Ideas?"
     This utterance was said by Troy at 2:49 when he asked the employee to give some ideas by requesting. In the above example, it shows that the speaker is asking request to the hearer which means the hearer gets intention of speaker's asked by discussing and thinking what the idea can be fix the

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problem. Therefore, it can be said that directive speech act in this utterance is used to express some request in what speaker the hearer to do.

- "Tell us about yourself. We do love a good yarn."
  This utterance said by Purl. He asked the new employee to tell about his self. In this utterance, it shows that the speaker is asking some request to the hearer.

4. Questioning
   - "Hey, where are you going?"
     Some of the employee asked Purl after Purl went out from the elevator. Some of the employee asked purl because Purl left them and came to Lacy. In this utterance, it shows that the speaker is questioning the hearer about something.

5. Demanding
   - "We gotta be aggressive! Who cares about finance?"
     This utterance was said by man when in the meeting room. When Purl answered the finance, man rejected it and wanted everybody to be aggressive. In this utterance, it shows that the speaker is demanding the hearer to be more aggressive.

6. Allusion
   - "Leave the knitting at your nana's house"
     Purl said to the other employee. He wanted to quip Lacy because lacy was the yarn and she was a woman. This utterance indicates some allusion.

c. Expressive
   Expressive speech acts are used to express the speaker's feelings and attitudes through propositions, with the intention of apologizing, welcoming, congratulating, praising, thanking, condoling, expressing regret, and others. The research team discovered 23 utterances in this *Purl* short film that were identified as expressive speech acts. It consists of 2 utterances of welcoming, 9 utterances of expressing joy, 1 utterance of thanking, 4 utterances of greeting, 1 utterance of praising, 3 utterances of surprising, 2 utterance of boasting, and 1 utterance of lamenting. According to the data collected, the expressive speech acts found in the short film Purl can be classified into the following categories based on their function:

1. Welcoming
   - "Welcome to the BRO Capital."
     It was recorded that the utterance was stated by a male worker who accompanied Purl around the office on her first day at 0:23 to 0:24, and the speech was heard again after Purl said it when she accompanied a new employee at 7:16 to 7:18. The utterance clearly serves the function of welcoming new employees by expressing positive feelings toward the arrival of the addressee, which in this context refers to the new employees.

2. Expressing joy
   - "Thanks! I still think it's unbelievable that I'm really here!"
     Purl conveyed her satisfaction at being accepted to work through this utterance, which indicated the main character's happiness and relief at getting the opportunity to work with a small chance of being accepted since the B.R.O Company was full of male employees.
   - "Ooh! I'm so excited! I have a really good feeling about this."

Purl said these words after receiving the corporate membership card, clearly and cheerfully, since she couldn't wait to start working at a company that many people were interested in. The utterance indicates that she is excited to begin working for a B.R.O company and expects that her office life will run smoothly.

3. Thanking
   - "Oh, Thank goodness. You're still here."
   Lacy, a new office worker, made this statement when she met Purl, despite the fact that they had never met before. Lacy made this statement in particular because she was surprised, relieved, and pleased to know that Purl was still working at the company, implying that Lacy would have female coworkers.

4. Greeting
   - "Good Morning."
   Purl attempts to greet her new coworkers cheerfully on her first day of work by saying good morning at minute 1:25. Aside from being excited to work in a company that many people want to work for, she does it because she realizes that she is a new employee who must be able to build good relationships with her coworkers.
   - "Hi, I'm Purl."
   Purl tries to approach Lacy after feeling guilty for ignoring Lacy on her first day of work at 6:57 minutes. Purl realizes that she has been in Lacy's position and does not want Lacy to feel the same way she does, so Purl tries to greet Lacy's arrival by introducing herself and approaching her so that Lacy does not feel alone.

5. Praising
   - "Purl, I love your new look"
   This statement was made by one of Purl's office mates to Purl after noticing Purl's changes, in which Purl attempted to adjust by changing her appearance, humor, and habits in order to fit in with her other office friends. She changed her feminine image to be more manly, and these changes resulted in positive feedback about her appearance.

6. Surprising
   - "Unbeweavable…hm..hm… I mean unbelievable."
   Drew, one of the B.R.O company's employees, made this statement after realizing that the new employee he was accompanying on a tour of the company was not a human but a wool yarn. Drew's surprise at the appearance of Purl, a feminine wool yarn, is expressed in the utterance.

7. Boasting
   - "Is a wool sweater scratchy?"
   Purl made this statement after being asked whether he would go to a party to unwind by one of his office friends, and the utterance actually replied to his friend's question by relating the answer to himself as a ball of yarn.
   - "I would say it's un-be-weave-able."
   Purl made this statement because he agreed with the words of new employees who felt they still didn't believe it was acceptable in a company that many people desired, but Purl changed the phrase "unbelieveable" to un-be-weave-able, which refers to Purl's condition as a ball of yarn. The utterance implies that anyone, including Purl a wool yarn, can be accepted in any environment.

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8. Lamenting
- "I had such a time trying to find this place."
  Lacy uttered this sentence after having difficulty finding her workspace with her belongings as a new employee. This utterance indicates that the speaker is lamenting her own misfortune.

d. Commissive
Commissive is a type of speech act used by speakers to commit themselves to future actions, in which the speaker's intentions are expressed through threats, promises, pledges, refusals, planning, guarantees, voluntary, and so on. The research team discovered 2 utterances labeled as commisive in this *Purl* short film. It consists of 2 utterances of planning. According to the data collected, the commisive speech acts found in the short film Purl can be classified into the following categories based on their function:

1. Planning
- "Sup! Gym tonight?"
  At the beginning of the film, we are shown the situation of the B.R.O company during office hours, in which this speech is given to one employee to another who greets each other when they meet at the office. Moreover, this phrase is used to ask about the worker's plans after leaving the office and also to suggest an activity that the staff can do after office hours.
- "Hey, Purl, you guys coming to schwifty's tonight?"
  Troy asked Purl and the new hires those utterances as they passed by, implying that they should go partying together to unwind and welcome the new hires.

e. Declaration
Declaration is a type of speech act that changes the world through utterance, in which speakers with power in a field can immediately change the state of the world. This type of speech act is commonly expressed as blessing, baptizing, cursing, confirming, declaring, disapproving, betting, agreeing, refusing, firing, resigning, and others. There are no utterances in *Purl* short film that are part of the declaration speech act.

Conclusions

The study focuses on the types and the function of illocutionary speech act produced by the character's Purl movie. Based on the analysis, the result of the study showed that the characters' Purl movie used 4 out of 5 kinds of illocutionary speech act. The four speech act that is used are representative, directive, commissive, and expressive. Moreover, this study also describes the most and the least used illocutionary speech act produced by the characters' in the Purl movie. The most dominant type of the illocutionary speech act used produced by the characters' Purl movie is Expressive speech act which state what the speaker feels. Regardless of the declarative speech acts that are not found in the Purl movie, it is revealed that commissive speech acts are the least amount types of speech acts involved in the film, accounting for only 3% of all types of speech act. Commissive speech act used by the speakers to commit themselves to some future action. Here, the percentage of the most used speech act to the least in Purl movie is: expressive (34,3%), representative (32,8%), directive (29,8%), commissive (3%), and declarative (0%). As a result, the characters' of Purl movie tend to use expressive and representative speech act than the other speech act.

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