The Illocutionary Acts Analysis by The Main Character and Its Application in ELT

Wenny Purlita Dewi¹, Andrian Nuriza Johan² Zulia Chasanah³ (wennyitha@gmail.com¹, andrianjohan41@gmail.com² zuliachasanah@yahoo.co.id³)

English Education Program, Universitas Muhammadiyah Purworejo, Indonesia¹²³

DOI: https://doi.org/10.37729/scripta.v8i1.886

Abstract. This research deals with Illocutionary Acts Found in Before I Fall movie and Its Application in teaching speaking to eleventh grade students of senior high school. The aims of this research are (1) to find out the types of illocutionary act made by the main character of Before I Fall movie. (2) to describe the application of illocutionary acts found in Before I Fall movie in teaching speaking to eleventh grade students of senior high school. This research belongs to descriptive qualitative research. The data are form Illocutionary acts found in made by main character in Before I Fall movie. It was collected by finding the movie, watching the movie, downloading the script, reading the script, then collecting illocutionary acts utterances of the main character in the movie. After the data collected, the researcher analyzed the data based on the types. The result shows that there are 5 types of illocutionary act found in made by main character in Before I Fall movie. Those are 97 utterances of assertives (32.11%), 112 utterances of directives (37.08%), 5 utterances of commisives (1.65%), 75 utterances of expressives (24.83%), and 11 utterances of declaratives (3.64%). The application of illocutionary acts found in the main character of Before I Fall movie using movie as the method to improve speaking skills of Senior High School learners, so that students will be more interested in learning English.

Keyword: Illocutionary acts, Movie, Teaching speaking, Before I Fall Movie

1. Introduction

People communicate in order to exchange information with one another. People use language to communicate with one another. People can use language to explain everything, share their knowledge, give advice, and express their opinions to others and people do so communicate to others locally or to others from all over the world using a universal language: English as well. The previous pragmatics study was about understanding communication indirectly through text. [1], [2], [3], [4]. The pragmatics also need to be built in communication among participants comprehensively [5], [6].

The communication that occurred in the vicinity must be conveyed clearly enough for others to comprehend what was said. Language is expressed not only verbally: in writing to a letter, magazine, newspaper, or another type of source. Besides, audiovisual is a form of communication. A movie is an example of an audiovisual medium. Many people enjoy watching movies. The movie is based on real-world events. When it comes to dialogue in the movie, there are numerous instances. The exchange of words among the participants can be applied a case corpus in pragmalinguistics. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics. In pragmatics, we must deduce the utterance of speaker in order to comprehend its true intention.

An act of speech is a subfield in pragmatics, as it plays a significant study role in communicative interaction. Speech acts are categorized into three groups: perlocutionary, illocutionary, and locutionary. Each of them serves a distinct purpose in comprehending speaker utterances. The illocutionary act has been the most important study of the three speech acts types. Understanding the illocutionary act is critical. Recognizing of this condition, individuals will take the appropriate action when communicating. As a result, communication will be effective.

The previous study connected pragmatics, education using effective media [7], [8], [9]. It contains vibrant languages that serve a purpose. The movie includes illocutionary acts that pertain to society, such as providing information and expressing the speaker's emotions. Because a video is a real life exemplification, all can be compared to a real-life phenomenon, including the conversation. When we
watch a movie, we are not only entertained; we can also learn about the educational, moral, or other values implicit in the film. There are numerous actions taken by the speaker in order to produce the utterances found in "Before I Fall."

This study examined the illocutionary acts types used by the main characters in the Before I Fall movie, the type of illocutionary act that is most frequently used by the main character, and the application of the research findings in ELT. The research findings will assist teachers in enriching their pragmatic studies and that English students will gain the illocutionary acts types.

2. Review of the Literature

When conducting research, the researcher begins with theories that serve as a foundation for conducting the research sequentially. These theories are concerned with the illocutionary act and the teaching of public speaking. The following are the specifics of the literature:

Pragmatics
The world's inhabitants communicate with one another through language. The language element is studied in linguistics, a language branch of science. Linguistics is concerned with both the external and internal features of the language. The branch of morphology deals with words and morphemes; syntax deals with phrases and sentences; phonetics and phonology deals with sound; discourse deals with text; and semantics deals with the final meaning. Pragmatics is the study of how to use these instruments effectively in consequential communicative interaction. A subfield of linguistics concerned with the interaction of semantic knowledge and people’s experience of the world in the use context is the definition of pragmatics. According to Griffiths and Mey Pragmatics is learning the language in human communication as resolute by society conditions [10], [11]. In addition, Cutting states that study focus on meaning aspects that have not been estimated by linguist and taken into experience of the social or physical world [12]. Language in use and many utterances is observed in pragmatics. The utterances may not consist of complete sentence but they are entirely understandable. The pragmatics focus on the speaker’s meaning rather than on the word meaning in sentences. The pragmatics scope includes the aspects of discourse structure, implicature, deixis, presupposition, and speech acts.

Speech Acts
According to Hurford, a speech act occurs while a speaker is uttering in the form of declarative sentence (which can be wrong or true) and supposes a certain obligation or responsibility to the listener that a definite affairs state, or real condition, stays in the world. [13]. When people speak, they can do a variety of things, such as consonant aspiration, a relative clause construction, a guest insulting, and a war starting. The term “act of speech” refers to the actions done during the act of speaking. However, the speech act theory is particularly involved in those acts which have not not completely covered by one or more grammar major divisions—syntax, semantics, phonetics, phonology, morphology, or by some overarching other act speech theory. It will analyze on three different levels when an utterance is produced [14]. They are locutionary act, illocutionary force, and perlocutionary effect [12].

Illocutionary Act
One speech act type is the illocutionary act. Hurford defines illocutionary acts as those performed by a speaker when he or she makes an utterance in terms of the utterance's significance within a conventional social interaction system. [13]. One way to think about the illocutionary act is that it reflects the intention of the speaker in making the utterance in the first place. Illocutions are socially prescribed acts such as accosting, accusing, admitting, apologizing, challenging, complaining, condoling, congratulating, declining, deploiting, granting permission, granting way, greeting, leaving, mocking, naming, offering, praising, promising, proposing marriage, protesting, recommending, surrendering, thanking, toaster. According to Levingston, an illocutionary act is the act of making a statement, offer, or promise while uttering a sentence via the conventional force associated with it. It is evident in the example shoot her utterance. In appropriate circumstances, the shoot her utterance performed a variety of illocutionary functions, including (1) ordering, (2) urging, and (3) advising. The effect on the addressee may be to
persuade, coerce, or fear her into shooting herself. [15] summarizes that illocutionary act is what is directly achieved by the conventional force associated with the issuance of a certain kind of utterance in accord with a conventional procedure and is consequently determinate. Illocutionary acts mean the acts of produce or saying something that contains implied meanings by it utterances as the applying of thought to someone else. In other some way, Yule states that the illocutionary force of an utterance is what it counts as [16]. The same utterance, for example, I'll see you later can count as a predication, a promise, or a warning. This different analysis of the utterance in the sentence I'll see you later represent different illocutionary forces, I predict that, I promise you that, I warn you that. There, the example I'll see you later has three illocutionary acts: (1) the speaker is predicting, (2) the speaker is promising, and (3) warning.

According to Searle, there are five types of illocutionary acts. They are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations [17].

**Assertives**

This type's purpose is to bind the speaker to the truth of the stated proposition. The assertive direction is to use appropriate language in the world; the psychological expression is belief. Each member of this type is assessable on an assessment dimension that includes true and false. This category of speech acts includes assertions, statements of fact, conclusions, and descriptions.

**Directives**

The directive illocutionary act is one in which the speaker attempts to persuade the hearer to do something. The direction of fit is world-to-words, and the condition of sincerity is desire (or wish or desire). The propositional content is always some future action on the part of the hearer. Some objective of the speaker Directives take the form of commands, orders, requests, and suggestions. They are directives, instructions, requests, and suggestions.

**Commissives**

These are the types of illocutionary acts whose purpose is to bind the speaker to a future course of action. The direction of correspondence is world-to-word, and the condition of sincerity is intention. The propositional content is always some future action by the speaker. They convey the speaker's intention. Commissives are commitments made through promises, threats, refusals, and pledges.

**Expressives**

These are the types of illocutionary acts intended to commit the speaker to a particular course of action in the future. Correspondence is world-to-word, and sincerity is a condition of intention. The propositional content is always some action that the speaker intends to take in the future. They elucidate the speaker's intent. Commissives are promises, threats, refusals, and pledges that constitute commitments.

**Declarative**

This type has an immediate effect on the institutional state of affairs and relies heavily on elaborate extra-linguistic institutions. Declarations result in a change in the status or condition of the referred to object or object solely as a result of the declaration's successful execution. In this case, the speaker is the one who brought about the situation. One could argue that the speaker's utterance alters the external status or condition of an object or situation. These can include declarations of war, christenings, and terminations from employment.

**Movie**

Movies, also known as films, are often categorized under the heading performing arts because they use actors as their significant means of expression. Burns argues that video is reflected to be a media that mostly entertains, yet that media play a education part and information outside them [18]. Besides, video is entertainment media that passes a story by using audio and visual or a image sequence movement illusion. Then, videos play pedagogical role in lives of their watcher. Zumam says that the English movie as a media in the teaching-learning process in elaborating speaking skill to evoke the imagination [19]. A movie or video as the reflection of the viewers' desire has an entertainment form shown on television or at the cinema or movie theatre. It may entertain type viewers. According to Burns, there are five genres of
movie that it differs in communication depending on whom they are directed toward [18]. Those are action-adventure, comedy, drama, horror, and science fiction. Arguably there are other genres in the film industry, but these five tend to be the most prominent in the genre research and encompass all of the movies used for this study.

**Before I Fall Movie**
The phenomenon of speech function has become an intriguing subject for discussion, most notably in Stephen Chobsky’s movie Wonder. The film uses straightforward English sentences because film is a form of media that reflects human social life. It develops into an intriguing story worth investigating. Additionally, this movie has a strong moral message about the importance of understanding social norms and behavior. It teaches children how to adapt to society and develop their social skills, particularly by instilling in them an understanding of empathy and kindness toward those with facial differences or disabilities. Hopefully, this film will inspire people to be more appreciative of what they have and to manage their responses to others more effectively.

**Teaching Speaking**
The primary goal of English instruction is to equip students with the ability to communicate effectively, whether orally or in writing. Speaking is one of the language skills that focuses on verbal interactions; it is capable of accurately producing, sending, and receiving information. Brown defines teaching as demonstrating or assisting someone in learning how to do something, giving instruction, guiding in the study of something, providing with knowledge, or causing to know or understand. [20]. says that speaking activities are designed to provoke ‘speaking-as-skill’, where there is a task to complete and speaking is the way to complete it. It also has a purpose for talking, which is not just linguistic [21]. One of the difficult skills in learning English is speaking. Speaking a language is especially difficult for foreign language learners because effective oral communication requires the ability to use the language appropriately in social interaction. EFL learners need explicit instruction in speaking, which, like any language skill, generally has to be learned, and practiced [21]. The teacher should be innovative in using engaging media and methods to pique students’ interest in speaking. Teachers must correct students' errors during speaking activities. Numerous teachers observe and listen as speaking activities take place. They keep track of what went well and what went wrong when students couldn't make themselves understood or made serious errors. They then ask the students how they thought the activity went before providing their own feedback. As with any kind of correction, it is important not to single out for particular criticism. Many teachers deal with the mistakes they heard without saying who made them [21].

3. **Method**

Because the data are in the form of words and written language rather than numbers and statistics, this research employs a descriptive qualitative method as its research design. It can be concluded that qualitative research is concerned with comprehending the outcome of discovered data rather than with calculating it. Qualitative research focuses on the object's quality, including its value, meaning, human emotional response, comprehension, and historical significance. To perceive quality, a suitable approach is required, such as semiotics, hermeneutics, or fenomenologia. [22]. As a result of this explanation, we can deduce that qualitative research is more concerned with describing the object's condition, characteristics, and value. Suharsimi states that data is all facts and numbers used as a source to organize the information [23]. The researcher conducts research using quotations from the movie Before I Fall's the main character, and the document is the movie's script. The following are some of the steps taken by the researcher to collect data. To begin, watch the film Before I Fall. Second, searching for film scripts. Thirdly, reading film scripts in order to identify the film's illocutionary acts, fourth, interpreting and comprehending the film's utterances.

On the other hand, this research enables to analyze the utterances that contain speech functions that used the inductive type as the model of data analysis. Jacob inductive data analysis proceeds from data to theory or interpretation, as the inquirer reduces and reconstructs the data through the processes of coding and categorization, then interpreting the phenomena being observed [24]. The researcher
employed several of Ary's concepts in data analysis, including organizing and familiarizing, coding and reducing, and interpreting and representing.

The researcher should organize data into file folders or computer files and familiarize himself or herself with it by reading and rereading notes, viewing and reviewing the video, listening, and repeating other steps. The researcher watched and responded to the film several times in order to grasp the story and analyze each utterance made by the main character. Observe the sentences that include speech functions. Repeatedly search for and read relevant journals, articles, theses, and books. The researcher will ensure that data is in an easily analyzed format and then organize it. Then, in the coding and reduction processes, text data is made sense of by segmenting it into text or image segments, labeling each segment with a code, examining each code for overlap and redundancy, and collapsing these codes into broad themes. Meanwhile, reducing data is the analysis form to concern, choose, focus, reduce, and arrange data to draw conclusion [25]. This researcher provided coding for the data used to analyze the movie and initially goes through all the data and assigns an appropriate code to each unit (utterances that contain speech function), which will then be reduced to the selected and dominant types that appear in the video. These are the number of utterances, the types of speech function in Before I Fall, and the total number of utterances. Finally, by interpreting and representing the data, the researcher attempts to make sense of it in order to generate explanations that incorporate the findings from the data analysis and incorporate some examples from the main character's utterances in the Before I Fall film. The researcher then applies speech functions to the teaching of speaking.

4. Findings

The researcher examines the various types of illocutionary acts found in the film Before I Fall. To facilitate analysis, the researcher creates a table. The table analyzes illocutionary acts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Types of Illocutionary acts</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Assertives</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Commisives</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Directives</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>37.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Expressives</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>24.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Declaratives</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>302</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the table above, the main character makes 302 utterances in Before I Fall, which contain five distinct types of illocutionary acts. Directives comprise the largest portion of all illocutionary acts. There are 112 utterances (37.08 percent) with directives, 97 utterances (32.11 percent) with assertives, 75 utterances (24.83 percent) with expressives, 11 utterances (3.64 percent) with declaratives, and 5 utterances (1.65 percent) with commisives.

5. Discussion

According to the data analysis, there are 302 utterances used by the main character in Before I Fall, with directives being the most prevalent type. When the researcher presents the data, he or she includes the coding data, which includes the number of data, the various types of speech functions, and the time the data appeared. Additionally, the researcher clarifies the context of the situation in order to make the explanation more understandable.

The finding shows that the first type found is assertive has 97 utterances that tocommit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition, such as Okay. This is not my fault and I had a nightmare, so it's a slow start, or and I know this may sound crazy, but I have a feeling I may be able to understand you better than you think I could, and you can do something about that. You know, you can learn to talk differently. Second, directive type has 112 utterances that attempt to get someone to do something, such
as Izzy, how many times do I have to tell you? Don't touch my stuff! And No texting and driving. Third, expressive type has 75 utterances that express the speaker's feeling, such as I think you're beautiful and I like what you've done with the place. Fourth, commissive has 5 utterances that to commit the speaker to some future course of action, such as I'm not mean to Mom and I have something I want to tell you later. A secret. Fifth, declarative has 11 utterances that the speaker changes the external status or condition of an object or situation, such as You don't want to die. You want the pain to stop and Exactly, it's Juliet. She has a name and she is a person. Among those types of illocutionary acts commonly used by the main character in Before I Fall movie is directives. By utilizing directives, the protagonist attempts to rectify the situation and, on occasion, assists in changing the bad behavior of her best friends, thereby becoming wiser.

Illocutionary acts depicted in movies can be used to enhance the teaching-learning process, particularly when teaching speaking. Teachers can use the Before I Fall movie to teach students about illocutionary acts. The purpose of using movie to teach speaking is to help students understand the various types and meanings of illocutionary acts. A film can be used to assist students in developing their own experiences. It can help students improve their speaking ability because they listen to how the actors conduct the conversation in the movie, as well as their listening ability and understanding of how a native pronounces a word correctly.

Illocutionary acts found in movie can be applied in teaching-learning process, especially in teaching speaking. Teachers can use Before I Fall movie in teaching speaking to help students learn more about illocutionary acts. The aim of teaching speaking using movie is to help students understand about the types and meaning of illocutionary acts. Movie can be used to help students to experience themselves. It can help students to improve their speaking skill because they listen how the actors did the conversation in movie, also their listening skill and learn how the native pronounce a word in the right pronunciation.

6. Conclusion

According to the research findings and discussion, the main character in Before I Fall employs five distinct types of illocutionary acts. They are assertive, directive, empathetic, expressive, and declarative. The most frequently used type by the film's protagonist is directives. The main character uses directives because she recognizes that the life she has lived thus far is incorrect; she works to correct it and, on occasion, assists in changing the bad behavior of her best friends in order to become wiser. The analysis of the main character's illocutionary acts in Before I Fall can be used to teach speaking, particularly material expressions of suggestion and offering, which are taught in the eleventh grade of Senior High School. According to the table above, the main character makes 302 utterances in Before I Fall, which contain five distinct types of illocutionary acts. Directives comprise the largest portion of all illocutionary acts. There are 112 utterances (37.08 percent) with directives, 97 utterances (32.11 percent) with assertives, 75 utterances (24.83 percent) with expressives, 11 utterances (3.64 percent) with declaratives, and 5 utterances (1.65 percent) with commisives.

7. References


