Pragmatics Study: Commissive Speech Act Analysis in Song Lyrics "PERFECT" by Ed Sheeran

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to describe the forms of commissive speech act in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. The data are purposively chosen in order to answer the research question. The data of this research are the commissive speech act used in the song lyrics of "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. This article employs the descriptive qualitative research, supported by some descriptive quantification. Thus, this article analyses the commissive speech act and its function. To explain the text clearly, a pragmatic analysis will be employed. The researcher finds the results (1) the whole data of commissive speech act in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran are 8 data that consist of 4 forms of commissive speech act used in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran namely promise, refusal, volunteer and offer. promise consists of 4 data, refusal consists of 1 data, volunteer consists of 2 data and offer consists of 1 data. The result of the study is "promise speech acts" is mostly used promise because the singer wanted to persuade her girlfriend to do something by using future predictive behaviour that the singer must believe can act in order to make the listener believe.

Keywords: Commissive, Speech Acts, Pragmatics

1. INTRODUCTION

There are no restrictions on using of language and speech acts in the daily life. While language and speech acts provide a powerful and flexible means of communication [1]. It has certain constraints and considerations associated with their use [2]. It also allows for creative expression, adaptability, and the negotiation of meaning in diverse contexts [3]. Understanding these factors enhances the ability to use language and speech acts effectively in different situations [4]. As a fundamental tool for communication, language as a means for individuals to convey thoughts, ideas, emotions, and information to one another [5]. It serves as the foundation for human communication which encompasses a wide range of functions and allows individuals to connect, share, and engage with the world around them. To understand the purpose of statements through language, this article aims to reveal the possibility of certain consequences according to each utterance that uses commissive speech acts. Now adays, humans use many ways to convey this message. Humans create various kinds of explicit and implicit communication tools to make it easier for them to communicate [6].

Song is one way for humans to convey messages through the song lyric [7]. Absolutely trough the lyrics, songs are a powerful form of artistic expression that allows humans to convey messages, emotions, and stories [8]. It plays a significant role in human communication by providing a medium for artistic expression, emotional communication, storytelling, and social connection [9]. It also allows them to convey a wide range of messages and meanings, making music an integral part of communication [10].

Songs are a literary art form that convey a variety of life experiences. It is capable of giving us more than just imaginative pleasure. Songs are rhymed similar to poetry, but unlike poetry, songs have music. Songs can be used to communicate various emotions, including happiness, sadness, and relaxation. A song is also a musical composition, and music has a calming effect on the mind, body, and emotions for everyone. It is strange that some people have no taste for singing, painting, or cinema. Singing has been shown to enhance motivation, memory, focus, reduce stress, and foster a sense of camaraderie among a group. Ed Sheeran began writing his own songs shortly after he began performing and learning to play the guitar at a young age. When Ed Sheeran was just a teenager, he relocated to London in order to pursue his music. His prolific output resulted in hundreds of live performances as well as several early Eps [11].

The song "Perfect" itself was made available in 2017. The song won several honours in 2018 including the "Radio Disney Music Award," the "Much Music Video Award of the Year" for the solo singer category, and the "Teen Choice Award" for the single singer category. The lyrics to this song are sixteen lines long and discuss love. a woman's affection. The woman who fell in love with a man while she was just a teenager. Even as an adult, she still maintains her affection. She still has feelings for that man, regardless of how difficult or unfortunate his circumstances may be. She does not stop loving him. At last, the man acknowledges her love for him and embraces her as his girlfriend. He pledges to love her and is prepared to wed her so they can live together. Till the end of time, they will care for and cherish one another [12].

In the lyrics of the perfect song there is a type of speech acts to communicate for the listener. Communication can be conveyed through verbal and nonverbal communication [13]. One fundamental concept in pragmatics is that communication involves more than just the literal meaning of words (semantics) [14] [15]. Pragmatics explores how context, social cues, shared knowledge, and the speaker's intentions contribute to the meaning of an utterance [16], [17] . It is a study which belief is what is communicated is more than what is said [18]. Pragmatics as "the study of using language in communication, particularly the relationship between sentences and the contexts, situations in which they are used. The utterances that the speakers produce in communication contain deeper sense than the actual meaning of the words or phrases themselves [19]. The study of media on ELT in using pragmatic has been done to find the new varian method in teaching [20]. It is also combining script of prose or lyric of song [21], [22], [23].

Speech act and Commissive Speech Act
Speech acts are actions carried out through words. Austin (1975) defined a speech act as a physical activity that is conducted only through the use of words and phrases to communicate something [24]. Speech activities that compel the speaker to do as indicated in his speech are known as compliant speech acts. The speaker attempts to make the world match the words (via the speaker) while employing commissive [25]. The theory of speech acts with divinities was developed by Searle. The five categories of illocutionary speech are declarative, directive, expressive, assertive, and commissive [26].
Commissive speech act is one speech act that has been drawing the researcher's notice. Speech acts that centre on an agreement or action that compels the speaker to do something are known as compliant speech acts. Examples of these include vows, contracts, embraces, guarantees, and pledges [27]. Commissive speech act describes altruistic speech in which the speaker pledges to carry out a future action. The speaker's speech will happen eventually; it doesn't happen right now. Sometimes the statements follow a simple future tense formula. The speech act includes the speaker's commitment to carrying out the action in the future. Every word that the speaker says has an intention, and he should take responsibility for what he says. The speaker wants to change the world with their words [28].

a. Promise
As stated previously that commissive are differentiated into some types, i.e. promise, guarantee, refusal, threat, volunteer, and offer. Promise is a statement of telling someone that you will definitely do or not do something. It is a verbal commitment by one person to another to do (or not to do) something in the future [29]. Proposes five requirements to make a valid promise speech act. First, the speaker has to intend to do what he promises [30], then the speaker must believe (that the hearer believes) that the action is in the hearer's best interest, the speaker has to believe that he can perform the action [31] ; the speaker must predicate a future action, and the speaker has to predicate an act of himself [32].

b. Guarantee
A guarantee is an assurance that something is real or that it will happen. The means of distinguishing between a promise and a guarantee is the degree of affirmation. To make a guarantee is "to perform a complex speech act that is both an assertion and a conditional promise". A guarantee is a resolute assurance that a speaker will act or that an event will transpire. Alternatively, the speaker pledges to accomplish specific goals while articulating the speech act of assurance future events. Concerning commissive, the verb guarantee refers to the act of offering a guarantee or guaranty [33].

c. Refusal
Refusal are regarded as potentially dangerous. This speaking act puts the interlocutor in danger because it is required of him to turn down requests, offers, suggestions, or invitations from people who aren't expecting the turndown. It is regarded as a sign of disdain and disapproval because of this [34]. Refusals are denials of requests, invites, offers, ideas, and the like that we regularly encounter in our

day-to-day interactions. Given their crucial role in communication in regular social interactions, refusals are among the most researched issues in pragmatics. In general, the way you respond to a "no" question matters more than the actual response. It is socially required of the interlocutors to know when, in what situation, to utilize which type of denial [35].

d. Threat

Searle said that a threat is an agreement to do something "to you, not for you," since they may be interpreted as threats to cause harm or punishment. There are two faces of threat: the negative and positive face. The latter include expressions of negative emotions like rage and hatred as well as caution, request, demand, counsel, suggestion, challenges, and promises. The former face consists of disagreement, criticism, and conflict that can be harmful to an individual's autonomy [36]. A hearer's positive face threatening acts are complaints, criticisms, accusations, mention of taboo topics, interruptions. Acts that threaten an addressee's negative face include offers, promises. Examples of face threatening acts to the speaker's positive face include confessions, apologies, acceptance of a compliment, and self humiliations. Some of the face threatening acts that are threatening to the speaker's negative face include "expressing gratitude, accepting a thank-you, an apology or an offer, and making promises [37].

e. Volunteering

A volunteer is someone who offers their services without being compensated or under duress. Stated differently, volunteering is the act of performing a task voluntarily and without being forced to. As an illustration, "Let me help you bring your stuff."It indicates that the speaker is willing to assist someone in carrying their belongings [38].

f. Offer

To commit a speaker to a specific course of action is the discourse function of offer. Searle's (1969) examination of this speech act serves as the offer. For that issue, offer and acceptance are categorized as commissive speech acts. The basis for this classification is the customary fulfillment of promises through offer and acceptance anytime the two actions are mentioned in a dialogue [39].

Research Question:
1.   What commissive speech acts are performed by song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran?
2.   How many percentage data of the commissive speech acts are performed by song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran?

2. METHOD

This research belongs to descriptive qualitative. The researcher described the data in form of song lyrics which are taken from the internet by downloading it. The researcher described the song lyrics by using theories of commissive speech act. The subjects of this research are Song Lyrics in the title "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran taken from the internet. The focus of analysis is specifically in form commissive speech act. There are some techniques to collect the data in qualitative research; one of them is documentation which contains text (words) that have been recorded without researcher intervention [40]. Therefore, in this study, the researcher documentation as the technique of collecting data. The final written report has a flexible structure. The researcher used the following steps in collecting and analysing the data: observing, identifying, coding, analysing and interpreting, and describing the data. All steps were related to commissive speech act (promise) found in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. Furthermore, drawing conclusions and suggestions were the final steps in the process of analysing the data.

3. FINDINGS

The design or rationale for the experiments should be included in the findings together with the results of the studies. This result encompasses both the experiment results and the researcher's concepts or designs. The results can be presented using text, tables, pie diagrams, and figures. The design or rationale for the experiments should be included in the results together with the trial outcomes. The findings can be shown in the following table.

Table 1. Commissive Speech Acts in Song Lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran

No.	Commissive Speech Acts	Lyrics		Percentage
1.	Promise	1. I will not give you up this time 2. I hope that someday I'll share her home 3. I know we'll be alright this time 4. Be my girl, I'll be your man	**4**	**50 %**
2.	Guarantee	-	**-**	
3.	Refusal	1. I don't deserve this, darling, you look perfect tonight	**1**	**12,5 %**
4.	Threat	-	**-**	**-**
5.	Volunteer	1. I hope that someday I'll share her home 2. Be my girl, I'll be your man	**2**	**25%**
6.	Offer	1. Darling, just dive right in and follow my lead	**1**	**12,5%**

4. DISCUSSION

This study examined the many commissive words in an Ed Sheeran song especially in "Perfect" lyric. The intention of using commissive in the lyrics is to make each phrase easier to understand for both the song's listener and reader. Because many songs employ commissive to make the music more engaging and alive, songs are one of the best media to learn about commissive. Additionally, it can assist the reader or listener in deciphering the song's lyrics. There are still plenty of topics to research regarding the many commissive kinds.

a. Promise

Promise is an utterance used to remind the speaker about something to be done in the future. Besides, in commissive speech act, there is also a commitment. A commitment is kind a promise but it more intended. Oxford dictionary defines promise as a declaration of assurance that one would do something that particular thing happen. Beside oxford dictionary defines commitment as the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause activity.

1. *I will not give you up this time*
2. *I hope that someday I'll share her home*
3. *I know we'll be alright this time*
4. *Be my girl, I'll be your man*

The researcher founds 4 data of promise. Promise is an oral written agreement to do or not to do something. Promise is utterance used to remind the speaker about something to be done in the future. Based on the analysis, there were 4 promises utterance in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. In this song the singer wanted to persuade her girlfriend to do something in order to make the listener believe. The promises are all about to make sure the listener.

b. Refusal

Refusal represents one type of refusing response or disagreement response. Refusal belongs to the form of commissive because they commit the refuser to performing an action. As a reactive speech act, a refusal functions as a response to an initiating act and is considered a speech act by

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which the speaker direct and indirect strategies. Thus, it has a function that the speaker rejects to do something

1. *I don't deserve this, darling, you look perfect tonight*

Saying "no" is somehow more vital than the answer itself. Both speaker and interlocutors are expected to understand the context as well as form and function of refusal, depending on the cultural linguistic and ethnicity values. The data of refusal that are shown in this song lyrics is 1 data. The singer says in the lyrics that "don't deserve this" negative responses to suggestions for his girlfriend cause his girlfriend looks perfect tonight.

c. Volunteer

Volunteer is defined as offer to do something without being forced or paid to do it. It is to perform or offer to perform a service of someone's own free will. It means choosing to offer or give freely without being asked or obliged.

1. *I hope that someday I'll share her home*
2. *Be my girl, I'll be your man*

Based on the analysis, there were 2 volunteers in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. The singer say that he will share his home and he says that he want to be a man for his girlfriend without being forced and perform a service of his own free will.

d. Offer

Offer means saying that you are willing to do something for somebody or give something to somebody. Offer is the hearer's expression to offer an act for the hearer's or addressee's interest.

1. *Darling, just dive right in and follow my lead*

The data of offer that are shown in this song lyrics is 1 data. The singer offers his girlfriend to follow his lead.

5. CONCLUSION

After analysing the speech act found in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran, the writer found the functions of commissive speech acts in the song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. There are promises, rejections, voluntary, and offer. The writer found 8 data that promise speech acts found in 4 data (50%), volunteer speech acts found in 2 data (25%), refused speech acts found in 1 data (12,5%), and offer speech acts found in 1 data (12,5%). The most dominant commissive speech act used in song lyrics "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran is the promise speech act. It is found that commissive speech acts are mostly realized through promise (50%), followed by volunteer (25%), refusal (12,5%), and offer (12,5%). Promise is mostly used perhaps because the singer wanted to persuade her girlfriend to do something by using future predictive behaviour that the singer must believe can act in order to make the listener believe.

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