

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In the development of an increasingly dynamic era, language remains a crucial role in it, whether it is for communication, expressing emotions, expressing opinions and ideas, or others. Language is a tool for communication that helps individuals build relationships in society because it enables everyone to express their feelings, which then serves as a representation of themselves and establishes their identity within a social community (Hastuti *et al.*, 2021). Communication can take place if the speaker's and the listener's information are comprehended by both parties (Putri & Hendar, 2022). Hence, in its application, language has the function of connecting one human to another. Language also has various meanings depending on the intention and purpose of the speaker and to whom they are speaking. One of the branches of science that studies language is linguistics.

According to Finegan (2008:22), linguistics is a systematic study of human language, including its structures, purposes, and interrelationships as well as its growth and acquisition. Language form, interpretation, and language in context are all analyzed in linguistics. In linguistics, there are two branches of linguistics that study meaning, namely semantics and pragmatics.

According to Yule (1996), pragmatics is a study of the relations among linguistic structures and their users. Pragmatics is concerned with the study of interpretation as it is delivered by the speaker or writer and understood by the hearer or reader (Yule, 1996:3). The meaning of the language can be understood if the context is known. The inferred meaning may differ depending on the manner, time, and place of the utterance. In other words, context has an impact on meaning, for instance how sentences are interpreted in certain situations. Situation here can refer to a conversation.

When a speaker says something in a conversation, there are certain aims that require action beyond the words. This refers to one of the pragmatics studies namely, speech acts. Speech act is the outcome of an utterance under specific circumstances, and is the basic unit of linguistic communication that defines the sentence's meaning (Hastuti *et al.*, 2021). In other words, speech act is an action that is accomplished through the words' usage. Speech acts occurs all the time in daily basis, even when we are not aware of them. When the hearer misinterprets the meaning of the message communicated by the speaker, miscommunication could happen.

Austin (1962) first proposed the concept of speech acts and Searle (1979) has since developed it. Austin (1962) points out speech acts are divided into three types, namely locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Based on Yule (1996:48), locutionary act is the fundamental act of creating meaningful linguistic expression. The second act is an illocutionary act that refers to the

utterance that performed through the communicative force. Meanwhile, the last act is a perlocutionary act, which is the result or consequence of the utterance on the hearer, depending on the context. In communication, it is important for the hearer to understand the purpose of the speaker or the illocutionary acts to take the right action according to the utterances.

Based on Searle (1979), there are five primary types of illocutionary acts, namely: (1) *Assertive*, which is what the speaker believes to be true. For examples: stating, claiming, assuring, etc.; (2) *Directive*, the speaker wants the hearer to take action. For examples: requesting, asking, telling, etc.; (3) *Commissive*, in which the speaker's words are linked to a future action or course. It indicates that the speaker has made a commitment to the hearer. For examples: vowing, accepting, promising, etc.; (4) *Expressive*, the speaker is expressing feelings or attitude towards an existing state. For examples: apologizing, thanking, praising, etc.; (5) *Declarative*, what is the speaker say brings an immediate change. For examples: declaring, confirming, denouncing, etc.

An utterance, whether written or spoken, can contain illocutionary acts. Illocutionary acts, on the other hand, can be found in a novel, a short story, a speech, or a movie. A movie is a medium that depicts the social or daily lives of humans and a movie usually tells a story with significance as well as a message for the viewer. Movie could serve as an illustration of how language is applied to convey messages through speech, both direct and indirect. The language used in the movie consists of a variety of forms and functions. Therefore, a movie can be

a useful source for obtaining speech acts because it presents a variety of speech acts in diverse contexts and since characters performed a lot of utterances (Putri *et al.*, 2019).

In this study, a movie was used as a data source. The title of the movie is “Love, Simon” that directed by Greg Berlanti. The movie was analyzed because it contains many types of illocutionary acts in the conversation. Hence, this study was conducted in order to know the types of illocutionary acts and also to understand the meaning of the characters’ utterances, so that it can be seen the intentions and goals that the characters’ want to convey when they are talking. In addition, because this phenomenon occurs frequently in daily life, it was better to comprehend how it was typically illocutionary acts expressed, which enabled to respond appropriately and prevent misunderstandings.

1.2 Problems of the Study

Based on the background above, there are two problems that were examined in this research:

1. What types of illocutionary acts are found in the “Love, Simon” movie that are performed by the characters?
2. What is the meaning of the illocutionary acts found in the “Love, Simon” movie based on the context that are spoken by the characters?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problems, the specific objectives of the study have been listed below:

1. To identify the types of illocutionary acts found in the “Love, Simon” movie that are performed by the characters.
2. To analyze the meaning of the illocutionary acts found in the “Love, Simon” movie based on the context that are spoken by the characters.



1.4 Limitation of the Study

In order to avoid a wide range of discussion, this study limited to the types of illocutionary acts uttered by the main character and supporting characters in the “Love, Simon” movie as well as the meaning of the utterances that are spoken. The theory proposed by Searle (1979) used to address the five types of illocutionary acts performed by main character and supporting characters in this movie. Meanwhile, the theory presented by Halliday and Hasan (1989) used to analyze the meaning of the illocutionary acts based on the context that are spoken by the characters.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study can be divided into two categories: theoretical significance and practical significance. Theoretical significance is the significance that can help in the development of a particular theory so that it can be implemented or used by other researchers. While the practical significance prefers to contribute to solving issues that are happened in society. However, the significance was obviously illustrated as below:

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

Based on the purpose, the finding of this study is expected to give some contribution to the study of pragmatics by helping to develop Searle's theory of speech acts, particularly illocutionary acts. Therefore, this study provided further explanation of illocutionary acts.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

Practically, the results of this study are likely to be valuable to anyone interested in learning English, especially in comprehending illocutionary acts. This study is also expected to serve as a reference, especially for individuals who desire to conduct similar research and prove that these theories can effectively solve the problems addressed in this study.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE, CONCEPTS, AND THEORIES

This second chapter provided with a review of related literature to develop the writer's ideas and present the comparison of the data, as well as the concepts and theories used in this study as a basis for analysis. This is because writing scientific papers requires the development of ideas from a variety of perspectives and a wide analysis of the subject.

2.1 Review of Related Literature

There are two theses and three articles that were reviewed, which are related to this study. The first related review was a thesis written by Putri (2021) under the title "An Analysis of Directive Illocutionary Act in the Movie Maleficent 2 Mistress of Evil". The aimed of the study were to identify the types of directive illocutionary acts used by the characters and to analyze the context of situation of each utterance expressed by the characters. This study implemented the theory of Searle and Vanderveken (1985) to answer the types of directive illocutionary acts. The findings reveal there are six different types of directive illocutionary acts in Maleficent 2 Mistress of Evil. There are requesting, asking, commanding, requiring, forbidding, and telling. The characters in the movie use the asking act the most. Meanwhile, the least frequent act used by the characters are requiring and forbidding. The study also aimed on analyzing the context of

situation of each utterance made by the characters in the movie *Maleficent 2 Mistress of Evil* using the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1989).

The similarities between this study and the previous study can be seen from the data that is being used and the theory used to analyze the second research problem. The data source for both studies is movies and the theory used is the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1989). Meanwhile, the difference is in the topic. This study focused on five different types of illocutionary acts, while in the previous study it solely focused on one type of illocutionary act, namely the directive.

The second related review was a thesis written by Srinadi (2019) entitled "The Analysis of Illocutionary Acts of President Joko Widodo's Speech at ASEAN World Economic Forum". The aimed of the study were to identify the types of illocutionary acts found in President Joko Widodo's speech at ASEAN World Economic Forum and to identify the functions of illocutionary acts. The first problem was analyzed using Searle's (1979) theory. The findings reveal there are four types of illocutionary acts found in President Joko Widodo's speech: assertives, expressives, directives, and commissives. Assertives is used the most, representing about 75.9% of the frequency. It is followed by expressives, which represent about 13.8%, directives, around 6.9%, and commissives, representing about 3.4%. The study also focused on identifying the function of illocutionary acts used by President Joko Widodo in his speech at ASEAN World Economic Forum. This study used Leech's (1983) function of illocutionary acts theory. The results showed that President Joko Widodo used three types of illocutionary acts

in his speech: competitive, convivial, and collaborative. The most frequent illocutionary act in this category is Collaborative.

The similarities can be found in the topic and the theory that used in the first problem. The topic of illocutionary acts is analyzed in both of these studies. Then, both of the studies applied the Searle (1979) theory to answer the first problem. Meanwhile, the difference is in the data that is being used. The movie used as a data source in this study whereas the previous study used speech as a data source.

The third related review was an article published by Putri *et al.* (2020) entitled "The Analysis of Illocutionary Acts of Judges' Comments in America's Next Top Model and Asia's Next Top Model Competitions: A Cross-Cultural Pragmatic Study". The aimed of this article was to identify the illocutionary acts of the judges. The theory of Searle (1979) was applied in this study. According to the findings, there are four types of illocutionary acts discovered in the Judges' Comments of America's Next Top Model, such as assertive, directive, expressive, and declarative. The assertive and declarative types are the most prevalent, with the same percentage of occurrences, about 33.33% in each. Followed by the expressive type with 21 utterances, representing about 29.17% of all utterances, and directive has the lowest frequency of illocutionary acts (4.17%). Then, the most common function of illocutionary act is determining, with 24 utterances, representing about 33.33%, and this sort of function falls within the declarative type. Additionally, recommending and congratulating have the least frequency, each with just one utterance, or 1.39%. Meanwhile, there are four types of

illocutionary acts that appeared in the judges' comments of Asia's Next Top Model, such as assertive, directive, expressive, and commissive. The expressive type has the greatest occurrence of about 29 utterances, or 39.19%, followed by the assertive with about 27 utterances, or 36.48%. Furthermore, the directive represents about 13 utterances (17.57%), while commissive type are the least common, with about 5 utterances, or 6.76%. Then, for the function of illocutionary acts, praising in expressive type is dominantly used by the judges' comments of Asia's Next Top Model by around 29.73%. In addition, the three functions of boasting, claiming, and encouraging have the fewest occurrences of utterances, each with about 1.35%.

The similarities between these studies are in the topic and the theory that are being used. The topic of illocutionary acts is analyzed in both of these studies. Then, Searle's (1979) theory is used to analyze the types of illocutionary acts in both studies. Meanwhile, the difference is in the data that is being used. The data source that used for this study is a movie whereas the data source from the previous study was comments from judges.

The fourth related review was an article published by Sari & Putri (2022) entitled "An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts Found in Wolfwalkers Movie". This study aimed to identify the types of illocutionary acts found in the movie and analyzing the function of illocutionary acts expressed through utterances in Wolfwalkers movie. This study applied Searle (1979) theory to answer the first problem. The findings reveal there are 5 types of illocutionary acts found in Wolfwalkers movie with a total of 47 data. Directive is the type that appears the

most as many as 19 data or about 40.4%. The second type is commissive with the amount of data as much as 11 or about 23.3%, then followed by assertive with a total of 10 data or 21.2%. The fourth is expressive with the amount of data as much as 6 or about 12.7%. The last is the declaration with the amount of 1 data or 2.1%. This study also aimed to analyze the function of illocutionary acts. The theory proposed by Leech (1983) used in this study to answer the second problem. Based on the findings, three functions of illocutionary act are discovered in the characters' utterances, such as collaborative, competitive, and convivial.

The similarities can be found in the topic, the theory that used in the first problem, and the data source. The topic of illocutionary acts is analyzed in both of these studies. Then, both of the studies applied the Searle (1979) theory to answer the first problem. The data source used in both studies is movies. The differences between this study and the previous study can be seen from the second research problem and also the theory used to analyze. This study analyzed the meaning using the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1989) while the previous study analyzed the function of illocutionary acts using the theory of Leech (1983).

The last related review was an article published by Pratama & Juniarta (2021) under the title "An Analysis of Directive Illocutionary Act in the Movie Maleficent". This study aimed to identify the types of directive illocutionary acts that are used by the main characters in the Maleficent movie and to identify the functions of those directive illocutionary acts. The first problem was analyzed using Searle's (1979) theory. The results reveal there are 4 different types of directive illocutionary acts used by the main characters, they are asking act around

11 data or about 50%, then followed by commanding about 7 data or 30%. Finally, requiring and telling with each of them are 2 data or about 10%. This study also focused on identifying the function of directive illocutionary acts using the Leech (1983) theory. Based on the findings, there are two functions of directive illocutionary act that found in the utterances, namely; competitive and collaborative.

The similarities can be found in the theory used to analyze the first research problem and also the data source. The theory used for the first research problem is from Searle (1979) and the data used in both studies is movies. The differences between this study and the previous study can be seen from the topic, the second research problem and also the theory used to analyze. The previous study only analyzed the directive types, while this study analyzed all the types of illocutionary acts. In addition, the theory used for the second research problem is also different. Previous research used the theory from Leech (1983) to analyze the function of illocutionary acts, while this study analyzed the meaning using the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1989).

It can be concluded that there are quite diverse differences between previous studies and the research that has been conducted. The first difference is in the topics that are analyzed. Second, the theory used to analyze the research problems in previous studies and the research problems in this study were also different. Finally, the difference is also in the data sources used in the research.

2.2 Concepts

Several concepts that covered in this research were explained in order to provide a clear understanding of the study and to ensure that the reader and writer have a similar understanding of the study. The terminology serves as a research concept as well. The definitions of these concepts are drawn from various sources and scholars. The concepts that need to be understood in this research are described below.

2.2.1 Speech Act

According to Yule (1996:47), speech acts are actions that are carried out through the use of utterances. Speech acts are classified into three categories: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts.

2.2.2 Illocutionary Act

An utterance's communicative force is used to carry out the illocutionary act (Yule, 1996:48). In simple terms, it can be said that illocutionary acts are speech acts that encourage the listener to carry out something that is expressed through an utterance. It can also be said that illocutionary act is the intention of the speaker when saying something.

2.2.3 Movie

A movie is a compilation of moving images that conveys a story and is seen by people on a screen or television (Webster, n. d.). Sometimes messages,

advice, values, or others can be conveyed through movies and can have a profound effect on the audience. The storyline in a movie usually reflects real life, so that the audience can feel the emotions shown in the movie.

2.2.4 “Love, Simon” Movie

"Love, Simon", which was released in 2018, is an American movie in the romantic comedy-drama genre and is directed by Greg Berlanti. The script for this movie, which was written by Isaac Aptaker and Elizabeth Berger, is adapted from Becky Albertalli's novel "Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda." The movie tells the story of Simon Spier, a reclusive gay teenager in high school who must conceal his sexual orientation from his friends and family. The problems arise when one of Simon's friends threatens to reveal his identity to the public. On the other hand, he was romantically involved with a mysterious figure he knew online.

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2.3 Theories

Theory plays a very important role in this research because it serves as a guide in finding the results of the problem. There are two theories that were applied in this study and are related to the problems. First, Searle's (1979) theory from his book entitled *Expression and Meaning: Studies in the Theory of Speech Act*, attempts to analyze the type of illocutionary that is found in the movie. Second, the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1989) regarding the context of situation in their book entitled *"Language, Context and Text: Aspects of Language*

in a Social-Semiotic Perspective" in order to analyze the meaning based on the context that occurs in the movie.

2.3.1 Speech Act

According to Yule (1996:47), speech act is an action that is done using language from an utterance. The speaker typically expects that the listener will understand the speaker's intentions when communicating (Yule, 1996:47). The speech act is a component of pragmatics, which is a sort of verbal or written communication. Speech acts make the meaning of the actions in the speech more visible. There are two forms of speech act, namely direct and indirect. The definition were explained as below:

1. Direct

An utterance is seen as a direct speech act when there is a direct relationship between the structure and the communicative function of the utterance (Yule, 1996:54). For instance:

- a. A declarative is used to make a statement. For example: You wear a seatbelt.
- b. An interrogative is used to ask a question. For example: Do you wear a seatbelt?
- c. An imperative is used to make a command. For example: Wear a seatbelt!

In conclusion, the utterance considered a direct when the intended meaning of the speaker was given direct to the point.

2. Indirect

An utterance could be seen as an indirect when there is an indirect relationship between a structure and a function (Yule, 1996:55). For instance:

- a. An interrogative is not typically used to ask a question but is used to make a request or a statement. For example:

- Do you have to stand in front of the TV?
- Could you pass the salt?
- Would you open this?

- b. A declarative is used to make a request or a command. For example:

- You're standing in front of the TV.
- You'd make a better door than a window.

In conclusion, the utterance considered an indirect when the speaker does not explicitly state the intended meaning behind the utterance, it is the hearer task to analyze the utterances to understand its meaning.

The hearer must comprehend and grasp the speaker's intentions when speaking to ensure that the appropriate response will be given in response to the utterances. Speech acts can be classified into three categories: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts.

2.3.1.1 Locutionary act

Yule (1996:48) stated that a locutionary act is referred to as the basic act of speech, or the production of a meaningful language expression. Austin (1962) also stated that a locutionary act is approximately similar to "meaning" in the conventional sense.

2.3.1.2 Illocutionary act

The illocutionary act occurs through the communicative force of an utterance. Illocutionary acts are statements made with a specific purpose in mind. Someone could say something, offer something, give an explanation, or any other type of communication (Yule, 1996:48).

2.3.1.3 Perlocutionary act

The perlocutionary act is the impact a sentence has on the audience (Yule, 1996:48). Perlocutionary act can be defined as the consequences of a speech on the hearer or the responses of the hearer.

2.3.2 Types of Illocutionary Acts

Based on Searle (1979), illocutionary acts can be classified into five categories: assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. As a result, in this section, those five categories are explained clearly so that the reader would understand them.

2.3.2.1 Assertive

The assertive class's goal or objective is to convince the speaker (to various degrees) that something is true or that the statement being made is true. This type makes the utterance of the speaker true or false. The goal of assertiveness is to make the words fit to the world, such as suggest, insist, swear, state, conclude, deduce, boast, complain, and believe (Searle, 1979:12).

Example: *It was a warm sunny day* (Yule, 1996:53)

From the utterance above, the speaker stated that it was a warm and sunny day, it is what the speaker believes. The utterance above can be categorized as assertive because assertive speech acts can be employed to make statements of what the speaker believes to be true.

2.3.2.2 Directive

The illocutionary purpose of this are attempts (of varied degrees, and more specifically, which comprises attempts) by the speaker to persuade the hearer to take some action. This type of illocutionary act conduct aims to make the world coincide the words, such as ask, command, pray, request, beg, plead, entreat, invite, permit, dare, order, defy, and challenge (Searle, 1979:13).

Example: *Gimme a cup of coffee. Make it black* (Yule, 1996:54)

The utterance above expressed what the speaker wants and tells the hearer to take an action, which is to give the speaker a cup of coffee. The utterance above might be categorized as a directive because the speaker wants the hearer to do something.

2.3.2.3 Commissive

Commissive is an illocutionary acts which aim to make the speaker pledge (to various degrees) for a particular course of action in the future. Commit, promise, vow, pledge, and others fit into this type of illocutionary act (Searle, 1979:14).

Example: *I'm going to get it right next time* (Yule, 1996:54)

The utterance above can be classified as a commissive since it shows the speaker promising something in the future when the speaker said "*I'm going to get it right next time*," which is the goal of commissive speech acts.

2.3.2.4 Expressive

The illocutionary objective of this type is to portray the emotional state related to a circumstance represented in the propositional content that is indicated in the sincere condition. In other words, expressive is the type of illocutionary act which is used to convey the speaker's emotion. The directions of fit in this type of illocutionary act are condole, welcome, apologize, thank, deplore and congratulate (Searle, 1979:15).

Example: *Congratulations!* (Yule, 1996:53)

As can be seen in the example above, the speaker congratulates the hearer. The example above is classified as an expressive speech acts because expressive speech actions have the function of expressing what the speaker feels.

2.3.2.5 Declarative

Declaration is an illocutionary act that, when performed successfully, brings a result in the correlation among propositional content and actuality. The mere fact that a declaration has been effectively carried out causes some change in the status or state of the object or the objects being referenced. The directions of this act are that words change the world: excommunicating, appointing, sentencing, etc. (Searle, 1979:16).

Example: Priest: *I now pronounce you husband and wife.* (Yule, 1996:53)

The preceding utterance can be classified as declaration because when the priest declares that they would be husband and wife, it signifies that the priest is changing their status with that of husband and wife. As seen in the example, a priest's utterance can change their life.

2.3.3 Context of Situation

The background knowledge of the speaker, which is assumed being shared by the speaker and the hearer, affects how the hearer interprets the speaker's intent when they make a certain utterance. The context of the situation is determined by the surroundings, the setting, the time, the location, and the relationships among the participants. The context of the situation is essential for resolving the research problem in this study. This study utilized the theory of Halliday and Hasan (1989). They discuss three aspects of the context of a situation in their book *"Language, Context, and Text: Aspects of Language in a*

Social-Semiotic Perspective," which are field, tenor, and mode. The specifics of the aspects are as follows:

2.3.3.1 Field

The term "field" describes what is happening, the type of social action that is occurring, what the individuals are doing, and how some crucial element of language is involved (Halliday and Hasan, 1989:10). In short, the field refers to a part of the situation's context that addresses the topic or subject matter of the conversation, such as where, what is happening, why, and what the participants are doing.

2.3.3.2 Tenor

The term "tenor" refers to who is involved, what they are participating in, how they are participating, and what their status and roles are. It also refers to the different roles that each person is connected to through both temporary and permanent ties, both in the speech role they have in a conversation and in all of the interpersonal interactions that are socially significant to them (Halliday and Hasan, 1989:10).

2.3.3.3 Mode

The term "mode" describes the role that language is serving and the participants' expectations of what the language will do for them in that circumstance. It also refers to the text's status, its function, and its symbolic organization within the context, as well as the channel (whether it is written,

spoken, or a combination), and the rhetorical mode, or what the text is trying to accomplish in terms of being expository, didactic, persuasive, and the like (Halliday and Hasan, 1989:10)

