

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

This chapter contains the literature review of the research consisting the definition of Pragmatics, speech act, the classification of illocutionary act, assertive speech acts, context of situation, delivery strategies theory, the types of directness, and previous studies. The purpose of this chapter is to give a better understanding of several theories that I use to answer the research questions in this research.

#### **1.1 Pragmatics**

Yule (1996: 3) defined pragmatics into four areas that pragmatics is concerned it. First, pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning. Second, pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning. Thirdly, pragmatics is the study of how more gets communicated than is said. Fourthly, pragmatics is the study of expression of relative distance. Furthermore, he said that pragmatics is the study of the relationship between linguistics form and users of those forms. Therefore, by studying pragmatics, we can know about people's intended meaning, their assumptions, their goals, and the kinds of action that they perform when they speak.

Parker (1986: 11) explained that pragmatics is the study of how language is used in communication. He also emphasized that pragmatics is different from grammar because grammar learns the structure of a language, while pragmatics learns how language is used to communicate in a particular context. Therefore, in pragmatics studies, context becomes important in interpreting utterances. Leech (1987: 1) explained that pragmatics can be defined as the aspect resulting from the way an utterance is used and how it relates to the context in which it is spoken. In

addition, pragmatics studies meaning in relation to speech situation that is seen by addressers or addressees, the context of utterance, the goal of utterance, a speech act, and the utterance as a product of verbal act. Those elements can form an idea of a language situation. In other words, pragmatics examines how language is used in communication and how context affect speaker's utterance.

Therefore, based on those explanations, it can be summarized that pragmatics is the branch of science that studies the meaning intended by speakers in relation to its context. It deals with how people use language within a context and why they use language for certain reasons.

## **1.2 Speech acts**

Austin (1962) defined speech acts as actions performed by saying something. He stated when someone says something, actually they are doing something in their utterance. Austin believed when a speaker in a certain state utters an utterance containing a referring expression, that person causes a certain action. Those actions are called performative verb such as command, warn, admit, and permit which explain illocutionary force. Austin (1962) divided speech act into three types namely locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Each of them will be defined as follows:

### **1.2.1 Locutionary Act**

Leech (1983: 199) stated that locutionary act is performing the act of saying something. In other words, when someone speaks meaningful sentence, it means that they are performing a locutionary act. It concerns the meaning of the word themselves. The example of locutionary acts can be seen as follows:

*“I’m cold”*

Birner (2013: 186) explained the utterance above is intended to express coldness. The locutionary act has to do with “what is said”. It means when someone says that utterance, the meaning is that he said it with the real intention, if the air around them is cold.

### **1.2.2 Illocutionary Act**

Yule (1996: 49) stated that illocutionary act is an utterance that is sent by the speaker to perform some acts. It means that the speaker wants the listener to do something. The example of illocutionary acts can be seen as follows:

*“I’m cold”*

Birner (2013: 187) explained that the utterance above can be intended as a statement of fact, an invitation such as “come over and hug me”, a request such as “please, close the window”, or even a question such as temperature thermostat setting. This act the speaker intends to perform is called the illocutionary act.

### **1.2.3 Perlocutionary Act**

Leech (1983: 199) stated that a perlocutionary act is performing the act by saying something. It means when the speaker says something, the listener will do something as the effect of the word of the speaker. The example of perlocutionary acts can be seen as follows:

*“I’m cold”*

Birner (2013: 187) explained that perlocutionary act has a perlocutionary effect. The perlocutionary effect is an effect that the speech act has on the thoughts, feelings, or actions of the addressees of others. It means the utterance above maybe

persuade the listener to close the window, asking someone to give the sweater, or turn up the thermostat.

### 2.3 Classification of Illocutionary Acts

Searle (1979) extended Austin's category of speech acts into five categories, namely representative or assertive, directive, commissive, expressive and declaration illocutionary act. Each of them will be explained as follows:

#### 2.3.1 Directive

Searle (1979: 13) stated that the point of this act is the fact that the speaker is trying to get the listener to do something. In other words, a directive act expresses what the speaker wants (Yule, 1996: 53). They are requesting, ordering, advising, recommending, commending, pleading, begging, instructing, daring, and suggesting. For example:

*"Don't eat that cake"*

When the speaker expresses an utterance above, it means that the speaker asks the listener not to touch the cake. Obviously, the speaker expresses the directive act by using the word "do not" to request to the listener. Thus, this act can be called as directive act.

#### 1.3.2 Commissive

Searle (1979: 13) stated that commissive is the illocutionary acts to commit the speaker to some future actions. In other words, a commissive act expresses what the speaker intended to do in the future (Yule, 1996: 54). They are promising, offering, vowing, swearing, guaranteeing, asking. For example:

*"I will be back"*

When the speaker expresses an utterance above, it means that the speaker commits himself to the listener that he will be back. Obviously, the speaker expresses the commissive act by using the word “will” to make a promise to the listener. Thus, this act can be called as commissive act.

### **1.3.3 Assertive**

Searle (1979: 12) stated that the point of assertive is to commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition. Assertive is the kinds of speech acts which is state the speaker believes to be the case or not (Yule, 1996: 53). They are affirming, believing, concluding, reporting, predicting, informing and suggesting. For example:

*“It was a warm sunny day”*

When the speaker expresses an utterance above, it means that the speaker believes or commits to the truth of the expressed proposition. The speaker knows the information or the fact about his utterance. In this case, the speaker knows the fact that the weather is warm. Thus, the speaker confidently expresses that utterance. This kind of act can be called as assertive act.

### **1.3.4 Expressive**

Searle (1979: 15) stated that expressive act is an act to express the psychological state of the speaker. In other words, an expressive act is the kinds of speech acts that expresses what the speaker’s feeling. They are apologizing, thanking, welcoming, and greeting. For example:

*“I’m really sorry”*

When the speaker expresses an utterance above, it means that the speaker expresses his sincerity condition or his feeling to the listener. Obviously, the speaker expresses the expressive act by using the word “sorry” to express his feelings to the listener. Thus, this act can be called as expressive act.

### **1.3.5 Declarative**

Yule (1996: 53) stated that declarative act results in a change of the status or condition via utterance. In other word, a declarative is made by someone who is especially authorized to do so. They are resigning, baptizing, bidding and marrying. For example:

Priest: *“I pronounce you husband and wife”*

When the speaker expresses an utterance above, it means that the speaker has especially authorization to change the world via words. In this case, the priest as the speaker has the authorized to change into marital status between two loving people in the name of marriage. This kind of act can be called as declarative act.

## **2.4 Assertive Speech Acts**

Searle (1979: 12) stated that an assertive act is to commit the speaker to the truth of expressed proposition. According to Searle (1979), few words show the utterance of assertive speech acts such as asserting, affirming, stating, suggesting, describing, informing, complaining, reporting, predicting, convicting, claiming, boasting and others. Each of them will be explained as follows:

### **2.4.1 Stating**

Stating is to express information clearly and carefully (Cambridge dictionary online, 2022). On the other hand, stating can be said as the speaker gives information or informs something to someone clearly and carefully. For example:

*“The earth is flat”*

#### **2.4.2 Complaining**

Complaining is to say something is wrong or not good enough (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, complaining occurs when the speaker expresses disappointment or dissatisfaction about something. For example:

*“Donald Trump's failure of leadership has cost lives and livelihoods”*

#### **2.4.3 Asserting**

Asserting is to state an opinion or claim a right forcefully (Cambridge Dictionary Online). Also, an asserting is something to make other people recognize your right or authority to do something by behaving in a determined and confident way (Oxford Dictionary Online). On the other hand, asserting can be said as the speaker states something to the listener forcefully or confidently. For example:

*“She has continued to assert her innocent”*

#### **2.4.4 Informing**

Informing is to tell someone about particular facts (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, informing can be said as the speaker is informing the hearer about the information that they do not already know what is being informed. For example:

*“The syntax exam will be held tomorrow”*

#### **2.4.5 Convincing**

Convincing is a strong opinion or belief, a feeling of believing certain about something (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, convincing can be said as the speaker expresses their strong opinion or their feeling of being certain about something to the hearer. For example:

*“He said he was enjoying his new job, but his voice lacked conviction”*

#### **2.4.6 Reminding**

Reminding is to make someone think of something they have forgotten or might have forgotten (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, reminding can be said as the speaker asserts to the listener the information that the listener once knew and might have forgotten. For example:

*“I remind you that you need to buy some vegetables on the way home”*

#### **2.4.7 Predicting**

Predicting is to say that an event or action will occur in the future (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, predicting is used by the speaker to convey information or to inform what the speaker thinks will happen in the future. For example:

*“They predict a 2% to 4% sales increase”*

#### **2.4.8 Suggesting**

Suggesting is to mention an idea, possible plan, or action that another person can consider (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, suggesting is used by the speaker to suggest the listener to do something in the case. For example:

*“They should not run from their problems”*



### 2.4.9 Denying

Denying is to say that something is not true (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). On the other hand, denying can be said as the speaker creates the action of denial and opposed or negates the proportion. For example:

*"I didn't do it"*

### 2.4.10 Reporting

Reporting is to give a description of something or information about something to someone (Cambridge Dictionary Online, 2022). Besides, reporting can refer to documenting and announcing something you have done or seen. On the other hand, reporting can be said as the speaker asserts the listener the information. For example:

*"5 million Americans infected with COVID-19. More than 170,000 Americans have died"*

## 2.5 Context of Situation

Context of situation plays an important role in communication. Cutting (2002: 1) explained that context of situation refers to what speaker knows about what they can see around them. Hymes in Wardhaugh (1986: 232) stated that there are several factors involved in speaking. They are described as ethnography of a communicative event which is relevant to understanding how a particular communicative event achieves its objectives. He uses the word SPEAKING as an acronym to be relevant. Each of them will be explained as follows:

### 2.5.1 Setting and Scene.

Setting deals with the time and place. In other words, it has something to do with the specific physical condition in which the speaker is performing while scene is an abstract psychological setting. The example of setting and scene in a graduation speech has a joyful scene, while the inaugural speech of USA President has a serious scene

### **2.5.2 Participant**

This enables different combination between speaker and listener, address or sender and receiver. Generally, they fulfill certain social roles. For example, teacher and student, doctor and patient, parent, and children and soon

### **2.5.3 End**

It relates to the personal goal that the participants attempt to achieve in a certain event, for example in a courtroom, each person has personal goals to achieve since the court process involve many participants such as the jury, the judge, the prosecutor, the witness, the accused and the defense.

### **2.5.4 Act Sequence**

This deals with how precise the words are used and how the relationship between what is said and the actual topic is discussed. For example, in a public lecture, each participant has their sense of act sequence to follow the system of language and things discussed within

### **2.5.5 Key**

This includes the tone, manner, or spirit in which a certain message is delivered such as serious, humorous, sarcastic, light-hearted, gesture, posture, and behavior.

### 2.5.6 Instrument

This relates to the choice of medium. For example, oral, written, telegraphic, and the actual form of speech employed such as language, code, dialect, or register

### 2.5.7 Norms

This refers to the specific behaviors and properties that associate to the speaking and how these are viewed by someone who does not share them such as loudness, silence, gaze, return, and soon.

### 2.5.8 Genre

This is the type of utterance. This includes poems, proverbs, riddles, sermons, lectures, prayers, and etc. They are different from casual speeches, for instance church service to conduct sermons, college public lectures, poem reading and etc.

## 2.6 Delivery Strategies Theory

Parker (1986) in his book entitled *Linguistics for Non-Linguist* explained that delivery strategies refer to how the intended meaning of an utterance is transferred. He categorized delivery strategies into two dimensions. They are directness and literalness. By knowing the delivery strategy, the listener will know the intended meaning of the speaker.

### 2.6.1 Directness

Parker (1986) explained that directness is being direct and straightforward in the utterance or speech. In other word, directness is the relation between syntactical forms of the utterances and illocutionary force of the utterances. Directness is divided into two types. They are direct and indirect.

### 2.6.2 Literalness

Parker (1986) explained that literalness is the word synchronize in the utterance with the speaker's meaning. Literalness is divided into two types. They are literal and non-literal

## 2.7 The types of Directness

### 2.7.1 Direct Strategy

Parker (1986) explained that direct strategy is a strategy when the syntactic form of the utterances matches the illocutionary force of the utterance. The example of direct illocutionary acts can be seen in the following table:

**Table 1 Direct Illocutionary Acts**

	<b>Utterance</b>	<b>Syntactic Form</b>	<b>Illocutionary Force</b>
1.	It's raining	Declarative	Representative
2.	Keep quiet	Imperative	Directive
3.	Do you know Mary?	Yes-no interrogative	Yes-no question
4.	What time is it?	WH interrogative	WH question
5.	I'll help you with the dishes	Declarative	Commissive
6.	How nice you are!	Exclamatory	Expressive
7.	You're fired	Declarative	Declaration

From the example above, the syntactic form of the utterances matches to the illocutionary force. The explanation of direct illocutionary act can be seen as follows:

In (1) a declarative form is used to issue representative; in (2) an imperative form is used to issue a directive; in (3) a yes-no interrogative is used to issue a yes-no question; in (5) WH interrogative form is used to issue a WH question; in (6) a declarative form is used to issue a commissive; in (7) an exclamatory form is used to issue an expressive; in (8) a declarative form is used to issue a declaration.

### 2.7.2 Indirect Strategy

Parker (1986) explained that indirect strategy is a strategy when the syntactic form of the utterance does not match the illocutionary force of the utterance. The example of indirect illocutionary acts can be seen in the following table:

**Table 2 Indirect Illocutionary Acts**

	Utterance	Syntactic Form	Illocutionary Force
1.	You might give me a hand with this	Declarative	Directive
2.	Could you keep quiet?	Yes-no interrogative	Directive
3.	Can I give you a hand with that?	Yes-no interrogative	Commissive

From the example above, the syntactic form of the utterances does not match to illocutionary force. The explanation of indirect illocutionary acts can be seen as follows:

In (1) an utterance means the speaker ask for help. Thus, the illocutionary force is a directive form. In (2) an utterance means the speaker ask someone to be quiet. Thus, the illocutionary force is a directive form. In (3) an utterance means the speaker offer a help to someone. Thus, the illocutionary force is a commissive form.

## **2.8 Previous Studies**

There were some previous researches that is related to this topic of study. The first research is entitled “Realization of Assertive Act by Nemo in Finding Nemo the Movie” written by Kadek Novi Kormia Dewi and Yana Qomariana (2021) from Udayana University. In their research, they used Searle’s theory (1979) to analyze the types of assertive speech act for the first question. Also, she used Parker’s theory (1986) to explain the delivery strategies for the second question. The result of their six types of assertive acts. They are affirming, predicting, claiming agreeing, informing and denying. On the other hand, there are only 3 strategies used by Nemo to deliver the messages of his utterances.

The second research is entitled “An analysis of Commissive and Assertive Speech Act in Donald Trump’s first State of The Union Address on January 30, 2018” written by Ray Sita (2018) from UIN Syarif Hidayatullah. In her research, she used Searle’s theory (1979) of illocutionary act to explain the type of assertive act and commissive act. The result of her study is there were asserting, state, remind,

report, suggest, commit, promise, pledge, and offer. On the other hand, there were 8 data are conveyed directly and 12 data that are conveyed indirectly.

The third research is entitled “Assertive Acts Analysis in The Boss Baby Movie” written by Intan Indah Pratiwi (2019) from UIN Syarif Hidayatullah. In her research, she used Searle’s theory (1979) of illocutionary act to explained the type of assertive act. The result of her study is there were 3 stating, 2 complaining, 2 boasting, 3 affirming, 1 denying, 4 informing. On the other hand, 3 data that are conveyed indirectly and 12 data that are conveyed directly.

However, the research I conduct is different from those previous studies. The first previous study which is conducted by Kadek Novi Kormia Dewi and Yana Qomariana (2021) uses movie as their object, while this research uses speech as the object. Then, the second previous study which is conducted by Ray Sita (2018) focused on assertive and commissive speech acts. Meanwhile, this research is only focus on assertive speech acts. Last, the third previous study which is conducted by Intan Indah Pratiwi (2019) used movie as her object, while this research uses speech as the object.

