APPLYING MULAN (2020) MOVIE TO ANALYZE ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS

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ABSTRACT

The study conducted under the theme of speech acts is still popular since it emerges to be more attractive from time to time. This study principally discusses one of the enticing issues which are to scrutinize speech acts. This study focuses on the types of illocutionary acts taken from the dialogues in Mulan (2020) movie. It aims to discover and explain how types of illocutionary acts are applied in the dialogues of the main character of Mulan (2020) movie. This study uses descriptive qualitative research design. The findings of this research are that 46 utterances of the main character, Mulan, contain illocutionary act in all types, namely 17 directive utterances, 14 assertive utterances, nine expressive utterances, five commissive utterances, and one declarative utterance. From the finding, it can be concluded that illocutionary acts applied by the main character in Mulan (2020) movie have various functions. It mostly includes advising, commanding, ordering, and requesting.

Keyword: *illocutionary acts, speech acts, Mulan movie (2020)*

ABSTRAK

Penelitian dengan mengangkat tema tentang tindak tutur masih banyak diminati karena tampaknya tema ini semakin menarik untuk dikaji dari waktu ke waktu. Penelitian ini difokuskan pada salah satu kajian yang menarik dalam ilmu Pragmatik yaitu tentang tindak tutur. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis dan menjelaskan tipe-tipe tindak tutur ilokusi yang terdapat dalam ujaran-ujaran pemeran utama dalam film Mulan (2020). Penelitian ini menerapkan desain penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Adapun hasil dari penelitian ini adalah ditemukan sebanyak 46 ujaran dari pemeran utama dalam film Mulan (2020) yang mengandung tindak tutur ilokusi, diantaranya adalah 17 tindak tutur ilokusi direktif, 14 tindak tutur ilokusi asertif, sembilan tindak tutur ilokusi ekspresif, lima tindak tutur ilokusi komisif, dan satu tindak tutur ilokusi deklaratif. Berdasarkan fungsi dari tindak tutur ilokusi tersebut, hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa tindak ilokusi yang diterapkan oleh tokoh utama dalam film Mulan (2020) memiliki fungsi yang beragam, Sebagian besar mencakup fungsi berupa menasihati, memerintah, menawarkan, dan meminta.

Kata Kunci: tindak tutur, ilokusi, film Mulan (2020)

INTRODUCTION

People always communicate each other in fulfilling their daily needs. In their communication, they use language as the media of communication. Language is used to convey various things such as messages, ideas, information, opinions, ideas, feelings, views and other things that the listener wants to convey from the speaker or to ask the listener to do something according to the speaker's explanation. We need to understand the context in order to understand the language. So that we can use language to communicate with others well, both in verbal and non-verbal communication. Levinson (1983) stated that understanding an utterance involves much more than knowing the meaning of the spoken words and the grammatical relationships between them. It is a matter of understanding some utterances in the language well.

In the process of conveying these matters, everything does not always run smoothly. Besides that, it is not always understood directly. Yule (1996) stated that in an effort to express themselves, people do not only produce utterances that contain grammatical structures and words, but also perform actions through those utterances. Meanwhile, according to Levinson (1983), an utterance is the issuance of a sentence, a sentence-analogue, or sentence-fragment, in an actual context. In practice, this is not always easy and immediately successful in understanding it. Sometimes the speaker may speak a language that is not grammatical correct. This can be difficult for listeners or others to understand. When the speaker speaks clearly but it is not accompanied by an action that can harmonize the speech while speaking, it can cause misunderstanding, or the listener understands the wrong information from the message or information spoken by the speaker. For example, when a speaker says "get it, please!" without pointing out what the speaker meant, the listener would be confused by the little information that was obtained, "what object was meant by the speaker?" and listeners will misinterpret the meaning if they do not ask for clarification to get clearer information. It can be seen from this phenomenon that speech acts are

important to understand in order to get clearer information for both the speaker and the listener.

Speech act is one of the principles in Pragmatics. Pragmatics can be usefully defined as the study of how utterances have meanings in situations (Leech, 1983). In addition, Griffiths (2006) stated that Pragmatics is about using utterances in context, about how we manage to convey more than the semantics of sentences literally encoded.

The study of speech acts begins with Austin's interesting monograph, How to Do Things with Words, which is the published version of his Lectures, William James that delivered at Harvard in 1955 (Horn & Ward, 2007). Meanwhile, Yule (1996) stated that speech act is actions that are performed through utterances. He also claimed that on each occasion, the action performed by producing the utterance will consist of three interrelated actions, namely a locutionary act, which is the basic act of utterances, or produces a meaningful linguistic expression; illocutionary act is done through the communicative force of an utterance; and perlocutionary act, in this dimension we do not just make utterances with functions without intending to have an effect (Yule, 1996). Sometimes in speech acts, speakers convey information that sometimes contains the intended meaning where the speaker does not want to convey the true meaning of what is said from the speech expressed in the hope that the listener can fulfill the speaker's intent which focuses on the illocutionary (Jaya Made et al., 2014).

According to Austin in Horn (2007), illocutionary acts are actions that are carried out in speaking, which include and especially actions whose real purpose is to use performative sentences, such as baptism, marriage, and so on. In illocutionary acts, we not only produce utterances without a purpose, but we form utterances with some kinds of function in mind (Yule, 1996). There are some different types of illocutionary act, and each of them has different context and meaning. Searle (1979) classified illocutionary speech act into five subdivisions, namely representative, declarative, directive, expressive, and commissive.

Illocutionary act refers to as an utterance meaning-where a sentence is said, written, or signed in a particular context by someone with a particular intention. In other words, when speakers have some intention in uttering the locution, and what they intend to accomplish is called the illocution (Finnegan in Ado (n.d.)). In the technical point of view, Austin (1962 & 2005) in Ado, (n.d.) described Illocutionary act as the action performed by virtue of the force allied with a particular linguistics expression. This simply refers to the performance or an act in saying something, in contrast to the performance of an act of saying something. This level of action is subject to the social conventions that allow the speakers verbally to carry out clearly recognizable actions, such as making a bet, or a promise, or an offer among others. This occurred and made possible through the direct or indirect application of the force within the performatives which required certain conditions known as felicity conditions as well as the truth-value testing. For instance, by saying "I will give you a car" a locutionary act is performed by the speaker stating the utterance, along with the illocutionary act of giving a car.

With the aid of a given utterance, Finnegan in Ado (n.d.) further illustrated the relationship of locutionary and illocutionary acts. For example, in "can you shut the window?" he attested that, the locution is a yes/no question about the addressee's ability to close a particular window; as such, convention would enable the addressee to recognize the structural question as a request for action and to comply or not. Both Collavin (2011) and Finegan in Ado (n.d.) shared the same opinion with Austin (1962 & 2005) in Ado (n.d.) that when we discuss about speech acts, it is common for the illocutionary act itself to be called the speech act. Pragmatically, when one describes an utterance as an order, a request, a suggestion, a statement, a promise, a threat, and others, one is referring to its illocutionary force "speech acts".

Movies are a medium that reflects human social life. There are some benefits we can get from watching movies, such as learning about moral values, educational values, and also other values that we can take as lessons in our life. A Disney action movie entitled Mulan is an action movie

adaptation that aired in 2020 from the Disney animated movie with the same title in 1998. The story of Mulan begins with the Chinese empire issuing a decree that a man in each family must serve in the Imperial Army and defend the country from invaders from the north. Then, Mulan became a brave female warrior and broke the stereotypes that existed at that time. This movie has a lot of good moral values about how brave a woman is to break traditions. Past traditions that sometimes do not take sides with a woman's rights and how we can adapt to a new environment that is very unpredictable. The variety of languages in this movie can imply some meanings that are also different and sometimes not the real meaning. It is important to recognize the illocutionary actions between the characters through their utterances.

Several previous studies have been conducted with the same topic but have different objects of research. Sari (2014) discusses the types of speech acts in terms of locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts employed by the main character in a movie entitled State of Play. Then, Jaya et al. (2014) analyzed the types of speech acts and the classification of illocutionary speech acts that occurred in Habibie and Ainun conversation in the film entitled Habibie and Ainun (2012). In addition, Isnawati et al. (2015) concerns with speech acts that produced by the character in Shrek movie script, Moreover, it aims to describe the types of speech acts and to analyze the most dominant speech acts produced by the main character. Another study conducted by Putri et al. (2019) discusses about speech acts used in Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire movie. Meanwhile, Wijaya et al., (2020) describe the forms, attitudes, and typical speech acts of the illocutionary commentators by gender on President Donald Trump's speech at the Liberty University.

This study is discussing on how illocutionary acts are utilized by the main character in Mulan (2020) movie, in particular it aims to discover and explain how types of illocutionary acts are applied in the dialogues of the main character of Mulan (2020) movie. There are straightforward, almost non-technical ways of describing people's language interaction, even technical deliberately, such as in the case of conversations in a movie. These

basic units of linguistic interaction, such as questioning, refusing, complaining, requesting, commanding, prohibiting, asserting, scolding, insulting, advising, accepting request, inviting, allowing, threatening, regretting, admiring, expressing anger, expressing sadness, and begging forgiveness (the acts, not the labels) are called illocutionary speech acts. The issue is discussed collaboratively in results and discussion section.

METHOD

This study employs qualitative design of research. As Walliman (2011) stated that a lot of useful information cannot be reduced to numbers. People's judgements, feelings of comfort, emotions, ideas, beliefs etc. can only be described in words. These record qualities rather than quantities, hence they are called qualitative data. Qualitative research depends on careful definition of the meaning of words, the development of concepts and variables, and the plotting of interrelationships between these.

The data of this study are some utterances of the main character in Mulan (2020) movie that contain illocutionary acts. They are totally explained descriptively based on speech act theory proposed by Searle (1979). The typical qualitative data examples are observation notes, interview transcripts, literary texts, minutes of meetings, historical records, memos and recollections, documentary films (Walliman, 2011).

Documentary review is applied to obtain the data. Moreover, field-notes are also used during data collection. In analyzing the data, an interactive model of data analysis is applied, including data reduction, data display, and data verification/claim. In more detail, the first step to analyze the data is by watching the movie, and checking the data by reading the transcription to see whether or not illocutionary acts appear in the dialogs. The next step is identifying on the types of illocutionary acts that are used during the conversation. After that, categorizing the data based on the theory proposed by Searle (1979). Then, taking some notes related to the theory of illocutionary acts. After that, the findings that have been observed are

discussed by relating these findings to the research objectives and conclusions are drawn.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Results

      Some utterances containing illocutionary acts are found in the dialogues by the main character in Mulan (2020). There are 46 data which are classified based on the types of illocutionary acts. A table is used to display the data. The data are classified into types of illocutionary acts, such as assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative as proposed by Searle (1979). It is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Types of Illocutionary Acts Uttered by the Main Character of
***Mulan (2020)* Movie**

Types of Illocutionary Acts	Total
Assertive	14
Directive	17
Commissive	5
Expressive	9
Declarative	1
Total	**46**

      The table above shows the total of the types of illocutionary acts uttered by the main character (Mulan). The result of the analysis of illocutionary acts shows that the highest number of illocutionary acts produced by Mulan is directive illocutionary act, it has 17 data. Assertive and expressive illocutionary acts respectively follow directive illocutionary act with the total numbers of data are 14 and nine. Then, the next position is commissive illocutionary acts which have five data found. The least frequent type of illocutionary act is declarative illocutionary act with which one datum found.

Discussion

      The following are the discussion of the types of illocutionary acts uttered by the main character in Mulan (2020) movie. The types of

illocutionary acts found are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. Each of the data has been classified into those types of illocutionary acts.

Directive

According to Searle (1979), in a directive, the speaker is trying to get the listener to do something. For the examples are orders, commands, and requests. A directive is an act that makes the speaker do something in the future, not right or wrong such as assertive but must be followed or not followed. The following extract is the first representative of the total seventeen data.

> **Extract 1**
> Mulan : "Don't panic. There's a spider crawling in your hair."
> Xiu : "You know I'm afraid of spiders. This is not one of your tricks, is it, Mulan?"

The situation in Mulan's utterance is that Mulan is combing her sister's hair in the bedroom while talking about the incident this afternoon where Mulan caused trouble in her village. At that time, her sister was asking Mulan about what had just happened today but Mulan changed the topic by lying to her sister that she had spiders in her hair. Structurally, Mulan's speech above can be classified as a form of command because in that speech Mulan asks her sister not to panic because there are spiders in her hair. However, this is when viewed in terms of literal meaning, but in reality, what Mulan said was not the truth, but a diversion of the topic so that her sister would not discuss what they were talking about again. Spiders are animals that are feared by Mulan's sister. When Mulan said there were spiders in her sister's hair but there weren't any, intending to divert the topic in a scary way, it worked and her sister's attention immediately changed. In addition, we can call this speech indirect as there is no relationship between its function and structure. Thus, Mulan's words contain intentions that can affect the listener.

Another representative of directive illocutionary act is described below.

Extract 2

Hua Zhou   : "It is my duty to fight...My honor to sacrifice for the
                  emperor."

Mulan   : "If I were your son, you wouldn't have to."

In the conversation above, the situation described is when Hua Zhou, Mulan's father, prepares himself for tomorrow's battle in order to fulfill the emperor's order that each family must send one male member to be trained to fight against the enemy currently invading the kingdom. But in Mulan's family, only her father is the only male. It also burdens the hearts of all Mulan's family members regarding his father's condition does not fit due to injury from the previous war. The sentence above is a directive sentence which is categorized as an indirect initial request to his father. Mulan does not want her father to go to war, but Mulan is also not a man who can replace her father. Mulan being worry and sadness reflected in her expression when she said the sentence above. Literally, the sentence above says that if Mulan were a boy, then she could replace her father to go to war. However, what is meant by Mulan's words above is that Mulan asks her father not to go to war considering her father's condition is no longer fit, which could be Mulan's last night and her family meeting her father before the war. Moreover, it is categorized as an indirect speech act sentence because there is no relationship between its function and structure.

The extract below is the third example of directive illocutionary act in the main character's utterance.

Extract 3

Sergeant Qiang   : "And I need a volunteer for night guard duty."

Mulan   : "Me! I mean, I volunteer, sir."

The situation when the dialog happened was when Sergeant Qiang entered the tent where the soldiers were resting. At that mean time, the training was over and the soldiers in training were in the tent undressing each

other because they were going to take a shower. Sergeant Qiang was angry with them because they were playing in the tent and throwing clothes at each other even though Sergeant Qiang had ordered them to queue for a bath. Sergeant Qiang also said that he needed someone to guard the night. Mulan, who was still on her first day in the training, immediately offered to volunteer on night duty because she was not used to being in a room with many men. Mulan's utterance is a directive form of begging or suggesting because at that time she suggested herself voluntarily as if begging for her to be chosen because she was not used to the conditions at that time where many men gathered in one room and undressed each other. The utterance above is a direct speech act because when the function and structure of an utterance do not match, it is called an indirect speech act. Thus, Mulan's utterance above is related to its function and structure.

Assertive

Searle (1979) stated that 'in an assertive speech act, the speaker commits himself in varying degrees to the truth of the expressed proposition.' The examples of assertive utterances are statements, explanations, and assertions (Searle, 1979). In assertive, an utterance is meant to tell us how things are in the world, which is a representation of reality; which is a speech act that commits the speaker to the truth of the preposition. Extract 4 below will be the representative of the total fourteen data that is explained further in the discussion below.

Extract 4

Mulan : "Black Wind and I rode alongside two rabbits running side by side. I think one was a male, one was a female. But you know, you can't really tell when they're running that fast."

The situation in Mulan's utterance above is when Mulan finished riding her horse named Black Wind. They were galloping along with two rabbits running side by side. The above utterance is an assertive utterance because in

that utterance Mulan explains the experience she has just experienced. The structure of the speech is a form of explanation. However, the form of Mulan's speech above also has another meaning, which can show how happy Mulan is with her free life by showing it through her expression when she speaks. Moreover, this utterance is an indirect speech type because according to Yule (1996) 'indirect speech is whenever there is an indirect relationship between a structure and a function.' When Mulan said 'Black Wind' in her speech, it does not mean that the Wind has Black color. Black Wind here means the horse that Mulan is riding is dark as black color and fast as wind. Therefore, Mulan calls him Black Wind.

The following extract will be the other example of assertive illocutionary act found in the main character's utterance.

Extract 5

Mulan's Mother : "I already told you, you cannot eat. It will ruin your makeup."

Mulan : "The fiercest winter storm could not destroy this makeup."

The utterance of the situation above is when Mulan was about to head to the matchmaker's place for Mulan's matchmaking event. On the way, Mulan said that she was starving at which time she was required to wear layered clothes which are quite claustrophobic. Her mother forbade her to eat because it would mess the makeup that had been made. Then, Mulan complained about her mother's utterance by saying that the fiercest winter storm could not destroy this makeup. Mulan's expression is an assertive sentence because it is a statement from Mulan. The sentence itself is an exaggeration, which literally means that no matter how strong the storm, it will not ruin Mulan's make-up. However, if by intent, Mulan's expression above can be interpreted that Mulan's make-up is very thick and will not be able to mess up Mulan's make-up as even a storm cannot mess it up. Instead of directly saying that her make-up is very thick and it will be fine if she ate, Mulan revealed the above utterance to her mother. Thus, the sentence can be

categorized as indirect speech because its function and structure have no relationship.

Expressive

According to Searle (1979), in expressive speech acts, the speaker expresses his/her feelings and attitudes about several situations which are determined by the propositional content and examples such as apologies, thanks, and congratulations. It expresses the speaker's attitude and emotions towards a particular proposition. This is the representative of a commissive illocutionary act uttered by the main character.

Extract 6

Hua Zhou   : "She is the emissary for our ancestors."
Mulan   : "But I broke her."

The situation in the speech happened at the night after the incident where Mulan caused a disturbance that resulted in the broken wing of the phoenix statue in their temple. At that time, Mulan was trying to repair the broken wing of the Phoenix statue. Then, her father came and explained that Phoenix was their ancestor's superior. After that, Mulan felt sorry by saying the sentence above that she had damaged the ancestral statue. Because of her actions, she has damaged the statue that has long been his ancestor. The utterance above can be classified as feelings of guilt and regret for something. Then the speech above is an indirect type of speech act because its function does not match its structural form. Rather than apologizing directly, as a sign of regret, Mulan said the utterance above.

Thus, the description of expressive illocutionary acts will be clearer with this following extract.

Extract 7

Mulan: "Forgive me, Father. I stole your horse... I stole your sword;
        I stole your armor. And the sword... I lost it. The sword is gone.

Now I understand... how much that sword means to you."

The utterance above is when Mulan has returned home from the war safely and meets her family. After meeting and hugging her sister, she went to her father and admitted the mistake she had made. Mulan regretted for stealing her father's horse, sword, and armor, and lost her father's precious sword. She was really sorry that she had misbehaved by recklessly going to war in her father's place and had lied to everyone. Utterance above is an expressive form of regret and apologies. Mulan regretted doing this and apologized to her father for doing a bad deed and she wants her father to forgive his actions. According to Yule (, 1996),direct speech acts are when there is a direct relationship between structure and function, and the utterance above has a relationship between the structure and the function. Therefore, it is a direct speech act.

Commissive

In commissive speech acts, the speaker commits to do something for some future action (Searle, 1979). Some examples are promising, but other commissive are vows, threats, pledges, contracts, and guarantees (Searle, 1979). The commissive speech act makes the speaker perform some voluntary action in the future and this expresses the intention to the speaker. The following extract is a representative of a commissive illocutionary act uttered by the main character.

Extract 8

Hua Zhou   : "Yes, Mulan, it is decided. Come and sit down."

Mulan   : "Yes. It is best. I will bring honor to us all."

The situation when Mulan said those words was when Mulan came home from horse-back riding with Black. Arriving at the house where the family was having lunch at that time, Mulan told them an interesting incident while riding. Then, suddenly her family said that Cupid had found a soul mate

for her. Mulan was silent for a moment and could not say anything. Her father and mother have decided to marry off Mulan. Mulan realized that maybe it was the best choice for her family, given the traditions prevailing in the village at that time. Even though she was forced to, with a heavy heart she said those words which could be classified as a promise to bring honor to her family. Even though Mulan actually wanted to refuse, she could not do this because it can influence her family's image and the traditions in Mulan's village. According to Yule (Yule, 1996) direct speech acts happen when there is a direct relationship between structure and function. Then the speech above is a direct speech act because of its structure and function, they are both interconnected where he will bring honor as a woman in her family by getting married.

Declarative

Searle (1979) argues that 'in the declaration the speaker brings about changes in the world through his utterances, so the world changes to match the Propositional content, solely in virtue of the successful performance of the utterance. The examples are declaring war, announcing someone as husband and wife, and postponing meetings. The declaration is the most interesting type of speech act because it brings about a change in the external situation, a declaration is an utterance that changes the world by representing it to be so changed what it means. The following extract is the example of declarative illocutionary act.

Extract 9

Commander Tung   : "Have you seen Hua Jun?"
Commander Tung   : "Hua Jun?"
Mulan   : "I'm Hua Mulan."

The situation in the story above is when Mulan who previously disguised herself as a man by the name Hua Jun. It was not her real identity because she was forced to disguise herself in the place of her father Due to an

incident that made Mulan unable to disguise herself any longer; she revealed her true identity to people. She admitted her own fault for lying. Upon hearing that statement or confession, the people in the military barracks who previously thought Hua Jun was a great little man with strong chi, they immediately changed their eyes to a beautiful woman named Hua Mulan. Moreover, this utterance is classified as a direct speech act because the structure and function are interconnected as a form of acknowledgment of the guilty self.

Some results of previous studies related to this recent study are also found. Larasati et al. (2020) found that the type of illocutionary acts in the Donald Trump's speeches were assertive, commissive, expressive, and directive. Donald Trump produced mostly assertive type of illocutionary acts and also asserting category of illocutionary type in both of the speeches. Moreover, some utterances are included into assertive type of illocutionary acts due to the fact that they have a suitability with the explanation of assertive type of illocutionary acts proposed by Searle. Moreover, Fitriani et al. (2020) wrote the results of their study showed that out of the five, only four types of illocutionary acts were found in the movie, they are representative, directive, expressive, and commissive. The most frequently illocutionary act used is directive (47.64%), while the least frequently used is commissive (4.19%). The directive forces used by the main character are varied. Directives are used to get the hearers to do something, where in the movie, he often used to ask and order. Meanwhile, declarative is not employed by the main character since performing declarative acts needs authority and status; this act is used to change the world through utterances. But the main character in this movie does not have any certain status or authority in any position at the magic school he attended; he is a student, still new with the magic world and does not have much power. This is why declarative was not found in the utterances of the main character.

CONCLUSION

As a conclusion from the observations above, it was found that 46 utterances from the main character, Mulan, contain illocutionary acts and are divided into 17 directive utterances,14 assertive utterances, nine expressive utterances, five commissive utterances, and one declarative utterance. In regard to its functions, the finding shows that illocutionary acts applied by the main character in Mulan (2020) movie have various functions. It mostly includes advising, commanding, ordering, and requesting.

The writers hope that this research can increase understanding and knowledge about the function, structure, effect and classification of language in society, especially in the field of Pragmatics which leads to the Speech Act. In addition, writers hope that, through this research, other researchers can use this research as a reference and will conduct further research to further complement and refine this research, especially those examining Speech acts in films or on different subjects. As a suggestion for further research, other researchers can continue this research by using other theories or using Speech act theory with more complete topics.

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