

**AN ANALYSIS OF ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS OF THE MAIN
CHARACTER *PHINEAS TAYLOR BARNUM* IN THE GREATEST
SHOWMAN MOVIE**

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*Submitted to The Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University as Partial
Fulfilment of Requirements to Obtain Bachelor's Degree in English Literature
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ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY PROGRAM

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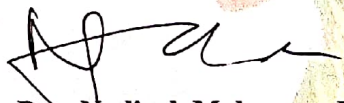
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**AN ANALYSIS OF ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS OF THE MAIN
CHARACTER *PHINEAS TAYLOR BARNUM* IN THE GREATEST
SHOWMAN MOVIE**

BY

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It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination
on 29th July 2021
and is declared to have fulfilled the requirements.

Approved by
Board of Supervisors

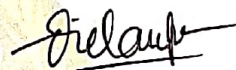
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Today, Thursday, 29th July 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **ADOL ARIANSYAH** (Student Number: **F041171012**) entitled:

**AN ANALYSIS OF ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS OF THE MAIN
CHARACTER *PHINEAS TAYLOR BARNUM* IN THE GREATEST
SHOWMAN MOVIE**

Submitted in fulfillment one of the requirements of undergraduate thesis examination to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S.) Degree at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

Makassar, 29th July 2021

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DECLARATION

The thesis by Adol Ariansyah (Student Number: F041171012) entitled, **AN ANALYSIS OF ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER *PHINEAS TAYLOR BARNUM* IN THE GREATEST SHOWMAN MOVIE**, has been revised as advised during the examination on Thursday, 29th July 2021 and is approved by the Board of Undergraduated Thesis Examiners:

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Yang Menyatakan

Adol Ariansyah

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The author realize that this thesis is still far from the thing we called perfection. Therefore, the author would glad to receive a feedback and critics that can help the author to improve the writer and the study of this thesis.

Makassar, 5th August 2021

The Writer

Adol Ariansyah

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
LEGITIMACY	iii
AGREEMENT SHEET	iv
DECLARATION.....	v
STATEMENT LETTER	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	x
ABSTRAK	xii
ABSTRACT.....	xiii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	14
A. Background of Study.....	14
B. Statement of The Problem.....	16
C. Scope of The Problem	17
D. Research Question.....	17
E. The Objectives of The Study	18
F. The Significances of The Study.....	18
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF LITERATURE	19
A. Previous Studies	19
B. Theoretical Framework	21
1. Pragmatics	21
2. Speech Acts.....	22
3. The Categories of Illocutionary Acts (Searle : 1797).....	25
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	28
A. Research Design.....	28
B. Source of The Data.....	28
C. Techniques of Collecting Data	29
D. Techniques of Analysis Data.....	29
CHAPTER IV FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION	31
A. Findings	31
B. Discussion	35

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	67
A. Conclusion	67
B. Suggestion.....	67
BIBLIOGRAPHY	69
APPENDIXES	71

ABSTRAK

ADOL ARIANSYAH. Analisis Tindak Tutur Ilokusi Pemeran Utama Phineas Taylor Barnum dalam Film *The Greatest Showman Movie* (Dibimbing oleh Nadirah Mahaseng dan A. ST. Aldilah Khaerana)

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan berbagai macam tindak tutur yang digunakan oleh pemeran utama dalam film *The Greatest Showman movie*. Selain menemukan jenis-jenis tindak tutur, penulis juga menganalisis konteks dan arti dari ujaran-ujaran ilokusi berdasarkan dialog yang digunakan dalam film.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif. Data diperoleh dari dialog antar pemeran khususnya pemeran utama dalam film yang memiliki kaitan dengan penelitian ini, melakukan observasi dan menganalisis konteks dan arti dari data yang telah diperoleh berdasarkan teori tindak ilokusi yang berkaitan dengan penelitian ini.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 25 data yang terdiri dari : 10 data tentang representative, 6 data tentang directive, 2 data tentang commissive, 6 data tentang expressive dan 1 datum tentang declarative.

Kata Kunci: Ujaran, Tindak Ilokusi, Dekrsiptif.

ABSTRACT

ADOL ARIANSYAH. An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts of The Main Character *Phineas Taylor Barnum* in The Greatest Showman Movie (Supervised by Nadirah Mahaseng and A. ST. Aldilah Khaerana)

This research aims to figure out various kinds of speech acts used by the main character in The Greatest Showman movie. In addition to finding the types of speech acts, the author also analyzes the context and meaning of illocutionary act based on the dialogues used in the movie.

This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The data is obtained from the dialogue between the actors, especially the main character which is related to this research, observing and analyzing the context and meaning of the data that has been obtained based on the theory of illocutionary acts related to this research.

The result of the research shows that there are 25 data consist of 10 data of representative, 6 data of directive, 2 data commissive, 6 of expressive and 1 datum about declarative.

Keywords: *Utterances,* *Illocutionary* *act,* *Descriptive*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer explains the background of the study, statement of the problem, scope of the problem, research question, the objectives of the study, and lastly the significances of the study.

A. Background of the Study

In daily life, language is the most important element for humans. Humans need language to communicate with each other. Language is used as a tool to communicate in order to convey information. Communication can be divided into two, first is direct communication between the speaker and the interlocutor, and the second is communication using media such as Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, etc.

The communication that occurs between the speaker and the listener has the purpose to conveying an information. To understand the information, an understanding of pragmatics is needed. Pragmatics is a discipline that studies the use of signs which can specifically be interpreted as the way someone uses language signs and how the opponent's speaker interprets its meaning. This means that the interpretation of the meaning refers to the information the speaker wants to convey to the listener. In addition, pragmatics can be divided into four parts, those are 1) A field that studies the meaning of speakers, 2) A field that examines the meaning according to its context, 3) A field that exceeds the study of the uttered meaning, examines the meaning communicated by the speaker, 4) Field

that studies the form of expression according to social distance that limits participants who engage in certain conversations. So pragmatics is closely related to how to interpret a meaning uttered by speakers through the speech act.

In understanding the meaning in a conversation, listeners can analyze the utterances delivered by the speaker based on three approaches in speech acts, those are locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. In this research, the author analyzed the illocutionary acts which are found in *The Greatest Showman Movie* (2017) directed by Michael Gracey. The author chooses this movie as the object of research because he considers that this movie has inspirational values of life, especially on how they communicate in order to motivate one another. The general description of this movie tells the story of the struggle of a tailor named Barnum who continues to be isolated in the area where he lives. He then fell in love with a woman who was the son of a rich man in the place named Charity. Over time, he managed to marry Charity and have two children. They have faced problems many times in their lives, from company bankruptcies to infidelity. Long story short, Barnum rebuilt his company. This time P.T Barnum ran a circus show business. Uniquely, he gathers people who have physical disabilities or have strange appearances such as bearded women, people who are dwarfs, and people who have black skin. Barnum's business slowly began to grow, he also had business partners named Philip Carlyle and Jenny Lind who has sweet voices.

Based on the background above, the author wants to analyze the Illocutionary acts based on the utterances spoken by the main character in *The Greatest*

Showman Movie. Speech acts are the main approach in understanding the specific meaning of the speaker compared to locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. Illocutionary act is one of the classifications of speech acts used to understand the meaning intended by the speaker. There is a research related to this research entitled "*An Analysis of Expressive Speech Acts of Main Character in the Film The Greatest Showman*" by Perdian Sapta Putra. The main focus in that research is the utterances uttered by the main character of *The Greatest Showman Movie* in expressive classification. Meanwhile, in this research the author analyzed and mentioned all of the classification of illocutionary acts theory by Searle (Representative, Directive, Commissive, Expressive and Declarative). The significance different lies in the object of this study. In this case the author found that some illocutionary acts uttered by the main character have persuasive elements and specific meaning. Therefore, the author is interested in identifying and analyzing the illocutionary acts in *The Greatest Showman movie* with the research title "*An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts of the Main Character Phineas Taylor Barnum in The Greatest Showman Movie (2017)*"

B. Statement of the Problem

This research focused on the utterances spoken by the main character P.T Barnum in *The Greatest Showman Movie*. This movie is adapted from a true story and it is closely related to motivational and inspirational values in term of stories and conversations between the main actor and others. When the actors interact with each other, sometimes they spoke sentences that have a specific purpose or

intention, that is what meant by Illocutionary acts. So the author states some of the problems that are the focus of this research as follows:

- 1) The utterances that spoken by the main character of The Greatest Showman Movie
- 2) The illocutionary acts that found in The Greatest Showman Movie
- 3) The illocutionary acts that spoken by P.T Barnum as the main character in The Greatest Showman Movie which have specific intention in influencing the desire of other actors.

C. Scope of the Problem

The author identified and analyzed the illocutionary acts that spoken by P.T Barnum which found in The Greatest Showman Movie. The main point is the utterances spoken by the main character which have a specific purpose and intention to influence and change the decision of other actors and the types of illocutionary acts that the main character used.

D. Research Question

Based on the background above, the author formulates the research questions as follows:

- 1) What are types of illocutionary acts found in The Greatest Showman Movie?
- 2) What are the dominant types of illocutionary acts found in The Greatest Showman Movie?

E. The Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions that the author provides, the objectives of this study are as follows

1. To find out the types of illocutionary acts in The Greatest Showman Movie.
2. To figure out the dominant types of illocutionary acts found in The Greatest Showman Movie

F. The Significances of the Study

The author hopes this research can give contribution to the English course especially in illocutionary act theory. It has two main significances. Those are theoretically and practically significances.

Theoretical significance means that the research can gives a contribution to develop speech act field especially in illocutionary act theory and practical significance means that the result of the research can be used as a reference to the next research on the related field and can give additional information for the student to bring a more comprehensible reference about illocutionary act.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the author provides the previous studies and the theoretical framework which discussed about pragmatics, speech acts, and the categories of illocutionary acts. This research applies Searle Speech Acts theories especially in illocutionary acts.

A. Previous Studies

In conducting this research, the author took several previous studies related to the title of this study for comparison.

There are several previous studies taken by the author. The first is by Adi Imam Taufik (2016) "*The Illocutionary Acts in Fast & Furious 7 Movie*". The second is by Suci Almuslimah (2012) "*Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in The Prince and The Pauper Movie*", and the last is by Perdian Sapta Putra (2019) "*An Analysis of Expressive Speech Acts of Main Character in The Greatest Showman Movie*"

Taufik (2016) in his research "*The Illocutionary Acts in Fast & Furious 7 Movie*". In this research the writer dealt with the types and meaning of the illocutionary acts which are found Fast & Furious 7. The writer used qualitative method by analyzing and describing the corpus that use in the movie. The result of this research shows that there are nineteen data of illocutionary acts that found by the author which is used by the actor in Fast and Furious 7 movie. Those are five

data of representatives, four data of directives, four data of expressives, five data of commissives and one datum of declarative.

The second is "*Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in The Prince and The Pauper Movie*" conducted by Suci (2012). In this study, the authors deal with the types of illocutionary acts of main character in *The Prince and The Pauper*. The utterances spoken by Tom and Edward were twenty illocutionary. The results showed that there are several types of illocutionary acts found in this movie, they are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive and declaration, and also found that directive speech is dominant type due to the situation of the palace. The results of the research were then presented using formal and informal methods (Sudaryanto 1993: 145). It means that the writer uses the table of content and verbal language to describe the result of this research.

The third previous study is "*An Analysis of Expressive Speech Acts of Main Character in The Greatest Showman Movie*" conducted by Perdian Sapta Putra (2019). In this research, the writer analyzed the types of expressive speech acts used by main character in the greatest showman movie and then classified the types of expressive speech. This research reveals of expressive speech acts to express the feeling and emotion of the main character. The results showed that there are four types of expressive speech acts in thirty utterances used by the main character, and the expressive speech act of praising is the dominant expression.

Based on the previous studies above, the author found many differences from this research even though it uses the same illocutionary act theory by Austin and

Searle. The author analyzed the dialogues from the main character in The Greatest Showman movie the explained the meaning and the context of that dialogues

Furthermore, this research is almost similar with the third previous study which mentioned above. The significance different lies in the object of this study. In the third previous study, the writer only focused on the expressive illocutionary act by main character in The Greatest Showman movie whereas in this study the overall illocutionary acts was identified based on Searle's theory of illocutionary act.

B. Theoretical Framework

1. Pragmatics

According to Yule (1964: 4) "Pragmatics is the study of the meaning communicated by the speaker or writer and interpreted by the listener or reader". It is the relationship between linguistic forms and their users. Pragmatics is the study of the relationship of a linguistic form with the speakers. It involves how a language is interpreted based on what the speaker meant and how that affects what the speakers say. In general, Pragmatics is a study of contextual meaning.

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning in a sentence based on how to use language in a context. It takes to examine a meaning what the speaker wants to convey to listeners who speak in a context outside the language and the intent of the speech. This means that a meaning from language can support the context.

In addition, Leech (1983: 6) states that Pragmatics is the study of meaning in relation to the speech situation. So according to him, in conveying an utterance, a speaker is influenced by the situation in which the speech is spoken, for example between the speaker and the recipient of the speech having common share knowledge when communicating so that the information to be conveyed could be understood. Another opinion, Morris (Wijana, 1996: 4-5) explains that pragmatics is part of the science of signs, meaning that it examines the relationship between signs contained in language which is closely related to speech acts (Speech Act). Based on the definitions above, pragmatics is seen as a science that emphasizes the meaning of speech acts, therefore the notion of pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of a speaker's speech in certain speech situations.

2. Speech Acts

Austin and Searle stated that basically if someone says something, he or she also does something which then underlies the emergence of speech act theory. According to Yule (1996) states that the Speech Act is an action that is carried out through speech. This means that speech acts are utterances that contain action as a functional unit in communication that considers aspects of the speech situation. The communication that occurs between speakers and speech recipients or the hearer is interrelated with one another, the utterances spoken between speakers and speech recipients

have information to be conveyed that is only understood implicitly, and does not appear literally.

Speech Act is a language component which includes language actions relating to a speaker, speech recipient, form of information delivery, topic and purpose of the speech being spoken. When a speaker utterance an utterance, there is a specific thing or intention to be conveyed in it. For example, a lecturer said to a student who was late "What time is it?". This sentence, if seen from the form of the sentence, the lecturer only asks about what time it is, when viewed from a pragmatic point of view, this sentence could have other meanings, for example admonishing the student not to be late again.

Searle (Wijana, 1996: 17) states three types of actions in the speech act, those are locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts.

a) Locutionary Acts

Locutionary acts is speech acts which state something. It means that the sentence is in the traditional sense. The locutionary acts are speech acts in the form of sentences that are meaningful and understandable (Austin and Searle, in Rahardi 2009). This speech act is usually called 'The act of Saying', because it refers to the act of saying something with words and sentences that match the meaning in the dictionary and according to the syntactic rules. The locutionary acts occur when the speaker performs an utterance.

For example: When the lecturer said to the students in the classroom, "What time is it?"

The sentence above is a locutionary speech act by the lecturer in form of interrogative. The lecturer only wants to ask what time it is without intending to do something.

b) Illocutionary Acts

Illocutionary acts is speech acts that have purpose of doing something. Austin (1962) states that illocutionary acts is the act of doing something. It means that when the speakers utter something, the speakers have a specific intention in their mind that wants to give to the hearer. So illocutionary acts is what the speakers want to achieve by uttering something. For example: When the lecturer said "What time is it?" to the student who come late, the lecturer is not actually asking the time, but wants to admonish or remind students who come late, the lecturer has a specific purpose in explaining the utterance.

c) Perlocutionary Acts

Perlocutionary acts is speech acts which aims to influence the hearer, called "The act of effecting someone". Perlocutionary acts refers more to how the listener reacts after the speaker has said something. So the results of these utterances have consequences that can affect the mind of the

recipient of the speech. The perlocutionary acts is the effect created by the illocutionary acts to the hearer.

For example: If the lecturer says "What time is it?" to the student who come late, it may cause the student to feel ashamed and guilty for his actions being late, so the student will not be late again (the effect to the hearer).

3. The Categories of Illocutionary Acts (Searle : 1797)

According to Searle (1979), Illocutionary acts is divided into five categories, they are representatives, directives, commissives, declarative, and expressive.

a. Representatives

Representative is a speech act that limits the speaker to the truth about what is being said. Speeches can be classified into representative speech acts are statements of facts, affirmations, conclusions, and descriptions. According to Yule (1996) representatives are types of illocutionary acts that commit the speaker believe about something the truth or not. So this speech act is based on what the speaker believes based on the truth, which can be in the form of asserting, claiming, concluding, reporting, and stating.

For example: Someone says "The world is round".

The speakers try to convince the hearer of what to believe

b. Directives

Directives is illocutionary acts that try to influence the hearer to do something. These speech acts can take the form of ordering, commanding, requesting, advising, and recommending. According to Yule (1996), he explains that directives are illocutionary acts that attempts by the speaker to get the hearer to do something, express about what the speaker directly to the hearer.

For example: When the speaker says "Give me that book"

So the utterance above, show that the speaker wants the hearer to do something in the form of a commanding sentence.

c. Commissive

Commissive is a form of speech that serves to express a promise or offer to the hearer. Yule (1996) argues that commissions are kinds of illocutionary acts that is commit the speaker to the future action. This form of speech can take the form of promising, vowing, and offering.

For example: "I will finish it as soon as possible"

The sentence above show that the speaker commits to finish the homework (future action) as soon as possible.

d. Expressives

Expressive is a speech act that functions to express or show the speaker's feelings about a situation. This deals with the speaker's psychological based on the situation that occurs. According to Yule (1996) expressive are illocutionary acts that state what the speakers

feels. They express a psychological state and can be statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, thanking, apologizing.

For example: "I'm so sorry for this misunderstanding"

The sentence above express that the speaker apologizes to the hearer about the misunderstanding. This shows that the speaker feels guilty (psychological) and apologizes to the hearer.

e. Declaration

Declaration is a form of speech that aims to connect the contents of the speech with reality. This relates to the situation that is happening between the speaker and the listener. Yule (1996) states that declaratives are kind of illocutionary acts that change the world via their utterances. The speakers have to have a special institutional role. This speech can be in the form of christening, naming, appointing, sentencing.

For example:

"I declare the students of batch 2017 are graduate", said the rector.

The sentence above shows that the rector has a special role to declare the statement so that the utterance can succesfully performed.