UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS PERFORMED IN STAND-UP

COMEDY SHOW BY MICHAEL JR

(Pragmatic Analysis)

UMNIATUL RAHMA

F041171508

Submitted to the English Department in Faculty of Cultural Sciences of Hasanuddin University

as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to Obtain Sarjana Degree in English Literature

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

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THESIS

ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS PERFORMED IN STAND-UP COMEDY

SHOW BY MICHAEL JR (Pragmatic Analysis)

BY

UMNIATUL RAHMA

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It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination on Friday, February 5th 2021 and is declared to have fulfilled the requirements.

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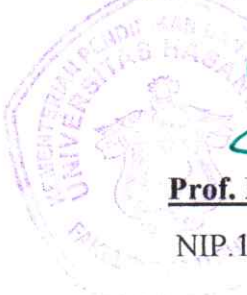
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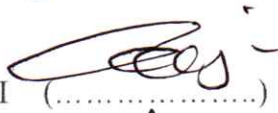
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Today, February 5th, 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **UMNIATUL RAHMA** (Student Number: **F041171508**) entitled **"ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS PERFORMED IN STAND-UP COMEDY SHOW BY MICHAEL JR (Pragmatic Analysis)"** submitted as one of the requirements to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S) degree at English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

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Yang Menyatakan,

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v

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The final word, the writer realize that this thesis is still far from perfection but the writer hopes it could be useful for the writer and for all readers to improve educational quality and the writer surrenders everything to Allah SWT., may Allah SWT bless us. Aamiin.

Makassar, January 11th 2021

Umniatul Rahma

ABSTRACT

UMNIATUL RAHMA. 2017. *Illocutionary Acts Performed In Stand-Up Comedy Show By Michael Jr. A Pragmatic Analysis* (Supervised by **Abidin Pammu** dan **Sitti Sahraeny**).

This research aimed to find out the types of direct illocutionary acts and indirect illocutionary acts which are found in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr. This research also intends to examine other intention of the speakers' utterance in stand-up comedy, because indirectly humor gives the speaker the possibility to share a truth elegantly and subtly without hurting the other feelings.

The design of this research was descriptive qualitative method. The writer collected the necessary data in this research, and then she identified every utterance which uttered by the speaker into direct illocutionary acts and indirect illocutionary acts. After that, the writer analyzed and interpreted the speaker's intention in each type of act. Thus, it showed the difference of the speaker's intention between the direct and indirect illocutionary acts.

The results of this research indicate that there were 77 analyzed sentences are having direct and indirect illocutionary acts. For the types of direct illocutionary acts, there were found 58 acts of *asserting, 7* acts of *ordering,* and 12 acts of *asking.* And for the types of indirect illocutionary acts, the writer found some kinds of acts, they are classified into: *informing, reminding, advising, confusing, motivating, complaining, requesting, convincing, ordering, blessing, promising, affirming, realizing, predicting, thanking, appreciating, declaring, greeting, introducing, denying, insulting, clarifying, suggestion, blaming, remembering, praising, indifferenting, persuading, forbidding.* Thus, it is indicated that there was another function in stand-up comedy besides entertaining, it also to informing, motivating, or criticizing.

Keywords: utterance, illocution, speech act, stand-up comedy

ABSTRAK

UMNIATUL RAHMA. 2017. *Illocutionary Acts Performed In Stand-Up Comedy Show By Michael Jr. A Pragmatic Analysis* (Dibimbing oleh **Abidin Pammu** dan **Sitti Sahraeny**).

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tipe dan jenis tindak tutur ilokusi langsung dan jenis tindak tutur ilokusi tidak langsung yang terdapat dalam pertunjukan stand-up komedi oleh Michael Jr. Penelitian ini juga bermaksud untuk meninjau maksud lain dari ucapan pembicara dalam stand-up komedi, karena homur sangat memungkinkan seseorang untuk mengatakan suatu kebenaran dengan elegan dan halus tanpa menyakiti perasaan orang lain.

Bentuk penelitian ini termasuk dalam bentuk penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Penulis mengumpulkan data-data yang diperlukan dalam penelitian ini kemudian mengidentifikasi setiap ujaran yang diucapkan oleh pembicara kedalam tindak tutur ilokusi langsung dan tindak tutur tidak langsung. Setelah itu penulis menganalisis serta menginterpretasikan maksud ucapan pembicara dalam setiap ujarannya. Dengan demikian, hal tersebut dapat menunjukkan perbedaan maksud dari ucapan pembicara antara tindak tutur ilokusi langsung dan tindak tutur ilokusi tidak langsung.

Hasil penelitian menujukkan bahwa terdapat 77 kalimat yang dianalisis memiliki tidakan ilokusi langsung dan tidak langsung. Pada jenis tindak tutur ilokusi langsung, ditemukan 58 tindak *menyatakan*, 7 tindak *memerintah*, dan 12 tindak *bertanya*. Dan ditemukan beberapa jenis tindak tutur ilokusi tidak langsung, yaitu *menginformasikan, mengingatkan, menasihati, menyatakan kebingungan, memotivasi, mengeluh, meminta, meyakinkan, memerintah, menyatakan rasa syukur, menjanjikan, menegaskan, menyadari, memprediksikan, menyatakan rasa terimakasih, menghargai, mendeklarasikan, menyapa, memperkenalkan, menyangkal, menghina, menjelaskan, menyarankan, menyalahkan, mengingat, memuji, menyatakan sikap acuh tak acuh, membujuk, dan melarang*. Selain itu, disimpulkan juga bahwa terdapat fungsi lain dalam stand-up komedi selain untuk menghibur, yaitu juga untuk menginformasikan, memotivasi, atau bahkan mengkritik.

Kata kunci *: ujaran, ilokusi, tindak tutur, stand-up komedi*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Linguistics is the study of language. Linguistics plays an important role in straightening grammar in communication. As we know, Language is a fundamental aspect of human life, without language we cannot communicate to each other. In communication the meaning of the message is also important, without understanding the message, communication will fail, because both of speaker or hearer meaning plays a very important role in communication. When someone is uttering an utterance, it means that they do performative acts. They are performing an act like asking, informing, promising, inviting, etc and these actions are called speech act. Speech acts is a theory in which to say something to do something. It means that when people say something, they do not only say something but also force someone to do something for him/her. Speech acts is an important part of communication. Speech acts include functions such as requests, apologies, promises, warnings, greetings, or any number of declarations. Speech act can be devided into three, namely locution, illocution, and perlocution.

In speech act theory, the term of illocutionary act refers to the use of a sentence to express an attitude with a certain function. In other words, the illocutionary acts are the utterances that perform what speaker intends to convey. To understanding the meaning, illocution is devided into five types ; they are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declaration.

After the illocutionary act is uttered by the speaker, there will be the result or effect of the words. This act is known as perlocutionary act (an act of affecting something), it means that perlocutionary act is the effect of the utterance which is said by the speaker to the hearer. In every utterance, the speakers usually contain their own purpose or meaning such as requesting, asking, ordering, apologizing, commanding, vowing, etc. However, in conversation not all hearers can understand the meaning of the speech because the speaker unconsciously uses word that could have more than one possible meaning that will make the hearer confused to understand. Sometimes the hearer cannot follow the speaker's illocutionary act or cannot do the perlocutionary act based on the speaker hoped. To understanding the meaning of the speech or sentence, it is necessary to know who the speaker and the hearer are, where, when, and how the communication take a place and not only know the literal meaning but also have to know the context of the speech.

The writer feels that it is important to know about the illocutionary act to influence the hearer in every conversation. By study illocutionary act, we can understand and know how to convey the intention or purpose correctly, especially in comedy show which is to entertains other people. But in another side, it can be said that comedy can also be more than just an invitation to laugh. As we know, comedy can be a medium for thinking outside the box from the speaker's utterances. In this case illocutionary act is importantly needed. This is the point which attempted to be highlighted in stand-up comedy.

In this research, the writer analyzed the illocutionary act in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr as the object of the research. The writer would be focus on the dialogue performed by Michael Jr in stand-up comedy show. The topic is interesting to be analyzed because in comedy show, the comics sometimes uses their humorous language in their performances and every utterances has indirect meaning and another purpose, not only to entertains the audience but also to informing or criticizing social phenomena by luring the audience to be able to laugh at the phenomena.

From the explanation above, the writer realized that it will be useful to know how the comics perform illocutionary acts in their utterances, what types of illocutionary acts that the comics used in their utterances, and it will help the hearer to know another meaning of utterances by using illocutionary acts in stand-up comedy show.

B. Identification of Problem

Based on the background, the writer focuses on the main central of communication that is illocutionary acts. According to the explanation, the object of this analysis will be discussed through the following problems:

1. In stand-up comedy show, the hearer is difficult to understand the meaning implied in every utterances which is not only to entertain but also to informing or criticizing the social phenomena.

2. The hearer is difficult to understand the function of illocutionary acts in the stand-up comedy show.

3. The type of the direct and indirect illocutionary act performed from each utterance.

C. Scope of Problem

In this research, the writer focused on the classification of direct and indirect illocutionary acts performed by the comics in stand-up comedy show to limit her study in analyzing the message of illocutionary acts which is uttered in this stand-up comedy show.

D. Research Question

Based on the Background above, the writer formulates her problem as follows:

1. What are the types of direct and indirect illocutionary acts performed in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr?

2. What are the implicit meanings in the types of direct and indirect illocutionary acts performed in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr?

E. Objectives of the Study

In accordance with the problem of the research above, the writer intends to accomplish a particular objective with the targets as follows :

1. To describe the types of direct and indirect illocutionary acts which performed in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr

2. To explain the implicit meanings in the types of direct and in direct illocutionary acts performed in stand-up comedy show by Michael Jr

F. Significance of Study

This research has been purposed in two significances:

1. Practical benefit

   It can be used by the students to get some information about pragmatics especially illocutionary acts, so they can understand the material deeply. Also this study will be useful for the readers as a guidance for those who are interested in the stand-up comedy especially as entertainment and educational sectors by using linguistics aspect of verbal humor.

2. Theoretical benefit

   This research can be contributed as information and references for further research which is related to this study that is about pragmatics especially illocutionary acts in stand-up comedy. This research may help to avoid misinterpretations between speakers and addressee.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Previous Studies

There are some previous studies related to this research. The writer will tries to show a brief description of the previous studies as follows:

The first research by Sri Rahmadani Sitorus entitled "Expressive Speech Act in Stand Up Comedy: A Case of Julio Torres' Performance at The Risk! Live Show". In this thesis, the author analyzes about the kinds of expressive speech act to describe how the Expressive speech act syntactically realized by Julio Torres. It means the author will focus on the expressive of thanking, expressive of congratulating, expressive of greeting, expressive of wishing, and expressive of attitudes.

The second one is a research entitled "An Analysis of Speech Acts Containing Humor in Full House Tv Sitcom in MNTV Surabaya "by Rikky Arifullah S.N.. In this research, the author describes the kinds of locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts which contain humor in Full House Tv Sitcom in MNTV Surabaya Station 2010. The author also presents some suggestions in order to improve the accomplishment of speech acts containing humor.

The next one is a research by Ainy Sahrah entitled "Illocutionary Acts in Situational Comedy Series "The Cosby Show": A Pragmatic Analysis". In this kind of thesis, the author investigates the types and kinds of speech acts which occurred in the situational comedy television show titled "The Cosby Show". And

then, this research considers in its analysis of implications of the speaker in uttering the sentence. Besides, not only the direct, but also the indirect illocutionary acts analyzed which had the different aims of the sentence contents.

The last one is a research by Anak Agung Ayu Ratih Kesumadewi entitled "Directive and Expressive Illocutionary Acts with Special Reference to Romantic Comedy Movie "American Pie 5". In this thesis, the author explains the types of directives and expressive illocutionary acts that appear in the movie and also explains the context of situation which related to the speech act conditions.

The writer found the differences between the previous studies and this current research. The differences are the subject of the research and the scope of the problem, in which all of them analyzed the transcript of dialogue between characters and this research analyzed the transcript of one-way communication, furthermore the scope of the research is different from one to another.

B. Theoretical Framework

1. Pragmatics

Pragmatics is a study of linguistics which studies about the relation between language and context in communication. Leech (1996: 6) states that pragmatics is the study of meanings in relation to speech situation. Besides, Parker (1986:11) defined that pragmatic is the study of how language is used to communicate. Pragmatics is distinctive from the study of grammar, which is the study of the internal structure of language.

Levinson (1983: 5) defines that pragmatics is the study of language usage. There is a relation between language and context, in which to understand what is

said to what is mutually assumed or what has been said before. Whereas Yule (1996: 3) has noted that pragmatics deals with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or a writer and interpreted by a listener or reader. This implies that pragmatics is talking about the speaker meaning since it deals more with what the speaker means by uttering than what the words or phrases in the utterance mean.

It also indicates that pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning as it covers the interpretation of meaning in a particular context and how the context influences what is said. Last but not least, pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distance, which means that how close or distant the listener is, the speaker determines how lots desires to be stated.

From the explanations above, we can conclude that pragmatics means a study about the relationship between language, meaning and situation. In other word, pragmatics is the study of how language is used and how language is assessed in context of communication itself.

2. Speech acts

a. Definition of speech acts

Speech acts is an utterance that replaces an action for particular purpose in a certain situation which not only presents information but also performs an action. For example "there is a dog", this sentence may be intended as a warning in certain contexts, or may in other context it gives a statement of fact.

Speech acts was originally by philosopher J. L. Austin (1962) on his book *How to Do Things with Words* and developed by John R. Searle. Austin defines

speech acts simply as the action performed by saying something. Speech act theory believes in identifying utterances and turns as actual actions. This theory not only considers language used by the speaker but studies change in the state of behavior of the speaker as well as the listener at the time of communication. Based on George Yule (1996: 47), he states that speech act is an action performed by utterances. He also gives specific labels in English for it such as apology, complaint, invitation, compliment, request or promise.

Speech acts can be analyzed on three different levels. The first is locution which is the act of saying something. Locution is an analysis of the words themselves in the form of spoken words. The second is illocution which refers to what one does in saying something. It might be a promise, an apology, an order or an expression of thanks, or to inform the other person in the conversation. The last one known as perlocution, which examines the "what is done by saying the words", the effect it has on the listener and the reaction of the listener.

Searle identified five parts of speech acts, here are the explanations:

- Assertives: Statements that may be judged true or false because they aim to describe a state of affairs in the world.

- Directives: Statements that attempt to make the other person's actions fit the propositional content.

- Commissives: Statements that commit the speaker to a course of action as described by the propositional content.

- Expressives: Statements that express the sincerity condition of the speech act.

- Declaratives: Statements that attempt to change the world by representing it as having been changed.

b. Types of Speech Acts

In relation to speech acts theory, Searle introduces a distinction between direct and indirect speech acts.

1. Direct speech act

Searle (in Cutting, 2002: 19) states that the speakers use direct speech act to communicate the literal meaning of the words which expressed conventionally; there is a direct connection between the form and the function (declarative, imperative and interrogative).

2. Indirect speech act

Searle (in Cutting, 2002: 19) also explains that someone who uses an indirect speech act wants to communicate a different meaning from the literal meaning; the form and function are not directly related (statements, question, and command/request).

c. Speech Acts Classification

Austin (1975: 107) identifies three levels of action beyond the act of utterance, they are:

1. Locutionary Act

Locutionary act is the form of the words uttered to express something. Austin (1975: 108) states that locutionary act is roughly equivalent to uttering a certain sentence with certain sense and reference, which again is roughly equivalent to meaning in the traditional sense. It will be declarative if it tells

something, imperative if it gives an order, and interrogative if it asks a question. Another definition comes from Leech (1996: 199), he states that locutionary act is performing the act of saying something.

2. Illocutionary Act

Illocutionary act is called the act of doing something, and it refers to informing, ordering, warning, and etc with some specific purposes. Austin (1975: 108) defines illocutionary act as an utterance which has a certain force. Based on Leech (1996: 199), illocutionary act is performing the act in saying something. In Yule's example (1996: 48), "*I've just made some coffee.*", by saying that the speaker makes an offer or a statement.

Illocutionary act refers to the sense of what was said was meant, in which the Illocutionary act conveys a statement, request, promise, question, apologize and many more.

3. Perlocutionary Act

The perlocutionary act is the consequent effect on the hearer. Based on Austin (1975: 108), perlocutionary act is the effect of an utterance. It is about what people bring about or achieve by saying something such as convincing, surprising, persuading, deterring, and misleading. Leech (1996: 199) defines that perlocutionary act is performing the act by saying something.An utterance which was uttered by the speaker often has the power to influence the hearer, and it is the function of perlocutionary act.

d. Classification of Illocutionary Act

Searle classifies the illocutionary acts based on varied criteria as the following:

1. Assertive or Representative

  Assertive is an illocutionary act that describes the state of affairs such as asserting, stating, claiming, describing, telling, suggesting, or swearing and etc. Searle (2005: 12) states that the purpose of the members of this class is to commit the speaker to something's being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition. While, Yule (1996: 53) states that this kind of speech acts that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not.

  For example:

  "The earth is flat."

  This utterance can be called as claiming, in which the speaker believes that earth is flat, even though the earth is not flat actually.

2. Directive

  Directive is an illocutionary act for making the addressee to do something, such as ordering, commanding, daring, defying, challenging and etc. (Searle, 2005: 13) states that the illocutionary point of this category shows in the fact that it is an attempt by the speaker to get the hearer to do something. While Yule (1996: 54) states that speakers use directive to get someone else to something.

  For example:

  Would you make me a cup of coffee?

This utterance can be called as requesting. The speaker makes a request that has a function to get the hearer to do something that the speaker wants.

3. Commissive

Commissive is an illocutionary act for getting the speaker to do something, it means the speaker commits to the listener such as promising, threatening, intending, vowing and etc. Searle (2005: 14) suggests that commissive refers to an illocutionary act whose point is to commit the speaker to some future action, such as promising, vowing, offering, volunteering, threatening, and refusing. It expresses what the speaker intends. Yule (1996: 54) states that in using commissive, the speaker tries to make the world fit the words.

For example:

"I'm gonna love you till the end"

The meaning is promising that is uttered by the speaker to someone he/she loves. It is commissive because the utterance gives a promise that relate to the future action.

4. Expressive

Expressive is an illocutionary acts that expresses the mental state of the speaker or express the sincerity condition of the speaker. In other word, expressive is what the speaker feels such as congratulating, thanking, welcoming, apologizing and etc. Searle (2005: 15) states that expressive includes actions in which the words express the psychological state that is

determined in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content. In line with Searle, Yule (1996: 53) states expressive is a kind of speech acts that states what the speaker feels.

For example:

"I'm happy for your graduation, congratulations!"

The meaning of this sentence is congratulating, it shows that the speaker congratulates someone to express his happiness, so it is called expressive.

5. Declaration

Declaration is an illocutionary act that brings into existence the state of affairs to which it refers such as blessing, declaring, naming, firing, baptizing, bidding, and dismissing. Based on Yule (1996: 53) declarations are those kinds of speech acts that change the world through utterance.

For example:

"You are a strong woman"

The meaning is declaring that is uttered by the speaker to the listener as a strong woman, and it changes the reality and prepositional content of the hearer.

3. Comedy

Comedy is something that makes people laugh, it is a form of entertainment meant to be humorous, whether in literature, television, film, or stand-up. The general purpose of comedy is to induce laughter in the audience. According to Evanthius in Palmer (1984: 30), comedy is a story that treats various

habits and customs of public and private affairs, from which one may learn what is useful and what must be avoided in life. It is the mirror of everyday life. From this explanation it can be concluded that comedy is a branch of drama which deals with everyday life that can provide a lesson.

The purpose of stand-up comedy is not only to entertains the audience, but it can shows other purposes such as informing or criticizing social phenomena by luring the listeners to be able to laugh at the phenomena. Thus, the comics usually bring material about everyday life or critics about social phenomena which are packaged in humorous language.