

**AN ANALYSIS OF SARCASTIC UTTERANCES OF CHARACTER
CHANDLER BING ON “FRIENDS” TV SHOW**



A Thesis

*Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University
In Partial Fulfillment of Requirements to obtain a Undergraduate Degree in
English Literature Study Program*

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2023

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CHANDLER BING ON "FRIENDS" TV SHOW

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AN ANALYSIS OF SARCASTIC UTTERANCES OF CHARACTER
CHANDLER BING ON “FRIENDS” TV SHOW

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

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Apabila dikemudian hari terbukti bahwa karya tulis ini merupakan hasil karya orang lain maka saya bersedia menerima sanksi atas perbuatan tersebut

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I thank God for His never ending blessings, for giving me health, patience, guidance, and hope especially throughout the whole journey of my academic study until the point of completing this thesis for a new chapter in life.

I also genuinely would like to express the deepest gratitude towards the following amazing people who had been such a great help and contributed in guiding me to finally complete this piece of work despite all the troubles and hardships that I encounter:

1. **Prof. Dr. Ir. Jamaluddin Jompa, M.Sc** as the Rector of Hasanuddin University.
2. **Prof. Dr. Akin Duli, M.A., as the Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.**
3. **Nasmilah, M.Hum, Ph.D, as the Head of English Literature Study Program, St. Sahraeny, S.S., M.AppLing, as the Secretary of English Literature Study Program, English Literature Study Program Lecturers, and all academic staffs that I respect the most for their hardwork and dedication in helping, guiding, and teaching the students, especially myself, therefore here I am now. I thank all the invaluable lessons, knowledge, advice throughtout my academic years in UNHAS that have inspire me to become a better person for myself and the people around me in the future**
4. **Prof. Dr. Abdul Hakim Yassi, M.A., as my Academic Counselor** who had been giving me advices regarding my lectures and always encouraging me to keep working hard on my studies
5. **Dra. Nadirah Mahaseng, M.Ed and Rezky Ramadhani, S.S., M.Litt.** as my research supervisors who had given their time and energy despite all the busy work as lecturers, to supervise and guide me to complete this thesis. I honestly owe them a deep sense of gratitude for their patience in fixing my errors and mistakes, and I would like to apologize in advance for being such a hassle

with my never-ending questions.

6. **Ardiansyah Asmuni and Eva Soedjono**, my beloved parents who had raised me and had been a huge support and trusting my every decision in life. My biggest apology for not being such a great kid but you managed to still love me. Thank you for being my parents and pray for me at all times, I cannot promise you anything but I'm going to try my best. **Not to mention, Natasha Ayudia, Nadya Septiana**, for still seeing me as their little kid and paying attention to me though they are doing it in silence without me even knowing, but I do know how big their love actually is. Thank you for making my shoulder stronger, my heart bigger, and my legs not easy to collapse. **And also, Zefanya Elizabeth, Oktaviani Buloto, and Wahyuni Buloto** my sisters who have always welcomed me at their homes, inviting me over to hang out and helped me in pursuing my academic studies here at UNHAS

7. **Luna Marina Chandra, Shania Dwi Ananda, Elsa Kapadia, Audrey Salsabila, Aprilia Ainun, Aisyah Nur Mutia, and Fatimah Zahra**, my Junior Highschool bestfriends for 12 years who understands my ego and has always been there while we're growing up together to a better but bitter person. Though we did not spend our time as much as we did like the old times, you will remain special in my heart and life.

8. **Luthfi Annisaa Mufidah Franjih, Firda Irianti Arifin, Marchella Audria Pandelaki, Bernard Reynaldi Chandra, Regina Mulianina, Muhammad Iqbal Silla, Arfi Ibrahim, and Ahmad Roqib Arqi S**, and many other else as my fellow friends whom I cannot mention one by one, who have made my college days bearable and created such a beautiful memories that I will always cherish. I hope the best for them as well.

9. **ST. Fatimah Arafah Madjid, and Afifah Nurul Fauziyyah**, for being such an amazing friend who makes my excitement gets on top of the room everytime they ask me to hang out whenever and wherever. Thank you for making my laugh go harder, my smile got bigger, and my weekend much more fun than before.

10. Claudia Pertiwi Malik, for being the reason my life becomes more colorful and for being the reason why i am still standing still and stronger up till today. For being such an amazing partner with an amazing patience in everything especially on the steps we took to finish our thesis together. I hope that me finishing our thesis and graduate together would be one of the gift that I could give to you. It feels incredible that we made such a great team together. Thank you for all the laughter, anger, and tears that we have shared, I appreciate it a lot. I wish you nothing but the best of luck for the next steps that you will take, from the tiniest and the biggest. I hope i am still capable of watching, and accompanying you to a bigger, better, and happier you.

11. Last but not least, I wanna thank **myself** for doing such a great job, for still living, smiling, and laughing. I hope you will do great in the future, for anything that the future holds, I hope you'd still face it with no fear, with your chin up, your strong steps, your big smile, and big hearts. And I hope that you will still have that sense humor of yours so you could use jokes as self defense mechanism.

Makassar, January 2023

The writer

ABSTRACT

Nabila Reski Putri Ardiansyah. 2023. *An Analysis of Sarcastic Utterances of Character Chandler Bing on "FRIENDS" TV Show* (Supervised by **Nadirah Mahaseng** and **Rezky Ramadhani**).

This study aims to explain the connection and the relations between sarcasm and illocutionary act. The objectives of this study are: (1). to identify the types of sarcasm on the FRIENDS TV Series. (2) to explain the types of illocutionary act spoken by Chandler Bing based on

The method of research that is used in this study is descriptive qualitative method. The data source of this study is "*FRIENDS*" TV Show with ten seasons and more than a hundred episodes specifically the sarcastic utterances spoken by the character Chandler Bing. Moreover, the technique of the data analysis that is used in this study is based on the seven types of sarcasm by Mike Lamb which this study will divide the sarcastic utterances to certain types and thus study will analyze the classifications of illocutionary act contained behind the utterances using the theory of John R Searle

The writer found that the sarcastic utterances found in "*FRIENDS*" TV Show had all seven types by Mike Lamb which were Self-deprecating, Brooding, Deadpan, Polite, Obnoxious, Maniac, and Raging and only three of five classifications of illocutionary acts by John R Searle found behind the sarcastic utterances which are Directives, Expressives, and Representatives due to the specific characteristics and terms in the two classifications that are not fulfilled.

The result of this study indicates that sarcasm and illocutionary acts were correlated with one another because they shared many similarities started from the definitions, purposes, and also the characteristics of the utterances.

Keywords: *FRIENDS TV show, Chandler Bing, Illocutionary Act,*

ABSTRAK

Nabila Reski Putri Ardiansyah. 2023. Analisis Ucapan Sarkastik Karakter Chandler Bing di Acara TV "FRIENDS" (Diawasi oleh Nadirah Mahaseng dan Rezky Ramadhani).

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan hubungan dan hubungan antara sarkasme dan tindakan ilokusi. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah: (1). Untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis sarkasme pada Serial TV FRIENDS. (2) untuk menjelaskan jenis-jenis tindakan ilokusi yang diucapkan oleh Chandler Bing berdasarkan jenis-jenis sarkasme yang telah ditemukan

Metode penelitian yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif deskriptif. Sumber data penelitian ini adalah Acara TV "FRIENDS" dengan sepuluh musim dan lebih dari seratus episode secara khusus mengucapkan kata-kata sarkastik yang diucapkan oleh karakter Chandler Bing. Selain itu, teknik analisis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini didasarkan pada tujuh jenis sarkasme oleh Mike Lamb yang penelitian ini akan membagi ucapan sarkastik dengan jenis tertentu dan dengan demikian penelitian akan menganalisis klasifikasi tindakan ilokusi yang terkandung di balik ucapan tersebut menggunakan teori John R Searle

Penulis menemukan bahwa ucapan sarkastik yang ditemukan di Acara TV "FRIENDS" memiliki ketujuh jenis oleh Mike Lamb tetapi hanya tiga dari lima klasifikasi tindakan ilokusi oleh John R Searle yang ditemukan di balik ucapan sarkastik karena karakteristik dan istilah spesifik dalam dua klasifikasi yang tidak terpenuhi.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa sarkasme dan tindakan ilokusi berkorelasi satu sama lain karena memiliki banyak kesamaan mulai dari definisi, tujuan, dan juga karakteristik ucapan tersebut.

Kata kunci: Acara TV FRIENDS, Chandler Bing, Illocutionary Act, Sarkasme

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

As some people around the world knows, FRIENDS TV Series was a very famous tv program in its time. FRIENDS is a tv series that was released in 2004 and ended in 2014. It has 10 (ten) seasons for 10 (ten) years. It was about 6 (six) friends who lived in Manhattan, New York City. Every character has their own characteristics. The characters are Chandler Bing, known as a sarcastic machine or king in the series, Monica Geller, known as a control freak and the mom in the group, Rachel Green, known as a fashionista and the girl who left the man in the altar, Phoebe Buffay, known as a quirky girl who is very naïve and innocent, Ross Geller, known as a man who has lots of divorces yet is very caring and is easy to be emotionally attached to girls, and Joey Tribbiani is known as an actor that is kind of stupid but is a womanizer.

The show contained a lot of sarcasm in their dialogues, and it is used to be a joke from the beginning till the end of the show. Especially, Chandler Bing, is the most famous character who often uses sarcasm in his dialogues, so he is nicknamed the King of Sarcasm. This tv series is also known as sitcom which contains a lot of sarcasm in the sentences, which are used to communicate with each other with different purposes such as making jokes, nagging, venting, expressing feelings, telling stories, offending others, mocking, and also ordering. But, indirectly or implicitly and wrapped in-jokes or any other form.

However, there are still many people who think sarcasm is only meant to hurt other people's feelings, but in fact, sarcasm itself has many purposes behind the sentences spoken by the speaker. Sarcasm is defined as the words that means the opposite of what they really want to say, or a sentence that has an implied meaning with a hidden purpose.

Sarcasm actually have a lot of explanations and definitions on the internet, but after a lot of research, the writer found out that not so many experts discussed sarcasm more deeply. But, Mike Lamb (2011), distinguishes and divides sarcasm into seven types, namely, self-deprecating, brooding, deadpan, polite, obnoxious, maniac, and raging. The writer also found that sarcasm can be count into the pragmatic fields because it is related to speech acts, specifically an illocutionary act.

Leech (1983) explained that pragmatics is the study of meaning in relation to speech situations. Then, Levinson (1995) gives a definition of pragmatics as the study of language from a functional perspective; that is, pragmatics tries to explain aspects of the linguistic structure by referring to non-linguistic influences and phenomena.

Yule (1996) also mentions four definitions of pragmatics, namely the field that examines the meaning of the speaker, the field that examines meaning according to the context; a field that goes beyond the study of the meaning uttered, examines the meaning that is communicated or communicated by the speaker, and a field that

examines forms of expression according to social distances that limit the participants involved in certain conversations.

Then John L Austin (1975), in his book "how to do things with words" coined speech acts as a branch of pragmatics. According to Austin, when someone speaks, it is not just saying something without action.

Austin also divides speech into two, namely, constative and performative. What distinguishes the two is, constative speech is a speech act that has absolute facts in its words, descriptive, definition, and so on. Such as, "There was an earthquake this afternoon" This sentence is a sentence that is a fact and cannot be questioned and is also informative. While performative speech is speech that does not explain or report and is not "wrong or right." such as "beware of fierce dogs," this sentence is not to inform, or really there is a fierce dog, but rather to make the speaker act to warn the listener.

In addition, Austin then divided speech acts into three parts, namely, the locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. The differences between these acts are, locutionary acts explains about the literal meaning of the utterances from the speaker, illocutionary act explains about the intention of the utterances spoken by the speaker, and perlocutionary acts explains about the effect of the utterances has on the speaker.

Then, a student from J.L Austin, Searle (1975) in his book "A taxonomy of illocutionary act", developed a theory that focused on the illocutionary act. Searle classified the types of illocutionary act into five parts and each of which has a

communicative function, there are, Representative is an act that commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition, Directives is an act that attempts by the speaker to make the hearer do something, Commission is an act to commit the speaker to some future act, Declaratives is an act that changes the situation after altered, and Expressive is an act that represents a psychological case of the speaker.

With the explanation above, the writer wants to explain that sarcasm is count as a speech act that focuses on illocutionary acts which there is still little research about it, and it is important for everyone to know that sarcasm is not just an ordinary sentence, but can have meaning and the action behind it. This is also supported by the similarity of definitions between Sarcasm and illocutionary acts, although not one hundred percent the same, but this is a big supporting factor for studying sarcasm and its relationship to speech acts, specifically in illocutionary acts.

However, there is a previous study of the same topic but with a different approach and methods written by Muhammad Yusuf Andriadi (2019) on his thesis A Pragmatics Analysis of Sarcastic Utterances on Homeland – Pilot TV Series Script focusing on the matrix of the illocutionary acts that are found on the sarcastic utterances spoken on Homeland TV Series. Thus, The writer will analyze the types of sarcasm, and the illocutionary acts behind the types of sarcasm spoken by Chandler Bing on Friends TV Series. Alongside with John R Searle's book A taxonomy of Illocutionary act, and Mike Lamb's types of sarcasm.

1.2 Identification of Problem

In relation to the background above, the following problems can be identified:

1. The difficulty to identify sarcasm in a sentence
2. Lack of knowledge of people about the types and functions of sarcasm
3. There is still very little research on sarcasm
4. There is little evidence that sarcasm is included in the realm of pragmatics, especially in speech acts and specifically counted as illocutionary acts

1.3 Scope of problem

With the lack of knowledge and depth of sarcasm, the author would like to analyze sarcasm by dissecting its types and analyze the types of illocutionary acts that found in the type of sarcasm found by the writer in the Chandler Bing dialogue in the Friends TV series. However, the analysis is intended to prove that sarcasm is an illocutionary act. Therefore, the writer would like to analyze it based on the “FRIENDS” TV Series on Netflix. The writer would also identify the sarcastic utterances by finding at least two examples for each type of sarcasm and analyze illocutionary act contained behind the utterances spoken by Chandler Bing. Using the theory from Mike Lamb, and John R Searle in his book “a taxonomy of illocutionary act”.

1.4 Research Question

1. What are the types of sarcasm which are spoken by Chandler Bing on “FRIENDS” TV Series?
2. What are the types of illocutionary acts that found in the types of sarcasm spoken by Chandler Bing on FRIENDS TV Series?

1.5 Objective of the research

1. To identify the types of sarcasm on the FRIENDS TV Series
2. To explain the types of illocutionary act spoken by Chandler Bing based on "FRIENDS" TV show

1.6 Significance of the research

There are two significances of the research; they are theoretical significance and practical significance. The explanation is as follow:

1. Theoretical significance:

The writer is hoping that this research may be able to assist the readers to develop their knowledge about what is the intention, the meaning, and how to differentiate the sarcastic utterances by watching the "FRIENDS" TV Series. The writer is also hoping that the reader can avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation about sarcasm in a conversation.

2. Practical significance:

Beside the theoretical significance, the researcher hopes this research is able to give practical significance to the students, the teachers as well as the readers.

- a) For the students: The students will be more interested in learning about sarcasm and illocutionary acts in a deeper way
- b) For the lecturer: The result of this research is expected to be useful for the lecturer for finding more ways to teach about the types of sarcasm and illocutionary act to make the learning process more fun for the students.

- c) For the Reader: The result of this research will inform the reader about sarcasm and illocutionary acts if they are not familiar with it yet.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Previous Study

There are several studies related to this topic that have been discussed by the researcher who are also interested in the topic of sarcasm or topics related to sarcasm. They are as follows:

Abigail Lydia Christiani (2016) in her research entitled “The Analysis of Sarcastic Utterances and The Hearer’s Responses in Two Broke Girls TV Series Episodes 1, Season 1 To Season 5” The sample of her research is the TV series mentioned above. She analyzed the purposes of sarcastic utterances that appears in Two Broke Girls TV Series and and the variousity from the hearer’s responses to the sarcastic utterances given by the speaker using Attordo’s theory in his article Humor and Irony in Interaction: From Mode Adoptuon to Failure of Detection.

Ashwin Rajadesingan (2014) in his research entitled “Detecting Sarcasm on Twitter: A Behavior Modeling Approach” The sample of his research is the tweets on twitter as he mentioned above. He explained different forms of sarcasm and how these forms may be manifested on Twitter. He also used Sarcasm Classification Using a Behavioral modeling Approach (SCUBA) to detect sarcasm on Twitter.

Rahman Dafiqi (2018) in his research entitled “Sarcasm as Humor in J.D. Salinger’s Novel the Catcher in the Rye”. The sample of the research is the novel mentioned above. He explained how the sarcasm serve as humor and what kind of sarcasm there are in the novel “The Catcher in the Rye”

The previous study is similar to what the writer going to analyze and talk about in this thesis which is analyzing sarcastic utterances. However, the difference of this research and the previous research are, this research is focusing on how the sarcasm divided to some types and how is it count as an illocutionary act by analyzing the meaning or the intention from the utterances spoken by the speaker.

2.2 Theoretical background

2.2.1 Pragmatics

According to Hence (1993: 42) Pragmatics is the study of the conditions of human being language that uses as determined by the context of the social group. Besides that, Leech (1983:6) states that pragmatics is the study of explicit meanings in relation to a conversation situation.

The larger definition comes from Yules (1996:3). He affirms that pragmatics is the research of speaker meaning. Pragmatic is the study of the contextual meaning. The second definition, pragmatics is the study of how people can get more communicated than said. The last definition is that pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distance. Yule also said that to clearly understand about pragmatics briefly, there is a way to make interaction with larger areas of linguistics. Semantics and syntax can be linked to this study. So, according to their explanation above pragmatics is the study of the relation between language and context which is resolved by the condition.

2.2.2 Speech act

J.L Austin (1962) on his book *How to do things with words* introduce the idea of Speech Acts. He defines speech acts as an act to perform an actions by saying something. He also developed a theory of a performative sentence or utterances which when someone say something it is not only they only speak the fact but also performing an act of doing something. He then developed speech acts into three types of categories. They are, the locutionary act (saying something is doing something), the illocutionary act (when saying something we are doing something) and the perlocutionary act (because we say something we are doing something).

Yule (1996) stated that speech acts are a study of how the speakers and the hearers use language, he also defines speech acts as an actions performed via utterances.

And, according to Searle (1969) speech act are the basic form of linguistic communication. He then wrote a taxonomy of illocutionary act focusing on Illocutionary Act. On his book he divided illocutionary act into five categories.

They are. Representative, Declarative, Directives, Commissive, and Expressive.

2.2.3 Illocutionary act

According to Austin (1975) Illocutionary act is the act of doing something, can be defined as the purpose of the words that uttered by the speaker. He also gives explanation an illocutionary act as an utterance which has conventional meaning.

For example when somebody says “Is there any pepper?” since Illocutionary Act is an act of doing something the utterance could mean that the speaker is requesting the hearer to give them some salt,

Furthermore, John R Searle (1975) wrote “A Taxonomy of Illocutionary Acts” His purpose is to develop a reasoned classification of illocutionary acts into certain basic categories of types. They are, representatives, directives, commissives, declaratives, expressives.

Representatives is an act that state what speaker believes to be the case or not. For example when the speaker says “I was late because it was raining on my house” the speaker intended to make the hearer believes the speaker.

Directives is an act that attempts by speaker to make the hearer to do something. For example when the speaker says “Don’t touch me” the speaker intended to tell the hearer to not touch the speaker.

Commissives is an act to commit the speaker to some future action. For example when the speaker says “Yes I will come to the party” the speaker intended to make sure that the speaker will come to the party later on.

Declaratives is an act that changes the situation immediately after altered. For example when the priest says “I now pronounce you husband and wife” then the people mentioned becomes a husband and wife right after the priest says it.

Expressive act that represents a psychological case of the speaker. For example when the speaker says “I am so happy to be with you!” the speaker showed the feelings of happiness in the utterances to the hearer.

2.2.4 Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a rhetorical irony that conveys negative and demanding attitudes against persons or events (Kreuz and Glucksberg, 1989). Sarcasm is the big difference between what the writer said, for the person who does not understand what the actual meaning of the utterances is. To get an impression of how the general public understands sarcasm, Rockwell (2006), defines sarcasm as a way of mocking, joking, or smiling that one shows against someone else. It is “said to be expressed through vocal intonation such as an overemphasis on an actual phrase or specific words.” In other words, being sarcastic means making fun of others using a special vocal tone accompanied by certain facial expression (Cheang & Pell, 2008; Persicke et al., 2013).

From a linguistic viewpoint, Giora (1995), describes sarcasm as a form of negation in which an explicit negation marker is lacking. In other words, when one expresses sarcasm, a negation is intended but a negation word like ‘not’ is absent. An interesting implication of this is that a sarcastic sentence can be converted to a non-sarcastic sentence by applying an appropriate negation. For example, the sarcastic sentence ‘I love being ignored’ is equivalent to the non-sarcastic sentence ‘I do not love being ignored.’

Sarcasm is also referring to the use of words that means the opposite of what you really want to say. It can be a joke, insult, to show anger or irritation, and to

show deep feelings. For example when the speaker says “it looks so ugly” it could be the speaker is trying to crack a joke, insulting, or to show other feelings.

Mike Lamb (2011) has stated seven types of sarcasm along with the examples to every types.

They are as follows:

- a. Self-Deprecating: plays off of an exaggerated sense of worthlessness and inferiority

Example:

"Hey Bob, I'm gonna need you to work overtime this weekend."

"Yeah, that's fine. I mean, I was gonna get married this weekend but, you know, it's not a big deal, I'll just skip it. She would've left me anyway"

- b. Brooding: says something polite in a bitter tone

Example:

"Hey Bob, I'm gonna need you to work overtime this weekend."

"Looking forward to it. I live to serve. "

- c. Deadpan: said without laughter or emotion

Example:

"Hey Bob, gonna need you to work overtime this weekend."

"Can't make it. Got a cult meeting. It's my turn to kill the goat. "

- d. Polite: Subtle, but just a bit too nice.

Example:

"Hey Bob, I'm gonna need you to work overtime this weekend."

"Ooh, fun! I'll bring the ice cream! "

- e. Obnoxious: “The kind of sarcasm that makes people want to punch you in the face, usually spoken in a whiney tone of voice”

Example:

"Hey Bob, gonna need you to work overtime."

"Oh, well that's just f*****g great. Just what I wanted to do this weekend.

Awesome.“

- f. Maniac: So unnaturally happy that it’s a borderline crazy

Example:

"Hey Bob, I'm gonna need you to work overtime."

"God, you are the best boss EVER! Have I ever told you how much I love this job? I wish I could live here! Somebody get me a tent, I never wanna leave! “

- g. Raging: Relies Heavily on hyperbole and threats of violence

Example:

"Bob. Overtime."

“Oh, don't worry! I'll be there! Want me to shine your f*****g shoes while I'm at it?! Hell, I'll come to your house tonight and wash your goddamn Ferrari! Actually, you know what? Forget it. I'm just gonna go home and blow my brains out. “

Mike Lamb (2011) also stated that the seven types of sarcasm mentioned above can be identified based on the mood, tone of voice, and the distinctive features of these types.