



An analysis of illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder movie

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Abstract In communication, the speaker not only makes utterances but also conducts actions through those words. In addition to conveying information, individuals use language to perform actions that are intended to have a specific purpose and effect on the recipient. Actions carried out through spoken words are referred to as speech acts. The purpose of this research is to identify and describe the types and most dominant types of illocutionary acts that were presented in Thor: Love and Thunder movie through the movie and script. The researcher used the qualitative method to analyze the data. This research uses John Searle's theory in Yule's books (1996) about various types of illocutionary acts including representative, directive, declarative, expressive, and commissive. The result of this study found a total of 97 data on illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder movie. First, the researcher found representative types (21 data) data, directive types (35 data), declarative types (5 data), expressive types (15 data), and commissive types (13 data). The most dominant type used in Thor: Love and Thunder is the directive type because Thor uses his words to command and lead his army.

Keywords: *Illocutionary acts, Searle, Thor, Love and Thunder.*

INTRODUCTION

Communication with effective language is one of the main things we do as social beings. When communicating, the use of effective language determines the success of communication. Communication is typically the interaction between the speaker and the listener, which is crucial in human existence for the development of connections and for the explanation of facts, opinions, suggestions, signals, and other matters (Pradipta & Sugiharti, 2022).

Linguistics includes the study of communication, which is a key focus within the field of pragmatics (Yule, 2010). (Yule, 1996) defines Pragmatics as the field of study that focuses on the analysis of meaning conveyed by a speaker or writer and understood by a listener or reader. In communication, speakers not only make utterances but also conduct actions through those words. When people speak, they employ language not merely to convey information, but also to conduct actions that are meant to have a certain purpose and impact on the listener. Actions carried out through spoken words are referred to as speech acts (Yule, 1996: 47).

Speech act theory is a subfield of pragmatics, that focuses on the interpretation of an action carried out by the speaker in their utterance within a certain situation. Austin, as mentioned in Yule (1996), categorizes speech acts into three types: illocutionary acts,

illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Therefore, each speech act has a distinct meaning. Illocutionary acts can be classified into various categories. In Yule's books (1996), Searle identified five classifications of illocutionary acts: representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Those categories classify each spoken statement made by the speaker. Once the speaker utters the illocutionary act, there will be a subsequent outcome or impact of the words.

Illocutionary acts can be found in the utterances between fictional characters in movies. An illocutionary utterance can be found in dialogues of a movie. To analyze Illocutionary acts, the researchers have chosen data from the utterance of Thor: Love and Thunder. Thor: Love and Thunder is a 2022 American superhero film that is an adaptation of Marvel Comics and focuses on the character Thor. The film is a sequel to Thor: Ragnarok (2017) and is the 29th installment in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). It was produced by Marvel Studios and distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures.

According to the explanation above, researchers is interested in assessing the illocutionary act, which is classified as one of the three types of speech acts, because it represents the actual intention behind the utterance. The researchers write the statements of the problem that will be discussed in this research. (1) What types of illocutionary acts are applied in the Thor: Love and Thunder movie; (2) What types of illocutionary acts are the most dominant used in the Thor: Love and Thunder movie. The aims from the statements of the problem are to identify and describe the types of illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder and to find out and describe the most dominant types of illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder movie.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of pragmatics is concerned with the meaning that speakers communicate (Yule, 1996). Yule (1996) defined pragmatics as the study of meaning in relation to context. A speech act refers to the action that a speaker carries out when employing language in a certain situation, and its meaning is understood by the listeners through inference. Speech acts refer to actions that are carried out through used utterances. According to Yule (1996), when people try to communicate themselves, they not only use words and grammatical structures, but also conduct actions through their utterances. According to Searle (1979:8), illocutionary acts are doing an action by saying something. When speaking, a speaker does not merely create utterances without any intention or objective. The speaker constructs a statement with a certain purpose in mind.

The illocutionary act is carried out through the communicative force of a spoken or written statement, such as making a promise, expressing an apology, or extending an offer (Yule, 1996, p. 48). This behavior is often referred to as the act of acting while expressing something verbally. Searle's in Yule (1996) speech act theory is utilized to examine the specific aspects of illocutionary acts, such as assertive or representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative.

Representatives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not. Statements of fact assertions conclusions, explanations, and descriptions. In other words, representatives are the utterances by the speaker to commit to doing something. In using representative the speaker make words fit the world (of belief) (Yule, 1996, p. 53). For example: "It was a warm sunny day." The speaker guarantees that the words they choose appropriately reflect the world's truth by using a representation (Searle in Yule, 1996).

Directives are a type of speech act that speakers employ in order to prompt or persuade someone else to take a specific action. It refers to a situation in which the speaker asks the listener to perform certain acts or bring about specific states or situations (Searle in Yule, 1996). The verbs of directive are ask, order, command, request, beg, plead, invite, permit, advise, dare, and challenging. Speakers use directives to persuade listeners to do something (Yule, 1996, p. 54).

For example: "Could you lend me a pen, please?" In using a directive, the speaker attempts to make the world fit the words (via the hearer)

Commissive are those illocutionary acts whose purpose is to bind the speaker to a future course of action, again to differing degrees. The world-to-world fit directions and the intention-based sincerity condition are both present. The sub-functions contained are promises, offers, swear, declare, commitment, and threaten. Commissive speak and try to fit the words into the world (Yule, 1996, p. 54). For example: I'm going to get it right next time.

Expressive speech acts involve the explicit expression of the speaker's emotions or feelings. It conveys psychological states and can encompass statements regarding expressing gratitude, offering congratulations, granting forgiveness, assigning blame, giving praise, and offering condolences (Searle, 1979: 15). For example: Congratulations!

Declarative is a type of illocutionary act that has the capacity to change the world through the utterance it generates. As stated by Searle in Yule (1996), declarative speech acts are those whose mere utterances change the world. The intended term "change" in this context refers to any circumstance. The declarative utterances are promises, bets, warnings, and etc. For example: Priest: I now pronounce you husband and wife. An individual can transform the world with their words by making a declaration (Yule, 1996, p. 53).

METHOD

This study uses qualitative research methods to collect and analyze data, which is then organized and categorized. The researcher used qualitative research methodology in this study, as the data was collected from the movie, specifically focusing on the structure and content of spoken words. The researcher utilizes the Searle theory to categorize the statements and interpret the illocutionary act portrayed in the Thor: Love and Thunder film based on the data. This research approach uses a macro-linguistic approach or more precisely a descriptive linguistic approach (pragmatics). The data source used by the researcher entitled Thor: Love and Thunder movie written by Taika Waititi. The data source can be taken from the Disney+ movie platform and a movie script for analysis. The movie is about 1 hour 59 minutes. Thor: Love and Thunder is an American superhero film that is an adaptation of Marvel Comics and focuses on the character Thor. An instrument of research is a device or tool utilized for the purpose of measuring, observing, or recording data (Cresswell: 2013). In this research, the researcher, movie, and laptop become the instruments for data collection. In this instance, the researcher watched the movie and observed the utterances made by each character in the movie Thor: Love and Thunder. The researcher collects the data with 3 steps. First, the researcher watched the movie on the Disney+ movie platform. Second, the researcher identified the utterances made by the characters in Thor: Love and Thunder movie. Third, the researcher collects utterances that contain the illocutionary act and categorizes utterances according to Searle's speech act theory in Yule's books. After categorizes the data, the researchers

explain the utterance based on Searle's theory and found the most dominant types of illocutionary acts that applied in Thor: Love and Thunder movie and describe.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION (HASIL DAN PEMBAHASAN)

1.1. Illocutionary Acts in Thor: Love and Thunder Movie

The result of this study will answer the statement of the problem. The first question is "What types of illocutionary acts are applied in the *Thor: Love and Thunder* movie?". The second question is "What types of illocutionary acts are most dominant used in the Thor: Love and Thunder movie?". In the findings of this study, the researcher found 89 utterances of illocutionary acts based on Searle's theory in Yule's books (1996) such as representative, directive, declarative, expressive, and commissive.

Table 1. Research Finding of the Illocutionary Acts Types

No	Findings		
	<i>Illocutionary Acts Types</i>	<i>Types of Data</i>	<i>Data</i>
1.	Representative	Stating Telling Informing	21 data
2.	Directive	Commanding Requesting Asking Begging Warning Suggesting	35 data
3.	Declarative	Declaring Cursing	5 data
4.	Expressive	Apologizing Thanking Praising	15 data
5.	Commissive	Promising	13 data
		Total	89 data

1.1. Types of Illocutionary Acts in Thor: Love and Thunder Movie

1.1.1. Representative

1. Data-Rep-U1 // (03:51-03:52)

Gorr: "Rapu. Bringer of Light."

Rapu: "Oh, it's one of mine."

Gorr: "I am Gorr, the last of your disciples." (Stating)

Explanation: In this utterance, Gorr is making a statement about his identity and status. By saying "I am Gorr, the last of your disciples," he is asserting a fact about himself—that he is Gorr and that he considers himself the last remaining follower of the entity of Rapu, Bringer of Light. This is a representative illocutionary act because Gorr is committing to the truth of the proposition, describing his identity and his status as the last disciple.

2. **Data-Rep-U8 // (30:40-30:42)**

Thor: "Who's the new guy?"

Valkyrie: "**That guy? You're gonna love that guy**" (Telling)

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor and Valkyrie are in Asgard, a planet ruled by Thor's father Odin. Asgard is being attacked by the Butcher God and during the battle there is one person that Thor doesn't recognize and Thor asks Valkyrie about it. By saying "That guy? You're gonna love that guy," Valkyrie asserts her confidence in the likability of the individual she is referring to. This utterance is a representative illocutionary act because Valkyrie is conveying her personal assessment and belief that Thor will 'in love' person Thor is asking about because the person is actually Thor ex-girlfriend.

3. **Data-Rep-U9 // (31:52-31:57)**

Thor: "Mjolnir"

Thor: "You're back. Mjolnir"

Thor: "**Excuse me. Hello. That's my hammer you've got there. And that's my look.**" (Informing)

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is reunited with Mjolnir, the weapon that used to be his before it became unusable. Now he sees Mjolnir in use again but with someone else who looks exactly like him. By saying "Excuse me. Hello," he gets the person's attention. He then asserts, "That's my hammer you've got there," identifying the hammer as his possession. Lastly, by saying "And that's my look," he comments on the person's appearance, noting the similarity to his own. This utterance is a representative illocutionary act because Thor is stating facts about the situation and describing his observations. He commits to the truth of his claims about the hammer being his and the person's appearance mimicking his own. This statement reflects Thor's recognition and assertion of ownership and identity, providing a clear description of the scenario.

1.1.2. Directive

1. **Data-Dir-U9 // (30:05-30:06)**

Thor: "**Take Sif to the infirmary.**" (Commanding)

Valkyrie: "Hey. Who'd you piss me off now?"

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is giving a clear and direct command to Valkyrie to take Sif to the infirmary. By saying "Take Sif to the infirmary," he is instructing Sif to perform a specific action. This is a directive illocutionary act because Thor is attempting to get the addressee to do something specific – to transport Sif to the infirmary for medical care. The statement reflects Thor's authority and urgency in ensuring that Sif receives the necessary medical attention promptly.

2. **Data-Dir-U10 // (32:09-32:13)**

Thor: "Enough tomfoolery. **Why don't you take off that mask and reveal yourself? Come on**" (Requesting)

Jane: “Hey”

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is making a suggestion or request. By saying "Why don't you take off that mask and reveal yourself?", he is urging the 'people' to removing the mask and showing their true identity. This is a directive illocutionary act because Thor is attempting to the addressee by suggesting that they follow his command course of action. Thor is adding an additional prompt to encourage the addressee to comply with his request. By saying "Come on," he is emphasizing his request and trying to persuade the addressee to act. This reinforces the directive nature of his previous statement, further attempting to influence the addressee's behavior.

3. **Data-Dir-U11 // (36:23-36:24)**

Gorr: “Ready?”

Thor: “**Don't touch my things.**” (Warning)

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is issuing a command to the Gorr because Gorr wants to take his Stormbreaker. By saying "Don't touch my things," he is instructing the person to refrain from handling or interfering with his belongings. This is a directive illocutionary act because Thor is direct the behavior of Gorr by giving them a clear instruction or prohibition.

4. **Data-Dir-U17 // (44:32-44-34)**

Thor: “**We need reinforcements.**” (Begging)

Thor: “We must raise an army.”

Valkyrie: “Are you thinking what I think you're thinking?”

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is not just stating a fact but implicitly urging action to address the situation. By saying "We need reinforcements," he is communicating the necessity for additional forces or support. This utterance is a directive illocutionary act he is directing the team to take action to bring more forces or assistance to their current situation. This is a directive illocutionary act because Thor is attempting to influence listener, prompting them to secure additional help.

5. **Data-Dir-U17 // (45:30-45:32)**

Jane Foster: “**You know, if we had a ship we could harness it and use Stormbreaker as a power source.**” (Suggesting)

Korg: “Oh, like an engine.”

Explanation: While Jane is not directly commanding or requesting action, her statement implies a suggestion for obtaining a ship to harness and use Stormbreaker as a power source. This implication serves as a directive illocutionary act because Jane is indirectly prompting her team to consider this course of action. The suggestion is meant to influence her team to think about the feasibility and benefits of obtaining a ship and using Stormbreaker in this manner.

1.1.3. Declarative

1. **Data-Dec-U1 // (05:13-05:22)**

Rapu: "There's nothing for you after death. Except death."

Gorr: "You are no God. **I renounce you.**" (**Declaring**)

Explanation: In this utterance, Gorr is not merely expressing his feelings or stating a fact; he is performing an act that changes his relationship with Rapu. By saying, "I renounce you," Gorr formally and publicly rejects his allegiance and devotion to Rapu. This utterance is a declarative illocutionary act because it effectively ends Gorr's worship and servitude to Rapu, altering their relationship and Gorr's status as a follower. The renouncement is made real because Rapu disappointed him. Rapu has no sympathy for the death of his daughter, Rapu is arbitrary towards Gorr, who is actually his follower. Rapu humiliated and even cursed at Gorr when Gorr came with his suffering.

2. **Data-Dec-U2 // (06:09-06-19)**

Gorr: (stabbing Rapu's with Necrosword)

Rapu: "**The sword chose you. You are now cursed.**" (**Cursing**)

Explanation: In this utterance, Rapu is not just describing a state of affairs but actually bringing about a change through his words. By declaring, "The sword chose you," Rapu states that the Necrosword has selected Gorr as its wielder. Following this, by saying, "You are now cursed," Rapu states that the Necrosword has chosen Gorr as its wielder. After that, by saying, "You are now cursed," it clearly shows that when he chose the Necrosword sword it was a curse that had to be fulfilled, namely going to Eternity with the Bifrost by the holder of the Necrosword. This speech is a declarative illocutionary act because Rapu, who is thought to have authority and power in this context, curses Gorr through his speech. The curse became effective due to Rapu's statement, thereby changing Gorr's status and condition directly with the act of saying those words.

1.1.4. Expressives

1. **Data-Exp-U2 // (06:20-06:23)**

Rapu: "The sword chose you. You are now cursed!"

Gorr: "**Funny. It doesn't feel like a curse.**" (**Mocking**)

Explanation: In this utterance, Gorr is sharing his personal perception and emotional reaction to what is supposed to be a curse. By saying "Funny. It doesn't feel like a curse," Gorr is expressing his surprise or irony that the experience or state he is in does not match the negative expectations associated with a curse. This utterance is an expressive illocutionary act because Gorr is conveying his subjective feelings and internal state. He is articulating his emotional response to his condition, highlighting the unexpected nature of his experience. This statement reflects Gorr's personal interpretation and emotional reaction, which might be different from what others might expect or what the label "curse" traditionally implies.

2. **Data-Exp-U3 // (17:30-17:31)**

Selvig: "Results are still coming back the same."

Selvig: "I'm afraid the chemo has very little effect. **I'm so sorry, Jane.**"
(Apologizing)

Explanation: In this utterance, Selvig expresses his sympathy and regret to Jane because the lab results of Jane's cancer condition did not improve. By saying "I'm sorry, Jane," he conveys his emotional response to the bad news he has just heard. This is an expressive illocutionary act as Selvig expresses his feelings of sorrow and empathy for Jane, reflecting his compassion and emotional support.

3. **Data-Exp-U5 // (22:19-22:20)**

Thor: "**King Yakan, thank you so much.**" (Thanking)

Thor: "Listen, um, about the temple.."

King Yakan: "I don't wanna talk about the temple."

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor is expressing his appreciation and gratitude towards King Yakan. By saying "thank you so much," he conveys his positive emotional response and acknowledgment of King Yakan's actions or kindness. This utterance is an expressive illocutionary act because Thor is sharing his internal state of gratitude. He is acknowledging the benefit or favor received and communicating his sincere thanks. This statement reflects Thor's respect and appreciation for King Yakan's contributions or support, aiming to make King Yakan aware of his heartfelt gratitude.

4. **Data-Exp-U6 // (22:36-22:38)**

Thor: "**Aw. They are beautiful.**" (Praising)

Korg: "**Yes, They are beautiful.**" (Praising)

Explanation: In this utterance, Thor and Korg were impressed by the giant goat given by King Yakan. They praised the giant goat to each other. By saying "Aw. They are beautiful," he is conveying his appreciation and admiration. Korg is echoing Thor's positive emotional reaction and expressing his agreement. By saying "Yes, they are beautiful," Korg is affirming Thor's statement and also conveying his own admiration. This utterance is an expressive illocutionary act because Thor is sharing his feelings about the objects or scenes he finds beautiful. He is communicating his spontaneous reaction of delight and admiration and Korg is sharing his appreciation and delight, reinforcing the shared emotional response to the beauty they are observing.

1.1.5. Commissive

1. **Data-Com-U9 // (39:59:40:00)**

Valkyrie: "Everyone, please go home. **I promise you we'll have news soon.**"
(Promising)

Asgardians: "Someone needs to tell us what happened."

Explanation: In this part of the utterance, In this utterance, Valkyrie is making a promise to take action to find the missing children to the angry parents of Asgardians. By saying "I promise you, we'll have news soon," she is committing herself or her team to the task of locating the person. This is a commissive illocutionary act because Valkyrie is to ensure that the missing children will be found. She is pledging to undertake the responsibility of finding missing children and providing reassurance.

1.2. Most Dominant Illocutionary Acts Types Applied in the Movie

Based on the data above, researchers get a total of 97 data of illocutionary acts in the movie Thor: Love and Thunder with the type of Directive utterance (33 data) that appears most in the movie.

This type of Directive illocutionary acts is often used by the main characters in the movie Thor: Love and Thunder, namely Thor and his enemy Gorr. Thor is the main character and also the leader in the movie, giving orders, suggesting things, and also asking for help is the role of a leader.

Thor became a great leader in directing the team because his experience including the loss of his family and home (Asgard), have taught him humility and the importance of protecting those he cares about. These losses have made him more empathetic and driven to protect others from experiencing similar pain. As the son of Odin, Thor was born into leadership. His royal upbringing instilled in him a sense of duty and responsibility towards his people and allies, making him a natural leader. Thor leads by example, often being the first to charge into battle and the last to retreat and Thor's immense power and combat prowess naturally position him as a leader among his peers. His ability to wield Mjolnir and Stormbreaker, his control over thunder and lightning, and his near-immortality make him a figure of authority.

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the researcher writes a conclusion from the analysis of the illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder movie. The researcher has explained in the theoretical framework that there are five categories of illocutionary acts according to John Searle. In this analysis, the writer concludes that there are 89 data on illocutionary acts in Thor: Love and Thunder movie including 21 representative acts, 35 directive acts, 5 declarative acts, 15 expressive acts, and 13 commissive acts.

The researcher also found strategies that are mostly used in Thor: Love and Thunder movies. The most dominant type is directive speech acts used by Thor and Gorr because Thor is the main character in the movie and Gorr is Thor's rival in the movie. Directive speech act commonly used to commands, requests, ask, warn, and suggest in Thor: Love and Thunder movie.

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