



Analysis of directive speech acts on Megan Bernadette's characters in the movie of *The Slumber Party*

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Abstracs: The research entitled Analysis of directive speech acts on Megan Barnadette's character in the movie "The Slumber Party" aims to describe the type of speech acts and the meaning of those speech acts in the movie "The Slumber Party". The main character's speech, Megan Bernadette, was utilized as the research data. The study first watched the movie thoroughly to understand the main character in "The Slumber Party." The second step was for the researcher to read the downloaded movie script, adapt it to the main character's speech, and note the potential data to be collected. The data were then selected, and the relevant data were analyzed. The data was analyzed based on Yule's directive speech acts classification theory. According to Yule, the classification of directive speech acts consists of : commands, orders, requests, and giving advice. This research uses a descriptive qualitative research method. The results of this study are data in the form of directive speech acts in the type of "ordering" eleven times, directive speech functions "requesting" five times, and speech acts "giving advice" thirteen times. Directive speech acts on the main character of the movie The Slumber is more dominant in using the directive speech act function of "giving advice".

Keywords: Directive, Speech acts, Film

INTRODUCTION

Directive speech acts are uttered by the speaker, which makes the interlocutor act according to the speaker's desire. Indirectly, the speech act asks others to do something for the speaker. For example, in the following utterance:

(1) "Don't touch that",

The utterance (1) shows the action to express the speaker's desire. The speaker indirectly gives an order to the interlocutor to ask the interlocutor to do the action desired by the speaker, that is, the action of not touching something around the interlocutor.

Based on the utterance (1), this research focuses on the utterance that aims to make the interlocutor perform the action desired by the speaker. This research uses Megan Bernadette's utterance in the movie The Slumber Party.

Pragmatics is a study that examines the meaning of utterances by connecting non-lingual factors such as context, knowledge, and situations of language use to speakers' use of utterances. Rochmadi (Rahmadhani & Utomo, 2020:89) explains that pragmatics is a

linguistic study that plays a role in determining the speaker's intention to interact with the interlocutor. Therefore, Pragmatics is a science that examines how a person communicates and the meaning of an utterance.

According to Searle (1969), speech acts consist of three types: locution, illocution and perlocution. Directive speech is one of the five types of illocutionary speech acts. It can be understood as a speech act used to make the interlocutor act, such as speech act (1), where the speaker orders the interlocutor not to touch the nearby object.

Directive speech acts are commonly used daily and even in various media such as novels, short stories, and movies. Directive speech acts are often found in the movie characters' speech. One of the films is "The Slumber Party" by Walt Disney. This film is about the four friendships of young teenage girls exploring their identities. Research on directive speech acts in movies has been conducted, but research utilizing The Slumber Party movie is uncommon.

The previous research is "Analysis of Speech Acts Components and Types of Illocutionary Acts found in the Mata Najwa Talk Show." (Amanda, 2024) This research discusses the components of speech acts and types of illocutionary acts in the talk show program Mata Najwa. It focuses on the speech of Najwa Sihab and three speakers, namely Indonesian presidential candidates in 2024. This research uses Austin's and Searle's theories to determine the type of illocutionary acts.

The second research is An Analysis of Directive Speech Acts Found in the "M3gan" movie (2023) (Ayu & Ayu, 2023). This research discusses the directive expressions in the 2023 movie Horror Megan. It uses Yule's theory and employs a qualitative analysis method. The most directive speech act category found is asking, which has 17 speech data.

The other research is "Speech Acts on Women's Double Standards Women's Double Standards in Barbie Monologue (2023) (Putri & Prihandini, 2023)." This research discusses the speech acts in Gloria Vaughn's monologue from the movie Barbie 2023, which focuses on Expressive, Assertive, Directive, and Commissive speech. The results of this study provide an understanding of the intricacies of femininity and the meaning of resonance conveyed in Gloria's monologue.

Based on the previous statement, this research focuses on four directive speech acts based on Yule's theory: commands, orders, requests, and giving advice. The source of this research is the speech of Megan Bernadette, one of the main characters in Walt Disney's movie The Slumber Party. The title of this research is "Analysis of the Directive Speech Acts of Megan Bernadette's Character in the Movie of The Slumber Party."

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to Leech (2011), pragmatics is the study of the relationship with speech situations. A speech situation is needed to analyze meaning through a pragmatic approach, which becomes the context of speech. Agreeing with Leech, Yule states that pragmatics is the study of the intent of speakers' speech (Yule, 2006). In addition, Yule (2006:3) says the definition of pragmatics as contextual in which what is meant in a particular context

affects what is said such as the conditions and situations when speaking. Pragmatics is a science that examines how language is conveyed for specific purposes that have consequences for the interlocutor, and pragmatics contains several studies, one of which is speech acts.

A speech act contains the speaker's intention and action to the interlocutor. According to Yule (2006: 82), a speech act is an action taken when doing a speech. According to Chaer and Agustin (Alkitri et al., 2021: 2) reveals that speech acts are individual symptoms, psychological in nature, and their continuity is determined by the speaker's language skills in dealing with specific situations. In a speech act, it is more seen in the meaning or meaning of the action in the speech. Through speech, the speaker has a goal to be achieved by the interlocutor. According to Yule (2006:83), an action that produces speech contains three interconnected actions: The locution speech act, the Illocution speech act, and the Perlocution speech act. (1) Locutionary speech acts are essential acts of speech or produce a meaningful linguistic expression; (2) Illocutionary speech acts are forms of speech that have a function to express and provide information on an action; (3) perlocutionary speech acts are speech acts that foster the influence of the impact on the interlocutor.

Searle categorizes illocutionary speech acts into five types: assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Directive speech acts are one of the illocutionary acts examined in this study. Directive speech acts, according to (Searle, 1969) reveal that directive speech acts can be believed to be illocutionary acts with a specified intention so that the interlocutor takes action. In line with Searle, Yule (2006: 93) states that directive speech acts are speech acts used by speakers to order or tell others to do something. Directive speech acts play a role in knowing the purpose or meaning of the speaker's message (Khofiyaa and Silalahi, 2022). Also, directive speech acts play a role in learning how to convey wishes to the interlocutor. Directive speech acts have many variations of the speech delivered. Yule (2006:93) states that directive speech acts include commands, orders, requests, and giving advice.

METHOD

This research uses a descriptive type of qualitative research. According to Moelong (2016: 6), research with qualitative methods aims to understand the phenomenon experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, perception, and motivation, which is done holistically and descriptively. Wray and Bloomer (2006 :97) state that qualitative research involves description and analysis. Meanwhile, this research uses a descriptive approach because it reveals the reality of language as it is based on the facts depicted in the movie *The Slumber Party*.

The data used in this study are dialogues in which utterances contain directive speech acts in the speech of the main character, Megan Bernadette, in the film *The Slumber Party*. Then the data source for this research is Disney's *The Slumber Party* movie in 2023. The data source is the origin of the research data obtained. From this source, the researcher obtains the intended and required data.

The data collection in this research uses the watching technique, in which the researcher watches the movie several times to understand the content of the movie, to focus on the interaction of the main character, and to be able to distinguish the speech delivered by the main character. Then, the researcher will read the script of *The Slumber Party* to ensure that the main character's speech in the movie follows the writing in the script. The last technique is identifying the main character's utterances containing directive speech acts.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research findings, this study identified twenty-nine data containing directive speech acts in Megan Bernadette's speech in the *Slumber Party* movie. Yule's theories (2006) have adjusted the data classification in this research. Yule states that directive speech acts are classified into four types: commands, orders, requests, and giving advice. The following are the findings of directive speech acts on the character of Megan Bernadette.

Table 1. Data of Directive speech acts

Type of Directive	Total
Command	11
Request	5
Giving advice	13
Total	29

A. COMMAND

The commanding speech act is the speaker's action to command the interlocutor to act on the speaker's desire. In this research, the function of commanding directive speech acts has eleven data; from these data, the author will exemplify two data. These examples are the functions of commanding directive speech acts.

1) Data 1

Master: "I am the magnificent Mesmer. Master of hypnosis."

Anna: Shut up

Peggie: Okay. I am actually down with hypnotism.

Megan: "I don't know guys. I saw this documentaru on netflix about a woman who was hypnotized, and she never went back to normal." "You guys go ahead".

Peggie: "Come on."

The context of the speech can be explained as follows. The first data utterance was spoken when Megan was at Anna's birthday party. Anna and Anna's friends are gathering at Anna's house to celebrate the birthday party. The speech occurs when Veronica, Anna's half-sister, invites a hypnotist master to Anna's birthday party as a birthday present for Anna. The hypnotist master made everyone happy except Megan.

Megan is too worried and afraid to do hypnosis because, to her knowledge, someone who does hypnosis will not return to normal.

This concern makes Megan give a commanding speech. Megan intended to tell her friends to do hypnosis without her. Based on the context of the speech described above, "**You guys go ahead**" is included in the form of commanding directive speech acts.

2) Data 2

Peggie: "Do ya, Veronica? Did you do a report on it?"

*Megan: "**Will you two stop fighting?**" "I can't take it anymore."*

Peggie: "Did you just yell all at me?"

Veronica: "She totally just yelled at you."

The context can be explained as follows. The second utterance occurred when Megan was frustrated because she could not find Anna Maria at Hillside School. Megan and her friends were upset and worried. They feel upset because they must return the hillside school mascot they stole, but no one among Megan and her friends remembers the incident due to hypnosis. She was worried because Anna Maria had not been found at the school.

The incident frustrated Megan and made her feel sensitive when she heard Peggie's high-intensity speech towards Veronica. Megan's frustration made her utter a commanding speech to her friends. Megan intended to tell her friends not to fight each other. Based on the context above, it can be said that the utterance "**Will you two stop fighting?**" is included in the form of commanding directive speech acts.

B. REQUEST

The speech act of requesting is a speech act that expresses a request to the interlocutor more politely and is usually characterized by the expression "please." The following is an example of the directive speech act of requesting.

1.) Data 3:

Megan: "Let's see. We could do..." 'Learn hip-hop with Brian Austin Green or watch a movie called Tommy Boy."

Anna : "No. more TV. I say we TP Jake Ramirez's house."

Paige: "Yeah"

Megan: "Jake, Jake who?" "I've never heard of him."

Paige: "Let's go"

*Megan: "What. No. No. No." "**Please. No, No, No. We're not doing this.**"*

The context of data (3) can be explained as follows. The third data utterance occurs when Megan and her friends want to do a new activity on Anna's birthday. Anna felt bored watching TV, so she suggested that her friends experiment by throwing tissues at Jake

Ramirez's house. Megan feels shy and awkward when she hears Anna mention the name of the man she likes. Anna and Paige agreed with Anna's suggestion, but not Megan. Then, the main character expresses a requesting utterance, namely, "**Please. No, No, No. We are not doing this.**" Megan's speech contains a requesting speech act. The speech aims to make Megan's friends, Paige and Anna, not do the action proposed by Anna; therefore, Megan expressed her wish with a low and requested voice intonation.

2) Data 4

Peggie : "Veronica! You gotta get to Mesmer."

Megan : "**You're only hope.**"

Veronica : "But How?"

Peggie & Megan : "Parkour!"

The speech context of data (4) can be explained as follows. The speech occurred when Megan and Peggie had failed the onion-eating competitions. They receive punishment by being placed in a separate room. When they were in the place of punishment, they saw the hypnotist Mesmer. They cannot approach Mesmer because they are in a complex condition to escape the punishment room. In this case, Veronica is their only hope, and thus they request Veronica.

Megan's utterance, "**You are the only hope,**" has a concealed purpose. It is implied that Megan's speech contains a requesting speech that is expressed to Veronica. The meaning is Megan asking Veronica to meet Mesmer because Veronica is Megan's friend who does not receive a punishment. Therefore, the utterance "You are only hope" can be interpreted as a directive speech act with the function of requesting.

D. GIVING ADVICE

The speech act of giving advice is an utterance in the form of a suggestion or opinion uttered by the speaker with the aim that the speech partner considers something (Searle, 1969). The following is an example of the directive speech act of giving advice:

1) Data 5

Anna: "Tonight was supposed to just be us." "It's my birthday."

Megan: "Okay. We hear you, and your feelings are valid. "

Anna : "Thank you."

Megan: "But it is, what the rest of the night's gonna be like? Because I haven't felt this awkward since that substitute forced me to write a mother's day card."

Page: "Oh, man. I remember that" "I am sure Mr. Quan is enjoying his early retirement."

Megan: "**Let's feel all of these feelings in here. But out there, let's have some fun.**"

Anna : "I know. You guys are right."

The context of this data can be explained as follows. The utterance occurs when Anna feels embarrassed and uncomfortable with Veronica's presence on her birthday. Veronica

is her future half-sister. Anna shows an unhappy attitude, making the party situation awkward. Megan and Paige took Anna to another room for a private conversation. In the room, they both gave Anna advice and counseled her.

On this occasion, Megan gave a speech of giving advice. Megan's utterance aims to advise Anna so that the party runs appropriately without awkwardness between Anna and Veronica. So, the utterance "*Let's feel all of these feelings here. But out there, let's have some fun*" can be interpreted as a directive speech act with the function of giving advice.

2.) Data 6

Veronica : "She's right." "What is Anna Maria's really in trouble?"

Megan : "This is bad, Paige." "We tried it your way." "**But now i think it's time to tell anna maria's mom she's missing.**"

Paige : "Okay. Okay" "Fine." "You're right" "It is time" "All i want is Anna Maria Back."

The context of data (6) can be explained as follows. The sixth data utterance occurs when Megan and her friends have exhausted the directions to find Anna Maria. Previously, they had followed Paige's advice not to inform the missing Anna Maria to other people because they believed that Anna Maria only went around her house. Apparently, after following the directions and advice from Paige, Anna Maria was still missing. As the situation worsened, Megan firmly suggested telling Anna's mother about her daughter's disappearance, and Anna Maria would be found quickly.

Megan's utterance, "*But now I think it's time to tell anna maria's mom she's missing,*" Has a Good purpose. Megan's utterance contains a suggestion that she gives to Paige; she asks her to tell Anna's mom about this incident immediately. Megan's utterance aims to help them find Anna Maria immediately. As a result, the utterance "*But now I think it's time to tell anna maria's mom she's missing*" is interpreted as a directive speech act function of giving advice.

CONCLUSION

The results of the research on directive speech acts on Megan Bernadette's character in The Slumber Party Movie indicated three functions of speech acts, they are the function of commanding speech acts with eleven data, the function of requesting speech acts with three data, and the directive function of giving advice with thirteen data. The data shows that Megan Bernadette's directive speech acts are dominated by giving advice. Megan Bernadette's character was identified as a person who has mature actions and opinions. Therefore, Megan constantly intercedes all the problems that occur in her friendship.

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