LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *SHERLOCK HOLMES II: A GAME OF SHADOWS* MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This research focused on language functions used by the main character in "Sherlock Holmes" movie. The aims were to find the use of language functions and describe the dominant types of language functions used in "Sherlock Holmes" movie. The data were the dialogue of the main character in "Sherlock Holmes" movie in the first forty minutes of the movie. The research was conducted by using descriptive qualitative research. The findings show that there are six types of language functions used by the main character in "Sherlock Holmes" movie. They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, phatic, and poetic. The most dominant type of language function is metalinguistic. It means that the main character conveys code analysis by asking questions to the people so that he might invent clue for the sake of his investigation.

Keyword   : *Language Functions, Sherlock Holmes, Movie.*

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INTRODUCTION

Human beings are constantly involved in communication processes with others. In every interaction that happens in society, communication is the basis of formation of successful human societies; it is through communication that collaboration and cooperation occur. In doing communication, people may not realize that spoken or written sentences also carry a function. However, the hearer may get confused if people speak without a purpose. It means that the language function leads the hearers to achieve the purpose of someone's speech. Language itself consists of some functions which are to give information, deliver message, express feelings, persuade people, entertain people, and share opinion (Trudgill, 1974:99). The functions of language have also received scholarly attention in functional diachronic.According to Roman Jakobson in Holmes (2001), language functions include expressive, directive, phatic, poetic, referential, and metalingustic function.

This study, the researcher investigates language functions used in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie. The writer chooses the film to be observed because it deals with a detective's way and choice to use language as a function to investigate someone, find out the clues along his investigation, and also solve the crimes.

The research questions of the present study are what are types of language functions used by the main character in"Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie?, what is dominant kind of language function used by the main characterin "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie?, and what is the implication of the

dominant type of language functions used by the main character in"Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie?

Language Function

Language must be investigated in all the variety of its functions. At the time people talk about language functions, they are talking about the reason for using language. At its most basic, the function of language is communication or usually called by speech function; people use language to give and receive messages between themselves. It is difficult to see adequately the functions of language, because it is so deeply rooted in the whole of human behavior that it may be suspected that there is little in the functional side of our conscious behavior in which language does not play its part (Sapir in Downes : 1998).

According to Halliday (1973), a functional approach to language means, first of all, investigating how language is used; try to find out what the purpose that language serves for us, and how people are able to achieve these purpose through speaking and listening, reading and writing. It means that the language function refers to the purpose itself. So the language functions lead the hearers to achieve the purpose of someone's speech.

Traditionally, three supposedly separate but actually rather overlapping functions have been suggested for language, the distinction resting on the kinds of information being conveyed by each (Bell 1976:83). The prime function of language has been assumed to be *cognitive*: the expression of ideas, concepts, and thoughts. This corresponds well with the 'commonsense' view of the purpose of language as vehicle for the expression of thought.

Types Of Language Function

Jakobson in Holmes (2001), classifies language functions into six types. They are expressive, directive, poetic, phatic, referential, and metalingustic function. Those six types of language will be explained as follows:

1. Expressive Function

Expressive function means express the speaker's feelings. This focuses on addresser; it means that a speaker addresses a message. The aim of expressive function is to convey the speaker's emotion or expression. The aim of a direct expression of the speaker's attitude toward what he is speaking about. It tends to produce an impression of a certain emotion whether true of feigned. It means that the addresser's own towards the content of the message is emphasized.

2. Directive Function

Directive function means attempt to get someone to do something. It means that language used for the purpose of causing (or preventing) overt action. This function is most commonly found in commands and requests. Directive function focuses on the addressee; it means that the speaker needs the reaction from the hearer or to make someone perform a particular action. The aim of directive function is to convey the speaker's commands.

3. Referential Function

Referential function means provide information. Essentially, referential function is the communication of information. This function affirms or denies propositions, as in science or the statement of fact. These sentences have a truth value; that is, the sentences are either true or false (recognizing, of course, that we might not know what

that truth value is). Hence, they are important for logic. Referential function focuses on the context; it means that referent or subject matter of discourse, and what it refers to. The aim referential function is to convey the information.

4. Metalinguistic Function

Metalinguistic function means comment on the language itself. This function is the use of language to discuss or describe itself. It focuses attention upon the code itself, to clarify it or negotiate it. This is the function of language about language. Metalinguistic function is also predominant in question like "Sorry, what did you say?", where the code is misunderstood and needs correction or clarification. The aim of metalinguistic function is to convey the code analysis.

5. Poetic Function

Poetic function means focus on aesthetic feature of language. It is in which the particular form chosen is the essence of the message. Messages convey more than just the content. They always contain a creative 'touch' of our own. These additions have no purpose other than to make the messages 'nicer'. The word poetic does not refer to the ability to write poetry, but the ability to manipulate language in a creative way. The aim of poetic function is to convey the pleasure.

6. Phatic Function

Phatic function means express solidarity and empathy with others. The phatic function helps to establish contact and refers to the channel of communication. It opens the channel or checking that it is working, either for social reason. This function is used for sociability. Therefore sometimes vernacular words used in this function. The phatic use of language is characteristic mainlynn of speech, however, in a certain types of

writing it can be also notices as in letters for example, where the beginning Dear Sir/Madam and ending Yours Faithfully also serve that purpose.

Methodology

This research is included in form of qualitative and descriptive in which the data were taken from the dialogue transcription conducted by the main character in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie and several websites related to the object of the study. This research utilizes a qualitative method to analyze the data because the data analysis does not use statistical procedure (Moleong, 2000).The descriptive approach is implemented because the data analysis is presented descriptively.

The data were collected by identifying the utterances that contained the types of language function as mentioned by Jakobson, categorizing the language function types, counting the dominant types, after that explaining the dominant language function used to represent the purpose of investigation nature of detective movie.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The analysis shows the language functions used by the main character in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie. It can be seen that all types of language function was used by the main character in the movie.

Table A. The distribution of each type of language functions.

No.	Classification of Language Function	Number of Language Function	Percentages
1	Expressive	18	11 %
2	Directive	22	12 %
3	Referential	57	33 %
4	Metalinguistic	65	38%
5	Phatic	6	4 %
6	Poetic	4	2 %
TOTAL		172	100 %

It can be categorized that metalinguistic and referential function become the dominant types of language function used by the main character in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows"movie. Firstly, Sherlock Holmes as the main character used metalinguistic function in his utterances to convey the code analysis by asking questions to the people so that he might invent clue for the sake of his investigation. Simultaneously, referential function was used dominantly by Holmes as the main character, because as a detective, he tried to reveal the truth by correlating every piece of evidence and information from the scenes of crimes.

Discussion

Sherlock Holmes as the main character in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie used all types of the language function in the movie. They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, phatic, and poetic function.

ExpressiveFunction

Expressive function means express the speaker's feelings. This function is oriented toward the addresser.

For examples:

1. What an excellent opportunity! (00:17:41)

2. I am! (00:16:53)

In the first data, Sherlock Holmes as the speaker tried to convey his emotion the addressee. Holmes felt surprised with the condition about the addressee's dog, so he maximized his volume which being included in paralinguistic features in the characteristics of expressive function.

The speaker used another exclamation word "I am!" to emphasize the content of the message to addressee. It was also followed by the use of mimicry and certain intonation which belong to paralinguistic features. That is way this function being categorized into expressive.

Directive Function

Directive function means attempt to get someone to do something. It is oriented toward the addressee.

For examples:

1. Come with me. (00:28:19)

2. Give me the wedding ring. (00:23:12)

The first data shows that Sherlock Holmes as the speaker used the directive function to attempt the addressee to follow his command.

"Give me the wedding ring!" is one of the functions used by the speaker to convey his commands. He said so because he needed the particular reaction as it was oriented toward the addressee.

Referential Function

Referential function means provide or convey information. This function is oriented toward the context.

For examples:

1. Three men have been following you for the last half mile their motives highly unsavory. (00:02:27)
2. He was boxing champion at Cambridge where he made friends with our current prime minister. (00:15:54)

In the first data, Sherlock Holmes as the speaker conveyed the information to show the truth the the addressee that actually there were the men intended to do something bad following the addressee.

Another example of the use of referential function is in the second data. It is oriented toward the context that the speaker carried information about the criminal to the addressee in order to solve the crime along the investigation.

Metalinguistic Function

Metalinguistic function means comment on the language itself which is used to discuss or describe; it focuses attention upon the code itself, to clarify or negotiate it.

For examples:

1. When did you start working for the postal service? (00:02:02)

2. Who's the intended recipient? (00:02:11)

The first data shows that Sherlock Holmes focused on the code analysis by asking the question merely to dig the clue along the investigation through the addressee.

The third one is the sentence used by the speaker to check who the recipient of a suspicious gift from unknown person. The speaker thought by asking the question he might find something as a clue. From the reasons, that sentence is categorized into metalinguistic function.

Phatic Function

Phatic function serves to establish communication. It focuses on maintaining contact.

For examples:

1. **Herr Hoffmanstahl**, you should count yourself lucky. (00:07:23)
2. **Sweet thing**, I might need your help in the disposal of this parcel. (00:06:29)

From the first and second data, it can be known that phatic function is used by Sherlock Holmes as the speaker. He intended to to get contact with the addressee and open the channel of communication. Besides, for the second data, the speaker's purpose in the function firstly is to maintain the contact with the person he was talking to.

Poetic Function

The poetic function is oriented toward message and it focuses on the message for its own sake.

For example:

1. Touchy, touchy. (00:14:09)

2. It's so overt, it's covert. (00:18:32)

The data above identify that Sherlock Holmes as the speaker used poetic function in his sentence along the investigation. It can be known by the use of alliteration (repeat consonant) and assonance (repeat vowels). Holmes made the poetic function as well merely to convey the pleasure and focus on the message for its own sake.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After analyzing data, it can be concluded that; first, there are six types of language function that are used in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie with the occurrences of expressive is 18, directive is 22, referential is 57, metalinguistic is 65, phatic is 6, and poetic 4.

Second, the dominant type of language function used in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie are metalinguistic function followed by referential function. It means that Sherlock Holmes as the main character is mostly establishing agreement and conveying the codes in order to find out the clue and truth along his investigation as a detective then correlating every piece of evidence and information from the scenes of crimes.

Metalinguistic function and referential function are the dominant type of language function used in "Sherlock Holmes II: A Game of Shadows" movie. It has an implication that Sherlock Holmes as the main character used more those functions in his utterances because as a detective, he tried to dig, find out, connect every information and reveal the truth so that he might solve the crimes that are assigned to him.

Suggestion

With reference to the conclusions, there are some suggestions needed to be considered. For the readers especially students in English Department, learning language function in particular used in a movie with an action-mystery genre in this study will give some contributions to gather the information or the intended meaning of a message conveyed by a speaker. And also for next researchers, movie is a good medium of investigation because it shows the social interaction of a real life.

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Declaration

Except where appropriately acknowledged, this thesis is my own work, has been expressed in my own words and has not previously been submitted for assessment.

I understand that this thesis may be screened electronically or otherwise for plagiarism.

Author Biography

Sri Devi's research used decriptive qualitative technique. She hold a S.S from State University of Medan. This Journal is partial fulfillment of the requirement for degree of Sarjana Sastra