

**ILLOCUTIONARY ACT ON ALEX'S DIALOGUE IN MOVIE  
*MADAGASCAR 3: EUROPE'S MOST WANTED***

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**ABSTRACT**

This research deals with the analysis of illocutionary act on Alex's dialogue in movie Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted. The objectives of the study are to find types of illocutionary act, the most dominant type, and the reason why the most dominant type occurs. The research on this thesis was carried out on descriptive qualitative design. The sources of data were derived from the script of Alex's dialogue. The data were analyzed based on Yule's theory and they were classified into five types namely; representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. The most dominant type of illocutionary act used there is representative. The total percentage is: representative 42.90%, directive 38.26%, commissive 3.19%, expressive 12.75%, and declarative 2.90%. Representative becomes the most dominant type because there are many elements of representative used such as arguing, asserting, denying, informing and describing.

**Keywords:** *Pragmatics, Speech Act, Illocutionary Act, Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted.*

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# **INTRODUCTION**

## **Background of the Study**

Communication is the social media in connecting some ideas in order to convey the information and interact with others. People use many variations in communicating in order to share their feelings and ideas such as verbal and nonverbal communication. According to Buck (2002), there are two types of communication. They are: verbal communication and nonverbal communication. Verbal communication is the way of communicating messages by using words as elements. Nonverbal communication is the way of communicating messages by using gesture, body movements, eye contact, facial expression, or general appearances as the elements. These two types are the general media of people to interact each other in which the speech act occurs.

Speech act is a kind of verbal communication and it is a subdivision of pragmatics. According to Yule (1996), speech act is a study of how the speakers and hearers use language. Bach (1979) explains that an action in verbal communication has message in itself, so the communication is not only about language but also with action. Speech act is the utterance that occurs and act refers to an action. That is the reason why people have to interpret the meaning of communication or language through speech acts. We always perform speech act in our daily life. Sometimes we don't realize that the utterances we produce consist of speech act. We often use utterances with indirect meaning. Speech act occurs on the process of the meaning in how the communication occurs and how the listener perceives the aim. In many times, people not only saying but also forcing the hearer to do something. When the hearer is doing an act, it means that he or she is doing illocutionary act.

Illocutionary act is a very important part of speech act because illocutionary act itself becomes the main central to linguistics in elements of communication. According to George Yule (1996:3), pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning communicated by speaker and interpreted by listener. It has consequently, more to do with the analysis of what people mean by their utterances than what the words or phrases in those utterances might mean by themselves. Levinson (1983:1) defines that pragmatics is a study of relation between languages, grammatical and encoded in the structure of language. So, generally he says that the terms of pragmatics is said as the

branch of linguistics which concerns with the use of language in social contexts and the ways in which people produce and comprehend meanings through language. Morris (1983) also defines the definition of pragmatics. He says that pragmatics is the study of the relationships between linguistics and the users and also discusses the contextual meaning because pragmatics involve the interpretation of what people mean in particular context and how the context influence what is said.

The ability to comprehend and produce a communicative act is referred to pragmatic competence (Kasper, 1990) which often includes one's knowledge about the social status between the speaker involved, cultural knowledge and the linguistics knowledge. The concept of an illocutionary act is central to the concept of a speech act. Although there are numerous opinions regarding how to define 'illocutionary acts', there are some kinds of acts which are widely accepted as illocutionary, for example promising, ordering someone, and commanding (Peccei:1999).

Illocutionary act has some different types. Yule (1996) has set up the classification of illocutionary speech act as five subdivisions. They are: representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Each type has different context and meaning. All of these types will become the media for the writer to analyze utterances used by main character in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*.

Movie is one media that reflects the social life of human. According to Richard Barsam (2009), movie (also known as film) is a motion picture with series of images which are constructed of multiple individual shots joined to another in an extended sequence. One of the important aspect mostly occurred in movie is the dialogue (conversation) among the characters. The characters speak each other and there will be illocutionary act.

Utterances can be found on dialogue in movie. In analyzing illocutionary act, the writer chose data from the main character's utterances in that movie. The utterances produced by Alex as the main character are the appropriate sources for the writer in analyzing illocutionary act in order to look for the intended meaning of each utterance.

There are several relevant studies that are related to the analysis of speech act especially illocutionary act exactly. These relevant studies have relation to give contribution explaining about speech act.

Rahma (2008) has investigated Illocutionary Act Reflected in *Titanic* Movie. She discussed about illocutionary used by characters in the movie *titanic* by analyzing the types and the dominant type of illocutionary act. As a result, the most dominant illocutionary act found in the utterances used by the character in “titanic” movie is expressive and then followed by directive, commissive and the least form used is representative. Rezkiawaty (2009) studied illocutionary act in the movie “50 First Dates”. She analyzed and described the direct illocutionary act and indirect illocutionary act, within the character of utterances and their sentence types. She has found some types of sentence such as declarative, interrogative and imperative and also many kinds of direct and indirect illocutionary act in the movie 50 first dates such as asserting, promising, ordering, suggesting, informing, protesting, approving, etc. Faricha (2011) in her thesis entitled “Speech Acts Analysis Used by the Main Characters in movie *A Walk to Remember*. In her thesis, she described speech acts analysis used by the main characters in “A Walk to Remember” by analyzing types of illocutionary act used there movie such as commissive, declarative, directive, representative, expressive and verdictive. Based on her findings, the most illocutionary type used by the main characters in that movie is directive. The main characters use the directive when he or she asks something that needs responding or answering from the hearer. Those three studies have some relevancies on the research of illocutionary act on Alex’s dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted*. Those studies have similarities in analyzing the utterances spoken by characters in a movie based on speech act theory.

In accordance with explanation presented above, the problems of this study are formulated into three problems. They are: What are the types of illocutionary act performed by Alex in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted*, what is the dominant illocutionary act performed by Alex in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted*, and why does the dominant illocutionary act occur on Alex’s dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe’s Most Wanted*. So, the analysis of this research will be based on the problem presented above.

# METHODOLOGY

## Research Design

This study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative design. The descriptive qualitative design doesn't intend to find a new theory but to find a new evidence to prove the theory. According to Creswell (2001), qualitative research is descriptive in that the researcher is interested in process, meaning and understanding gained through words or pictures.

The writer used this method because it attempts to describe the linguistics phenomena found in the movie. It was focused on the utterances of illocutionary act spoken by Alex (Ben Stiller) which is found in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*. Furthermore, the utterances were analyzed descriptively to be described and explained in detail phenomena based on speech act theory.

## *Subject*

To get the result of the research, the data is needed and chosen deals with the problem that is related to the study. In this study, the sources of data were taken from the script of Alex's dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*. There were five types of illocutionary act and the writer analysed all of them.

## *Data Collection*

The data was taken from the script movie of *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*. The first step is watching the movie and then rewriting the movie script from subtitle and then collecting all of utterances spoken by Alex.

## *Technique for Analyzing Data*

The data was analyzed by descriptive technique. The analysis was conducted after collecting the data and then it was formulated as the following steps:

1. Identifying each type of illocutionary act spoken by Alex in the movie.
2. Classifying the Alex's utterances found in the movie based on the types of illocutionary acts such as: (1) representative, (2) directive, (3) commissive. (4) expressive, and (5) declarative

3. Calculating the percentage each type of illocutionary act
4. Finding the most dominant type of illocutionary act
5. Reasoning why the dominant illocutionary act occurs on Alex's dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Qualitative Method**

After collecting the data, the data are classified based on the types of speech acts. There are five types of speech acts, namely: Representative, Directive, Commissive, Expressive, and Declarative. It was found that there were 345 occurrences of illocutionary act. Here are the explanations and some examples of type of illocutionary act on Alex's dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*.

#### *Representative*

Representative is illocutionary act which try to represent situation or condition and also describe the states or events in the world, such as arguing, asserting, stating, claiming, complaining, describing, informing, reporting etc.

Example from the movie:

- Well, I aged well, but the rest of you looked terrible! (Asserting)
- There's Times Square, with its modern-day corporate lack of character. Nine Duane Reades on the same street! ( Informing)
- We can do anything! It's us. (Asserting)
- That's the chimps. And the chimps are like smoke. (describing)
- No, we've got to get home. (Denying)
- That's our home. That's where we live. (Informing)
- That's just paper. (Informing)
- I'm sure I can reason with him. (Asserting)
- It was always impossible, Vitaly. That's why the people love it. (Arguing)
- You know, I think I might have an idea for you. (Informing)
- When we are with the circus, we were already home. (Asserting)

#### *Directive*

Directive is illocutionary act which causes the hearer to take a particular action. The illocutionary point of this class that they are attempts by the speaker to get the hearer to do something, e.g. asking, advising, begging, forbidding, ordering, requesting, suggesting, recommending, demanding, insisting, and permitting.

Example from the movie:

- Did they just say they were never coming back? (Asking)
- Marty! We skipped Phase two! (Ordering)
- What just happened? (Asking)
- Don't look at me when we are arguing! (Commanding)
- OK, Marty, we lost her! Maybe you can slow down now. (Suggesting)
- Please, you got to hide us. Just until the heat dies down. (Begging)
- Marty, they're professionals. Come on. (Advising)
- Over there! Over there! (Ordering)
- Wipe away the tears. Calm down. (Advising)
- Are you just going to turn your back on them, and sit, and eat borscht the rest of your life? (Asking)

### *Commissive*

Commissive is illocutionary act which point is to commit the speaker to some future course of action. The point of a promise is to commit the speaker to do something such as committing, promising, refusing, wishing, predicting, threatening, vowing, volunteering etc.

Example from the movie:

- All right! We'll be waiting for you. (Committing)
- I wished we could go home. (Wishing)
- OK. In exactly two minutes and 17 seconds, the lemurs will cut the power. (Predicting)
- We can fix it! We'll fix it! (Committing)
- And we'll just attach it to this dealy-bob over here. And... (Committing)
- We'll make an all-animal circus! Because if we follow our passion, we can go anywhere. (Committing)
- I hope this is important. (Hoping)
- We're going to America! Today! (Promising)

### *Expressive*

Expressive is illocutionary act that express the speaker's attitudes and emotions towards the proposition. The illocutionary point of this class is to express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content. The paradigms of expressive verbs are apologizing, complimenting, condoling, congratulating, deploring, praising, regretting, thanking, and welcoming.

Example from the movie:

- Marty! Marty, it was horrible. (Regretting)
- Whoa.... (Praising)
- Wow! New York City. (Praising)
- Oh, no.... (Thanking)
- I Love this. But it's not the real thing. (Regretting)
- Right. Oh, man, we are so sorry. (Apologizing)
- And, yeah, perfect! (Praising)
- Yeah, thanks. Thanks. (Thanking)
- Terrific. I look forward to seeing you up there. (Praising)
- Oh, man. ( Deploring)
- I only wish we'd realized that sooner. (Regretting)
- I like it! (Praising)
- We did pretty goods. (Praising)

### *Declarative*

Declarative is illocutionary act that change the reality in accord with the proposition of the declaration, e.g. approving, betting, blessing, christening, confirming, declaring, dismissing, resigning, naming etc.

Example from the movie:

- The Colosseum, Marty! The original theater-in-the-round. (Confirming)
- OK, I get it. OK! (Approving)
- Gloria! You're the Statue of Liberty! (Naming)
- Tell you what, bet those penguins will be glad to see us. (Betting)
- No. You're Sucky-o Andretti! (Naming)
- The Colosseum, Marty! The original theater-in-the-round. (Confirming)
- OK, I get it. OK! (Approving)



- I don't think so! (Disapproving)

After analyzing the data and determining the types of speech acts in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*, the findings are presented as follows:

#### **The Percentage of Types of Illocutionary Act**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Types of Illocutionary Act</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
1.	Representative	148	42.90%
2.	Directive	132	38.26%
3.	Commissive	11	3.19%
4.	Expressive	44	12.75%
5.	Declarative	10	2.90%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4.2.4 shows that there are 345 illocutionary act spoken by Alex in movie *Madagascar 3 Europe's Most Wanted*. The table consists of 148 representatives, 132 directives, 11 commissives, 44 expressives and 10 declaratives. The following is the explanation of each type of illocutionary act found on Alex's dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*.

#### **Findings**

Based on the data analysis and discussion, it is found that there are some findings, they are: There are 5 types of illocutionary act found on Alex's dialogue in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*, namely: representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. The result of each type is explained as show below.

- a. Representative

The first type of illocutionary act is representative with the total amount are 148, at 42.90%. The elements of representative found are: Asserting, arguing, denying, describing, and informing.

b. Directive

The second type of illocutionary act is directive with the total amount are 132, at 38.26%. The elements of directive found are: asking, advising, begging, ordering, and suggesting.

c. Commissive

The third type of illocutionary act is commissive with the total amount are 11, at 3.19%. The elements of commissive found are: committing, promising, and wishing.

d. Expressive

The fourth type of illocutionary act is expressive with the total amount are 44, at 12.75%. The elements of expressive found are: Praising, regretting, thanking, deploring, and apologizing.

e. Declarative

The fifth type of illocutionary act is declarative with the total amount are 10, at 2.90%. The elements of declarative found are: approving, betting, naming, disapproving, and confirming.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### Conclusions

After data had been collected, classified and analyzed, conclusions were drawn as this following:

1. The total number of illocutionary act is 345 utterances. The total percentage of representative is 42.90% (148 items), directive 38.26% (132 items), commissive 3.19% (11 items), expressive 12.75% (44 items), and declarative 2.90% (10 items).
2. Representative is the dominant type of illocutionary act used by Alex in movie *Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted*.
3. Representative becomes the most dominant type of illocutionary act in the movie. It implies that representative has a great role in the movie. Alex mainly

uses the statement of describing, asserting, and informing about something. In all of his dialogue with other, he uses many terms of representative such as statement, explanation, and information. It means that Alex mainly used representative in communicating each other in the movie such as arguing, asserting, complaining, describing, informing, reporting etc.

### **Suggestions**

In relation to the conclusions above, suggestions are drawn as follows:

1. For the students, it is better for them to enrich their knowledge in communication by using illocutionary act and it is suggested for them to analyze the theory of illocutionary act widely in order to make a further research about illocutionary act.
2. The readers, who are interested to do the study about illocutionary act especially in movie, are suggested to analyze the problem more detail in order to develop the analysis of illocutionary act widely.
3. It is suggested for other researcher to make a detail analysis of illocutionary act in other movies or another field such as dialogue in television, radio, advertisement, and newspaper.

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