

## Directive Speech Act Analysis in *I Still Believe* Movie's Utterances

Ni Ketut Sekar Sari Anggreni Yudha  
Ganesha University of Education, Indonesia  
[sekarsarianggreniyudha@gmail.com](mailto:sekarsarianggreniyudha@gmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

In order to understand about speech act, there is a need to find a good source in finding speech act. Movie is a good source in finding speech act because movie provides many utterances produced by movie's characters that represents various speech acts. Moreover, this research intends to find out the directives speech act found in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie. Furthermore, the result of this research shows that there are 36 directives speech act found, and those utterances considered as directives speech act are in the form of invitation, order, and request. Therefore, the functions of the utterances considered as directives speech act in this research are to invite, to order, and to request. For any further research, other researchers may conduct similar research about speech act in movie but the focus can vary on other type of speech act.

**Keywords:** *Directives, Movie, Speech Act*

### INTRODUCTION

According to Yule (1996), language is a sound symbols in which the expression in the mind is turned into spoken words. In other word, language is a method used to communicate the ideas, emotions, and desires of human. Therefore, either spoken or written, language has an important role in human life because through language human can communicate and express feelings or desires. Therefore, when talking about language, we also will talk about communication because human uses language in doing communication in their social interactions. In communicating using language, there are utterances which are produced by humans called speakers and heard by humans called hearers. In addition, there are utterances which are produced followed with actions called speech act, and this kind of utterances have purpose to get an effect on the hearer (Allen & Perrault, 1980).

In doing communication, there is an aim or goal which needs to be obtained, and in doing it both speaker and hearer of a conversation must understand what they are talking about in order to avoid the existence of misunderstanding. Therefore, there is a need to observe the context of the communication. According to Seken (2015), the study which deals with language focusing on contextual meaning is called pragmatics, and this is in line with the opinion of Mey (1993) who mentions that pragmatics is the study of language dealing with the use of language meaning in human communication. In addition, Yule (1996) mentions that pragmatics is dealing with intended meaning, assumption, aims and goals, and actions following utterances when people speak. Furthermore, Leech (1983) says that in defining meaning in pragmatics it is needed to mind the intention conveyed by a speaker or a user of language. Therefore, pragmatics deals with meaning contextually which also includes speech act because speech act is considered as utterances that produces actions. Speech

act is considered as utterances in which the function of uttering them are not only to say things but also to do things (Austin, 1962). Therefore, when a speaker utters an utterance, it is not only to utter about something but also to do things. This idea is similar with the idea of Yule (1996) who defines speech act as utterances performing actions. Therefore, it can be said that speech act are utterances that involve actions.

Speech act is divided into three classifications, namely locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is considered as an act of saying something. This means that locutionary act is the literal meaning of an utterance. According to Darma (2014), locutionary act is a type of speech act which does not reflect the responsibility of the speaker to do the speech content, and locutionary act is the basic act to do the other act. Furthermore, Wijana & Rohmadi (2009) mention that locutionary act is about sentence structural proportion, and it is an easy to be identified act because we do not need to mind context in identifying locutionary act. To conclude, locutionary act is the basic art which deals with the literal meaning of an utterance. Then, the second act is illocutionary act which is considered as an act of doing something. In addition, Wijana & Rohmadi (2009) as well as Rusminto (2015) explain that illocutionary act is more difficult to be identified because we need to mind the utterance context. Thus, this means that illocutionary is an act that has hidden meaning in the form of other function from the utterance uttered by a speaker, and this is in line with the opinion from Lubis (2015) who explains that illocutionary act is the utterance's intention as a power appeared by the speaker. Meanwhile, perlocutionary act is considered as an act of affecting someone. Based on Lubis (2015), perlocutionary act is the result of an utterance toward the hearer. This means that perlocutionary act is the effect of an utterance toward the hearer of the utterance.

Furthermore, Searle (1979) divides illocutionary act into five types, that are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaration. Each type of illocutionary act has different function. First, assertives has function to show a state of situation that involving the fact of true and false. Second, directive has function to get the hearer to do something. Third, commissives has function to promise future actions from the speaker to the hearer. Next, expressives has function to state the speaker' condition or feeling to the hearer. Last, declaration has function to change the state of affair of the hearer.

In addition, to get a good understanding about speech act and the use of speech act in social life, the research must find an appropriate source to learn about speech act. Movie is considered as visual communication media that provides moving picture and sound in telling stories of life (Putri et al., 2019). In addition, Kumala (2018) states that social life of human is reflected in movie. In other word, movie is an audiovisual work that reflect the life of people in social. Movie is a good source that can be used in finding speech act. This is in line with the opinion from Putri et al. (2019) who says that movie provides many utterances which are produced by movie's characters that represent various speech acts. Besides, Isnawati et al. (2015) also states that movie provides the complex case of speech act because if we watch movie, we can know what the characters of movie do by saying something, and we also can see the effect of what the characters of movie do by saying something. Hence, movie is an appropriate source that can be used in finding speech act, and speech act in movie can be found in the conversation done by movie's characters.

There were several researches conducted previously about the use of speech act in movie. The first is a research by Praditya et al. (2014) which indicated that the direct speech acts were more found dominantly rather than the indirect speech act, and representatives was type of illocutionary act that was most dominantly found. Then, the second is a research by Tutuarima et al. (2018), which indicated that that *London Has Fallen* movie used 76 utterances of speech act which 37 of them were illocutionary act, and *London Has Fallen* movie used 99 utterances of illocutionary act classifications which 32 of them were directives, and 23 of them were expressive. Furthermore, the third research is a research by Rahayu et al. (2019) which indicated that there were 294 clauses containing the type of speech act, which were representatives, commissives, directives, and expressives. Next, the fourth research is a research by Putri et al. (2019) which indicated that the speech acts used in the movie utterances were locutionary acts, which 45% of them were in the form of declarative, 25% were interrogative and imperative, and 5% were exclamation; illocutionary acts found were 2,5% in the form of declarative, 25% were representative, 22,5% were expressive, 47,5% were directive, and 2,5% were commissive; perlocutionary act used were in the form of belief, annoyance, surprise, enlightenment, confirmation, rejection, obedience, information, happiness/satisfaction, and action; and it is concluded that around 92, 5% data were direct speech act, and 7,5% data were indirect speech act. Thus, it can be said that speech act is proven to be found in movie utterances.

In doing this research, the research design that have established in some previous researches are adopted to be used in this study. Therefore, the similarities of this research and the previous researches are equally using descriptive qualitative as the research design. Meanwhile, the differences of this research and the previous researches are located in some aspects. First is the title of the movie being analyzed. Second is the genre of the movie being analyzed. Third is the scope of the research, because this research only focuses on the directive speech act used in the main character's utterances, while the previous researches had a bigger scope which cover all of the kinds of speech act. Last is theory used as the base of the analysis because this research uses only the theory of Searle (1979) about five types of illocutionary act, and focusing on the directives speech act only, while the previous research used all the theory of Austin (1962) about the three classifications of speech act, the theory of Searle (1979) about five types of illocutionary act, and the theory of Parker (1986) about direct and indirect speech act.

In accordance with the background theories, theory about speech act is necessary to be learnt because speech act is often used by people in their daily communication. Then, in order to obtain a good understanding about speech act, there is a need to conduct a study concerning about speech act in movie since it is seen that there are speech acts found in the utterances spoken by the characters of the movie. The movie chosen to be the object of this research is *I Still Believe* movie because there is no research discussing speech act in this movie for it is a new movie released in March 2020, the main language of this movie is English, this movie has good moral value, this movie won an award as the Inspirational Film of the Year in 2020 *Dove Award*, and the conflicts provided in this movie are various that result us learn the moral value well.

Moreover, many viewers of movie, especially *I Still Believe* movie, often do not understand the utterances spoken by the characters of the movie. This situation can make them unable to interpret the meaning of the utterances existing in the

movie which can make them misunderstand the moral value of the story. Because of the existence of this problem, there is a desire to analyze speech act used in *I Still Believe* movie in order to give an overview for other people about the utterances produced by the characters of *I Still Believe* movie, as well as their hidden intentions, because the characters of movie often express utterances with hidden intentions. Therefore, the speech act appeared in the utterances of *I Still Believe* movie is interesting to be investigated. Then, in doing the research, the researcher only focuses on finding out the directive speech act in the utterances spoken by the characters of *I Still Believe* movie, because directive speech act is the most dominant type of illocutionary act found in the previous researches. Then, in doing this research, the researcher only focuses on the two main characters' utterances because the two main characters are the ones who experience most of the conflict exist in the story of the movie. Thus, the purpose of this study is to find out the directives speech acts appeared in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie.

Based on the aim of the research, namely finding out the directive speech appeared of the utterances spoken by the main characters of the movie, the scope of this research is limited to the identification of directive speech act spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie, and utterances identified are the utterances of Jeremy Camp and Melissa Henning.

## METHOD

The design of this research is descriptive qualitative research design. Based on Darlington & Scott (2002), descriptive qualitative research design is considered as a research design where the procedure of the research is analyzing data systematically and interpreting data descriptively. Hence, this design is suitable with this research since the source of data of this research are the utterances spoken by the characters of *I Still Believe* movie, and the data of this research are in the form of utterances spoken by the two main character of *I Still Believe* movie. The data collection methods used in this research are observation and documentation. Observation is a research method in which in collecting the data of the research, the researcher plays a role of being as an observer and uses technique which includes the researcher's five senses (Baker, 2006). In this case, observation method was used in observing the story told in the movie so the context of each utterance in the movie can be understood well. Based on Arikunto (2006), documentation is defined as a technique of research which looks for data about somethings or variables in the form of notes, transcription, book, newspaper, magazine, and so on. The documentation method was used in this research to get the data in the form of utterances, and to make important notes containing where and where the utterances are produced, who the hearer of the utterances, and the utterance's function, that can help in providing any necessary information when the analysis is conducted.

Furthermore, the instrument of data collection in this research is the researcher. According to Ary et al. (2010), the researcher is human as instrument who talks with people in the setting, observes activities, reads documents, and records information in field notes. Therefore, the researcher is the instrument of this research because the researcher herself is the designer, the data collector, the analyst, the data interpreter, and the finding reporter. Next is the data analysis of this research. Rijali (2018) defines data analysis as the procedure in which the data from the result of observation, interview, etc., are collected and organized

systematically to be understood and to arrive at the findings so that other people can use it. In other word data analysis is considered as the process of understanding and arranging data that will be presented to others. Furthermore, the data analysis method used is based on Miles, Huberman, & Saldana (2014) which includes data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification. Data condensation was used in selecting the data in the form utterances into forms of locutionary act found and types and functions of illocutionary act found. Then, data display was used in organizing and explaining the forms of locutionary act found and types and functions of illocutionary act found. While the conclusion drawing and verification was used in drawing conclusion about the research finding. Moreover, the procedures of the research are first, watching the movie; second, transcribing the movie conversation; third, identifying the locutionary act and illocutionary act; fourth, identifying the forms of the locutionary act found; fifth, classifying the types and functions of the illocutionary act found; next, explaining the data found; and last drawing conclusion.

## FINDINGS & DISCUSSIONS

After the research was conducted, there are 36 data found, and the data are in the form of utterances. In order to make the data become trusted, triangulation is chosen in measuring the reliability of the data found. The triangulation used is investigator triangulation which used two expert judges, namely the researcher's advisors, to check the validity of the data. Hence, the data found were proffered to the two judges and the two judges valid them.

As mentioned previously, this research attempts to only focus on directives speech act found in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie. Therefore, the findings of this research only presents the directives speech act produced by Jeremy Camp and Melissa Henning. In recognizing the data, there is a code used. The code is **ISB/Ut1/00.00.00**. **ISB** refers to the title of the movie, that is *I Still Believe*, **Ut1** refers to the sequence of the utterance, and **00.00.00** refers to the time of the utterances produced by the characters. The following table presents the directives speech act found in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie.

Table 1. Findings

No.	Code	Utterances
1.	ISB/Ut01/00:01:39	Jeremy : Hey, not my head... phones, Josh.
2.	ISB/Ut02/00:07:56	Jeremy : Hey, man. Uh, Norm sent me to help load in.
3.	ISB/Ut03/00:13:38	Melissa : You keep singing, Jeremy.
4.	ISB/Ut04/00:13:55	Melissa : Oh, okay. Well, if you find yourself free at 8:00, I'll be at the beach, Oceanside Pier. You know, stop on by.
5.	ISB/Ut05/00:14:12	Melissa : We'll see. Oh, yeah, and you should, um, bring your guitar as well.
6.	ISB/Ut06/00:15:35	Melissa : Right, right. I did. Maybe you should, um, start us off with a song. We always start off with a song, so it would be nice...
7.	ISB/Ut07/00:15:44	Melissa : Hey, you guys, this is Jeremy Camp. Right? And he's going to, uh, sing for us.

8.	ISB/Ut08/00:18:37	Melissa : Well, yeah. It is really nice. This is, like, my favorite place to run. Do you wanna join?
9.	ISB/Ut09/00:18:55	Melissa : Yeah? Better give it a try, then.
10.	ISB/Ut10/00:19:00	Melissa : Better run. Fast!
11.	ISB/Ut11/00:24:44	Melissa : That's why I should just never look at you again.
12.	ISB/Ut12/00:25:21	Jeremy : Just promise me you'll think about it.
13.	ISB/Ut13/00:30:25	Melissa : It's late! You're gonna wake people up.
14.	ISB/Ut14/00:30:35	Melissa : Yes. But, um, could we just keep it between us right now at first, you know?
15.	ISB/Ut15/00:31:39	Melissa : That is the dryer. You may wanna start with the washer.
16.	ISB/Ut16/00:34:14	Jeremy : Yeah, of course it bothers me, Melissa. You should just tell him.
17.	ISB/Ut17/00:34:33	Melissa : Wow. This is just... I, I... I really cannot look at you in the jacket.
18.	ISB/Ut18/00:35:36	Jeremy : Josh, that's enough. Come on. Eat your food!
19.	ISB/Ut19/00:37:30	Jeremy : Can you hear me? Do you wanna come in here?
20.	ISB/Ut20/00:39:50	Jeremy : This is for you. It's, uh... It's another journal. I figure, after what I've done, you could use a lot more pages.
21.	ISB/Ut21/00:40:28	Melissa : I didn't wanna hurt him, okay? So, I'm sorry, I just really don't wanna see you right now.
22.	ISB/Ut22/00:49:20	Jeremy : Still, uh... Still can't read it?
23.	ISB/Ut23/00:49:29	Melissa : Will you, um... Could you just help... Could you just help me up for a second?
24.	ISB/Ut24/00:51:25	Jeremy : Uh, um... Can you just, uh... Just wait here for one minute? Just a minute. I'll be right back. Just wait here. I'll be right back.
25.	ISB/Ut25/00:52:22	Jeremy : Keep them closed.
26.	ISB/Ut26/00:52:30	Jeremy : Open.
27.	ISB/Ut27/01:01:54	Jeremy : Can we do something special for the most special person in my life tonight? Can we pray for her?
28.	ISB/Ut28/01:02:11	Jeremy : Anyone who's sitting around her, why don't you go ahead and lay a hand on her? If not, just put your hands in the air.
29.	ISB/Ut29/01:05:41	Melissa : No, no. It's okay. I need a second.
30.	ISB/Ut30/01:07:25	Jeremy : So I just wanted to ask everyone listening, if you could just stop what you're doing and pray. I'll do the playing. You guys do the praying. Thank you.
31.	ISB/Ut31/01:23:30	Melissa : I want you to promise me something. I want you to find someone else.
32.	ISB/Ut32/01:23:56	Melissa : Jeremy. Would you just stop? Stop making promises that aren't yours to make.
33.	ISB/Ut33/01:26:40	Melissa : Will you please play it for me?
34.	ISB/Ut34/01:29:59	Jeremy : Excuse me, can I get a doctor for my wife?
35.	ISB/Ut35/01:41:13	Melissa : When you're ready, pick up your guitar.

From the table of the findings, it can be seen that there are 36 directives speech act found in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie. Below are the explanations of the five examples of utterances considered as directives speech produced by the two main characters of *I Still Believe* movie.

### 1) ISB/Ut04/00:13:55

Jeremy : Tonight? Oh, that depends. There's lots of stuff I could be doing, really. A lot of things.

Melissa : **Oh, okay. Well, if you find yourself free at 8:00, I'll be at the beach, Oceanside Pier. You know, stop on by.**

**Context:** Jeremy is sitting on the ground while playing guitar and singing a song he made. Then, Melissa comes and talks about his song and when she leaves she tells Jeremy that she will be at the beach tonight.

The utterance "Oh, okay. Well, if you find yourself free at 8:00, I'll be at the beach, Oceanside Pier. You know, stop on by." uttered by Melissa as a response to Jeremy's previous statement, is considered as directives form of illocutionary act because this utterance provide function that can get the hearer to do something, namely to invite the hearer, Jeremy, to come to the beach in order to join the speaker, Melissa, hanging out with her friends tonight. Then, this utterance is a form of an invitation.

### 2) ISB/Ut06/00:15:35

Melissa : You brought your guitar.

Jeremy : I did. Well, you asked me to.

Melissa : **Right, right. I did. Maybe you should, um, start us off with a song. We always start off with a song, so it would be nice.**

**Context:** Jeremy comes to the beach where Melissa invites him and there, he meets Melissa and Jean-Luc with some other friends. He also brings his guitar as requested.

The utterance "Right, right. I did. Maybe you should, um, start us off with a song. We always start off with a song, so it would be nice .." uttered by Melissa as a response to Jeremy's previous statement, is considered as directives form of illocutionary act because this utterance has a function that can result an action from the hearer, namely to order Jeremy as the hearer to sing a song. Therefore, this utterance is a form of an order.

### 3) ISB/Ut21/00:40:28

Jeremy : Okay. "Relieved" isn't the right word. I'm happy that this is not a secret anymore.

Melissa : **I didn't wanna hurt him, okay? So, I'm sorry, I just really don't wanna see you right now.**

**Context:** Melissa cannot handle herself of being guilty when Jeremy says that he is relieved because Jean-Luc knows his relationship with Melissa. Instead of feeling relieved, she wants Jeremy to leave.

The utterance “I didn't wanna hurt him, okay? So, I'm sorry, I just really don't wanna see you right now.” uttered by Melissa, is considered as directives type of illocutionary act because this utterance provides a function that can get the hearer to do something, namely to order the hearer, Jeremy, to leave the speaker, Melissa, alone. Thus, this utterance is a form of an order.

#### 4) ISB/Ut27/01:01:54

Jeremy : **Can we do something special for the most special person in my life tonight? Can we pray for her?**

**Context:** After singing some songs, Jeremy still stands on the stage and he asks everyone watching the concert to pray with him for Melissa.

The utterance “Can we do something special for the most special person in my life tonight? Can we pray for her?” uttered by Jeremy, can be considered as directives form of illocutionary act because this utterance provides a function that can get the hearer to do something, namely to request to the hearer, the audience of the concert, to join the praying to pray for Melissa. Thus, this utterance is a form of a request.

#### 5) ISB/Ut31/01:23:35

Melissa : What if I'm not supposed to be healed?  
Jeremy : No, don't. Don't. Don't say that.  
Melissa : **I want you to promise me something. I want you to find someone else.**

**Context:** Jeremy brings Melissa to the place where Jeremy saw Melissa in the first time, and there he tells Melissa that he falls in love to Melissa right after they saw each other that day. Then, Melissa doubts that she herself will be healed, then she asks Jeremy to promise her something.

The utterance “I want you to promise me something. I want you to find someone else.” uttered by Melissa, is considered as directives form of illocutionary act because this utterance has a function that can result an action from the hearer that is used by Melissa as the speaker, to make a request to Jeremy as the hearer to move on and find someone who can replace her after she dies. Therefore, this utterance can be considered as a request.

### CONCLUSION

From the findings and discussion, it can be concluded that there are 36 utterances considered as directives speech act found in the utterances spoken by the two main characters of, *I Still Believe* movie. Those 36 utterances are considered as directives speech act because those 36 utterances have functions to get the hearer to do something or to do an action. Then, from the five examples of utterances explained previously in discussion section, it can be known that the functions of utterances considered as directives speech act in *I Still Believe* movie are to invite, to order, and to request. Thus, the utterances considered as directives speech act can take forms of invitation, order, and request.

For any further research, it is suggested that other researcher might conduct researches with similar topic, namely directives speech act in other movie, or other type of illocutionary act in *I Still Believe* movie.

## REFERENCES

- Allen, J. F., & Perrault, C. R. (1980). Analyzing Intention in Utterances. *Artificial Intelligence*, 15, 143–178.
- Arikunto, S. (2006). *Metodelogi Penelitian*. Bina Aksara.
- Ary, D., Jacobs, L. C., & Sorensen, C. K. (2010). *Introduction to Research in Education [Eighth Ed]*. Wadsworth Cengage Learning.
- Austin, J. L. (1962). *How to Do Things with Words*. Oxford University Press.
- Baker, L. M. (2006). Observation: A complex research method. *Library Trends*, 55(1), 171–189. <https://doi.org/10.1353/lib.2006.0045>
- Darlington, Y., & Scott, D. (2002). *Qualitative Research in Practice Stories from the Field*. Allen & Unwin.
- Darma, Y. A. (2014). *Analisis Wacana Kritis dalam Multiperspektif*. Refika Aditama.
- Isnawati, F. D., Anam, S., & Diana, S. (2015). Speech Acts Analysis of the Main Character in Shrek Movie Script. *Publika Budaya*, 1(3), 60–64.
- Kumala, A. F. I. (2018). An Analysis of Speech Act in The Croods Movie. *AJES (Academic Journal of Educational Sciences)*, 1(1), 1–7.
- Leech, G. N. (1983). *Principles of Pragmatics*. Longman. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-74564-5\\_12](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-74564-5_12)
- Lubis, H. H. (2015). *Analisis Wacana Pragmatik*. Penerbit Angkasa Bandung.
- Mey, J. L. (1993). *Pragmatics An Introduction*. Blackwell Publisher.
- Praditya, D. J. I. M., Putra, A. J. I. N., & Artini, L. P. (2014). An Analysis of Speech Acts in the Conversation Between Habibie and Ainun in the Film Entitled Habibie and Ainun 2012. *E-Journal Program Pascasarjana Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris*, 2.
- Putri, I. A. P. A. D. P., Ramendra, D. P., & Swandana, I. W. (2019). An Analysis of Speech Act Used in Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire Movie. *International Journal of Language and Literature*, 3(2), 78–88.
- Rahayu, A. S., Syahrizal, T., & Sadikin, I. S. (2019). Speech Act Analysis of “Frozen” The Movie Script. *PROJECT Professional Journal of English Education*, 2(5), 692–699.
- Rijali, A. (2018). Analisis Data Kualitatif. *Jurnal Alhadharah*, 17(33), 81–95. <https://doi.org/10.18592/alhadharah.v17i33.2374>
- Rusminto, N. E. (2015). *Analisis Wacana: Kajian Teoritis dan Praktis*. Graha Ilmu.
- Searle, J. R. (1979). *Expression and Meaning Studies in the Theory of Speech Acts*. Cambridge University Press.
- Seken, I. K. (2015). *Introduction to Pragmatics A Course Book for Beginners*. Graha Ilmu.
- Tutuarima, Z., Nuraeningsih, N., & Rusiana, R. (2018). An Analysis of Speech Act Used in London Has Fallen Movie. *Vision: Journal for Language and Foreign Language Learning*, 7(2), 140–149. <https://doi.org/10.21580/vjv7i23022>
- Wijana, I. D. P., & Rohmadi, M. (2009). *Analisis Wacana Pragmatik*. Yuma Pustaka.
- Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315760483-11>