

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an overview of the problems to be discussed, they are research background, statement of problems, research objectives, research significance, definition of key terms and organization of writing.

A. Research Background

The role of language is to convey information, feeling or argument from the speaker to the listener, its interaction is called conversation. In a conversation the speaker and the listener establish a relationship and achieve a measure of cooperation. We do these kinds of things when we uttering sentences in a conversation. Communication is generally been supposed a symbol, words or sentence but it would be more appropriate to call as product or result of symbols, words or sentences in the form of speech act (Searle, 1969: 27).

We do an action in a conversation by utterance which is called speech act. The sentences which we utter in a conversation are based on the topic or situation of the conversation. A speech act is a classifiable and structured utterance spoken in an actual communication situation.

There is a classification of speech act that related each other. Austin in (Brinton, 2010:360) assumes that an utterance can be understood as consisting of three parts, they are locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is a speech act which producing a recognizable, grammatical utterance in the language. Illocutionary act is the attempt to accomplish some

communicative purpose. Perlocutionary act is the effect produced by the utterance in a given context.

There are several types of actions performed by the speakers when speaking. Searle (1979:12) added that there are five classes of illocutionary act, they are directive, commissive, representative, expressive and declarative. Directive act is used by the speaker to make the listener to do something by ordering, requesting, asking and warning. Commissive act used to commit some future action like promising, swearing and threatening. Representative act used to justify the speaker's action, belief and assumption. Expressive act used by the speaker to express their psychological state such as greeting, apologizing, like and dislike. Declarative is used to change the state of affair.

In this thesis the researcher analyzes representative illocutionary act in the debate event between the flat earthers and the scientists in the video entitled *Flat Earthers VS Scientists: Can We Trust Science?*. The conspiracy theory about flat earth is interesting to talk about. This issue is still being debated among scientists and flat earthers and both sides have their own respective arguments.

In this debate event the moderator stated some statements regarding to the issue of the shape of the earth then the two parties responded to those statements. The party who believe that the earth is globe represented by three scientists they are James Underdown, Spencer Marks and Ali Nayeri. In the other side, the flat earthers the party who believe that the earth is flat represented by Wendel Walton, Shelley Lewis and Dan Glatman. These parties express their argument then the other party responds to the argument immediately. In the debate, the utterances of the speakers are not only to convey their argument to the listener but also has purpose to break the opponent's argument. Express the argument is use representative illocutionary act function like stating, demanding, reporting, complaining, suggesting and concluding.

In the video entitled *Flat Earthers VS Scientists: Can We Trust Science?* the usage of representative illocutionary act is uttered frequently.

There are some previous researches which concerned to analyzed speech act. The first research has been done by Rahayu, et.al. who analyzed the type of illocutionary act of the main character's utterance in *Mirror Mirror* movie by using Searle's theory and analyzed the context underlying illocutionary act of the main characters by Hyme's speaking model. The researcher took the data from the character's utterances in the *Mirror Mirror* movie. The result of this research is there are 55 utterance of the main character which contain illocutionary act. The data were classified into representative (4), directive (37), declarative (0), commissive (0), expressive (12), directive speech act are the most frequent uttered by the main character. There were eight factors affecting the illocutionary act by the main character according to Hyme's theory. There are setting, participants, ends, act, sequences, key, instrumentalities and genre (F. N. Rahayu 2018).

The second research has been done by Rahayu, et.al. who analyzed the types of speech act in the *Frozen* movie script by using Finegan's theory. The data was taken from the movie script. The researcher found 294 clauses which classified into representative (37), commissive (3), directive (32), expressive (10). Each type are delivering different meaning (A. S. Rahayu 2019).

The third speech act analysis has been done by Oloo, et.al. with the thesis entitled *A Pragmatic Analysis of Speech Acts in Margaret Ogola's The River and The Source and I Swear by Apollo*. This research uses the theory by Austin and Searle. The result shows that every utterances pronounced by the characters in the novels could be categorized as one of the five categories of speech act proposed by Searle. Each categories of speech act distinguished based on their conditions (Oloo 2019).

The differences between this research and the previous researches above are this research uses debate video as the object and concern to analyze representative

illocutionary act used the theory by Searle. Based on the differences above it will produce different result which will develop linguistics theory especially in speech act.

B. Statement of Problems

Based on the research background that the researcher described above, there are two problems formulated in this research, they are:

- a. What the types of representative illocutionary acts are used by the speakers in the video entitled *Flat Earthers VS Scientists: Can We Trust Science??*
- b. How does the representative illocutionary acts in the video entitled *Flat Earthers VS Scientists: Can We Trust Science?* uttered by the speakers?

C. Research Objectives

Based on the formulated research problems, this research conducted two purposes, they are:

- a. To know the types of representative illocutionary act used by the speakers in the debate event in *Flat Earthers VS Scientists: Can We Trust Science?*.
- b. To know representative illocutionary act used in the debate event in *Flat Earthers Vs Scientists: Can We Trust Science?* uttered by the speakers.

D. Research Significance

The researcher expects this research has benefits theoretically and significantly. Theoretically, this research conducts to develop linguistics theory especially in speech act theory. It expected to give some contribution to all people who interests to learn about speech act and for the next researchers who interests to analyze speech act especially representative illocutionary act. It's important to have an understanding of

speech act so the reader or whoever who learn speech act have an understanding of how human use language.

Significantly, the researcher expects that the readers will have knowledge about pragmatics and speech act. The readers also expect to have ability to convey utterance based on context, so it makes the communication more communicative.

E. Definition of Key Terms

The researcher would like to give the definition and explanation the terms that used in this research in order to make the readers understood easily.

a. Pragmatics

Pragmatics is the study of language in use. According to Yule (1996:3) pragmatics is the study of language which concerned in the study of meaning as communicated by speaker (or writer) and interpreted by listener (or reader). Communication is success if the speaker able to convey his thought to the speaker clearly and the listener able to interpret the speaker's utterance properly.

b. Speech Act

In verbal communication people not only produce an utterance contains words and grammatical structure but also do an action through the utterance. As Yule (1996:47) asserts that speech act is an action which is performed via utterance.

c. Illocutionary Act

When uttering sentence the speaker has purpose such as inviting, ordering, advising, apologizing, etc. this purpose called illocutionary act.

Illocutionary act is the specific purpose that the speakers have in mind (Cutting 2002:16).

d. Representative Act

Representative act is an act when the speaker conveys what he believes regarding to a proposition. Representative act is an act which the words state what the speaker believes to be the case such as describing, claiming, hypothesizing, insisting and predicting (Cutting 2002:17). The purpose of representative act is to commit the speaker to something's being the case, to the truth of the expressed proposition.

e. Debate

Debate is an event to express opinions on an issue. According to Oxford Learners Dictionary debate means a formal discussion on a particular topic in a public meeting or legislative assembly, in which opposing arguments are put forward. In a debate there are two parties who have different arguments about an issue. They are welcome to present their respective arguments then judged which argument is the most clear and logical.

f. Flat Earth Theory

Flat earth is an ancient cosmology that believed up to the fourth century BC. Flat earth theory is a concept which states that the earth is in the shape of a disk with the North Pole as the center while the South Pole is a wall of ice on the edge of the earth (Arianto 2017:5). This issue is still debated among scientists and flat earthers, both parties have their own evidences and arguments.

F. Organization of Writing

This thesis consists of five chapters, each chapter contain different contents, the chapters are:

a. Chapter I: Introduction

In the first chapter there is an overview of the topic to be discussed. This chapter presents research background, statement of problems, research objectives, research significance, definition of key terms and organization of writing.

b. Chapter II: Theoretical Framework

The second chapter discusses the theories that used in this research such as pragmatics theory, speech act theory and its classification, direct and indirect speech act theory and the theory of debate and flat earth.

c. Chapter III: Research Method

The third chapter discusses the method that used in this research, such as research design, how to collect the data and how to analyze the data.

d. Chapter IV: Finding an Discussion

In this chapter the researcher discusses and analyzes the data. The researcher classified the data into its type of representative illocutionary act and how it uttered and makes the explanations about it.

e. Chapter V: Conclusions and Suggestions

The last chapter contains the conclusions from the explanation which discussed in the previous chapters. At the end, there are suggestions for the next researchers who are interested to analyze speech act.

