An Analysis of Directive Speech Actformed and Used In the Movie (A study of pragmatic aspect in utterance by using a movie: Nanny McPhee)

Dewi Yolanda

Master Degree of English Education Study Program Teacher Training and Education Faculty Lampung University

Abstract: Pragmatics is one of linguistics studies that are quite attractive to learn more about. There are many aspects of pragmatics; one of them is dealing with speech acts. Speech acts is the study of intended meaning the utterances speaker or writer. Speech acts consist of many categories; one of them is directive speech act. This paper aimedto classify and described the types and the meanings of directive speech acts uttered by characters in "Nanny McPhee" movie. The data were collected from the utterances of the characters in Nanny McPheemovie by using participant observation method. The methods of collecting the data in this research are watching the original movie, note taking the entire directive speech act formed in the movie. Then, the data were analyzed by using contextual method. The results of this study showed that there were five types of directives speech acts that are found in the film Nanny McPhee involved. Those are: commanding, prohibition, requesting, advising, and warning. Through this study we will have better understanding why and how people react or response to directive speech acts based on the psycho-analysis. For the further research the researcher suggest more comprehensive research on the psychological aspects of illocutionary and perlocutionary speech acts in Nanny McPhee movie will be very interesting to do.

Keywords: directive, speech act, Nanny McPhee

Date of Submission: 07-01-2020 Date of Acceptance: 23-01-2020

I. Introduction

1.1 Research Background

Speech acts are a staple of everyday communicative life. There are some reasons why this research studies about directive speech act. First, directives is a kind of speech act that often used by speakers in daily conversation. In using directive, the speaker attempts to make the world fit the word via the hearer. Second reason is directive show a strong relationship between speaker and hearer. The next reason is because directive speech acts are used to get greatest attention from listener in communication. Through directive speech act the speaker utterances make hearer do something.

In conversation, directive is often used by speaker but they say in different way. The speaker has to concern about situation and context to make the hearer do as they want. Situation in conversation can be seen in some aspects, such as who is the hearer, what things speaker wants to say, and time of conversation. By doing speech acts, the speaker tries to convey purpose or intention of communication which is understandable by the hearer or addressee. In general, speech acts make action performed via utterance. Performing an action via utterances is commonly given more specific labels, such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, and promise or request. These descriptive terms for different kinds of speech acts apply to the speaker's communicative intention in producing an utterance. The speakers normally expect that his or her communicative intention will be recognized by the hearer. Both speaker and hearer are usually helped in this process by the circumstances surrounding the utterance.

According to Parker (1986:17) and Wijana (1996:30), there are three types of sentences, namely: (1) a declarative sentence is used to report or state something, (2) an imperative sentence is used to express orders or commands, and (3) an interrogative sentence is used to ask a question. Therefore, it seems that basically directive speech acts can be expressed by imperative sentences. However, directive speech acts can also be uttered by using declarative or interrogative sentences. If the utterance in accordance with the function of the sentence, it will form a direct speech act. While the utterance which does not appropriate for the function of the sentence will construct indirect speech acts. Besides, the speakers sometimes mean what they say literally and sometimes not. When the speakers do mean what they say, it would constitute a literal speech act, vice versa.

DOI: 10.9790/7388-1001031721 17 | Page www.iosrjournals.org

Directive speech act as an act which is used to get someone doing something is not merely giving an order or making a request. According to meaning and context of the utterance, there are a variety of actions that can be performed through directive speech act, such as requesting, asking, commanding, suggesting, advising, inviting, and so on. Even conversation in movie is created or arrange in planning situation, but the fact is every situation and the way people conversation adapted from daily activity. Allen and Gumery (1998: 154) stated that the making of film also has a social dimension for several reasons. Film makers are member of society, and, as such, are no less subject to social pressures and norms than anyone else. Furthermore, all film making occurs within social context.

In this research, the researcher selected Nanny McPhee movie. This movie told about a Cedric Brown family who lived in a small town. In Victorian England in the 1860s, widowed undertaker Cedric Brown has seven unruly children. He is clumsy and loves his children but spends little time with them and cannot handle them. The children have had a series of nannies, which they systematically drive out by their bad behavior. Their father hired nanny to take care of his children but no one can survive from the naughtiness of the children. They also terrorize the cook, Mrs. Blatherwick. When Cedric was desperate of his children suddenly he got mysterious letter that mentioned to hire Nanny McPhee.

One day, Cedric discovers throughout the home references for a "Nanny McPhee". That stormy night, the children cause havoc in the kitchen. Cedric sees a shadow behind the door and opens it to reveal a frighteningly hideous woman, who states that she is Nanny McPhee and is a "government nanny". She was the 18th nanny whom hired by Cedric Brown. The nanny was actually a witch with magical power. With discipline and a little magic, she transforms the family's lives. In the process, she changes from ugly to beautiful, her warts and unibrow disappearing. The children, led by the eldest son Simon, try to play their tricks on her, but gradually start to respect her and ask her for advice. They change to responsible people helping their clumsy father in solving the family problems, making Nanny McPhee less and less needed. Cedric Brown is a widower; his wife died because of illness after gave a birth to their last daughter. The familyconsisted by seven children Simon Brown, Tora Brown, Lily Brown, Eric Brown, Sebastian Brown, Christianna Brown, and Agatha Brown. Those children are very smart but very naughty as well. Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in studying directive speech acts in Nanny McPhee movie. The researcher is excited to examine the utterances of the characters of that movie.

This research is intended to make readers understand more about directive speech acts. By watching this movie, the viewer will learn about words, action and utterances. The viewer can learn about pragmatics, especially speech acts by observing the dialogues and their context in every scene of the movie. The viewer can see the importance of directive speech acts in keeping the smooth flow of the story lines of the movie. The viewer can also learn grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary from what they see and hear. They can imitate the action that the characters performing in the movie.

1.2 Research Question

Therefore, the research questions of the problem proposed in this study is:

"What are the types of directive speech acts had been used by characters in Nanny McPhee movie?"

II. Literature Review

2.1 Speech Act

Austin (1962: 12) states that when people speak or state something, they also do something or make an act, it is called speech acts. According to Yule (1985: 100), speech acts are the types of acts performed by a speaker in uttering a sentence. The fundamental insight of speech acts focuses on how meaning and action are related to language. We can say that speech acts is study of the intended speaker smeaning when he/she uses the language performing an act.

Austin (as cited in Leech, 1996: 199) distinguishes three kinds of action within utterances:

- 1) Locutionaryactis the act of uttering a sentence with a certain meaning.Renkema (1993: 22) states that locutionary act is the physical act of producing an utterance.
- 2) Illocutionary act is the act performed in saying the locution. It contains the intention of the speaker when saying something.
- 3) Perlocutionary act is the effect of illocutionary act, on the particular occasion of use, has on the hearer.
- Speech acts theory has been developed by a British philosopher John Searle. He developed speech act theory from a basic belief that language is used to perform actions. Then, John Searle (1969) classifies illocutionary act into five, they are:
- a) Directives. It is an attempt by speaker to get hearer to do something. The examples of directives are asking, begging, commanding, ordering, requesting, and so on.
- You'd better tidy up that mess.
- Sit down.

- b) Commisives. Speaker commits himself or herself to the performance of an action. The examples of commisives are offering, promising, swearing, threatening, vowing.
- I am going to leave you.
- I'll call you tonight
- c) Assertives. Speaker represents a state of affairs. The utterances may be judged true or false because they aim to describe a state of affairs in the world, for example affirming, reporting, informing, stating, and so on.
- I am a great singer.
- Bill was an accountant.
- d) Expressives. Speaker expresses a psychological state about the situation. The examples are welcoming, congratulating, thanking, etc.
- This beer is disgusting.
- I'm sorry to hear that.
- e) Declaratives. The utterances attempt to change the world by representing it as having been changed, for example naming, sentencing, appointing, etc.
- We find the defendant guilty.
- I resign.

2.2 Types of Speech Act

In general, the syntactic form of an utterance reflects the direct illocutionary act. According to Parker (1986:17; Wijana, 1996:30; Nadar, 2009:17), speech acts can be both direct and indirect speech acts, as well as literal and nonliteral speech acts. Direct speech acts are utterances that match with the function of sentence. On the contrary, indirect speech acts are utterances that do not match with the function of sentence. Literal speech act is a speech act that means the same as the meaning of the words composed. Whereas, nonliteral speech act is a speech act that means the opposite to the meaning of the words that composed. The speaker does not mean what he says.

2.3 Directive Speech Act

Directive speech act is a speech act which is intended to make addressee do something or take action as what is meant by the speaker to the addressee. When using directives, the speaker is trying to fit the world to the words. It means that the speaker tries to make the addressee as what the words he/she utters. There are some acts taken by this directive speech acts, including the act of asking, prohibiting, suggesting, requesting, praying, and so forth.

Allan (1986: 199) classifies four classes of directives, they are:

- 1. Requestives; The speaker requests the hearer/addressee to do an act (something). Requestiveperformatives include: ask, beg, implore, insist, invite, petition, plead, pray, solicit, summon, tell, urge.
- 2. Questions; It means that the speaker questions the hearer/addressee as to proposition. Questioning performatives include: ask, inquire, query, question, quiz.
- 3. Requirements; It means that the speaker requires the hearer/addressee to do an act. Requiring performatives include: big, charge, command, demand, dictate, instruct, order, prescribe, require.
- 4. Prohibitives; The speaker prohibits the hearer/addressee from doing an act. Prohibitive performatives include: enjoin, forbid, prohibit, proscribe, restrict.

Furthermore, Allan (1986: 199) also states that in directive acts there are two kind of interpersonal authoritative:

- 1. Permissive; It means that the speaker permits the hearer/addressee to do an act. Permissive performatives include: agree to, allow, authorize, bless, consent to, dismiss, excuse, exempt, forgive, grant leave or permission, license, pardon, permit, release, sanction.
- 2. Advisories; It means that the speaker advises the hearer/addressee to do an act. The speaker intends the utterance to be taken as sufficient reason for the hearer to do an act. Advisory performatives include: admonish, advise, caution, counsel, propose, recommend, suggest, urge, warn.

III. Research Method

This research used descriptive qualitative method. This research was carried out by collecting the data, analyzing the data and presenting the results of data analysis. In doing this research, the researcher needed some instruments which help the researcher in working on this research. In finding and collecting the data, the researcher used video to repeat the scene of utterance that contains directive speech act. After that, the researcher used writing equipment to write down all the sentences contains directive speech act. The writing equipment were note book, pen, and movie script which were downloaded from Movie Script Database. To help researcher in classified each type of directive speech act in data, the researcher used a table of indicator that is arranged based on some theories (see appendix 1).

In collecting the data used observation method. It means that the researcher played a role as an observer of language who did not engage in dialogue or communication directly. Another technique which used in collecting the data was by making a note. This technique was done by noting, categorizing and classifying the data obtained (Mahsun, 2005:91). The data of this study were utterances of the characters in Nanny McPhee movie which contained directive speech acts. In this case, the data obtained from the dialogue or script of Nanny McPhee movie.

The data were analyzed by using the classification of directive speech act by George Yule (1996). There were some steps as follows:

Identifying the sentences found in the conversation of Nanny McPhee scripts. In doing analysis, for the first time, the researcher identified the utterances to find directive speech act used by characters, classifying the utterances into the types of directive speech act. The utterances were analyzed based on the character of directive speech act. It is used to know which type the utterances belong to. Analyzing the types of directive speech act that used dominantly by characters. It was analyzed based on the choice of word and sentence used by characters. The last, the results of data analysis were presented with an informal presentation method by using words.

IV. Finding And Discussion

Data description contains the explanation of the result from the use of directive speech act used by characters in Nanny McPhee movie. Directive speech act is classified into five types; command, prohibition, request, suggestion, and warning. The findings are presented as the followings:

In Nanny McPhee film, the researcher used 61 data of utterances (30 commands, 12 prohibitions, 10 requests, 6 suggestions, and 3 warnings).

The data is shown in following table:

Table 1 Directive Speech Act used in Nanny McPhee movie.

No.	Directive Speech Act	Total	Percentage	
1	Command	30	49,2 %	
2	Prohibition	12	19,7 %	
3	Request	10	16,4 %	
4	Suggestion	6	9,8 %	
5	Warning	3	4,9 %	
	Total	61	100 %	

Table 1 show that 61 data of utterances in Nanny McPhee film used by characters. They are included into command type (49,2%), prohibition type (19,7%), request type (16,4%),suggestion type (9,8%), and warning (4,9%). From the data findings, command type is the most used in Nanny McPhee film.

The researcher found that the most frequently type of directive used by character in Nanny McPhee (fiction film) is command type (48, 96%). Generally, they used this type of directive speech act is to make a briefly and distinct. Actually, Nanny McPhee as a fiction movie contain of magical scene. The scene in movie is consists of comedy, fantasy, conflict, problem, and magical action in the family daily activity. The power of the main character in Nanny McPheemovie is also shown clearly. Mostly of the character in Nanny McPhee movie disposed to use command to ask the hearer to do something as their expectation. As a result, the use of command types of directive speech act.

V. Conclusion And Suggestion

From the analysis in Nanny McPhee (fiction movie), the most frequently style used by the characters is command type of directive speech act.

Actually, fiction film is the film that is found the conflict and action in their daily activity. Therefore, the use of language is more briefly and straight to the point.

Also, in Nanny McPheemovie, power of each character shows clearly.

The result of this research is consisting of the entire directive speech act types based on George Yule (1996). However, this is still far from the completeness, but by this research, we know the directive speech act used in film.

Based on the conclusions above, the researcher would like to offer some suggestions. First, many people can learn speaking skill in addition to directive speech acts from "Nanny McPhee" movie. The researcher hopes that many people will benefit from watching this movie not just for entertainment but also for study. For example, many schools and universities nowadays use movies not only to teach directive speech acts but also to help the students to improve their speaking ability. Second, the study in this journal article is only focused on the directive speech acts. More comprehensive research on the psychological aspects of illocutionary and

perlocutionary speech acts in this movie will be very interesting to do. Through this study we will have better understanding why and how people react or response to directive speech acts based on the psycho-analysis.

References

- [1]. Allan, Keith. 1986. Linguistic Meaning (Volume Two). London: Routledge&Kegan Paul plc.
- [2]. Allen, R. C., and D. Gomery. 1985. Film History: Theory and Practice. New York: McGraw-Hill Inc.
- [3]. Austin, J.L. 1962. How to Do Things with Words. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- [4]. Leech, Geoffrey. 1993. Prinsip-prinsipPragmatik (diterjemahkanoleh M.D.D. Oka danSetyadiSetyapranata). Jakarta: PenerbitUniversitas Indonesia.
- [5]. Mahsun. 2005. MetodePenelitianBahasa: TahapanStrategi, Metode, danTekniknya. Jakarta: PT. Raja GrafindoPersada.
- [6]. Nadar, F.X. 2009.PragmatikdanPenelitianPragmatik. Yogyakarta: GrahaIlmu.
- [7]. Parker, Frank. 1986. Linguistics for Non-Linguist. London: Taylor and Francis Ltd.
- [8]. Renkema, Jan. 1993. Discourse Studies: An Introductory Textbook. Amsterdam: John Benjamin Publishing Company.
- [9]. Searle, John R. 1969. A Theory of Speech Acts. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. _______. 1979. Expression and Meaning. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ______. dan Daniel Vanderveken. 1985. Foundations of Illocutionary Logic. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- [10]. Subroto, Edi. 2007. Pengantar Metode Penelitian Linguistik Struktural. Surakarta: LPP UNS dan UNS Press.
- [11]. Wijana, I DewaPutu. 1996. Dasar-DasarPragmatik. Yogyakarta: PenerbitAndi.
- [12]. Yule, George. 1996. Pragmatik (diterjemahkanoleh Indah FajarWahyuni). Yogyakarta: PustakaPelajar

Dewi Yolanda. "An Analysis of Directive Speech Actformed and Used In the Movie" *IOSR Journal of Research & Method in Education (IOSR-JRME)*, 10(1), 2020, pp. 17-21.
