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Research Article

# Discourse Content Analysis of Illocutionary Speech Act in Pragmatic Text

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#### **KEYWORDS**

Speech act;

Illocutionary;

Pragmatic text;

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#### ABSTRACT

This research is motivated by the existence of illocutionary speech acts in the dialogue of Hazel's character in the film The Fault in Our Stars by John Green. This research aims to describe the types of illocutionary speech acts and the functions of illocutionary speech acts in Hazel's dialogue in John Green's The Fault in Our Stars. The methodology used in this research was a descriptive qualitative method with a library technique data search method. The data source for this research was the film The Fault in Our Stars which was released in 2014. All illocutionary utterances contained in Hazel's dialogues in the film The Fault in Our Stars were the object of this research. Data collection was done by writing and note method. The results of this research indicate that there are five types of illocutionary speech acts found in Dilan's dialogue in the film The Fault in Our Stars, namely assertive illocutionary speech acts, directive speech acts, commissive speech acts, expressive speech acts and declarative speech acts.

## INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics is a new discipline in language study which studies meaning that is inferred based on contextual factors rather than being conventionally associated with a particular utterance (Ahmed, Mekhlafy, Abdusalam, & Ghaleb, 2023). Abushihab (2015) mentioned that Pragmatics focuses on the communicative use of language conceived as intentional human action and also the written and spoken text in terms of functions of their producers (writers and speakers) and receivers (readers and hearers) and context. Assaggaf (2019) stated that in the pragmatic perspective, any expression which is produced with a purpose is so called illocutionary act. Al-Qaderi (2015) explained that basic pragmatics was initially linked to reference and presupposition (Frege 1892 and Russell 1905), semantic and pragmatic presuppositions (Wilson and Kempson; Stalnaker 1977), and illocutionary acts (Austin 1962 and Searle 1969), and it was only in the mid70s that the concept of implicature was introduced in Grice's article "Logic and Conversation" (1975). Shaukat Ali, Iftikhar Ali, & Saddam Hussain (2021) explained that pragmatic function is the sub skill of the speaking skills which has two sub-competencies, i.e. functional and sociolinguistic competencies.

Literature is an expression of human expression/thought based on experiences, feelings, and imagination. Literature is covered by language which is packaged aesthetically. The same thing was stated by A. (2018) who said that literature is plays an important role in supporting, sustaining and developing literacy and language learning to show, model, illustrate and outline key literacy skills. Thus, it can be understood that literature can be used as a vessel for channeling expressions, ideas, experiences, thoughts and feelings by using language as a medium to display beauty. Through literature, especially films, one can learn more about life. A literary work can enrich the insights of the audience from various perspectives such as religious, psychological, social, and others. Malla García

(2017) say that literature offers potential benefits of a higher order of EFL learners as the central focus of a unit of study in the classroom; numerous activities involving the students' application of the four basic language skills. The content in it is educational and full of moral values without leaving the nature of the entertainment contained in it. Therefore, good literature does not only entertain or provide pleasure and enjoyment, but can also provide life lessons and new perspectives from various perspectives on life. Keshavarzi (2012) explained that literature is culture of which people use to design their own future, learning environment and knowledge-based economy of their society. One form of literary work is film.

Film is one of the mass media in the form of audio-visual and is very complex in nature. Film can also be a means of recreation and education; on the other hand, it can also play a role in disseminating new cultural values. Films are not only used as mere entertainment, but can also be a medium for conveying information and education. In a story medium, film is a means of conveying messages with a touch of an interesting storyline, in line with Suriani (2022) which says that film has actually speakers that produce utterances which are possible to be analyzed according to the five types of speech act, they are representative, directive, commissive, declarative and expressive. A film contains several elements, namely setting, plot, characters and characterizations, message, and atmosphere. The film The Fault In Our Stars by John Green was chosen as the object of research because basically the theme of this film has nuances that are felt to be experienced in everyday life, not only that this film also has beautiful poetic words in its dialogues. The theme raised in this film is the story of the struggle of a girl named Hazel in fighting thyroid cancer she is suffering from. In this research, the writer takes the story that happened to the character Hazel in the dialogue of John Green's The Fault In Our Stars.

Characters and characterizations are the main elements in a film. Without characters and characterizations, a story cannot be visualized and interpreted. The term character refers to the person, the actor in the story, for example as an answer to the question: "Who is the main character in the film?" or "How many characters are there in the film?" etc. Meanwhile, characterization or characterization is often equated with character and characterization refers to the placement of certain characters with certain characters in a story. As Thamrin and Wargika (2013) mentioned about characterization is an extended verbal of human being, especially the inner self that determines thought, speech and behaviour whereas in life things those things are actualized through human character; in literature the actions, interactions, speeches and observations are all intermingled to give you details you need about human character. Characters function in explaining a story. Some characters work with actions and stories that have been prearranged by the director or storyteller. These actions and utterances are based on conversational text media or what is commonly referred to as dialogue.

Actions and utterances are part of pragmatic studies. Bafadal and A. Rusmini (2017) say that a speech act is an utterance that serves a function in communication, i.e. offering an apology, greeting, request, complaint, invitation, compliment and refusal. At any given moment an utterance results in three related actions. The first is locutionary act, which is an action resulting from a meaningful linguistic utterance. The second is the illocutionary act, namely the action taken because it gets the cause of the speech which is carried out directly. The third is the perlocutionary act, namely the action resulting from an utterance that is implied or intended with the hope that an action will materialize. Apart from public communication, speech acts can also be found in a film. According to Suriani (2022), film can act as a language communication because it cannot be separated from conversations or aspects of communication rather than text or conversation. Then the film can be interpreted as a form of communication between the maker and the audience.

The focus of this research is on illocutionary speech acts because of the advantages of illocutionary speech acts that have a certain function or power of speech. Basically, illocutionary speech acts are a central part of understanding speech acts. John R. Searle classifies speech acts in speaking activity into five kinds of speech forms, each of which has a communicative function as follows: (a) Assertive speech acts that bind the speaker to the truth of what is said. Included in this type of speech act are utterances of declaring, telling, demanding, boasting, reporting, complaining, proposing, and claiming. This speech act is also known as representative; (b) Directive speech acts are speech acts intended by the speaker so that the speech partner performs the action mentioned in the utterance. Those included in this category of speech acts include asking, commanding, begging, suggesting, advising; (c) Commissive speech acts are speech acts that involve the speaker in future actions such as promises, vows, offers, recites (prayers); (d) Expressive speech acts are speech acts that function to express or show the speaker's psychological attitude towards a situation, such thanking, apologizing, praising, blaming, congratulating, forgiving and condolences; and (e) Declarative (Declaration), a speech act of declaration is a speech act intended by the speaker to create something new condition, and so on). The successful (status, implementation of this illocution will lead to a match between the content of proportion and reality, for example surrendering (surrendering), dismissing, releasing, baptizing, naming, isolating, appointing, appointing, determining, and imposing punishment.

In addition, illocutionary speech acts are always easy to find in daily activities, both consciously and unconsciously, and if it is connected with the film The Fault In Our Stars, the role of illocutionary acts is seen because the film contains many illocutionary utterances uttered by the main character in it. Next, we will classify the types of illocutionary speech acts contained in the dialogue of the character Hazel in the film The Fault In Our Stars by John Green, and also the function of illocutionary speech acts in the dialogue of the character Hazel in the film The Fault In Our Stars by John Green. Illocutionary speech acts can be seen in one of the examples of conversations between players in the film The Fault In Our Stars as follows:

Hazel : (VOICE BREAKING) "It's so unfair."

Augustus : "Apparently, the world is not a wish-

granting factory."

Hazel : (CRYING) (01:27:27-01:28:04)

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). The events of the story occurred when Augustus told Hazel that his cancer had reappeared and was worse than before. Hearing this made Hazel feel sad and cry because she felt sorry for Augustus' condition. Hazel complains that the life God has given her feels unfair to her. The illocutionary act in Hazel's speech is "It's so unfair" which falls into the classification of complaining. In the context of this speech, Hazel complains that her life feels unfair, she feels that her life is always filled with sorrow and sadness. So, the illocutionary is complaining (assertive). From the few dialogues or conversations that are used as examples for analysis, it will give an idea that each utterance has a variety of purposes.

#### **METHOD**

This research used a qualitative method (Herbert, Velan, Pryor, & Kumar, 2017) explained that qualitative methodology is a research method that emphasizes on subtitle analysis in the film. In qualitative research the instrument is a human instrument, namely the researcher himself. The research design used was descriptive qualitative in the form of explanations and descriptions according to the problem under study. The main step was to directly analyze the research data in the form of types of illocutionary speech acts in Searle's classification contained in the dialogue of Hazel's character in the film The Fault In Our Stars by John Green. Then observations were made to understand the research object based on pragmatic studies, namely by describing illocutionary speech acts. This descriptive research was used based on the transcription data contained in the dialogues of the characters which were used as words or written sentences to be interpreted according to the context of their use.

This research aimed to understand the linguistic phenomena of illocutionary speech acts contained in the film The Fault in Our Stars which had been widely discussed by the public. The source of the data in this research was The Fault in Our Stars film in the form of a conversational dialogue conducted by the main character named Hazel in the film. After that, a short research instrument was developed. As revealed by Siddiq, Gochyyev, and Wilson (2017) that research instruments are tools used to collect or provide various data needed in research activities. The instrument used in this research was the researchers themselves because the researchers acted as the data collector by making data classification tables, analyzing the data to include it in various categories, interpreting the data and reporting the results of the research.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following are the results and discussion of the problems in the study, namely illocutionary speech acts in the dialogue of the film The Fault in Our Stars which classify and describe the types of illocutionary speech acts in the dialogue of the film The Fault in Our Stars. The results of the research data analysis will be presented as follows: the types of illocutionary speech acts in the dialogues of The Fault in Our Stars film found dialogues that indicate speech events that contain types of illocutionary speech acts in the film The Fault in Our Stars as follows:

## **Complaining Assertive Speech Acts**

Complaining is an expression of feelings that tends to connote sadness, disappointment, suffering and so on. Which binds the truth to what is said. In this category there are 2 complaining assertive speech data or 5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of complaining speech, which is depicted by Hazel who complains because her life is so hard and full of sadness. Conversation:

Hazel: "...And I want Van Houten to tell us what happened after his book. I also don't really want this particular life."

Augustus : "Well, I demand to see this swing set of tears." (00:42:21-00:45:34)

#### Discussion:

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). The story event occurred when Hazel called Augustus sad that he could not go to Amsterdam because of his sudden recurrence of illness. Because this finally made Hazel regret the life she experienced. Hazel was disappointed with the cancer that she had suffered all her life. What Hazel said was simply a form of disappointment with the life she was experiencing, it felt so unfortunate and difficult for her. The illocutionary speech act in Hazel's story is "I also don't really want this particular life" which falls into the classification of complaining because Hazel feels disappointed with the life she is experiencing. So, the illocutionary is complaining (assertive).

## Assertive Speech Acts of Telling

Telling is an utterance that informs something to the interlocutor. In this category there are 11 data or 27.5% of telling speech acts. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of telling speech, which is depicted by Hazel telling her cancer background to her friends in the cancer support community.

#### Conversation:

Hazel: "I'm Hazel.. Uh, thyroid originally but now with quite the impressive satellite colony in my lungs."

Patrick: "And how are you doing?" Hazel: "All right, I guess."

Patrick: "We're here for you, Hazel." (00:03:50 - 00:04:19)

## Discussion:

In the story above, there is a conversation between Hazel (the speaker) and Patrick (the speaker). The incident occurred at the cancer support club where Hazel was asked by Patrick to meet and share about his illness. When Patrick asked Hazel to introduce herself, Hazel stood up and started telling her name and cancer. Hazel also told her that she had thyroid cancer which had now spread to her lungs. Hearing this, Patrick asked how he felt, was Hazel okay? Hazel answered that he was fine, then Patrick gave him support to keep Hazel strong. The illocutionary act in Hazel's story is "I'm Hazel.. Uh, thyroid originally but now with quite the impressive satellite colony in my lungs."

that fall into the classification of telling. In the context of the story above, Hazel tells Patrick about her cancer. So, the illocutionary is telling (assertive).

#### Directive Speech Followers Suggest

The speech act of suggesting is a speech act that suggests the speech partner to do something good according to the speaker for the speech partner. In this category there is 1 speech data or 2.5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of suggestive speech in which

Hazel describes her mother suggesting to doctor Maria to go with Hazel to Amsterdam.

#### Conversation:

Hazel : "What if my mom came?"

Hazel's Mom: "Wait? What?"

Hazel : "I'm.. I'm sure the Genies would hook

it up. They're loaded."

dr. Maria : "That just might work." (00:38:00 -

00:38:09)

#### Discussion:

In the story above, there is a conversation between Hazel (the speaker) and Mama Hazel and doctor Maria (the speaker). The incident occurred when Hazel asked Maria's doctor whether she could go to Amsterdam or not. Initially, Maria's doctor refused to give permission because Hazel's cancer was very rare. So doctor Maria was very worried about letting Hazel go without the people closest to her. Until finally Maria's doctor gave Hazel the condition that she could go to Amsterdam if she invited the people closest to her to accompany and look after her there. So, Hazel also advised her mother to go to doctor Maria. The illocutionary act in Hazel's story is "What if my mom came?" which fall into the suggested classification. In this story, Hazel intends to suggest her mother to Maria's doctor to go with her to Amsterdam. So the illocutionary is suggesting (directive).

#### Directive Speech Act

The speech act of ordering is a speech act intended to instruct the speech partner to do something as the speaker says. In this category there are 6 speech data or

15%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of ordering speech, which is depicted by Hazel ordering Isaac to take off the necklace given to her by her ex-boyfriend.

## Conversation:

Isaac : "I feel like such a loser. I still have

her necklace on."

Hazel : "Take it off!"

Augustus : "Dude, take that off!"

Hazel : Yeah..."

(00:22:45 - 00:22:54)

## Discussion:

In the example above, there is a conversation between Hazel (the speaker) and Isaac and Augustus (the speaker). This incident occurred when Hazel was asked by Augustus to come to her house. After Hazel arrives at Augustus's room, Isaac is seen playing video games with Augustus.

Augustus said that Isaac had just broken up with his girlfriend. Augustus asked Hazel for Isaac. Isaac said that if he was annoyed, he still wore the necklace that his exgirlfriend gave him. So Hazel told him to take off the necklace. Isaac immediately pulled the necklace from his neck. The illocutionary act in Hazel's story is "Take it off!" that fall into the classification ordered. In this story, Hazel intends to tell Isaac to take off the necklace that his exgirlfriend gave him. So the illocutionary is ordering (directive).

## Directive Speech Act Invites

The speech act of inviting is a speech act that tries to make the interlocutor do something the speaker wants. In this category there is 1 speech data or 2.5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of a telling story where Hazel invites Lidewij and Augustus to enter Ann Frank's house. Conversation:

#### Discussion:

Lidewij : "There are many stairs. Step stairs."

Hazel : "I can do it."

Augustus : "Hazel, we don't have to..."

: "I can do it. Let's go." (01:15:10 -Hazel

01:15:19)

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation between Hazel (the speaker) and Lidewij and Augustus (the speaker). The incident occurred when Lidewij invited Hazel and Augustus to go to Ann Frank's house. Upon arriving at the entrance to Ann Frank's house, Lidewij checked inside and told Hazel there was no lift inside. Hazel, who knew about it, said it was okay, she could get through it. Several times Lidewij warned Hazel as well as Augustus. Augustus said there was no need to force Hazel up the stairs. But many times, Hazel agreed and said if she could and would be fine. Then Hazel went in first and invited Lidewij and Augustus to come inside. The illocutionary speech act uttered by Hazel is "Let's go." who fall into the inviting classification. In this story, Hazel intends to invite Lidewij and Augustus to enter Ann Frank's house. Then the illocutionary is inviting (directive).

#### Commissive Promise Speech Act

The speech act of promises is an action spoken by the speaker to his speech partner about his willingness to do something or make a promise in the future. In this category there is 1 promise speech act data or 2.5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of a promise story that is described when Hazel promises Augustus that she will make a speech at Augustus' funeral later.

## Conversation:

Augustus: "I need speakers at my funeral. I thought maybe you and Isaac... but especially you.."

: "Hev.."

Augustus: "Would you be kind enough to whip

something up?"

: (THOUCES HIS HANDS)"I would Hazel

love to do."

: "Thank you." (01:30:40 - 01:30:59) Augustus

#### Discussion:

In the example above, there are utterances made by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). This incident took place in Augustus' room. At that time Augustus was hanging out with Hazel and Isaac. Upon his return from Amsterdam, Augustus' health declined so much that he had to undergo chemotherapy again. As they were telling each other questions, Augustus suddenly asked Hazel to deliver a speech at her funeral. Hearing this, Hazel promised to comply with Augustus' request. Hazel's illocutionary speech act is "I would love to do." that fall into the promised classification. In this story, Hazel intends to promise Augustus to give a speech at Augustus' funeral. So the illocutionary is promise (commissive).

#### Expressive Speech Acts of Praise

Praise is a speech conveyed by a speaker in the form of kindness or appreciation for something, an expression of pride or pleasure in the work done. In this category there are 6 speech acts of praise or 15%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of praising speech, namely when Hazel describes the items in Augustus' room.

#### Conversation:

Hazel : "Wow..It's impressive collection!" : (CHUCKLES) "Yeah, I used to Augustus play." (00:15:56 - 00:16:02)

## Discussion:

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). This incident occurred when Augustus invited Hazel to play at his house. Augustus' room which was in the basement sent Hazel down the stairs. Hazel admired the collection of items displayed in Augustus' room. Hazel's illocutionary speech act is "Wow..It's an impressive collection!" which fall into the praise classification. In that story Hazel meant to praise the collection in Augustus' room. So the illocutionary is praising (expressive).

## Expressive Speech Acts of Thanking

The speech act of thanking is the speech act delivered by the speaker to give thanks or give birth to gratitude or return the favor after receiving kindness. In this category there are 8 data or 20% of speech acts of gratitude. Here's an example of her analysis. When depicted as Hazel thanking Augustus for complimenting her.

#### Conversation:

Augustus : "Wow." Hazel : "What?"
Augustus : "You look gergeous."
Hazel : "Thanks."

(00:58:16 - 00:58:31)

#### Discussion:

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). This incident occurred when Hazel and Augustus were going to eat together at a fancy restaurant that Peter Van Houten had ordered for them. When Augustus came to Hazel's room to pick her up, Augustus was amazed to see Hazel wearing a navy-blue mini dress that made her look very beautiful. Hazel thanked Augustus for the compliment. Hazel's illocutionary speech act is "Thanks." who fall into the category of gratitude. In that story Hazel meant to thank Augustus for praising him. So, the illocutionary is thanking (expressive).

## **Declarative Speech Act Prohibits**

The speech act of prohibiting is the act of uttering utterances to influence someone not to do something. In this category found 3 permitting data or 7.5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of the speech act of allowing, which is described when Hazel forbids Augustus to make him a friend. Conversation:

Hazel : "Gus, I'm a grenade. One day i'm going a explode and I'm gonna obliterate everything in my wake and I don't know, I feel like it's my responsibility to minimize the casualities."

Augustus : "A grenade?"

Hazel : "I mean, that's why I don't have a hamster." (00:46:30 - 00:46:52)

## Discussion:

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). This event occurred when Augustus expressed his heart if he liked Hazel and wanted to be Hazel's boyfriend. But Hazel forbids it because she doesn't want to hurt Augustus. Hazel said she was like a grenade or a bomb that could just explode. That is, because of the thyroid cancer she was suffering from, Hazel could suddenly relapse and collapse until she finally died, which would mean leaving Augustus and would hurt Augustus later. Therefore, Hazel forbade Augustus to think of him as more than a friend. Hazel's illocutionary speech act is "Gus, I'm a grenade. One day I'm going to explode and I'm gonna obliterate

everything in my wake and I don't know, I feel like it's my responsibility to minimize the causalities." which fall into the prohibited classification. In this story, Hazel intends to prohibit Augustus from wanting more than a friend relationship between herself and Augustus. Then the illocutionary is forbidding (declarative).

#### Declarative Speech Act of Allow

The speech act of allowing is a speech act performed by the speaker with the aim of allowing the speech partner to do something. In this category found 1 permitting data or 2.5%. Based on the explanation above, the following is an example of the speech act of allowing, namely when Hazel allows Augustus to kiss her.

## Conversation:

Augustus : "Would it be absolutely ludicrous if we just made out?

Right now?"

Hazel : "Probably."

(01:28:56 - 01:29:04)

#### Discussion:

In the example of the speech above, there is a conversation conducted by Hazel (speaker) and Augustus (speech partner). This incident occurred when Augustus said that the cancer in his leg had reappeared and was worse than before. Augustus also said that he would undergo cancer treatment again as before. Hearing this Hazel became sad and very worried about Augustus' condition. However, Augustus reassured Hazel and said that if he did the treatment like before, he would get well. Then Augustus asked permission to kiss Hazel, who at that time had officially become his girlfriend. Hazel allowed it too. The illocutionary speech act uttered by Hazel is "Probably." that fall into the allowable classification. In this story, Hazel intends to give Augustus permission to kiss him. So the illocutionary is allowed (declarative).

Table 1. The Percentage of Illocutionary Acts

No	Data of illocutionary Acts	Total	Percentage
1	Assertive	13	32,5%
2	Directive	8	20%
3	Commissive	1	2,5%
4	Expressive	14	35%
5	Declarative	4	10%
	Total	40	100%

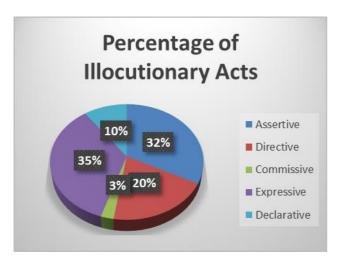


Diagram 1. Percentage of Illocutionary Acts

From diagram above, there are 40 data of illocutionary speech act which is dominantly expressive. There are 13 data of illocutionary assertive or 32,5%, 8 data of directive illocutionary or 20%, 1 data of illocutionary commissive or 2,5%, 14 data of illocutionary expressive or 35% and the last one is 1 data of illocutionary declarative or 10%.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of the discussion, the authors concluded that in this study, the types and functions of illocutionary speech acts found in the dialogues of the film The Fault In Our Stars contained 40 illocutionary speech acts consisting of: 13 data of assertive speech acts which served to complain, and to tell, 8 data of directive speech acts that function to suggest, order, and invite, 1 data of commissive speech acts that function of promises, 14 data of speech acts that function of praising and thanking, and 4 data of declarative speech acts that function of prohibiting and forbidding. The results of this study can be used by educators as learning material for English subjects by applying technological advances because they use the Netflix application, which is widely used by Indonesian people. The Fault in Our Stars film can be used as a study of literary works, especially the use of illocutionary speech act theory. The Fault in Our Stars film can be used as a learning medium to increase knowledge of English vocabulary and English learning activities through narration and dialogues in it. The results of this research are also expected to be used as reference material or a source of reference for further research, especially for students at Indraprasta University PGRI.

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