

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Research

To have an effective communication, the speaker should express them self in an honest and open way, and as the hearer, we should pay attention to what is said by the speaker, and the intended meaning of it. If the intentions attributed by the hearers are roughly the same as those expressed by speaker, then communication is considered have been successful. The importance of communication to people's daily lives cannot be overstated. Communication is successful when listeners infer the speaker's meaning from the utterance rather than when they can identify the linguistic meaning.

Communication in speech acts depends not only on understanding the meaning of the words spoken, but also on understanding the speaker's intended meaning. It means that in order to grasp what the speaker is trying to say, context is necessary. When we express speech acts, means that we do something with the words in the utterances we used. In other words, it can involve taking action that results in a change as a result of the statement we heard.

The performance of certain kinds of acts, such as making statements, asking questions, giving orders, describing, explaining, apologizing, thanking, congratulating, and other kind of acts can be called as Speech Acts. In uttering a sentence or words, the speaker must have a certain intention. In daily basis, people do not aware that sometimes they use language by making unstructured

utterance in communication. For example, the speakers' intention is unlicensed by the linguistic and contextual material of the utterance. But if the speech could be accepted without any misunderstanding between speaker and hearer, the communication can be considered successful. Yule (1996) stated that speech acts has three types included, locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act (p. 48).

Illocutionary act relates to the meaning that the speaker intends to convey based on the context and actual circumstances. The illocutionary act constantly connected with the speaker's intentions such as stating, informing, questioning, promising, requesting, giving commands, threatening for instance. Illocutionary act can caused a "performative" effects that happen during "performing of an action". In other words, as a part of speech act, illocutionary act should be obvious to the listener and involves the outcome of what the speaker refers to. It includes the context of situation in analyzing illocutionary act because context of situation can bring some information to understand the intended meaning of utterance.

Illocutionary act has some different types, as Searle (1979) has stated that there are five classification of illocutionary act, they are representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative (p. 8). Representative focuses to what the speaker believes to be the case or not, directive concerns to the speaker want the hearer or someone else to do something, commissive concerns on speaker commitment to the future action, expressive deals with expression or speaker feels, and declaratives are related with act having immediately changes.

Oral language or face to face talking is not the only way of speaker to communicate. As a form of communication in which a number of storylines are developed by the characters through spoken conversation, movie can be included as one of the literary works which based on imaginative tale concepts and facts. Many people likes to watch movies, but some of them have difficulties in understanding every utterances meaning which speaker said in conversation in the movie. Then, to analyze Illocutionary acts, the writer has chosen data from the characters' utterance in *The Queen's Gambit* series which taken from Netflix.

The Queen's Gambit movie series adapted from a novel by Walter Tevis with the same name in 1983 and filmed in 2020. The title refers to "Queen's Gambit", a chess opening. It was composed and directed by Scott Frank and Allan Scott. The story tells the life of Beth Harmon (Anya Taylor-Joy) in the mid-1950s and proceeding into the beginning of 1960s, an orphaned chess prodigy who battles drug and alcohol addiction as she rises to the top of the game. The miniseries itself has 7 episodes, there are: Openings, Exchanges, Double Pawns, Middle Game, Fork, Adjournment, End Game.

In the 7 episodes, the writer has found many illocutionary act cases from the conversation of the main characters which represents our daily conversation. People will certainly experience conversation in both fiction and reality. Whether it be in a movies or in a daily basis. It involves interpersonal interactions between two or more people which produce utterances that employ linguistic forms or nonverbal language to facilitate interactive communication.

The writer gives one data sample taken from *The queen`s Gambit* series of the *opening* episode, which took place when Jolene said to Beth:

“What is this?”

**“You gotta eat every bite or they’ll tell Mrs. Deardoff about you, and you won’t get adopted”**

(Scene: 11:01 – 11.15, Lobby. Openings, eps 1).

The utterance above shows a type of **representative** illocutionary act, because it produce information from the speaker to the hearer. In this case, the girl give the information to the hearer, Beth to eat all the fish. It shows the truth condition of the meaning of the utterance. When the speaker says **You gotta eat every bite or they’ll tell Mrs. Deardoff about you, and you won’t get adopted**, it may mean that the speaker want the hearer to eat every bite of the fish.

It is a study of language that discuss how speaker used language to accomplish intended actions and how hearer infer intended meaning from what is said. There are three types of acts, namely: Locutionary Act, Illocutionary Act, and Perlocutionary Act. Locutionary act is the act of making a meaningful utterance. Locutionary act is much related to the hearer, if the hearer cannot understand what the speaker is said, then the speaker has failed to do a locutionary act.

We used locution in many ways. Such as asking or answering question, giving information or a warning, making appointment or a criticism, making an identification or giving a description, and numerous like. The act of

speaking becomes the main focus of linguistics in terms of communication aspects. In order to fully understand the intended meaning of a statement, the context of the situation is taken into consideration while studying illocutionary acts.

Illocutionary act, which is the second component of speech act, relates to the meaning intended by the speaker based on the situation and real condition. And the last is perlocutionary act, a speech act that creates an effect that the speaker's utterances have can go beyond the hearer's comprehension. It is the listener's perception of the message.

Pragmatic approach focuses on how and why people use language in specific ways within a context. It deals with the interpretation of what the speaker's mean by their utterances. The goal of pragmatic analysis is to determine the speaker's intended meaning, assumptions, intention, and even the planned action they are trying to express. Pragmatic analysis of language use in talk is an investigation of how language has functioned in communication. As a result, it can be said that pragmatics is the study of language use in interpersonal communication.

Language and context signals may suggest a meaning that differs from the speaker's intended meaning, which is one reason why the hearer may not understand what the speaker meant to say. Language can convey meaning in our daily lives, yet it can be difficult to articulate the meaning. The fact that meaning can take on many different forms is one issue. The scientific study of

human language is called linguistics. It entails a review of the language structure, significance, and surrounding context.

Comprehending how individuals learn languages, creating a spelling system for an oral language, figuring out the sounds of a language that is not currently spoken, and understanding how languages change are just a few of the many applications of linguistics. The study of linguistics focuses on the nature of language and communication. It covers both the study of specific languages and the lookout for universal traits shared by all languages or large groups of languages.

As an example, consider the following utterance: “I finally finished watching *The Queen’s Gambit* series, I can borrow you my *Netflix* if you want”. As an illocutionary act function, it is an offer. While its intended meaning in perlocutionary effect might be to impress the listener or to show a friendly attitude. It is decided by how the hearer interpret the meaning of the utterance.

In this study, the writer is interested to make research about the intended meaning of the speaker’s utterance. The writer found it interesting to analyze the intended meaning of the speaker’s utterance using illocutionary act based on Searle’s theory. Because so many people likes to watch movies, but not all understand the meaning of every utterance that the characters has uttered.

There are many objects that can be used as the main data to be analyzed. People who use a device such as television, phones, or tablet would find it easier to embrace education, a movie series are another educational media that can demonstrate to the human audio visual. Similar to other delivery

methods, movies are also utilized to convey events. It defined as motion pictures especially as a source of entertainment or as an art.

Based on the conclusion above, the researcher use movie series as an object of analysis, *The Queen's Gambit* series which taken from Netflix. The writer has chosen data from all the characters' utterance in *The Queen's Gambit* series to be analyze. The research will be focused on the classification and the intention of each illocutionary act in *The Queen's Gambit* series. In this series, the writer find many sentences that may be hard to understand what is the intended meaning and which types of the illocutionary acts that is uttered by the characters.

For this reason, the writer chooses *ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN THE CHARACTERS' UTTERANCE IN THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT SERIES* as basis of the research. The purpose of this study is to provide a knowledge about illocutionary acts. Which from this research, the writer hopes the people who read this paper can understand the purpose and the intended meaning of the speaker's utterance in many cases, that will not cause any misunderstanding in the future.

## B. Questions and Scopes of the Research

### 1. Questions of the Research

In this paper there will be the questions about the problem from the data resources or how to analyze the illocutionary acts. Therefore, the writer will be discussing the problem can be mentioned in detail as the following questions:

- a. What classification of illocutionary acts are found in the characters' utterance in *The Queen's Gambit* series?
- b. What is the function of each illocutionary act performed in *The Queen's Gambit* script?

### 2. Scopes of the Research

There are five classification of illocutionary acts will be discussed: assertive, expressive, directive, declarative, and commissive. The analysis would be limited only on the illocutionary acts based on Searle's theory. Therefore, the illocutionary act classification and the intention of each illocutionary act in *The Queen's Gambit* script would be the focus of the thesis. In this research, the writer limits the illocutionary act only on the main characters' utterance in the dialogue script. Which are: *Beth Harmon, Mr. Shaibel, Jolene, Helen Deardoff, Miss Lonsdale, Alice Harmon (Beth's deceased mother), Mr. Fergusson, Alma Wheatley, Harry Beltik, Allston Wheatley, Townes, Benny Watt*. Through this scope of the research, it will help the readers to figure out the major problems and ideas properly.



## C. Objectives and Significance of the Research

### 1. Objectives of the Research

Based on the problems of the researches mentioned above, the objectives of the research are described as the following:

- a. To identify the classifications of the illocutionary acts found in the characters' utterance in *The Queen's Gambit* series.
- b. To interpret the function of each illocutionary act performed in *The Queen's Gambit* script.

### 2. Significances of the Research

This writing and research paper hopefully can be useful not only for the writer but also gives contribution in developing linguistics studies especially about illocutionary acts. This study hopefully could give a worth significances as follows:

#### a. Theoretical Significance

Based on the purpose of the study above, the result of this research is expected to give more information about illocutionary act and give something worthwhile contribution of all people who wants to study English especially English Literature and help them to understand about Speech Acts.

#### b. Practical Significance

The results of this research are expected to give useful inputs for researchers who are going to do research in the same field but in the different subject or theory and beneficial to the readers in general, in

improving their knowledge on Illocutionary Act. Especially to the student whose major in linguistics. And for the writer, this research may improve the writer's knowledge to comprehend movie script and the story of the movie itself.

#### **D. Operational Definitions**

After having read several books as the sources of the primary data, and then understood, so the writer can conclude some definition as the real existence of the title as follows:

##### **1. Illocutionary Acts**

Illocutionary Acts are linguistic acts in which one can be said to do something. Like, stating, denying, or asking. In every utterance, there must be a function in it. For utterance, "You should be upstairs with the others", it is not only a statement, but also binds the speaker to what she/he just said. This is because that utterance intention is the fact that the hearer must do what the speaker told them to do. Therefore, the illocutionary act of an utterance above is the act of reign.

##### **2. Drama series**

A continuous narrative that is broken up into episodes that air on a regular basis: day by day or week by week for a duration of six months, a year, or even more (much like the chapters of a novel) is called drama series. Each episode's plot is left hanging at the conclusion, ending on a question or a tense

note to entice viewers to tune in for the next episodes to find out what happens next.

### **E. Systematization of the Research**

Systematization of the research means to present the research in well-edited composition. This research is divided into five chapters as follow:

**Chapter I:** Introduction explains about Background of the Research, Questions and Scopes of the Research, Objectives and Significances of the Research, Operational Definitions, and Systematization of the Research.

**Chapter II:** Theoretical Description consists of the definitions of Pragmatics, Pragmatics in Linguistics, Illocutionary Acts, Miniseries, and Research of Relevance.

**Chapter III:** Methodology of the Research contains about method of the research: (1) Time and Place of the Research, (2) Kind of the Research, (3) Procedure of the Research, (4) Source of the Primary and Secondary Data.

**Chapter IV:** Data Analysis shows about the Data Description, Data Analysis, and Interpretations of the Research finding.

**Chapter V:** Conclusion and Suggestion show the Conclusion of the research finding, Suggestion gives significance of the research.