

Available at : <u>http://journal.aisyahuniversity.ac.id/index.php/AIJELT</u> published by : Universitas Aisyah Pringsewu

# PRAGMATIC STUDY: ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS IN "YOWES BEN 2" MOVIE

## Khoirun Nisaa 'Arnoi<sup>1</sup>, Muhamad Safi'i<sup>2</sup>, Arif Alexander Bastian<sup>3</sup>

STAI Ibnu Rusyd Kotabumi, Politeknik Negeri Medan, Universitas Aisyah Pringsewu <u>khoirunnisa601@gmail.com,</u> <u>afimuh.id@gmail.com,</u> <u>arifalexander1@gmail.com</u>

### Abstract

This study explores speech acts as pragmatic studies in the film "Yowes Ben 2". The researcher will investigate the many forms of speech acts and classify them focusing on the illocutionary categories employed in the film. This study follows John Rogers Searle's (1975) illocutionary action theory, which is assertive (the speaker's confidence in something), directive (something the listener should do), commissive (commitment to do something), expressive (expression of an attitude or feeling), and declarative (making changes such as pointing, stating, etc.)The research design implemented in this study is qualitative. Researchers gathered information by screening the film "Yowes Ben 2" and analyzing the different forms of speaking acts. Researchers employed content analysis to analyze their data. The steps in data analysis are as follows: the researcher will identify, analyze, interpret, and draw conclusions. In accordance to the data, expressive speech acts account for the greatest number of illocutionary acts (56%). Directive speech accounted for 38%, commissive speech 3%, representational speech 0%, and declarative speech 3%.

Keyword: Pragmatics, Speech Acts, And Illocutionary Acts

## Introduction

Since humans are social beings by nature, they require tools to interact with one another. Language is a social connection instrument that facilitates communication between individuals. Humans express or give information such as ideas, objectives, intentions, sentiments, and emotions in every contact. Soeparno (1993:5) asserts that language serves primarily as a social communication channel. Sociolinguists view language as a social activity in social communication. Our manner of thinking is shaped by language abilities that include thoughts, sentiments, and trainable linguistic reasoning. What sets humans apart from other kinds of life (living animals) is our ability to talk. Gaining proficiency in a language may assist people knowledge and cultural development. In addition to influencing human nature, language can also affect the course and intent of activity. Humans and language are intimately associated because humans utilize language as a tool to express their thoughts, desires, and actions. Human contacts with other people include saying words to carry out discussions with them, since language is a sort of communication. Humans will speak or use words to communicate with one another. A speech in a fairy tale ought to have a distinct goal. One cannot conduct a speech without goals and objectives. The message or goal of the speech can be grasped either explicitly or indirectly.

Language is an essential instrument for interacting in everyday life. Language additionally enables us to convey our ideas, feelings, and thoughts. However, some people are unable to expand on what they would like to say or clarify. As language learners, we need to comprehend what the speaker means in order to appropriately imply what others are going to say.

Verbal and nonverbal communication are the two fundamental forms of communication. Verbal communication, according to Kamelia Gulam, is a type of communication in which messages are conveyed orally. Verbal communication can be done by writing, speaking, or listening. The study of spoken and written language's intentional meaning is known as speech act analysis. The American philosopher J.R. Searle expanded on speech act theory, which was first presented by Oxford J.L. Austin in "How to Do Things With Words" in 1975. Act of locution (making meaningful statements, saying something that the listener understands), Act of illocution (saying something with a goal, such as informing), and Act of perlocution (saying something that leads someone to act) are the three levels or

components of speech that he analyzes. Illocutionary speech acts can also be classified into several categories according to the purposes for which they are used.

When we speak with other people, we need to be able to comprehend the speech actions that are employed and know when to apply them. Since speech acts are a kind of communication, using them effectively is crucial. If we communicate without employing speech actions, there will be a miscommunication between the speaker and the listener. When studying pragmatics, our focus is on how to present a speech such that the audience may understand the speaker's meaning. It is acknowledged that speech actions are a branch of pragmatics that makes use of compound words, such as speech and action phrases, which are associated with using speech to do an action. The speech act hypothesis, which dates back to Austin (1962), holds that when people speak, they do it with an aim to reach the listeners as well as to express themselves. Numerous theories of linguistics are founded on certain pretty fundamental assumptions about human language, such as the notion that language can be described as a set of true sentences or that it is only a mixture of meaning and sound. According to Searle (1975), speech acts are activities that modify the universe of discourse when a speaker speaks them and the recipient understands them. It can be stated verbally, in writing, or through other forms of communication, such as sign language. Searle puts illocutionary speech acts into five categories, which are:

#### 1. Representative

Representative statements obligate the speaker (to differing degrees) to the veracity of the representation and to the truth of the proposition. Searle, cited in Huang (2007, p. 106), asserts that the speaker shapes the world to suit their perspective by representing it as they see it to be. The speaker's goal is to inform the listener on various aspects of the world, including bragging, stating, defining, diagnosing, categorizing, complaining, and drawing conclusions.

## 2. Directive

Directives are attempts to nudge the listener in a particular direction. By employing this type of illocutionary conduct, the speaker hopes to elicit a future course of action from the listener, fitting the words through the addressee, according to Searle, who was cited by Huang (2007, p. 107). Commanding, requesting, advising, and recommending are included in directive speech act (Leech, 1983). Other speech acts such as asking, ordering, demanding,

requesting, questioning, appealing, pleading, praying, inviting, advising, permitting, and entreating are some examples of this type of illocutionary conduct. When the speaker requests that the audience do anything, such as demand something, make a suggestion, ask a question, beg someone, pray, beseech someone, pray, beg, and offer advise.

#### 3. Commissive

By using phrases that meet the commissive criteria, such as threats, promises, or other expressions of intention, the speaker is trying to demonstrate that they are taking action. The speaker is required by the compliant to act in the future. Commissives, according to Searle, as stated in Huang (2007, p. 107), convey the speaker's intention to do action. In addition, he said that when someone does this kind of illocutionary conduct, the speaker's words cause the outside environment to change. This illocutionary act can take the shape of a pledge or a promise.

#### 4. Expressive

The sincerity condition suggests a psychological state, which is communicated through expressives. There is no direction of fit for the expressive type. When speaking in this way, the speaker assumes that the proposition being communicated is true rather than trying to fit the words into the environment. This type of nonverbal communication might take the shape of expressing gratitude, congrats, regret, sympathy, decrying, or welcoming. The goal is for the speaker to use expressive words like "welcome," "thank you," "congratulations," "apologies," "entertaining," or other similar expressions to bring up specific conditions while performing the speech act (Leech, 1983).

#### 5. Declarative

Only after the declaration has been properly completed do the actions associated with it attempt to change the state or condition of the objects to which they pertain. According to Searle, cited in Huang (2007, p. 108), a proclamation can instantly alter certain existing conditions because it is dependent on important extralinguistic institutions. Furthermore, when engaging in this type of illocutionary activity, the speaker influences change in the world by drawing a link between the appropriate content and the outside world. Examples of declarations include declaring war, naming, choosing, excommunicating, and terminating employment. The goal is for the speaker to introduce certain situations with increased speech

act performance or to make adjustments, including quitting, pointing, stating, naming, calling, deciding, nominating, etc.

Yowes Ben 2 movie has been selected by the researcher as the study's subject. It is an Indonesian comedy film which is a sequel to the first film Yowis Ben. This funny film that will make you laugh out loud is directed by Fajar Nugros and Bayu Skak and was first released on March 14 2019. Apart from Bayu Skak, Yowis Ben 2 also stars a number of young actors who are also famous on social media such as Joshua Suherman, Brandon Salim, Devina Aureel, and Anya Geraldine

This Indonesian comedy film, Yowis Ben 2, uses a mixture of Javanese, Sundanese and Indonesian in its dialogue. Yowis Ben 2 tells the story of Bayu's (Bayu Skak) struggle in getting rid of economic ties right after breaking up with his girlfriend Susan (Cut Meyriska). Urgent financial circumstances mean he can only rely on his band, namely Yowis Ben, to help him out of his economic difficulties. However, it turns out that Yowis Ben's members, namely Yayan (Tutus Thomson), Nando (Brandon Salim), and Doni (Joshua Suherman) have their own problems that could hinder the band's progress. After deciding to try their luck in Bandung, they are faced with various problems and Bayu meets a woman who makes him fall in love, namely Asih (Anya Geraldine).

The researchers selected this film because, after seeing "Yowis Ben 2," there were numerous speech acts, particularly the unique illocutionary acts, could be investigated. It would be interesting to learn more about this movie's illocutionary act because it might be relevant to future studies. Researchers are interested in doing study to identify pragmatic aspects, particularly illocutionary acts, in the film "Yowis Ben 2" because there have been no previous studies examining those types of speech acts. The study will concentrate on speech acts in the illocutionary category. Furthermore, this phenomenon has been studied extensively in the past. Sri Ramadhani and Yunitari Mustikawati's (2023) study, "Illocutionary Acts Uttered By The Main Character In "The Vow" Movie," is thought to be similar to this one. The study's goal is to identify the forms and meanings of illocutionary acts spoken by the main character in the film "The Vow". The researcher discovered 56 statements made by the primary protagonists, Leo and Paige. The initial type is Representatives, and the researcher found 20 utterances. The third type is commissive, and the researcher found 4 utterances. The fourth type is

Expressives, and the researcher found 7 utterances, The last type is Declaratives, in this type the researcher found 3 utterances and they are 3 deciding. So, the researcher found all the types of illocutionary acts in "The Vow" movie.

Then, another research that supports this research is the research conducted by Ellina Widayanti, Sardjono, and Moch. Muarifin (2023) entitled "Code switching and code mixing in "Yowes Ben 2" Movie by Bayu Skak and Fajar Nugros. The results of the investigation have produced a number of code switching and mixing forms as well as their causes. There are two types of code switching that are encountered: internal and external. These manifest as code swapping between Javanese and English, Javanese and Sundanese, and Javanese and Indonesian. In the meantime, a number of instances of code mixing at the word, phrase, and clause levels were discovered. Different backgrounds of the speaker and the listener, the presence of a third party, and shifting the subject of the conversation are some of the factors that might lead to code switching and mixing.

The third study that supports this research is the study entitled "Javanese and Sundanese Swear Words in the Film Yowis Ben 2: A Sociopragmatic Study" written by Febrityatko et all (2023). This study examines the allusions, purposes, and implications of swearing speech acts in Javanese and Sundanese in the movie Yowis Ben 2. It is a sociopragmatic analysis of the swearing in the two languages. The study's findings demonstrate that not all of the profanity in the Javanese and Sundanese languages used in the movie "Yowis Ben 2" falls under all categories. Compared to Javanese, Sundanese has a wider range of profanity words in its vocabulary. Both languages' profanity usage implies expressions of emotions including irritation, rage, disappointment, surprise, adoration, and familiarity. Understanding how profanity is utilized in particular cultural and social contexts—like teen comedies—has major ramifications for this research. Additionally, more investigation can look into how film translators work to translate profanity vocabulary from regional languages into Indonesian or foreign languages, providing further insights into the cultural adaptation process in the film industry.

#### Method

In this study, a qualitative research design was adopted. According to Arikunto (2010), the purpose of qualitative research is to characterize the current condition of a

phenomena that is only momentarily visible at the time of the investigation. To examine the utterances, researchers viewed the movie "Yowis Ben 2" while gathering data. Then, using Searle's five categories of illocutionary activities, scholars will group them (1975). The researcher employed note-and-note approach and content analysis to analyze the data. Identification, analysis, interpretation, and conclusion are the phases of data analysis.

## Result

Based on the dialogue in Yowes Ben 2, researchers examined the speech acts utilized in the movie and identified the utterances into five kinds of functionaccording to Searle's classification. The data are identified as the 1) representative, 2) directive, 3) declarative, 4) commissive, and 5) expressive. With 56% of the illocutionary acts performed in the data, expressive speech acts have the highest proportion, according to the statistics. Declarative speech act (3%), representational speech act (0%), commissive speech act 3%, and directive speech act made up the remaining percentages. The table and graph below provide an overview of the data's findings:

Speech act	Frequency	Percentage	
Commisives	1	3%	
Declaratives	1	3%	
Directives	15	38%	
Expressive	22	56%	
Representatives	0	0%	
Total	39	100%	

Table 1. Summary of illocutionary actions in the data.

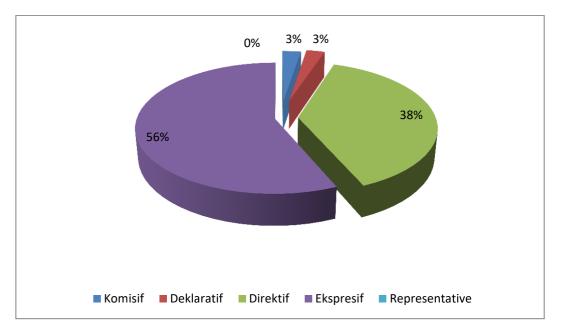


Figure 1. Percentage Distribution of Illocutionary Acts in the Data

Researchers focus on analyzing the illocutionary acts in the film "Yowis Ben 2". The illocutionary action found in this film is 39 utterances. The following are examples and descriptions of illusionary actions used in the film:

1. Commissive Speech Acts

"Cukup sekali, jangan diulangi"

Commissive is a type of speech act used by the speaker to do or promise something. From the words above, the speaker shows his promise to someone. In the statement above, the speaker promised not to repeat what was done a second time, which is in line with the use of commisive to show intention of the speaker to do some future actions (Yule, 1996).

2. Declarative speech acts

"Saya putri kolonel haji khaerul zaman"

Based on the remarks above, the speaker stated that she was the daughter of a colonel and appointed herself. The above statement is included in the declarative because the speaker states about one's position.Since they rely on important extralinguistic institutions, declarations are a type of speech act that performs about correspondence between the

prepositional content and reality as they have the potential to instantly change some current states of affairs (Leech, 1983; Huang, 2007).

3. Directives Speech Acts "Sekarang dibuka kerudungnya, silahkan" "Ayo buruan, nunggu siapa disini"

A directive is a type of speech act that a speaker uses to make someone else do something such as commanding, requesting, advising, and recommending (Leech, 1983; Huang, 2007). From the words above, it is clear that the speaker wants the listener to do something. As seen in the example above when the speaker says "Now open the veil, please" it shows as a command to the listener. The speaker asks the listener to open his veil. In the second utterance, "Come hurry, wait for who is here," the speaker orders them to leave quickly and not wait too long.

4. Expressive speech acts
"ganteng banget"
"makasih buk, saya duluan ya"
"nyebelin kamu"

Expressive speech is speech that states how the speaker feels. This can be an expression of pleasure, pain, like, dislike, be amazed, or sad. Based on the speech above, the first speech is an expression of awe. Then, the second utterance is an expression of gratitude and the third utterance is an expression of dislike or annoyance towards someone. This findings stands as examples of expressive as the function of expressive, such as "thank you," "congratulations," "pardoning," "blaming," "praising," "consolations," etc., serve to convey or make known the speaker's psychological attitude toward a situation (Leech, 1983).

## 5. Representative speech acts

This type of utterance states what the speaker believes to be the case or not (Yule, 1996).That can be a statement of facts, statements, conclusions, descriptions. In this film, researchers do not find representative speech

## Conclusion

This movie has 39 statements that originate from illocutionary activities. Speech instructions consist of 15 utterances, 0 expressive representatives, 22 expressive utterances, 1 declarative, and 1 commissive utterance. Scholars exclusively concentrate on the illocutionary activity within this movie. Expressive speech acts are the most common speech acts in this movie. Since this is a comedy and most of the words are used to communicate one's thoughts, the predominant category of illocutionary acts in this movie is an expressive speech act with 22 utterances.

This article can be useful for future academics who desire to conduct comparable studies on linguistics, particularly in speech act. In addition, this study is designed to serve as a resource for people interested in speech actions. This research still lacks various theories, so you can look into more sources to expand your investigation. This study also focuses on one speech act, namely illocution; nevertheless, it is hoped that in future studies, researchers would analyze other speech acts in greater depth.

#### REFERENCES

Arikunto, Suharsimi. (2010). Prosedur penelitian: Suatu Pendekatan Praktek. Jakarta: RinekaCipta.

Austin, J. L. (1962). How to do things with words. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Febriyatko, A., Ambarwati, A., bin Osman, Z., & Rahmawati, C. D. (2023). Javanese and Sundanese Swear Words in the Film Yowis Ben 2: A Sociopragmatic Study. KEMBARA: Jurnal Keilmuan Bahasa, Sastra, dan Pengajarannya, 9(2), 650-667.

Searle, John R. (1975). Expression and meaning: Studies in Theory of Speech Acts.London: Cambridge University Press.

Yule, G. (1996). Pragmatics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Ramadhani, S., & Mustikawati, Y. (2023). ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS UTTERED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN "THE VOW" MOVIE. Journal of English Literature and Linguistics Studies, 2, 1.
- Searle, J. R. (1976). A classification of illocutionary acts1. Language in society, 5(1), 1-23.
- Searle, J. R. (1979). Expression and meaning. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Widayanti, E., & Muarifin, M. (2023, August). Alih Kode dan Campur Kode dalam Film "Yowis Ben 2" karya Bayu Skak dan Fajar Nugros. In Prosiding SEMDIKJAR (Seminar Nasional Pendidikan dan Pembelajaran) (Vol. 6, pp. 280-290).