

DIRECTIVE ILLOCUTIONARY AND PERLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *NOW YOU SEE ME 1* MOVIE

Hanna Annisa¹, Suparto²

^{1,2}Gunadarma University, Jl. Margonda Raya No.100, Pondok Cina, Beji, Kota Depok, Jawa Barat 16424, Indonesia

Corresponding Author(S): hannaa3103@gmail.com

Abstract:

In speech acts, communication is not only about language but also action. The directive illocutionary is a type of speech act that has the purpose of getting the hearer to do something. It refers to a certain utterance that has certain acts within it. This research aims to analyze the occurrences of directive illocutionary and perlocutionary acts in the *Now You See Me 1* movie and figure out how the speaker conveys their intention and how the interlocutor responds to the utterance as the action. The data were analyzed using a descriptive qualitative method based on Austin's speech act theory and Searle and Vanderveken's directive illocutionary acts theory. The data were collected from the script dialogue of the *Now You See Me 1* movie. The results of this research showed there are 120 data of directive illocutionary acts that appear in the movie, namely; asking, commanding, ordering, requesting, suggesting, begging, and forbidding. There are 97 successful perlocutionary acts and 23 unsuccessful perlocutionary acts that occurred in the movie.

Keywords:

Speech acts; directive illocutionary acts; perlocutionary acts; movie



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INTRODUCTION

Language is a basic communication tool in society. It is used to perform interaction to fellow human beings. Sirbu in Al-Bahrani (2018) pointed out that language performs a cultural function through conveying, reflecting, and maintaining the values, rituals, and traditions of a given society. It can be used as a tool of exchanging information and expression such as feelings, emotions, ideas, and thoughts. Using language in communication means delivering a message through utterances. To have successful communication requires the speaker and listener to understand the context which contributes to meaning.

One of Linguistics branches that studies the relations between languages, meaning, and their users is pragmatics (Yule, 1996). It focuses on how people interpret the utterance based on the situational context that is not clearly stated in the utterance. In pragmatics, there is a term of speech act which refers to people that are not just saying words but also performing something in communication. Bach (2003) explains that in speech act, communication it is not only about the language but also the action within the utterance.

Austin (1962) defined speech acts as actions performed when an utterance is delivered. He later distinguished three types of speech acts namely, locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. Yule (1996) proposed that the locutionary act is the act of producing meaningful utterances. He then elaborates the terms illocutionary act, which is the attempts performed by the speaker to get the hearer to do something. As for the perlocutionary act, Austin in Cutting's (2002) refers it as the effect of the utterance on the thoughts or actions of the other person. In short, perlocutionary act is expected to influence the listener to do certain action to satisfy the speaker's intentions.

Searle (1979) argued that the types of illocutionary acts that has a purpose to get the hearer to do something is directive illocutionary. This action represents the speaker's intention or what the speaker want the hearer to do, which closely related to the perlocutionary acts. These are several commonly used types of directive illocutionary act and its function:

1. Asking

Asking is a form of action to say or write something in the form of a question, in order to get information (Yule, 1996). Searle (1979) stated that this type is used to question or say something to get an answer, information, or action to do something. For example, "*Are you hungry?*" This question was meant to ask the hearer about their condition. This question requires the hearer to answer with yes or no as the answer.

2. Commanding

Commanding is an action done by someone who has the right or obligation to give a command to the hearer (Yule, 1996). This type is considered stronger than telling or requesting type because the speaker usually has a higher status and has full control over the action of the hearer. For example, "On the count of three, fire!" This utterance is uttered by the army officer who has authority than the troops to fire the target.

3. Ordering

Order is an action formed to give instruction to someone by someone. In accordance with the previous definition, Vanderveken (1990) defined ordering as a terms that is used to ask for something to be done. For example, "*Complete these by tomorrow.*" This utterance was spoken by a manager to his subordinate. The manager instructs his subordinate to finish the task by tomorrow.

4. Request

Request is an action in which the speaker asks for something (service or information) to be given and done. Requesting is a speech act that is used to express the speaker's desire so that the hearer do what the speaker wants. For example, "*Could you open the door, please?*" This utterance is uttered by the speaker to ask the hearer whether they can open the door or not.

5. Forbidding

Forbid is an action to order someone not to do something. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) mention that forbidding type of directive illocutionary has a negative form of ordering. To forbid means to make the hearer not do something. For example, "*Don't ever leave my side!*" This utterance portrays the speaker which forbids the hearer to leave him.

6. Beg is a form of action to ask for something in an anxious or urgent way because the speaker want or need something very much. Begging is the speaker's expression of desperately asking the hearer to do something because the speaker feels that they really cannot do it by himself and needs someone else to help. For example, "*You need to believe me! Please...*" The speaker begs the hearer to believe him.
7. Suggesting
Suggesting means to put forward an idea or a plan for other people to think about (Yule,1996). It is a type of directive which is used to make a weak attempt to make someone do something. For example, "*Maybe we can take a break at 1 pm?*" This utterance was meant to give an idea or thought about getting a break in the middle of a meeting.

METHOD

Creswell (2018) on his book "Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches" mentions three research approaches: (1) qualitative, (2) quantitative, and (3) mixed methods. He defined research approaches as plans and procedures for research that span the steps from broad assumptions to detailed methods of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method to analyze the types of illocutionary acts from the *Now You See Me 1* movie.

Qualitative method refers to research that provides descriptive data, people's own written or spoken words, as well as observable behavior. This is in line with McLeod (2001) that stated, "qualitative research does not aim to 'test' hypotheses, but to describe, analyze and interpret the construction of aspects of the social world." This method relies on words rather than numbers to describe the data. The researcher specifically used document analysis technique to analyze the data from the movie script. Bowen (2009) pointed out that document analysis is a research method applied to written or visual materials for the purpose of identifying specified characteristics of the materials.

Furthermore, in conducting the research, there are several steps that are being done by the researcher. First, the researcher watched the movie repeatedly. Second, the researcher identified the occurrence of directive illocutionary acts that appeared on the scene. Third, the researcher analyzed the data using the theory of directive illocutionary acts proposed by Searle (1979). Last, the researcher present the utterance from the movie and the classification of types of directive illocutionary acts.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data used to conduct this research is based on the directive utterance of *Now You See Me 1* movie dialogue. The researcher classified the character utterances into seven types of directives illocutionary based on Searle theory.

Table 1 Types of directives illocutionary

| No. | Types | Amount |
|-----|------------|--------|
| 1. | Asking | 35 |
| 2. | Commanding | 17 |
| 3. | Ordering | 37 |
| 4. | Requesting | 9 |
| 5. | Suggesting | 10 |
| 6. | Begging | 4 |
| 7. | Forbidding | 8 |
| | Total | 120 |

Source: Types of directives illocutionary in *Now You see Me 1* movie

From the table above, the result of this research shows that there are 120 data of directive illocutionary appears in *Now You See Me 1* movie. There are 35 data of asking, 17 data of commanding, 37 data of ordering, 9 data of requesting, 10 data of suggesting, 4 data of begging, 5 data of forbidding.

Table 2 Types of perlocutionary acts

| No | Perlocutionary Acts of the Interlocutor | Amount |
|----|---|--------|
| 1. | Successful | 97 |
| 2. | Unsuccessful | 23 |
| | Total | 120 |

Source: Types of perlocutionary acts in *Now You See Me 1* movie

Table 2 shows two types of perlocutionary acts that occurred in the movie according to Austin (1962) theory. There are successful and unsuccessful perlocutionary acts. As stated by Zumilah (2016) in her previous research, the term ‘successful’ was used when a felicity condition is met by the interlocutor. While for the term ‘unsuccessful’, it is used when the felicity condition or the anticipated perlocutionary acts did not meet or occurred in the conversation. From 120 data in the table above, there are 97 data of successful perlocutionary act and 23 unsuccessful perlocutionary acts.

The types of directive illocutionary acts along with the function and its perlocutionary acts have been selected as the example and they will be presented in the discussion below:

Asking

Datum 1

Duration 03.02-03.06

Merritt: You know Janet? It's not your best friend, is it?

Woman: “My Sister” (Mumbling)

Merritt: “Your sister?”

Woman: (Nods)

The bold utterance spoken by Merritt is classified as asking type. He was asking the woman about Janet, to which the woman replies by saying “My Sister.” Merritt reaffirmed the woman’s answer by asking her for the second time. The action of Merritt questioning the woman about Janet is the indication of asking type because he is seeking for an answer from the interlocutor. The woman as the interlocutor fulfilled the

perlocutionary act as she replied and nods her head as an answer. Therefore, this dialogue is considered as successful perlocutionary act.

Datum 2

Duration 01.47.43 – 01.47.48

*Dylan: "I don't want a profile. I need a name. **Who? Who?**"*

Thaddeus: "I don't know who."

The bold utterance was uttered by Dylan. The utterance above is classified as asking type because Dylan doesn't want to speculate. He wants Thaddeus to give him the exact name and not just an assumption. Dylan emphasizes his question by saying the word 'who' twice in his utterance. That indicates that he wants Thaddeus to give him an answer. Thaddeus as the interlocutor failed to fulfill the perlocutionary acts as he cannot give Dylan the answer, which is the name of the person behind The Eyes.

Commanding

Datum 3

Duration 31.50 – 32.00

*Dylan: "**Get him on the phone.**"*

Fuller: "I did. You're having lunch with him in 45."

The bold utterance above belongs to commanding type. As seen from the situation, Dylan who has a higher position than Agent Fuller gives an order for him to reach out Thaddeus Bradley by saying "*Get him on the phone.*" Thus, this dialogue is classified as a commanding type of directive illocutionary because there is a sign of authority and formal orders. Agent Fuller performs Dylan's order by contacting Thaddeus and scheduling a lunch for him. Therefore, it is considered as a successful perlocutionary act.

Datum 4

Duration 01.13.37-01.13.47

*Dylan: **Get me Atlas' interrogation tape.***

Woman: Yes, sir. I have it on the hard drive.

*Dylan: **Ok fastforward. Go on, go on, go on. Freeze!**"*

The utterance spoken by Dylan classified as commanding type. The usage of the word "Sir" in the dialogue indicates that the conversation that occurs is between the speaker who has positions/authority and the listener who is the subordinate. Therefore, this dialogue is classified as commanding type of directive illocutionary. The woman as Dylan's subordinate fulfilled the perlocutionary act because she performed the expected action by answering as well as showing the tape to Dylan. It shows the successful perlocutionary act.

Ordering

Datum 5

Duration 26.19 – 26-25

Dylan: *“Tell him to stop.”*

Alma: *“No, I can't. You just have to let him finish his movement.”*

The ordering type of directive illocutionary is shown in the utterance spoken by Dylan. It is classified as ordering type because according to Hornby in Suhartini & Wulansari (2015), order is an action that is formed to give an instruction to someone by someone to do something. Dylan give instruction to Alma to tell Etienne to stop moving. Alma's utterance, “No, I can't. You just have to let him finish his movement.” is the indication of unsuccessful perlocutionary act as she failed to fulfill the expected answer.

Datum 6

Duration 01.14.51-01.14.53

Atlas: *“Stick to the plan. Stay here and burn it all.”*

The utterance above was uttered by Atlas and it is classified as ordering type. It is because Atlas told someone to do something for him. In this case, Atlas ordered Jack to burn all the evidence of their magic show and everything related to The Eyes. Jack as the interlocutor fulfilled his task and by that, the perlocutionary act was considered as successful.

Requesting

Datum 7

Duration 17.04 -17.07

Atlas: *“And Henley, could I please have a random seat number?”*

Atlas: *“Oh. Lucky number 13.”*

The requesting type of directive illocutionary is shown in utterance spoken by Atlas. He is using a modifier ‘please’ in his utterance to get a ball with the seat number written in it from Henley. Henley doesn't say a word, but she throws the ball to Atlas which then he responds with “Oh. Lucky number 13.”. This action indicates the successful perlocutionary act because Henley fulfilled Atlas's request.

Datum 8

Duration 35.29- 35.31

Thaddeus: *“Hermia, the teleportation helmet, please, darling?”*

The utterance above belongs to requesting type. Thaddeus is asking his assistant to hand him the helmet using modifier ‘please’. It is an expression to ask for something or ask somebody to do something in a polite way. Hermia performed her duty by giving Thaddeus the helmet without saying anything. Hence, this is the sign of successful perlocutionary act as she fulfilled the expected action.

Suggesting

Datum 9

Duration 01.32.57-01.33.00

*Thaddeus: Now, if you wanna look like even bigger idiots, **why not open it?***

The bold utterance above is classified as suggesting type. There is a hint of a persuasive utterance spoken by Thaddeus. According to Vanderveken (1990), suggesting can be used to make a weak attempt to make someone do something, which later it can be taken or rejected. This shows the successful perlocutionary act because Dylan is taking Thaddeus suggestion to open the safe box.

Datum 10

Duration 16.14 -16.16

*Security: “Actually, I need to take that. **After the show, I can come and give it back to you.***

Thaddeus: “Okay.

The bold utterance above spoken by the security is classified as suggesting type. The security guard suggested himself to take the camera which later he would return when the event ended. This dialogue is considered as suggesting type because the security is giving his opinion for other people to think about. He is also making a weak attempt to make someone do something. In this case, the security is attempting to get Thaddeus’s camera so he cannot record the show. Therefore, this shows the successful perlocutionary act.

Begging

Datum 11

Duration 20.41- 20.43

Henley: Where did he go? Wait, there he is.

*Atlas: **No, no, no, no, please, please, please.***

Atlas: This is Daniel Atlas. Can you hear me? Etienne? Are you okay?

Etienne: Yes

The utterance above is classified as begging. Atlas’s utterance “No, no, no, no, please, please, please.” is considered as begging because Atlas in the dialogue is hoping desperately for Etienne to arrive safely in Paris. It can be seen from the usage of the word ‘please’ repeatedly, which indicates his urge of desire. Etienne’s answer show that the perlocutionary act is successful.

Datum 12

Duration 16.23 -16.25

*Atlas: **Now, please, please, settle down.***

The utterance above was uttered by Atlas. From the context, it can be seen that Atlas is begging his audience to be quiet by saying, “**Now, please, please, settle down.**” as he is about to start the performance. Atlas’s utterance is classified as begging because he asks for something in an urgent way. He used the word ‘please’ repeatedly, indicating that he asks desperately for the audience to keep silent. The audience as the interlocutor immediately keep silent which is the indication of successful perlocutionary act.

Forbidding**Datum 13**

Duration 09.50-09.55

*Atlas: "I'm gonna scope the place out. You wait out here. I will come back and get you, okay? **Do not come in.**"*

The bold utterance above belongs to forbidding type. Vanderveken (1990) mentioned that "to forbid means to make the hearer not do something." In his last sentence, Atlas emphasizes by saying "Do not come in". Henley keeps on following Atlas inside the building and ignored his word. Therefore, this can be the indication of unsuccessful perlocutionary act because the interlocutor failed to fulfill Atlas's intention.

Datum 14

Duration 00.16.06-00.16.09

*Security: "**Sorry, sir. There's absolutely no recording allowed during the performance.**"*

Thaddeus: "Oh, yeah, yeah, sure, of course."

From the dialogue above, the bold utterance belongs to the forbidding type of directive illocutionary. Forbidding is the negation of ordering type in utterance. The utterance spoken by the security, "**Sorry, sir. There's absolutely no recording allowed during the performance.**" indicates that the speaker has forbidden the listener from doing something, in this case is recording the magic show. The interlocutor responds to an agreement but in the scene, he still performs the forbidden action. Therefore, this shows the unsuccessful perlocutionary act.

CONCLUSION

This research focuses on describing the types of directive illocutionary act and perlocutionary acts on *Now You See Me 1* movie using Austin and Searle's theory. Based on the finding and discussion of the research, the researcher found 120 data of directive illocutionary acts. The data was classified into seven types of directive illocutionary acts based on its function. According to the analysis, the types are as follows: 1) Asking, which is the act of getting information the hearer, 2) Commanding, which is the act of ordering the hearer, 3) Ordering, which is the act of instructing the hearer, 4) Suggesting, which is the act to give suggestion to the hearer, 5) Requesting, which is the act of asking something politely from the hearer, 6) Begging, which is the act of asking for something with a strong desire, and 7) Forbidding, the act of not letting the hearer do something.

Furthermore, there are two types of perlocutionary acts of the interlocutor after understanding the directive illocutionary. There are successful and unsuccessful perlocutionary acts of the interlocutor. The successful perlocutionary acts occurred when the interlocutor fulfilled the intention of the speaker. It can be done by saying something to answer the speaker or doing something to perform certain action that the speaker intended. The interlocutor can decline or ignore the directive illocutionary act of the speaker. Therefore, the perlocutionary acts will be unsuccessful.

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