
Assertive Illocutionary Act Used By Main Character in “The Adam Project” Movie

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Abstract: *This research discusses the illocutionary acts in the movie entitled The Adam Project. This research focuses on assertive illocutionary acts. This research aims to identify the form of assertive illocutionary acts and know the purpose of the form of illocutionary acts used by the main character. The data source in this research is a movie entitled The Adam Project. The data used in this study are the utterances of the main character that allegedly contain the type of assertive illocutionary acts. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method to analyze and present the data. This research classifies the data based on the theory proposed by Searle (1979). The result of this research is that there are five types of assertive illocutionary acts which include stating, reporting, explaining, asserting, and showing. The five types of assertive illocutionary acts have language variations used by speakers to influence their speech partners by following the truth.*

INTRODUCTION

Language is an important tool in life. We can express our thoughts and ideas through language and use it to interact with others. According to (Sirbu, 2015) , language is communication between community members. People need language to communicate smoothly, fostering positive relationships between speakers and listeners. Furthermore, language contains many meanings because communication is not limited to one topic; people can also produce and understand other messages in response to new situations and topics. Putri & Mariana (2019) contend that language is crucial in establishing effective communication in this context.

The study of language meaning in linguistics is known as pragmatics. This study examines how the speaker influences meaning and language use (Mey, 2001) . Pragmatics is a field of linguistics that deals with meaning in purpose and context based on utterances produced by speakers for listeners. As Griffiths & Cummins (2016) state in their book, pragmatics is the study of the meaning of utterances produced by speakers for listeners. In this case, the use of language must be meaningful and understandable so there is no misunderstanding when communicating with someone.

In pragmatics, we study language functions in speech acts. Speech acts are a speaker's actions with an utterance (Yule, 2010) . The subfield of pragmatics, known as speech acts,

concentrates on the use of language to convey the speaker's function and meaning. Speech acts involving utterances are closely linked to human activities within society (Dewi & Lestari, 2023). Studying speech acts is crucial for understanding pragmatics. It can help people understand the hidden meaning of every utterance. According to Austin in (Kaburise, 2011), there are three types of speech acts: locution, illocution, and perlocution. Illocutionary acts contribute to the challenge of achieving the intended meaning. When performing an illocutionary act, the speaker must utter something that has an intended meaning to the listener based on the actual situation and conditions (Puranjani & Rajeg, 2022). A successful understanding of the illocutionary act will cause the speech partner to perform certain desired actions, which can be ordered as perlocutionary acts. For example, a speaker might say, "This room is very dark, isn't it?" If the listener interprets this as a command to turn on the lights, then this falls under the illocutionary act. Therefore, these illocutionary acts have different types and functions to facilitate understanding of the speaker's intent.

The simplest way to identify the meaning of an utterance is when the meaning matches its literal meaning (Alfilail et al., 2023). Responding to an utterance is a challenging thing. People still need to improve when interpreting an utterance because they fail to consider the context in which it appears. If a listener interprets an utterance without understanding the context, they will misunderstand the speaker's message. This condition can also influence the social purpose of an utterance. Understanding speech acts' meaning can correctly establish the speaker's intent and purpose for his speech partner. Analyze diverse speech act occurrences, particularly illocutionary ones, by categorizing the types and functions inherent in various linguistic phenomena in daily life.

Illocutionary acts occur in literary works like novels, short stories, films, and other works as well as in ordinary speech. According to Diffani & Kholis (2023) The message of the film can be deduced from the conversations between each character. Film is one literary form that uses speech act phenomena. Film is defined by Barsam & Monahan (2009) as a motion picture product that is typically created and distributed by a major commercial studio. Speaking speeches are used by the performers in a movie to convey their messages and ambitions. Actors perform speeches that are voiced and include a scene, setting, and discussion of particular subjects within the speech's context.

Several studies conducted research focusing on speech act theory, explicitly examining the types and meanings of illocutionary acts (Ramadhani & Mustikawati, 2023). Another study by (Hastuti et al., 2021) explores the types and functions of illocutionary acts. A paper by (Setiadi & Simatupang, 2022) already discussed speech acts in *The Adam Project* movie. However, this study focuses on illocutionary acts that influence perlocutionary acts. An article by (Abdullah & Arman, 2022) analyze the utterances in the scripted dialogue in the film *Ice Age Collision Course* to understand the meaning of the speech situation or social context through language analysis. Finally, (Iskandarsyah Siregar, 2021) presented an article that aims to describe the form and function of illocutionary speech acts in Ganjar Pranowo's speech.

In the present study, the authors focus on analyzing the illocutionary acts found in the film. This research aims to identify the form of Assertive Illocutionary Acts used by main character in *The Adam Project* Movie. The author analyzes illocutionary acts in movies because movies can reflect ordinary people in everyday life (Haucsa et al., 2020). This is also related to daily conversation, which is a conversation that has meaning in the context of speech. In addition, the author chose the movie *The Adam Project* as the research object namely the movie was released in 2022, this movie has an exciting storyline with a different context because, the story starts in

2050 and goes back to 2018, and the conversation in the movie has speech acts, especially illocutionary acts between people who come from the future and meet people in the past.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Speech acts are a pragmatic element involving the speaker, listener, or reader. Speech acts are the result of utterances that refer to actions carried out by someone. Someone acts by conveying something through words and expressions. According to (Aithchison, 2010) defines a speech act as a series of utterances carried out with similar actions. He also stated that when someone utters a series of words, the speaker often tries to achieve an effect with those words, which, in some cases, may be achieved through alternative actions. Furthermore, stated that speech acts are actions carried out by saying something. Austin (1962) added that speech act activities are limited to saying something and doing something based on that speech. Austin in Briggs (2004: 40) states that three types of speech acts are formed based on the function of the action in the text, namely locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Locution is the action of saying something, and the term illocutionary refers to an action of saying something instead of acting on saying something. Meanwhile, perlocution is the act of saying something that involves the effect or impact of the utterance on the listener.

Illocutionary acts is one of the theories proposed by Austin. Illocutionary acts are the performance of an act of saying something as opposed to the performance of an act of saying something (Austin, 1962, p. 99) . Illocutionary acts can also be interpreted as certain actions carried out by the hearer based on the utterances spoken by the speaker. When the speaker delivers an utterance, usually they also form the function of the utterance in their mind, or namely, there is an intention behind the utterance. According to Yule (1996) defined Illocutionary acts as specific communicative forces of speech that were commonly performed in utterances, such as the act of stating, questioning, promising, requesting, commands, threatening, and many others. According to Searle in his book, the purpose or goal of assertive class members is to make the speaker committed (in varying degrees) to something that happened, to the truth expressed by the proposition. All members of the assertive class can be assessed on assessment dimensions that include right and wrong, for example, stating, asserting, or claiming something (Searle, 1979, p. 12)

RESEARCH METHOD

The research method is a way to obtain data to achieve a goal based on a specified problem. The research method in this study uses qualitative methods. According to Creswell (2009) , qualitative methods are research techniques that focus on exploring and understanding phenomena through non-numerical data. This includes selecting appropriate data sources, data collection techniques, data analysis methods, and data presentation techniques to present the results. This method involves observation, interviews, case studies, and textual analysis. The research method in this study consists of 4 parts, namely data sources, data collection methods and techniques, data analysis methods and techniques, and data presentation methods and techniques.

In this research, the data was taken from the utterances in the movie The Adam Project. This movie was directed by Shawn Levy and written by Jonathan Tropper, TS Nowlin, Jennifer Flacket, and Mark Levin. The Adam Project is the latest American film with a family theme and science fiction genre. This film was broadcast on the Netflix platform and released in 2022. This film lasts 1 hour 46 minutes on Netflix. This film can also be accessed via various communication media such as cell phones, laptops, and television.

In this research, data was collected through documentation methods and data collection techniques, namely watching and noting every data contained in the film. This data is in the form of utterances spoken by main character. The data is determined by the utterances that contain illocutionary acts, namely the form of assertives illocutionary acts. There are several steps to collect the data. First, download the movie on the Netflix platform. Second, watch the movie to understand the content. Third, identifying the utterances that contain assertive illocutionary acts. Finally, the data was retrieved by using the note-taking technique.

The method used to analyze data is a qualitative descriptive method. After all the data is collected, the data analysis technique is described and analyzed based on the theory applied. The techniques used to analyze are as follows. First, the data was classified into the form of assertives illocutionary acts. Second, the data are analyzed using speech act theory. Finally, the form of assertives illocutionary speech acts are described using the theory proposed by (Searle, 1979)

In presenting the data, this research uses an informal method. The data is presented in text form and described by stating the meaning of the form of assertives illocutionary acts using the theory proposed by (Searle, 1979). The data is written in the form of a dialogue. The analyzed data included in the assertives illocutionary acts are focused by giving a bold style to make the data more apparent to the reader. Then, the results of the data analysis are presented in the paragraphs form.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This research focuses on the forms of assertive illocutionary acts uttered by the main character. This research examines 10 conversation scenes in the movie The Adam Project that contain assertive illocutionary speech. The assertive data and analysis are as follows:

a. Asserting

Data 1

Time: 00:01:35 – 00:01:40

Utterance:

Woman : *What are you doing, Captain?*

Adam : ***I think it's pretty obvious. I'm stealing this jet.***

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation, the story begins in 2050. It takes place in outer space when Adam steals a jet to fly to a time jump portal. Adam escapes from the enemy by using the jet. Adam's enemies are a man and woman named Christos and Sorian who are trying to catch Adam's jet.

Assertive in the data above is Adam's statement, ***"I think it's pretty obvious. I'm stealing this jet"***. The utterance is classified as assertive because, as said in the article by Yulistiana & Widyastuti (2022) , the purpose of assertive class members is to make speakers commit to something that happens. The context of the above speech is that the speaker asserts to his speech partner that he stole a jet plane. The speech is classified in the form of "asserting" which is part of the assertive illocutionary act type. The purpose of the speech is to avoid the speech partner (Sorlian) who is trying to chase and threaten to destroy the jet plane belonging to the speaker (Adam). This is following the actual incident namely, the speaker is committed to something that happened by emphasizing that he took the jet to escape.

Data 2

Time: 00:14:00 – 00:14:08

Utterance:

Young Adam : You're me. Holy shi...

Old Adam : That's classified, But yes...**I once was.**

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation, the conversation was carried out by Old Adam and Young Adam. The conversation took place in an exit room at Young Adam's house. Old Adam asserted himself as coming from the future to Young Adam.

The assertive above is uttered by Old Adam "***I once was***". The utterance belongs to the assertive class because the purpose of the assertive class is to make the speaker commit to something that happens based on the existing truth. The context of the above speech is that the speaker asserts himself to his speech partner. The speech is classified as "asserting" which is a form of assertive illocutionary act. The purpose of the speech is to convince his speech partner (Young Adam) that the speaker (Old Adam) is himself from the future. This is following reality because in the previous context Old Adam already knew about Young Adam.

b. Reporting

Data 1

Time: 00:44:03 – 00:44:10

Utterances:

Laura : No.

Old Adam : **So this world, our world, everything has already been changed by Sorian.**

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation above, the conversation was conducted by Old Adam and Laura. The conversation takes place in a small house by the lake. Old Adam reports that someone has changed the world by traveling through time.

Assertive in the data above is the utterance spoken by Old Adam "***So this world, our world, everything has already been changed by Sorian***". This utterance is classified in the assertive form because the purpose of the assertive class member is to commit the speaker to something that is happening. Old Adam's speech belongs to the assertive speech of "reporting", which also describes the actual situation. In the context above, Old Adam reports that Sorian has changed the world by jumping through time so they have to fix the future. The purpose of the utterance is to inform them that someone has changed the world and they must prevent this immediately.

Data 2

Time: 00:34:33 – 00:34:49

Utterance:

Old Adam : **After Dad died, she got rich off of his tech. Bought all the right people. Next thing you know, she has exclusive control over the most valuable resource on Earth, Time.**

Young Adam : Wait a minute. You're saying Dad invented time travel?

Analysis:

Based on the context situation above, the conversation was conducted by Old Adam and Young Adam. The above conversation took place in the kitchen of Adam's house when they were having lunch. Old Adam explains something that is happening to Young Adam. He explained why he had to go back in time.

Assertive in the data above was said by Old Adam *"After Dad died, she got rich off of his tech. Bought all the right people. Next thing you know, she has exclusive control over the most valuable resource on Earth, Time"*. The utterance is included in the type of assertive illocutionary acts because the purpose of the assertive class is to make the speaker commit to something that happens based on the truth. Old Adam's speech is classified as an assertive form of "reporting" because based on the context Old Adam tells Young Adam information about the events after his father died. The purpose of the utterance is to provide actual information to the speech partner (Young Adam). This is because the speaker (Old Adam) is someone who comes from the future so he knows clearly what has happened and reports it to Young Adam.

c. Stating

Data 1

Time: [00:51:27 – 00:51:32]

Utterance:

Young Adam : You're gonna find Dad.

Old Adam : Nope. **We're gonna find Dad.**

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation above, the conversation was conducted by old Adam and young Adam after they managed to escape from Sorian. Old Adam and young Adam then find a jet plane in the forest to time travel to 2018. They will jump through time to meet their father and change the future.

The assertive speech in the data above is uttered by old Adam *"No. We'll find Dad". We will find Father"*. This speech is classified in the assertive type because as Searle (1979) explains, the purpose of the assertive class is to make speakers commit to something that will happen. Old Adam's speech above belongs to the assertive class type of "stating". In the context above, the speech uttered by the speaker (old Adam) is a speech that shows that they both have to find their father in 2018 to change the future. This assertive illocutionary act aims to make the speaker commit to something that will happen, in this case the speech partner (young Adam) at that time did not want to go with old Adam and said that old Adam would find his father in 2018 so that the speaker (old Adam) stated that they both had to return to 2018 to find their father and could change the future.

Data 2

Time: [01:13:12 - 01:13:17]

Utterances:

Young Adam : Destroy time travel. How will we do that?

Old Adam : **This is the world's largest electromagnetic accelerator.** It's 2018, so EM technology isn't stable yet.

Analysis:

Based on the context situation above, young adam and old adam are heading to the science company or where their father works. They devised a plan to destroy time travel.

Assertive in the data above is spoken by old Adam *"This is the world's largest electromagnetic accelerator"*. This speech is classified in the assertive type because as Searle (1979) explains that the purpose of the assertive class is to make the speaker commit to something that will happen. The utterance from old Adam above is included in the assertive class

type "stating". In the context above, the utterance spoken by the speaker (old Adam) is a truth that means that in 2018 there is the largest electromagnetic accelerator in the world. This is an object used to explore time. This assertive illocutionary act aims to make the speaker commit to something that will happen, in this case the speech partner (young Adam) at that time did not know how to destroy the object because this speech was performed when the speaker and the speech partner were in his father's company so that the speaker "stated" that the object was a big thing which also meant that it was quite difficult to destroy.

d. Explaining

Data 1

Time: [00:17:05 – 00:17:34]

Utterance:

Old Adam : **Okay, the prevailing wisdom is that when I go back to my fixed time, my memory... our memories, they reform, they reconcile. But not while I'm here.**

Young Adam : Fixed time? What's that?

Old Adam : **There's only one place in time where you belong on a quantum level, where you're not screwing around with the cosmos like I am. That is your fixed time. Where you actually belong.**

Analysis:

Based on the context situation above, the conversation was conducted by Old Adam and Young Adam. The conversation took place in the jet when Old Adam wanted to check the state of the jet. Young Adam was curious about time travel so Old Adam had to explain how time travel works.

Assertive in the data above is spoken by old Adam *"Okay, the prevailing wisdom is that when I go back to my fixed time, my memories... our memories, they reform, they reconcile. But not while I'm here"*. The utterance is included in the assertive class in the form of "explaining" because Old Adam explains that a person will adjust his memory when traveling in a predetermined time. Then Old Adam explained again with the utterance *"There's only one place in time where you belong on a quantum level, where you're not screwing around with the cosmos like I am. That is your fixed time. Where you belong"*. The utterance means that someone who travels in time might damage the future. The purpose of the above utterance is to answer the speech partner's curiosity while explaining how time travel works because this action should not be done.

Data 2

Time: [01:13:12 - 01:13:17]

Utterance:

Young Adam : Destroy time travel. How will we do that?

Old Adam : **This is the world's largest electromagnetic accelerator. It's 2018, so EM technology isn't stable yet.**

Analysis:

Based on the context situation above, young Adam and old Adam are heading to the science company where their father works. They devised a plan to destroy time travel.

Assertive in the data above is spoken by old Adam **"This is the world's largest electromagnetic accelerator"**. This speech is classified in the assertive type because the purpose

of the assertive class is to make the speaker commit to something that will happen. The utterance from old Adam above is included in the assertive class type "explaining". In the context above, the utterance spoken by the speaker (old Adam) is a truth that means that in 2018 there is the largest electromagnetic accelerator in the world. This is an object used to explore time. This assertive illocutionary act aims to make the speaker commit to something that will happen, in this case, the speech partner (young Adam) at that time did not know how to destroy the object because this speech was performed when the speaker and the speech partner were in his father's company so that the speaker "explain" that the object was a big thing which also meant that it was quite difficult to destroy.

e. Showing something

Data 1

Time: [00:14:32 – 00:14:35]

Utterance:

Young Adam : Fine. Can you at least tell me
how you got here?

Old Adam : **I'll show ya.**

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation above, the conversation was carried out by Old Adam and young Adam. The conversation above took place in the forest after they met at the warehouse. Old Adam invites young Adam to the forest to show him about his jet plane.

Assertive in the data above said by Old Adam "**I'll show ya**" The speech is included in the type of assertive illocutionary acts because the purpose of the assertive group is to make speakers commit to something that happens based on the truth. Old Adam's speech is classified as an assertive form of "showing something" because based on the context Old Adam invites young Adam to go to the forest to show a jet. The purpose of the speech is to show the truth that Old Adam came to 2022 using a jet. This is because the speaker (Old Adam) is someone who comes from the future and comes back to the past using a jet.

Data 2

Time: [00:43:35 – 00:43:42]

Utterances:

Laura : Parallel contact, babe?

Old Adam : Well, you've always said that you wished you'd met me earlier. **Here I am.**

Laura : Yeah.

Analysis:

Based on the context of the situation above, the conversation was conducted by Old Adam and Laura. The conversation above took place in the car after they managed to escape from the spotlight. Old Adam immediately showed his little self to Laura.

Assertive in the data above said by Old Adam "**Here I am**" The speech is included in the type of assertive illocutionary acts because the purpose of the assertive class is to make the speaker commit to something that happens based on the truth. Old Adam's speech is classified as an assertive form of "showing something" because based on the context Old Adam tells Laura that he has met his young self. The purpose of the speech is to provide actual information to the speech partner (Laura), namely showing his young self in 2022. This is because the speaker (Old

Adam) is someone who comes from the future so he is looking for himself in 2022 and also fulfills the wishes of his speech partners to meet his young self.

CONCLUSION

This study reveals the form of assertive illocutionary acts in the utterances of the main character in the movie *The Adam Project*. In this study, were found 5 forms of assertive illocutionary acts. The forms of assertive illocutionary acts found are asserting, stating, explaining, reporting, and showing something. These forms of assertive illocutionary acts have the purpose of showing something that happens based on the truth. This is because the main character (Old Adam) acts as someone who comes from the future. so that the main character can inform something that happens according to the truth that has happened in the future.

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