

**ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER  
IN THE FILM "CHASING LIBERTY"**

**A THESIS**

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## ABSTRAK

Dalam skripsi ini dibahas tindak ilokusi yang diutarakan oleh karakter utama, Anna Foster, dalam film romantis berjudul "Chasing Liberty." Tujuan penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut: (1) untuk menjelaskan tipe-tipe tindak ilokusi yang digunakan oleh Anna Foster dalam film Chasing Liberty dan (2) untuk mengetahui tipe tindak ilokusi yang dominan digunakannya.

Penulis memilih "Chasing Liberty" karena film ini menceritakan tentang kehidupan sehari-hari seorang putri presiden Amerika yang bernama Anna. Dalam penelitian ini digunakan metode yang dikemukakan oleh Sudaryanto (1993). Metode simak digunakan dalam proses pengumpulan data dan metode padan pragmatik digunakan dalam proses analisis data. Teori yang digunakan ialah teori yang dikemukakan oleh Searle (1979) dan Hymes (1972). Sedangkan untuk menyampaikan hasil analisis digunakan metode formal dan informal.

Dari 20 data yang diambil, ditemukan bahwa ada tiga tipe tindak ilokusi yang digunakan oleh Anna Foster, yaitu asertif sebanyak 4 kali (20%), direktif sebanyak 13 kali (65%) dan ekspresif sebanyak 3 kali (15%). Jadi jelaslah tipe yang dominan digunakan adalah direktif. Hal ini disebabkan oleh kondisi Anna sebagai putri seorang presiden yang biasanya memiliki banyak pelayan, sehingga dia cenderung meminta orang lain melakukan sesuatu untuknya.



## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

In communication there are many utterances being said by the people. They are not only the utterances which contain the grammatical structures and words but also perform an action. According to Yule (1996, p.47), the action which is performed through their utterance is called "speech act". A speech act is a theory where the effect of an utterance is analyzed in relationship to the speaker and listener's behavior.

There are many meanings being interpreted in the utterances and the interpretation of the meaning in the communication can be investigated by speech acts theory, which focuses on the relationship between the meaning and action with the language. According to Yule (1996, p.48), in speech act, there are three kinds of acts, they are: locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is the basic act of utterance or producing a meaningful linguistics expression. In the other words, the speaker only informs something to the hearer. Illocutionary act is the performance of an act in saying something (the general act of saying something) or speaker intention. Perlocutionary act is speech act that has an effect on the feelings of the speaker or the listener. In the other words, it is the effect of what what the speaker says.

It is important to know the significance of illocutionary act in a conversation because what will happen after an utterance such as: a promise, a request, an order is

uttered depending upon the illocutionary forces caught by the participants. This can be seen the following example:

*"It's cold in here,"* the illocutionary of this utterance can be a request to do something. It depends on how the listener can catch the meaning of what the speaker said. If the listener can not catch the illocutionary force of that utterance, a miscommunication could happen. So, the listener may answer *"Oh...yes, it is very cold today."*

Since maintaining the relationship between the speaker and the hearer and avoiding misunderstanding that can occur in communication are important, the writer is interested in analyzing the illocutionary act. This is due to the fact illocutionary act is the act which contains significant utterance used in social interaction or often found in daily conversation. Every time speakers say something, speakers perform an action behind their utterance.

There are many media can be used in analyzing illocutionary act in spoken language. The writer in this case chooses "Chasing Liberty" movie as the source of the data. It is a romantic movie which is directed by Andy Cadiff which tells about daily life of American President's daughter. Mandy Moore stars as Anna Foster, the 18-year-old daughter of President of the United States James Foster. Anna has led quite a privileged life, but she has grown to resist the constant presence of Secret Service agents getting in the way of her independence. While on a family trip to Europe, Anna manages to get away from security for a brief time. She inevitably falls into the romantic arms of British boy Ben Calder, with whom she enjoys a fresh and clean European vacation. Not wanting to ruin her fun, she does not tell him about her

upper-class social status. Ben, however, surprises her with a secret identity of his own.

In line with illocutionary act, Searle (in Leech: 1983, pp.105-106) states that there are five classifications of illocutionary act, they are: declarations, assertive, expressive, directives, and commissives.

1. Assertive : includes asserting, stating, suggesting, complaining, etc.
2. Directives : include ordering, requesting, advising, asking, etc.
3. Commissives : includes promising, vowing, offering and praying, etc.
4. Expressive : includes thanking, congratulating, pardoning, blaming, etc.
5. Declarations : includes resigning, dismissing, christening, absolving, etc.

All types of illocutionary acts above will occur in conversation depending upon the illocutionary forces caught by the participants, whether they are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive or declaration. Here is an example taken from film *chasing liberty*:

*Grant : These were for you. They would have impressed you.*  
*Anna : No, no, no. They still do. **They died for their country.***

Anna is the 18-year-old daughter of President of the United States James Foster. Anna has never had an ordinary life for six years in the White House. She has led quite a privileged life and also the most protected girl in America. Grant Hillman is Anna's boy friend. He comes to the White House to pick up Anna for a date and this is Anna's first date. Grant brings the flowers for her, but in the gate a few securities investigate him. They investigate his ID, his car, included the flower. So he



feels so sorry to Anna because he has to show the flowers which are not good looking anymore. Grant is going to throw away that flower but soon Anna forbids him.

"They died for their country." uttered by Anna is illocutionary act because here Anna's utterance does not only function to inform that the flower died for their country but also to express something. Indirectly, Anna wants to thank him for the flower, but she tells it by using illocutionary act in her utterance.

If related the utterance to the context, the listener of that utterance is Anna's boy friend. He has picked the flowers and gives them to Anna as a daughter of president of America or the symbol of the country but the flowers have been destructed by the White House securities to make sure that Grant is clear before he can enter. Indirectly, Anna wants to thank him in order to express or to make him know her psychological attitude. So, the writer groups this utterance into expressive illocutionary act.

## **1.2 Identification of the problem.**

Based on the background of the study presented in the previous part, the research questions that the writer would like to answer are as formulated below:

1. What are the types of illocutionary acts used by Anna Foster in "Chasing Liberty"?
2. What is the dominant type of illocutionary acts used by Anna Foster?

## CHAPTER 4

### CONCLUSION

In this writing the writer has discussed and analyzed twenty data of illocutionary act of Anna's utterances in Chasing Liberty film. In this chapter, the writer presents the result of analysis. The result shows that these are three types of illocutionary acts. They are: assertive (four times), directive (thirteen times), and expressive (three times). The percentage of the occurrences of the three types are: directive (65%), assertive (20%), and expressive (15%). The writer discovers that the occurrence of directive is mostly dominant.

The dominance of the occurrence of the directive is assumed due to the condition of Anna. As the daughter of a president, she usually has many servants to serve her. She mostly asks them to do everything she wants. Anna often produces the utterances that are intended to get some effects through action. Therefore, the type of illocutionary act which is produced by Anna is categorized into directive. Based on its occurrence, the directive is dominantly found in her utterances.

In addition, in analyzing illocutionary act, the context is needed. The expression can be uttered implicitly by the helping of context, since context influences the result of conversation and it is very important in conversation. Therefore analyze illocutionary act which is based on the context is important to avoid miscommunication in daily life.

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