

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In the process of communication, the participants or interlocutors convey something of their state of mind and activity. In stating something of their state of mind, participants usually use utterance and also perform the act in each utterance. This linguistic term is called speech acts.

According to Yule (1996:48), there are three kinds of speech acts. They are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is the basic act of utterance or producing a meaningful linguistic expression. It is just to inform the hearer about something. Illocutionary act is the performance of an act in saying something (contain the speaker intention). It is not only used to say something but also to do something. Perlocutionary act is speech acts that have an effect on the feeling of the listener. All kinds of the above speech acts will occur in conversation. However in this paper, the writer only analyzes illocutionary act.

Wijana (1998:18) states that illocutionary act is difficult to understand, People have to consider the speaker and the hearer, when and where the speech acts occurs, etc. In other words illocutionary act is the central part in understanding speech acts.

Illocutionary act is the performance of an act in saying something (the general acts of saying something) or the speaker intention (Yule, 1996). For example:

Lecturer: “what time is it?”

Student: “I am sorry I am late, sir”.

It is a conversation between a lecturer and a student. When the student comes late to the class, the lecturer asks, “*what time is it?*” and the student answer, “*I am sorry I am late, sir.*” The conversation above represents that the lecturer’s utterance may not just ask the time, but also means that the student is too late. Another example is a bartender’s utterance “*The bar will be closed in five minutes!*” This utterance may not only mean that the bar will be closed, but he may also hope the customer to order the last drink.

The examples above show that an utterance can have many different interpretations depending on the context or situation and condition of the utterance. In communication, people should pay attention to illocutionary act because it deals with the speaker’s intention. It means that the hearer must know what the speaker means. Misunderstanding the meaning of the utterance will make the communication unsuccessful.

Based on explanation above, the writer wants to analyze illocutionary act because it is the central part in understanding speech acts, and the message of the utterance.

The sources of data used in analyzing illocutionary act are the utterances expressed by the characters in *The Last Song* movie. The writer wants to analyze illocutionary act from *The Last Song* movie because it has interesting story about family, friendship and love. Thus, the writer is interested to analyze the types of

illocutionary acts as used in this movie due to the fact that illocutionary act is an act contained in social interaction or often found in daily conversation.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Based on the description above, the writer formulates two main problems as the focus of the study. They are:

1. What are the types of illocutionary acts of the characters' utterances found in *The Last Song* movie?
2. What are the meanings of the illocutionary acts used by the characters?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Generally, the objective of this research is to describe phenomena of illocutionary acts reflected in *The Last Song* movie. Specifically, in the research the writer identifies the types of illocutionary acts and finds out the meanings of illocutionary acts performed by the characters in *The Last Song* movie.

1.4 Scope of the Study

In this research, the data are taken from a popular movie in America entitled *The Last Song*. The analysis is specifically focused on the types of illocutionary act of characters' utterances in the movie Furthermore, the writer also finds out the meanings of illocutionary acts based on the context.

1.5 Methods of the Research

The writer uses the linguistic research method as proposed by Sudaryanto (1993:135). He divided the method into three steps. Those steps are: methods and technique of collecting data, methods and technique of analyzing data, and methods and techniques of presenting the result of analysis.

1. Collecting the Data

The data are taken from a popular movie in America entitled *The Last Song*. The data in this research are collected by applying observational method. In the process of collecting the data, the writer watches the film, shows the pictures, records the utterances, and takes some notes. Furthermore, the writer listens to it several times and made the transcription in form of conversation.

2. Analyzing the Data

In analyzing the data, the writer uses pragmatic identity method. It means that the data as the object of the research are analyzed based on the hearer's interpretation to the utterances through context of the utterance itself. It means the context guides the hearer to interpret the meaning or the function of the utterances. In analyzing the data, the writer uses theory of speech acts related to the types of illocutionary act proposed by Yule (1996: 53), and uses theory of content proposed by Hymes (1972). Furthermore, the write selects utterances to classify them into the types of illocutionary acts. After that, the writer finds out the meanings of illocutionary acts performed by the characters.

3. Presenting the Result of the Analysis

The last step is presenting the result of the analysis. In this step, the writer presents the result of the analysis based on the methods as proposed by Sudaryanto (1993: 145), they are, formal and informal methods. Formal method is used by using table for presenting the result of the analysis. The informal method means presenting the result of the analysis by giving some explanations based on the analysis of the data