

SPEECH ACT: ANALYZING PRAGMATICS PHENOMENON OCCURENCES IN DOCTOR STRANGE MOVIE

Annisa Salsabila¹), I Gede Saputra²), Wendy Goteji³)

¹Universitas Internasional Batam

Email: 1961019.annisa@uib.edu

²Universitas Internasional Batam

Email: 1961021.igede@uib.edu

³Universitas Internasional Batam

Email: 1961023.wendy@uib.edu

Abstract

The use of Semantic and Pragmatics are not limited to a written text only, but they can be of use in the verbal industry. Such as speech, movies, and other verbal activities events. Several theories discussed how we can analyze a movie with Semantic and Pragmatics. One of them is using the action of utterances as one of the ways to know the phenomenon occurrences or we called them as Speech Act. For this study, the researcher used the conversation between each character with their target speech in the movie as the object of research. Meanwhile, the characters who played the role in the movie would work as the subject. The researcher used Qualitative Descriptive, and the results would be described in a term. The results indicate that there were several forms, functions, effects, situations, and classifications of speech acts in the movie "Doctor Strange".

Keywords: *Movie, Pragmatics, Semantic, Speech Act.*

Background

Semantics is the study of meaning. More precisely it is the study of the relation between linguistic expressions and their meanings. Pragmatics is the study of context. (Sankaravelayuthan & Vidyapeetham, 2018). Semantics is concerned with that aspect of meaning which is situation independent while Pragmatics deals with that aspect of meaning which is dependent on situational factors. Semantics deals with the conventional meaning conveyed using words and sentences of the language.

Semantics not only focused on how words described the meaning but also on how words, phrases, and sentences come together to make a certain meaning in language. Pragmatics investigates the ways language that tied to the contexts in which it is used. Pragmatics expressed language by using a set of symbols that can be spoken or written, expressed as gestures or drawings. To make it precise

Semantics is the study of the relation between linguistic expression and their meanings, while Pragmatics is the study of context which can influence the understanding of linguistics utterances.

"We first distinguished a group of things we do in saying something, which together we summed up by saying we perform a locutionary act, which is roughly equivalent to uttering a certain sentence with a certain sense and reference, which again is roughly equivalent to 'meaning' in the traditional sense. Second, we said that we also perform illocutionary acts such as informing, ordering, warning, undertaking, &c., i.e., utterances which have a certain (conventional) force. Thirdly, we may also perform perlocutionary acts: what we bring about or achieve by saying something, such as convincing, persuading, deterring, and even, say, surprising or misleading." (Jürgens et al., 2015)

By the time Locutionary, Illocutionary and Perlocutionary are three important things to classify the Speech Act. Also, there's Direct and Indirect speech which supporting the speech act theory. Direct Speech is a quoted act by a person directly to the target speech, so the target understands immediately the context and meaning. While Indirect Speech also giving information, but the difference is the speech is not described the same as the literal meaning. But they described with a different sentence.

Semantics and pragmatics have the capacity in conversation to trade any information about basic communicative functions, like contact, insight, understanding and attitudinal responses to the conveyed content. Semantics and Pragmatics additionally know from its significance and settings in composing content, yet additionally spoken. For instance, in the movies.

Mentioned by (Jimmi & Sidauruk, 2020) Movie is the blend of picture, development, and sound is clearly something very secretive in its consequences for people, practically mystical, frequently portrayed as a sort of multiplying of life itself, a type of eternity, a perpetual and forever captivating mirror. The Movie may be a good way of finding speech acts because it also gave various speeches in every different situation which means there were a lot of utterances produces by the characters and their target speech. For this study, all genres of movies can be used such as Action, Romance, Fantasy, Sci-Fi, etc.

The movie that was used in this study was "Doctor Strange ". Doctor Strange is an Action, Superhero, Fantasy, and Science Fiction movie published by Marvel and directed by Scott Derrickson. The movie was played by a famous actor named Benedict Cumberbatch. Doctor Stephen Strange is one of the most brilliant neurosurgeons in New York, America. Doctor Stephen Strange life was changed

after the car accident that takes the use of his hands. Until he found someone that suggests he cure his hands to a place called Kamar Taj, and the story goes on.

There were several reasons and considerations from the researcher when choosing Doctor Strange as the object of the research. This movie nominated an Empire Award for Best Visual Effects. In the same year, this movie won The Best Comic-to-Film Motion

Picture by Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films, the USA in 2017. There also various moral values that we can learn from this movie such as sometimes you fail at first, rewards come only when you work hard for it, etc. Which also, this movie is interesting since the same as other movies there are some conflicts in which they uttered several spoken speeches by the characters to deliver any information and messages to the story.

To find various forms, functions, effects, situations, and classifications of speech acts is the reason why the researcher started the study of "Speech Act: Analyzing Pragmatics Phenomenon Occurrences in Doctor Strange Movie". Elaborated the speech act through Doctor Strange Movie in which included the analysis of related acts of utterances produced by the characters especially in locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Also, the classification of whether those are direct or indirect speech.

Research Methods

The method in this research used qualitative descriptive. By (Wang & Zou, 2018) Qualitative descriptive is a method to collect data that took the form of words and usually produces descriptive data of people or observed behavior. The goal of qualitative descriptive studies is a comprehensive summarization, in everyday terms, of specific events

experienced by individuals or groups of individuals (Lambert & Lambert, 2013). The research subject was the characters who play a role in the doctor stranger movies. Meanwhile, the object of research was the conversation between actors/characters in the Doctor Strange movie. Following the title 'Speech Act: Analyzing Pragmatics Phenomenon Occurrences in Doctor Strange Movie' the data collected by the researcher were in the form of utterances produced by the characters found in the conversation in Doctor Stranger Movie which the data had been analyzed by three related acts which are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act by Austin. Through the theory Searle's mentioned about 5 types that can be achieved in illocutionary act which are: declarative, representative, expressive, directive and commissive. Also, supported by Parker's Theory about Speech Act which classified into direct speech act or indirect speech act.

The theory that is used in this research is Speech Act. The speech act is an action performed by utterance that serves a function in communication (Allwood et al., 1992). The form of communication in speech act as in an utterance serves their own function and it is also serves when offering an apology, greeting, request, complaint, invitation, compliment, or refusal (Minnesota, n.d.). The researchers perform speech act when offer an apology, greetings, requests, suggestions, commands, and appropriate responses to those acts. The researcher used speech act in this research as the theory because it is one of the pragmatics which are important to convey an intended language function by a communicative act and there is a lot of utterances in the movie and a lot of speech event that directly occurred in the movie. The researchers wrote the conclusion according to the data and analysis of the sources and theories in which the researcher added some of their opinions toward the outcome found.

The researcher used data triangulation which is interpreted as checking data from various sources in various ways and at various times. The researcher did the triangulation methods to combine several research methods and knew better regarding the observation of the studied case (which in this case the movies). There were three ways to test the validity of data which could be called source triangulation, triangulation of data collection techniques, and time (Carter et al., 2014). Based on these descriptions, the researcher used three ways to test the validity of data that had been obtained previously, namely time triangulation, technique triangulation, and source triangulation.

Finding & Discussion

The conducted study by the researchers found an utterance categorized locutionary act, illocutionary act, perlocutionary act, direct and indirect speech act. The researcher used the abbreviation code of DS/Ut01/00.00.00 to classify the title of the movie, the utterance and the timestamp of the utterance being produced. DS indicates the title of the movie

which used in this study namely Doctor Strange, Ut01 indicates the utterance while

00.00.00 indicates the timestamp of the utterance being produced. The following are the analysis and explanation about the data:

1) DS/Ut01/00.11.33

Dr.Strange : Can you send me the... The Doctor: (Send the photo)

Situation : Dr.Strange was on his way to meet with a neurological doctor, and a lot of phone calls by other doctors, who speaking about patient's medical problem, and then, the doctor sends Dr.Strange a picture of patients' X-Ray results which he interested with. The utterance can be categorized as a request form because the

utterance in this part was shown that Dr.Strange offers to the other doctor to send the photo. "Can you send me the..." is an Illocutionary act because it is requesting something from others. And "(Send the photo) is Perlocutionary act because the sentence showed that the man fulfills the request by sending a photo.

2) DS/Ut02/00.15.03

The Man : Show me your strength

Dr.Strange : (Showing his limited strength and grunting in pain)

Situation : Dr.Strange is trying his best in rehabilitating and trying to bring back his healthy hand, that time a man who is sitting directly in front of him, asking him to show his strength as Dr.Strange's hand is opening with tools to help him gain the strength. The utterance can be categorized as a command form. Because the man asks Dr.Strange to do something that he commanded. "Show me your strength" is an illocutionary part of the speech act because it is a commanding sentence because of the expression of doing something. And the response to the dialogue above is a part of the perlocutionary act because it fulfills the command by the man.

3) DS/Ut03/00.36.33

Wonk: come with me. Dr.Strange: Alright

Situation : Dr.Strange went to the library to find the new book of the ancient one, and later he met Wong, who is the librarian. He returned the books that he read to exchange for new books and Wong asks him to follow along to find the book that he wants. The utterance can be categorized as a request form. Because Wong asks him to follow along with him to find the book. The sentence "Come with me" is an illocutionary act because the sentence shows that Wong is requesting Dr.Strange to come with him. And the response is perlocutionary because it fulfills the request by doing something.

4) DS/Ut04/00.40.36

Ancient one: I would like a moment alone with Mr. Strange Mordo: Of course

Situation : Dr.Strange is practicing his skill outside of the temple of Kamar-Taj with Mordo, and he is struggling to focus during the training, later the ancient one comes to meet Dr.Strange, and she asks Mordo to let her have a moment with Mr.Strange. The utterance can be categorized as a request form. Because the ancient one is requesting a meeting with Dr.Strange from Mordo. The ancient one statement is an example of an illocutionary act because the utterance is requesting something, and the response from Mordo is Perlocutionary because Mordo accepts the request.

5) DS/Ut05/00.41.32

Ancient one: Silence your ego... and your power will rise... come with me
Dr.Strange: *follows Ancient one*

Situation : The ancient one is asking Dr.Strange to silence his ego, to make him more focused on acquiring his skills and the ancient one asks Dr.Strange to follow along with

him through a portal that he creates, and they went to Mount Everest. After that, the ancient one left Dr.Strange alone there, she uses this way to make Dr.Strange more focused and able to create a portal to return to Kamar-Taj. And later Dr.Strange successfully create a portal to return to Kamar-Taj. The utterance can be categorized as a command form. Because the ancient one is commanding Dr.Strange to come with her. The statement by the ancient one is illocutionary because the ancient one is commanding Dr.Strange to do what he asked, and the response from Dr.Strange is an example of a perlocutionary act because he follows the command of the Ancient one.

6) DS/Ut06/00.47.58

Mordo: Conjure a weapon

Dr.Strange: All right *starts conjuring the weapon*

Situation: in this situation, Doctor Strange and Mordo were training combat and Mordo take his relic to fight with Doctor

Strange, but Doctor Strange does not bring any weapon to fight Mordo, so that's why Mordo ask Doctor Strange to conjure a weapon from his magical skill to cast a weapon. Based on its structural form the utterance can be categorized as a command because we can conclude that Mordo giving a command to Doctor Strange must conjure a weapon to continue their training. The "all right, *starts conjure the weapon" is the part of the illocutionary act because doctor strange fulfilled the command and starts to conjure the weapon.

7) DS/Ut07/00.57.14

Dr.Strange: Stop!!

Kaecilius & his disciple: *stop hitting Daniel*

Situation: in this situation in New York Sanctuary, Daniel was tried to protect the sanctuary from Kaecilius's disciple. Kaecilius and his disciple start fighting with Daniel until Daniel is knocked out. Then Kaecilus started to cast his magical transparent sword. Once Kaecilius wanted to stab his magical sword into Daniel's chest suddenly Doctor Strange came to prevent his action to kill Daniel. Based on its structural form the utterance can be categorized as a command because we can conclude that Doctor Strange was trying to save Daniel from Kaecilius that wanted to kill him with his high intonation voice. The "*stop hitting Daniel" is the illocutionary part because in the sentence we already know that Doctor Strange giving a command to stop killing Daniel to prevent Kaecilius from killing him.

8) DS/Ut08/01.06.24

Dr.Strange: get me in an operating theater now! just you Christine: But... But...

Dr.Strange: Now! I haven't any time

Christine: *brings dr. Strange to the operating theater*

Situation: Doctor strange was stabbed by Kaeciliu's sword right into his chest near the heart. Doctor Strange was bleeding to death so he uses his sling ring to cast a portal to the hospital where Christine

works on there. Then Doctor strange called Christine to cure him, but Christine came with confusion.

Based on its structural form the utterance can be categorized as a command. Because we can conclude from the utterance that Doctor Strange shouted to Christine with a high pitch intonation because in that situation Doctor Strange was bleeding to death and he did not have much time left to protect the London Sanctuary. The "Now! I haven't any time" is the illocutionary part because it's fulfilled by Christine because she knew that Doctor Strange was bleeding to death because he got stabbed and need to heal fast.

9) DS/Ut09/01.08.25

Dr.Strange: keep me alive will you?

Christine: Huh?? okay...

Situation: in this situation, Doctor Strange was disrupted by Kaecilius's disciple on an astral form that wanted to kill Doctor Strange while Christine was trying to cure Doctor Strange on physical form. The "Huh?? okay..." is the illocutionary part because Doctor Strange wanted Christine to keep him alive while Doctor Strange was fighting with his enemy in astral form. Based on its structural form the utterance can be categorized as a request. Because we can conclude that Doctor Strange wanted Christine to keep him stay alive on Physical form with a low intonation tone.

10) DS/Ut10/01.09.48

Dr.Strange: up the voltage and hit me

again Christine: no, your heart is beating

Dr.Strange: just do it!

Christine: *start powering up the voltage

Situation: in this situation, Doctor strange is dying because of Kaeciliu's disciple that always beating up Doctor Strange. Suddenly he found something interesting that his power will enchant that can blast with a great magic power that can easily beat up Kaecilius's disciple. So that's why Doctor Strange asks Christine to keep up beating up his heart to get powerful blast magic to beat his enemy

easily. Based on its structural form the utterance can be categorized as a command. Because we can conclude that Doctor Strange found an idea to beat up his enemy by powering up his beat using a high voltage, but in that situation, his heart is beating and Christine was nervous, so Doctor strange shouted again to Christine with a high pitch intonation tone just to make it sure.

Conclusion

Based on the theory mentioned by Gasparatou (2018), there are three related acts in speech act there are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary. Then Searle's come through and mentioned about 5 types of utterances in the illocutionary act which are declarative, representative, expressive, directive and commissive. The researchers also supported by the theory

from Parker about the classification of speech act into direct speech act and indirect speech act. In Doctor Strange Movie, the researcher finds 10 phenomenon occurrences related to Speech Act theory.

The data that has been found by the researcher indicates that there are various forms, functions, effects, situations, and classifications about the utterances mentioned in the conversation between the characters. The use of speech act theory to analyze the Semantics and Pragmatics features in the speaking area, especially in the movie is helpful to give the researcher a sense of what the character means contextually and literally. Since different characters will bring a different personality to the conversation furthermore how they shared their utterances towards their target speaker will affect their future actions.

Bibliography

- Allwood, J., Nivre, J., & Ahlsén, E. (1992). On the semantics and pragmatics of linguistic feedback. *Journal of Semantics*, 9(1), 1–26. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jos/9.1.1>
- Carter, N., Bryant-Lukosius, D., DiCenso, A., Blythe, J., & Neville, A. J. (2014). The use of triangulation in qualitative research. *Oncology Nursing Forum*, 41 (5), 545–547. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1188/14.ONF.545-547>
- Gasparatou, R. (2018). How to do things with words: Speech acts in education. *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, 50(5), 510–518. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2017.1382353>
- Jimmi, & Sidauruk, J. (2020). Symbolism Discussion of the Angels and Demons Movie. *Wiralodra English Journal*, 4(2), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.31943/wej.v4i2.92>
- Jürgens, A.-S., Dick, L., & Tesche, T. (2015). How to do things...: Sprechaktexperimente im intermediären Musiktheaterlabor. *Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag*, 301–320. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.14361/9783839429693-021>
- Lambert, V. a., & Lambert, C. E. (2013). Qualitative Descriptive Research: An Acceptable Design. *Pacific Rim International Journal of Nursing Research*, 16(4), 255–256. <http://antispam.kmutt.ac.th/index.php/PRIJNR/article/download/5805/5064>
- Minnesota, U. of. (n.d.). *What is a Speech Act?* Retrieved September 8, 2021, from <https://carla.umn.edu/speechacts/definition.html>
- Sankaravelayuthan, R., & Vidyapeetham, A. V. (2018). *Compiled by Prof . Rajendran Sankaravelayuthan Coimbatore February 2018. February.*
- Wang, H., & Zou, Y. (2018). The Semantic Features of “v+adv” in

Native English Public Speaking
Setting. *Theory and Practice in
Language Studies*, 8(12), 1636.
<https://doi.org/10.17507/tpls.0812.09>