

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF THE RELATED OF LITERATURE

This chapter present the review of the related literature which includes the concepts of speech act. Since its beginnings, Speech Act Theory has treated promising as a paradigmatic or prototypical illocutionary act, if not *the* such act. Austin (1962) uses the promise far more frequently than any other type of speech act to illustrate successively the notions of performative utterance, force and illocutionary act<sup>1</sup>.

#### A. Speech Act

A speech act is an utterance that has permormative function in language and communication. Almost any speech act is really the performance of several acts at once, distinguished by different aspects of the speakers intention. There is the act of saying something, what one does in saying it, such as requesting or promising, and how one is trying to affect one audience. The speech acts of any language provide their speakers with culture-specific categories of verbal interaction. Speech acts can shed a great deal of ligt on broader cultural themes, but equally the significance of any particulars speech acts category can only be fully

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<sup>1</sup> Antonio Blanco Salgueiro. Promises, Threats, and The Foundations of Speech Act Theory. (Madrid: International Pragmatics Association). 2010

understood in broader cultural context. Further, cultures may differ in the rules when certain speech acts can be appropriately performed<sup>2</sup>.

The contemporary use of term goes back to Austin development of performative utterance and his theory of locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocution acts. Speech acts are commonly taken to include such acts as promising, ordering, greeting, warning, inviting and congratulating. Speech acts can be categorised under various headings encompassing requests, questions, arguments, denials and others<sup>3</sup>.

Austin's analysis of meaning is unique in the sense that meaning is not explained through some forms of reduction<sup>4</sup>. In Reductive theories of meaning, complexities of meaning expressed by a sentence are reduced by a single criterion to something else, and this is claimed to be the process of explaining the meaning of the sentence.

In this case the researcher wants to know the variant function of speech act. Speech can be tools to delivered something meanings. The way in used speech acts can give some effect in the successfully the purpose delivered or not. Good speech act can make some purpose delivered fluency and can persuade the listener to follow the purpose from the speakers.

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<sup>2</sup> Hadher Hussein Abbood Ad-Darraji, et.al. "Offering as a Comissive and Directive Speech Act : Consequence for Cross-Culture Communication", International Journal of Scientific and Research Publication, 2(March, 2012), 1-5

<sup>3</sup> Kuang Ching He. Pragmatics: the speech act identified in the utterances of a bilingual child under two years old. (Polyglossia: Polyglossia vol. 13). 2007

<sup>4</sup> Etsuko Oishi. Austin's Speech Act Theory and The Speech Situation. (Amsterdam: Esercizi Filosofici 1, 2006) p. 1-14

Austin, on the other hand, tried to describe (the total speech act in the total speech situation) and warned against oversimplifying complexities of meaning, in particular, by reducing meaning to descriptive meaning. It has come to be seen that many specially perplexing words embedded in apparently descriptive statements do not serve to indicate some specially odd additional feature in the reality reported, but to indicate (not to report) the circumstances in which the statement is made or reservations to which it is subject or the way in which it is to be taken and the like<sup>5</sup>.

## **B. Classification of Speech Act**

There are many classification of speech acts according some authors. In this explanation, the researcher explains the classification of speech acts according to Austin, and Searle.

### 1. Austin Theory

These are important in understanding function and use of speech acts. According to Austin 1962, to perform three simultaneous acts: one locutionary act, one illocutionary act and one perlocutionary act. Austin called these special kinds of utterances performatives (e.g. baptising, marrying). Related to performative utterances is a special class of performative verbs (e.g. apologize, criticize, approve). Performatives are not judged to be true or false, rather they are happily or unhappily performed. To be happily performed certain conditions

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<sup>5</sup> Austin, J.L. *How to do things with words: The William James Lectures delivered at Harvard University in 1955*. Ed. J.O.(Urmson. London: Oxford University Press).1962.

must be fulfilled (felicity conditions), e.g. to give a sentence in court, the act must be performed by a judge.

There are many things that we say which cannot meet these kinds of truth conditions but which are nevertheless, valid and which do things that go beyond their literal meaning. In the same way that we perform physical acts, we also perform acts by using language. That is, we use language to give orders, to make requests, to give warning or to give advice, in other words, to do things that go beyond the literal meaning of what we say. Austin argued that there are three kinds of act which occur with everything we say. These are the locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act.

a. Locutionary act

The locutionary act is an act of how a person produces the utterance or to produce a meaningful linguistic expression. When the speaker uses his/her organ of speech to produce utterance, then, indirectly there is the locutionary act in his/her utterance. In other words, locutionary act is the acts of the speaker in using his/her organ of speech to produce utterances or refers to the literal meaning of the actual words, such as it is hot in here referring to the temperature.

b. Illocutionary act

In every utterance, there must be function. The function which is found in the utterance is called the illocutionary act. For

instance, “I promise to give you some money”, that utterance is not only a statement but it also binds the speaker to what he just said. This is because that utterance intention is the fact that the speaker will do something in the future or we can say that speakers promises something. Therefore, illocutionary act of an utterance above is the act of promising.

c. Perlocutionary act

Perlocutionary act is the effect of the utterance which the speaker said to the hearer, in other word refers to the effect this utterance has on the thought or action of the other person. The example in the situation, someone requests to turn on the condition and the effect that will be given by the hearer can be someone get up and turn on the air condition.

2. Searle Theory

Speech acts are characteristically performed in the utterance of sounds or the making or marks. Characteristically when one speaks one means something by what one says, and what one says, the string of morphemes that one emits, is characteristically said to have a meaning. Like any classification, Searle’s taxonomy is based on a certain number of explicit criteria: illocutionary point, direction of fit, psychological state expressed, and a set of three conditions imposed on

each act (propositional content, preparatory condition, sincerity condition)<sup>6</sup>.

Searle categorizes speech act according to their illocutionary purpose. For instance, what the speaker is doing with the utterance, how they fit in the world, their expressed psychological state, and their propositional content. According to Searle, there are five categories of speech acts<sup>7</sup>.

a. Assertive Acts

An assertive act is an attempting to explain or tell the addressee how things are and the actual state of affairs comprising a specific idea, proposition or belief. These acts include asserting, concluding, informing, predicting and reporting.

b. Directive Acts

These are employed to get somebody to do or not to do something or the addressors try to make addressees do something or not doing something according to addressor's desire. The types of directive can be categorized in five terms those are suggestion, command, order, request, and warning.

c. Commissive Acts

In these acts the speakers commit themselves to future actions. The act can be a promise, a simple statement but the

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<sup>6</sup> Denis Vernant. *The Classification of Speech Acts Revisited: a Dialogical and Action Perspective*. (France: University of Grenoble). 1986

<sup>7</sup> Ilyas, *The Speech Act Analysis*, 501

function is that the person is committed to the statement she/he has given. The intention behind commissive acts is that of offering, promising, refusing, vowing, and volunteering.

d. Expressive Acts

These speech acts state what the speaker feels, his/her psychological state. These can be statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy or sorrow.

e. Declarative Acts

Declarative acts are statements or expressions that change the world by their utterance, for example a minister saying now I pronounce you husband and wife and the judge saying, the court sentences you to ten years imprisonment.

### **C. Functions of Speech Act**

According with two theories above, the researcher most interested using Austin theory in his research. The researcher choose Austin because Austin classified speech acts into some classification. There are many classification of speech acts according the types of speech acts. In this explanation the researcher explains the classification of speech acts types locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts. To say something is, according to Austin, to perform three simultaneous acts: one locutionary

act, one illocutionary act and one perlocutionary act<sup>8</sup>. That is the function of speech act according with Austin theory.

1. Locutionary act

This is the act of saying something. It has a meaning and it creates and understandable utterly to convey or express.

Example : the locutionary acts describes a dangerous situation.

2. Illocutionary act

It is performed as an act to saying something or as an act of opposed to saying something. The illocutionary utterance has a certain fore of it. It well well versed with certain tones, attitudes, feelings, or emotions. There will be an intention of the speaker or others i illocutionary utterance. It is often used as a tone of warning in day today life.

Example : the illocutionary act acts as a force of the warning

3. Perlocutionary act

It normally creates a sense of consequential effects on the audiences. The effects may be in the form of thoughts, imaginations, feelings or emotions. The effects upon the addresses is the main charactership of perlocutionary utterances.

Example : perlocutionary acts frighten the addresses

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<sup>8</sup> Jan Ljunberg. Speech Act on Trial. (Sweedon: Scandinavian Journal of Information System, 1996). P.29-52



#### **D. Communication**

Communication is the process participants use to exchange information and ideas, needs, and desire<sup>9</sup>. The participant includes speaker and hearer with an intention that conveyed by the speaker so that there is a message between interactions. The degree to which a speaker is successful in communicating, measured by the appropriateness and effectiveness of the message, is called communicative competence. Many aspects that influence how the communication can be success, language and also speech are just another aspect. The most important aspects that may enhance or change the linguistic code can be classified as paralinguistic, nonlinguistic, and metalinguistic.

Paralinguistic codes, including intonation, stress or emphasis, speed or rate of delivery, and pause or hesitation, are superimposed on speech to signal attitude or emotion. All of the signal and symbol is for integrated the meaning or intention of the utterance.

A rising pitch can change a statement into a question, while a down pitch turn the same sentence into a telling. The emphasis, asides, emotions, importance of the information conveyed, and the role and status of the speaker, all of them can be created by the signal of pitch. Another aspect like stress can make an emphasis. Stress has ben shown to speed memory retrieval and to aid comprehension, especially on the initial syllable where it confirms the listener's prediction of the word, Gow & Gordon (1993).

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<sup>9</sup> Robert E.Owens, Jr., Language Development An Introduction 5th edition(USA: A pearson Education Company, 2000), 11

The excitement, familiarity with the content, and perceived comprehension of the listener, those are can be the factors of the communication especially the content of the utterance. The more people excite of something, they tend to talk fast than usual. Not only exciting of the content that talk about but also they know well the information of the content. The speed of speaker talking something can be the signal for how extent they somprehend the information of the content.

The communication is a process including encoding, transmitting, and decoding the intended message, that processed by the listener and speaker as the participant. The communication happpens with some factors beside the participant, speech and language. There are symbol and signal that can influence the meaning of the content. How communication is called success in appropriateness and effectiveness in the message that is conveyed influences by many aspects involved. The degree of speaker is successful in conveying the message well called communicative competence.