

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter provides explanation related theories used in this study, such as definition of speech act, Austin's theory and theoretical framework.

#### A. Speech Act

A speech act is an utterance that serves a function in communication. We perform speech acts when we offer an apology, greeting, order, promise, congratulate, request, complaint, invitation, compliment than or refusal. A speech act might contain just one word, as in "I'm promise!" to perform a promise, or several words or sentences: "I'm sorry I forgot your birthday". Speech act includes real-life interactions and require not only knowledge of the language but also appropriate use of that language within a given culture.<sup>1</sup>

Speech act refer to utterances which perform various functions in social life or communication with each other, such a greeting, complaining and so on.<sup>2</sup> It means that speech acts are expressions or utterances used in daily communication. Study speech act is important since all kinds of communications involve linguistic acts. Linguistic communication here is seen as the production of the symbol, word and sentence to perform speech acts in daily communication.<sup>3</sup>

According to Austin, speech act is a minimal function unit in human communication. A word is the smallest free from found in language and a morpheme is the small set unit of

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<sup>1</sup> Ibid

<sup>2</sup> Paul Baker and Sibonile Eleci, *Key Terms in Discourse Analysis*, (London: Continuum Internasional Publishing Group, 2011), 138.

<sup>3</sup> Jhon R. Searle, *Speech acts: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language* (Oxford: Alden Press, 1969), 16.

language that carries information about meaning, the basic unit of communication is a speech act. We perform speech acts when we offer an apology, greeting request, complaint, invitation, compliment, order, promise or refusal. A speech act might contain just one word. “Hi!” to perform a greeting, or several words or sentences: “I’m sorry I forgot your birthday” to perform an apology. Speech act include real-life interactions and require not only knowledge of the language but also appropriate use of that language within a given culture.<sup>4</sup>

Speech act theory was proposed by John Langshaw Austin and has been developed by John Rogers Searle. Both of them believes that language is not only used to inform or to describe things, it is often used to “do things “, and to perform acts. Example: You are fired. It actions performed via utterances are generally called speech acts; the uttering of the relevant words the relevant words is the action itself; without the utterance the action is not done. There are called performative sentences and the verbs used are called performative verbs.<sup>5</sup> Speech act theory was developed from the basic belief that language is used to perform actions. The meaning and action are related to language. They apply to the speaker’s communicative intention n producing an utterance. The speaker expects that his/her communicative intention will be recognized by the hearer.

## **B. Austin’s Theory**

The researcher used theory speech act by Anstin. Austin’s substituted a three way contrast among the kinds of acts that are performed when language is put to use, namely the distinction between Locutionary, Illocutionary and perlocutionary acts, all of which are characteristic of most utterances, including standard examples of both performatives and constatives.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.carla.umn.edu/speechacts/difintion.html>

<sup>5</sup> Martin. (2009) *After New Media: everywhere and always on*. In G. Creeber, & R. Martin (Eds.), *Digital curtures . Understanding new media*(pp. 175-169). New York:Mcgraw Hill Open University Press

<sup>6</sup>Etsuko Oishi, *EserciziFlosofici 1*, 2006,pp. 1-14 ISSN 1970-0164

According to Austin, Locutionary act is the basic act of utterance, or the basic act of producing a meaningful linguistic expression. It is description of what the speaker says. It means the Locutionary acts just to know the meaning of spoken utterances, not questioning the purpose or function of the speech. An example of speech acts locutionary is when someone says "my body tired". Speakers of speech do not refer to a specific purpose to the hearer. This speech means that the speaker is in a state of extreme fatigue, without intending to ask for attention by way of example massaged by the hearer. This sentence is spoken solely to inform something without a tendency to do anything let alone to influence the opponent he said.

Illocutionary acts, this is what the speaker does in uttering a sentence. The illocutionary act is the utterances which have a certain power, in this case the speakers not only produce sentences that have a certain sense or specific reference, but also speech illocutionary it means to produce sentences with a view to contribute to the specific interaction of communication. Illocutionary acts include such as stating, requesting, ordering, accosting, accusing, admitting, apologizing, challenging, congratulating, declining, giving permission, giving way, greeting, naming, offering, praising, promising, thanking.

The third of Austin's categories of acts in the perlocutionary acts, the effect of on illocutionary act upon the hearer. It means Spoken utterances speakers often have an effect or influence power (perlocutionary force). Speech acts intended to influence the hearer is this an act of perlocutionary. Speech acts that have an effect on the feelings, thoughts or

actions of either the speaker or the listener.<sup>7</sup>

### **a. Austin's Speech Act**

In this study the researcher used the speech act theory of Austin. Austin distinguishes five classes all performative speech acts can be classified according to what uttering action intended to achieve. Austin suggests these classes with the caveat that some classification can be applied in the future but we have to understand about the theory that does not change the meaning.<sup>8</sup>

#### a). Verdictives

An utterance that gives a finding 'as to something'. The content of the verdict can be viewed as being either true or false, but the verdict in and of itself can only be viewed as being felicitous or infelicitous after it has been pronounced regardless of truths.

#### b). Execratives

Execrative is a pronouncement that something is to be or "giving of a decision in favor of against a certain course of action". It means when someone give posts and comments on facebook and the reader give some comments to giving a decision.

#### c). Commissives

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Loftur Arni Björvinsson, *Speech Act Theory*, Mai 2012

These are utterances which commit the speaker to a certain undertaking or action, utterance which asserts an obligation on part of the speaker. Promises and other declaration of intent are prime examples of commissives.

d). Behabitives

This class includes aspects of social behavior like congratulation, insulting, greetings and apologizing.

e). Expositives

Acts of expounding of views, conducting of arguments, and classifying. Ex. Deny, inform, concede. Clarify reasons the way utterances fit the proceedings of conversation or arguments, communication.

### C. Previous Studies

In conducting the research, the researcher also pays attention to a considerable previous study.

The journal researcher was done by Sannallyas and Dr.QomarKhushi in their research under title: Facebook Status Update: A Speech Act Analysis. The results revealed that status messages were most frequently constructed with expressive speech acts, assertive and directives. In addition, a new category of poetic verses was also found in the data. The findings also showed that various socialization patterns emerge thorough the sharing of feelings, information and ideas.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup>Sanaallyas, Dr. QamarKhushi, *Facebook Status Updates: A Speech Act Analysis*, ISSN-L:2223-9553,ISSN:2223-9944 Vol.3,No.2 September 2012

The second research is from the thesis was done by Putri from English Department Faculty Of Education State College For Islam Studies (STAIN) Kediri in her research paper entitled “Speech Acts Analysis On Steve Jobs’ Speech At StanfordUniversityCommencement”. She focused on speech act in Steve Job’s speech and how the articulated in terms of the locution. The result of the research which is related to the theory, there are some locutions which function as assertion, request, and command. But, most of the utterances function as an assertion; while the rest of the utterances function as request and command.<sup>10</sup>

The last is from the journal researcher was done by Jessica Lee Pugh in their research undertitle: A Qualitative Study of The Facebook Socialnetwork: The Desire to Influence, Associate, and Construct a Representative and Ideal Identity. This study extends prior research of computer mediated environments (personal websites) to develop theory of how people contemporarily define themselves in their social online space. As the result, the strong and weak network ties develop mutual relationship of self-esteem, a sense of belonging, and support on facebook. In an online environment, facebook users are driven to the site to employ their influence, ignite their curiosity, and seek adventure as they communicate and learn from their networks. In this interactive experience users can share more than ever before, and will continue to improve online communications by making online identities more intertwined and reflective of real-life relationships.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>FimaRizaniaPutri.*Speech Acts Analysis On Steve Jobs’ Speech At StanfordUniversty Commencement.*, Unpublished Thesis (Kediri; English Department Faculty Of Education State College For Islam Studies(STAIN), 2012)

<sup>11</sup>Jessica Lee Pugh , A Qualitative Study of The Facebook Socialnetwork: The Desire to Influence, Associate, and Construct a Representative and Ideal Identity, May 2 010.