

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, the scope and limitation of study and the definition of key terms.

A. The Background of the Study

Language is system of sounds, words, patterns, etc used by human to communicate, thoughts and feelings¹. Every person needs language to communicate and to utter their utterance with the others to get what they want. Because of that, the communication becomes main part in life. In communication, every utterance which is uttered by the speaker has certain intention, purpose, and meaning. The listener should find out the purpose of speaker not only by the words or phrase that are formed, but also by the meaning inside the utterances. The speaker's purpose can be explicitly (direct) or implicitly (indirect). Yule² called the study of speaker's meaning is Pragmatics.

Pragmatics became popular in human societies nowadays, as concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker and interpreted by listener. With pragmatics, people can talk people's intended meanings, their assumption, their purposes or goals, and the kinds of action that they are performing when they speaks³. Studying pragmatics is quite interesting because this is study of utterance meaning. Each utterance that people say always has meaning. In pragmatics, speech act is one of the important studies. Speech acts is not just acts such as make a word, but also have more meaning behind the words uttered. There are

¹ A.S. Hornby, *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary of Current English 4th Ed.* (Oxford: Oxford University Press., 1989), 700.

² Yule, G. *Pragmatics.* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996), 3.

³ Ibid, 4.

three kinds of speech act, they are; locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. This research will focus on analyzing the speech act especially illocutionary act.

Illocutionary act is one of the ways to observe the meaning behind the utterance that is uttered. Illocutionary act is sometimes found in the communication activity in the society. Searle cited in Wardaugh stated that illocutionary act must be performed “intentionally.” In order to communicate something in a language that will be understood by another speaker of that language as an utterance, it must (1) be correctly uttered with its conventional meaning and (2) satisfy a truth condition.

According to Searle⁴, illocutionary act is used to accomplish some communicative purposes, such as asking, ordering, suggesting, requesting, informing, advising, greeting. He said that there are five categories of utterances found in illocutionary act. They are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. In this research, Searle's theories will be useful to complete the research because this theory accomplishes the communicative purposes or this theory to solve the problem. Another opinion from Edmonson⁵ stated that illocutions are the counters used by speaker to negotiate conversational outcomes. So, illocutionary will be studied about meaning that is uttered. Because of that, the researcher is interested to analyze illocutionary act in the public speech from the famous person like Barack Obama.

Speech is an activity presented by people without visual aids⁶. According to GorysKeraf,⁷ speech is an activity to convey ideas orally using the reasoning for correct and utilize aspects non utility (facial expressions, eye contact, gestures, etc.) to support the efficiency and effectiveness of the disclosure of the idea to the people in a particular event. The purpose of the speech is to inform, to persuade, to entertain, to stimulate action or further

⁴ Searle, John. *Expression and Meaning; Studies in the Theory of Speech Acts*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979), 2.

⁵ Edmonson, W. *Spoken Discourse. "A Model for Analysis"*. (New York: Longman, 1981).

⁶ <http://pdf.University of Illinois Board of Trustees.U.S.Department of Agriculture>. Access on Apr 9th, 2017.

⁷ Keraf, Gorys. *Komposisi Sebuah Pengantar Kemahiran Bahasa*. (Jakarta: Nusa Indah, 1994).

interest in a topic of community concern. Usually, the important people who have the important position will do speech. Every speech from the importance people will interest the society to try understanding about the meaning from the speech. In this research, the researcher has chosen the speech from the important and the popular people in the world, which is the ex 44th president from USA Barack Obama.

Barack Obama is an important person in the world, his speech always interest many people. Now, this research will take his speech on academic high school to be analyzing by using illocutionary act, because the type of illocutionary acts more dominant than locutionary act or perlocutionary act in speech. From this speech by Barack Obama, we can learn about educational, culture, religion, moral or other value implied there. This speech will explain about education because he presented his speech in the High School. The reason why the researcher chooses Obama's speech as the subject because Obama is the popular president in his era, many people like him and support him. His speech in the Benjamin Banneker Academic High School give the students more information and knowledge about the educational world, Obama also give the spirit and motivation for the students to still study and focus so they will success.

His speech has the purpose to give information and motivates to the students, so they can develop their ability and skills to study. Nowadays, education is very important because without education people will be never having the goals of life. Many students have motivates to study and reach their dreams, but also many students loss their motivate to study and does not have the big dreams. So, the decision for give the speech at school is the best way to make the students understand about the important of education and dreams. Good education is the way to find the successful life.

According to the background of the study above, the researcher considered the title **“An Analysis of Illocutionary Acts in Barack Obama’s Speech at *Benjamin Banneker***

Academic High School Washington, D.C. 2016". It purpose to explain to the readers that they can use illocutionary act as the tool to find out the behind meaning from another speech.

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the research problem are:

1. What types of illocutionary acts presented in Barack Obama's speech at *Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Washington, D.C. 2016*?
2. What are the functions of illocutionary act uttered in Barack Obama's speech at *Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Washington, D.C. 2016*?

C. The Objective of the Study

The objective of this research is to answer the problem of this research:

1. To analyze the types of illocutionary presented in Barack Obama's speech at *Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Washington, D.C. 2016*.
2. To analyze the functions of illocutionary act uttered in Barack Obama's speech at *Benjamin Banneker Academic High School Washington, D.C. 2016*.

D. The Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes and expects that this study is expected to be useful for the students and the reader.

1. For the students, they can improve their knowledge about speech act theory, especially about illocutionary act and know how the way to analyze it.
2. For the readers, they can know about utterances that contains about illocutionary acts. Many people have different meaning about an utterance. This result of the study can be used for the readers to more interest and motivated about education.

E. The Scope and limitation of Study

The scope and limitation of the problem are to limit the object of the problem. This study only analyzes the illocutionary acts and the function of illocutionary act, which are presented by Barack Obama's in *Benjamin Banneker Academic High School* Washington, D.C. 2016. The researcher studied the types of the illocutionary act are classified as assertive act, directive act, commissive act, expressive act and declaration act. And the functions of illocutionary act, that classified as competitive function, convivial function, collaborative function and conflictive function. Furthermore, the researcher also pays attention on the context of the utterance. In this analysis, the researcher use theory about types of illocutionary act proposed by Searle⁸ and use Leech theory about the functions of illocutionary act⁹. Then, the researcher determines the type and the function of the illocutionary act that occurs in the data.

F. The Definition of Key Term

To give same perception and to avoid misunderstanding of the concept of study, it is essential to explain the terms used in this study:

1. Pragmatics

According to Wagiman¹⁰, pragmatics is the study of utterance meaning, sentences that are used in communication between speaker and a hearer. There are some definitions about pragmatics from some researchers. Based on Mey¹¹ pragmatics is study the use of language in human communication as determined by the condition of society.

2. Speech act

⁸ Ibid.,

⁹ Leech, G.N. *Principles of Pragmatics*. (England: Longman Group Limited. 1993), 104.

¹⁰ Adisutrisno, Wagiman. *Semantics – an Introduction to Basic Concept*. (Yogyakarta: Penerbit ANDI Yogyakarta. 2008), 6.

¹¹ Mey, Jacob. *Pragmatics: an Introduction*. (London: Basil Blackwell. 2001), 6.

Speech acts is utterance of speech that constitutes some sort of act¹². Speech act usually has the purpose to give warning, information, etc. Yule¹³ said that speech acts is actions performed via utterances. It is like when we give utterance to someone, our utterance will performs various act such as stating, asking, thanking, etc. For example: *Don't disturb me, please!* It is include in warning act.

3. Illocutionary act

Illocutionary act is an act which is performed by saying something e.g. warning, asking, informing, etc. Austin¹⁴ stated that illocutionary act is “performance of an act in saying something”. According to Searle, illocutionary act divided into five types such as assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declaration.

4. Function of illocutionary act

Leech has proposed the illocutionary acts based on its functions. It is based on how illocutionary acts relate to the social goals or purposes of arranging and setting up in a polite ways. There are four types of illocutionary act functions such as, competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive.

5. Speech

Speech is an activity presented by people without visual aids¹⁵. According to GorysKeraf,¹⁶ speech is an activity to convey ideas orally using the reasoning for correct and utilize aspects non utility (facial expressions, eye contact, gestures, etc.) to support the efficiency and effectiveness of the disclosure of the idea to the people in a particular event.

¹² Parker, Frank. *Linguistics for Non-Linguistics*. (London: Taylor & Francis Ltd. 1946), 14.

¹³ Ibid., 47.

¹⁴ Ibid.,

¹⁵ <http://pdf.University of Illinois Board of Trustees.U.S.Department of Agriculture>. Access on Apr 9th, 2017.

¹⁶ Ibid.,

The purpose of the speech is to inform, to persuade, to entertain, to stimulate action or further interest in a topic of community concern.

6. Benjamin Banneker Academic High School

Benjamin Banneker Academic High School is a magnet high school located in Washington, D.C., that was originally built to serve as a neighborhood Junior High School. Some people consider it to be the top high school in the District of Columbia Public Schools, and one of the best in the region, because of its strenuous curriculum and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs.