

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

The researcher provides several points of introduction. It consists of a background of the study, research question, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

People always interact with each other in society because they are social beings. That thing must be happened and cannot be avoided. While trying to relate with others they will have communication. Littlejohn (1983) as cited by Ruler in 2018 said that communication is the process of delivering ideas, information, messages, and conversation among people. Thus, the person who conveys the information always has the purpose of the information or message given. Communication is a very important thing in every life. Communication is usually done by at least a person who tells the information, the messages delivered, and at least a person who will receive the information (Richards & Schmidt, 2010). The most important thing of communication is the tool or the instrument of communication that is a language.

Gee (1993) as cited by Rabiah in 2012 states the primary function of language is to communicate information. It means that the speaker intends to convey a certain meaning to the hearer, while the hearer tries to recognize what the speaker means by saying an utterance in a particular context. In order to understand the speaker intended meaning the hearer must develop the context of their communication. The context in linguistics known as pragmatic. One of

study that is carried out in pragmatics is speech acts. Speech acts contain in our daily life use to make a conversation with other people. According to Peccei (1999), the speech act is an act that the speaker's performance when making an utterance. The actions are performed via utterance consist of three acts; they are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. According to Searle (1969), there are five categories of speech acts. They are representatives, directives, commissive, expressive, and declarative.

The importance of understanding the various aspects of speech acts is a must, so that communication can be well established. The existence of understanding between the speaker and the listener is a very important thing that will indicate that the communication is running smoothly. Yule (1996) as cited by Budiasih in 2016, pragmatics is divided into four scopes. First, pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning. Second, pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning. Third pragmatics is the study of how communication gets more than is said. The last, the pragmatics study of the expression of relative distance. He said when people talk, they use the language to accomplish a variety of functions such as expressing different emotions, starting from opinion, or even insulting someone. All of the things described earlier can be said to act speech in the process of speaking. Furthermore, he stated that in the speech acts study, there are three things to consider, namely the language used, the intention of the conversation, and the interaction in the social context.

Hymes (1966) as cited by Ilma in 2006, speech act in the teaching and learning process of English as a foreign language is related to four competencies; they are communicative, grammatical, sociolinguistic, and strategic competence. It has great influence in order to gain good communicative competence in the process of building a good understanding among the speakers in order to avoid misleading and misinterpretation in their minds. In the modern era, humans communicate in many ways. Information and communication technologies (ICT) giving an impact on socioeconomic and sociopolitical especially in a mobile phone (Lee, 2018). Humans should not always meet with other persons in communication. The development of technology makes humans easier to communicate and to interact with others in different places quickly without having the meet such as *Youtube*.

There are some reasons why the researcher chooses this topic as the research. First, the speech act is important to learn. According to Hussein (2019), the speech acts learned by EFL English to develop their ability to succeed in academic or social communication. Second, based on the problem worldwide especially Corona-viruses (Covid-19) Joe Biden as president-elect United States America 2020 speech about covid19. The researcher chooses Joe Biden's speech because he is the most influential person in the United States. He is the president, so his speech is interest and it is very concerned by many people. His speech is also interesting because the topic of a social phenomenon issue about covid-19. Third, YouTube is the world's third most popular online destination, has transformed from a video-sharing site into a job opportunity

for content creators in both new and mainstream media (Holland, 2016). Fourth, based on the previous study most of the relevant studies focus on speech act in the movie (see, e.g. Syahputra 2019; Putri, Ramendra & Swandana 2019, Putri, Sartini & Fajri 2020). The researcher also wants to find the speech act of Joe Biden's speech utterance with the theory of speech act by Searle (1969).

Being conscious or not, people apply pragmatics in their communication. They have certain purposes, implicit or explicit in doing communication. If they can understand the implicit meaning of an utterance, they will get much information unmentioned. Therefore, the researcher wants to make an observation about Speech Act Analysis on Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19.

1.2 Research Question

Based on background above, the researcher formulates the problem of the study as follow:

1. What types of speech acts are presented in Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19?
2. What are the functions of illocutionary acts in Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the statements of the problem above, the objectives of this research:

1. To find out the types of speech acts are presented in Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19.
2. To find out the functions of illocutionary acts in Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The findings of this research are expected to be useful, relevant theoretically and practically. The significance of this research formulated as follows:

1. Theoretically, the researcher expects that the result of this study will explore the theory of Speech Act. Furthermore, it also becomes a value-added treasure of scientific knowledge in the field of education in linguistics.
2. Practically, this research is expected to be useful for readers to give contribution to the understanding of language use in social media, and the understanding of speech acts.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is focused on Speech Act on the speech of Joe Biden as president-elect America's speech about covid-19 briefing. The researcher limits this study through analyzing kinds of speech acts and function of illocutionary acts found in Joe Biden's Speech about Covid-19 in the YouTube and the data is gained by online at 10th November 2020. In a

fact, there are many objects that can be analyzed using Speech Acts, but the researcher more focused on the speech of Joe Biden.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

The researcher gives appropriate meaning for the definition of key terms to avoid misinterpretation about the use of terms. The terms are defined as:

1. Speech Acts

Speech acts is action via utterances. Speech act is an utterance that has performative function in language and communication. Speech act is when people communicate such for making statement, describing some events or processes, or stating of affair, but also for doing something such as for making question, ordering and requesting.

2. Joe Biden's Speech

Joe Biden's speech discusses about covid-19. Joe Biden's speech communicate his promise to the people of America to control Covid-19. He promised trying to control Covid-19 by re-opening the business safely, distributing vaccines fairly and free, and returning children to school safely.