

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some aspects which relates to the topic studied. It consists of background of the research, research problem, objective of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the research

Speech act is a term in linguistics and the philosophy of language referring to the way natural language performs actions in human to human language interactions, such as dialogues¹. There are three speech act based on John L. Austin's theory they are locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. According to Searle there are three levels of action carried by language in parallel²: first, there is the locutionary act which consists of the actual utterance and its exterior meaning. Second, there is the illocutionary act, which is the real intended meaning of the utterance, its semantic force. finally, there is the perlocutionary act which is the actual effect of the utterance, such as scaring, persuading, encouraging, etc³.

Language on internet is an area of great interest to many students from the area of linguistics, media sciences, psychology and sociology. According to Crystal⁴:

focus shifts from technology to people and purpose, the role of language becomes central. 'If the internet is a revolution then there is likely to be a linguistic revolution'.

Social media become a media for people to express their emotional feelings when they do something in their daily activities. Blackberry Messenger

¹ Jan Renkema, Discourse Study an Introductory Textbook (Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 1993), 21.

² Cristian Moldovan, 2011 "Automated Speech Act Classification for Online Chat", (online) <http://image.slidesharecdn.com/294-130730164515-phpapp02/95/automatic-speech-act-classification-for-online-chat//23> september 2014

³ Ibid

⁴ Crystal, D. (2001). *Language and the internet*. UK: CUP

(BBM) is one of the medias in technology that is commonly used on Smartphone⁵. Since the Smart phones become popular, many messaging services are launched but most people are interested to use BlackBerry Messenger and it has become very popular among them.

BlackBerry Messenger is a communication tool for people. This kind of application is designed as a way for friends, family, or strangers to have discussions and interaction or to get in touch with each other. It also helps the people to share their experiences.

BlackBerry Messenger allows students to express themselves, communicate, and collect profiles that highlight their talents and experience. Students are increasingly employing these social networks for friends' news feeds, personal updates, events and activities, notes, and messages. As the researcher discovers in some of statuses updated by students of STAIN Kediri in BlackBerry messenger, some abbreviations or shortcuts are the example that break the grammar or spelling and it becomes the major interest why the researcher takes this subject in this research.

An analysis of the status in BlackBerry messenger will be the main concern in this research because it will reveal the most dominant expression of speech act commonly used by the students of STAIN Kediri. Nowadays, there are many people who use BlackBerry Messenger in their daily life to express what they have done. They sometimes express pain, likes, dislikes, joke, thanking, apologizing, welcoming and congratulating.

There some previous studies with similar framework have been conducted with various findings. The first research was conducted by Sana Ilyas entitled

⁵ Ashraf Atta, "The Impact of Technology (BBM & WhatsApp Application) on English Language use in Kuwait Document Transcript, International Journal of Applied Linguistic and English Literature, 4(July 2013)

“facebook status updates: a speech act analysis”⁶. Based on the analysis, most of student’s expression used expression act category because most of facebook’s statuses show these speech acts state what the speaker feels based on his/her psychological state. This psychological state emerges statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy or sorrow.

The second previous study by Johnson Yeboah’s on his research of “The Impact of Whatsapp Messenger Usage on Students Performance in Tertiary Institutions in Ghana”⁷. The study explained that whatsapp instead of making communication easier and faster. But in this study also explained about the weakness of whatsapp for students such as: whatsapp takes much of students study time, results in procrastination related problems, destroys students’ spellings and grammatical construction of sentences, leads to lack of concentration during lectures, results in difficulty in balancing online activities (whatsapp) and academic preparation and distracts students from completing their assignments and adhering to their private studies time table.

The third previous study was conducted by Cristian Moldovan which the title is “Automated Speech Act Classification for Online Chat”⁸. This research present the investigation on using supervised machine learning methods to automatically classify online chat posts into speech act categories, they are semantic categories indicating speakers’ intentions. Supervised machine learning methods presupposes the existence of annotated training data based on which machine learning algorithms can be used to learn the parameters of some model that was proposed to solve the task at hand.

⁶ Sana Ilyas, “ Facebook Status Updates: A Speech Act Analysis,” *Academic Research International*, 3(September 2012)

⁷ Johnson Yeboah, “The Impact of Wahatsapp Messenger Usage on Students Performance in Teaching Institute in Ghana”, *Journal of Education and Practice*, 5(2014)

⁸ Cristian Moldovan, 2011 “Automated Speech Act Classification for Online Chat”, (online)
<http://image.slidesharecdn.com/294-130730164515-phpapp02/95/automatic-speech-act-classification-for-online-chat//23> september 2014

The fourth previous study was carried out by Rosa S. Gistadotir in her research “Speech Act Recognition in Conversation Experimental Evidence”⁹. In this study the author tried to investigate participants’ competence in categorizing speech acts in the kind of action-underspecific sentences and explore the time-course of speech act inferencing using a self-paced reading paradigm and demonstrate that participants are able to categorize the speech acts with high accuracy, based on limited context.

In this research the researcher tries to analyze expressive category from Searle’s theory in speech act BBM status that produced by students of STAIN Kediri. It can be pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, thanking, apologizing, welcoming or congratulating. The correlations and important point of this analysis in education is to know the example of expressive speech act’s category by Searley’s theory in pleasure expression, pain expression, likes, dislikes, joy, thanking, apologizing, welcoming or congratulating.

A. Research problem

Based on the research above, the researcher wants to analyze

1. What expressive of speech acts are used by students of STAIN Kediri in BBM status?
2. How are the speech acts status expressed by students of STAIN Kediri in BBM?

B. Objective of study

The objective of this research based on the problem that is stated in previous points in to know:

1. The expressive speech acts are used by students of STAIN Kediri in BBM status.
2. How are the speech acts status expressed by students of STAIN Kediri in BBM.

C. Significance of the research

⁹ Rossa S. Gistadothir, 2007, “ Speech Act Recognition in Conversation Experimental Evidance” (online) http://image.slidesharecdn.com/294-130730164515-phpapp02/95/speech-act-recognition-in-conversation-experimental-evidence//24_jully2014

Numerous studies on the investigation of speech acts have been emerging through the years. Those studies also gives contributions to the educational system like other previous studies, this study also contribute to the field of discourse analysis. The important point of this research is to know the example of speech act in updating BBM status. The researcher will identify and classify the example of speech act.

D. Scope and limitation of the research

The objects of this research are students of STAIN Kediri who use BlackBerry Messenger application. Some of them express their emotional feeling in their daily activities in the form of status. According to Searle there are five categories of speech act namely representative, directive, poetic versus, expressive and declarative. In this case the researcher focuses on expressive category. The researcher collects the status since December 2014 until April 2015 and she got 67 statuses which is classified into 13 kinds of expressive speech acts.

E. Definition of Key Terms

The researcher provides meaning on every word that she writes in her research. This study aim is to understanding at the main point of every key terms that are commonly used by researcher in this research. Here are some key terms:

a. Speech act

Speech act is a term in linguistics and the philosophy of language referring to the way natural language performs actions in human to human language interactions, such as dialogues¹⁰.

b. BBM Status

BBM status is an update feature which allows users to discuss their thoughts, whereabouts, or important information with their friends.

c. Eexpressive

Expressive is Classification of Illocutionary act which indicate the speaker's psychological state of mind or attitude to some prior action or state of affairs.

d. Expression

Expression is any legal combination on symbols that represent a value.

¹⁰ Jan Renkema, *Discourse Study an Introductory Textbook* (Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 1993), 21.