

## Illocutionary Acts Found in Dinosaur Prison Movie

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**Abstract:** The title of this research is “Illocutionary Acts Found in Dinosaur Prison Movie”. The illocutionary act is a central category in speech act theory. Illocutionary act is accomplished via utterance with a communicative intention. All data analyzed in this research comes from the Movie Dinosaur Prison. The method used in this research is a descriptive qualitative approach. The analysis of this data employed the illocutionary act theory presented in Searle's book titled “Expression and Meaning: Studies in the Theory of Speech Acts” (1979). This theory was utilized to examine the various types of illocutionary acts evident in the data. Apart from that, another theory sourced from Leech's book “Pragmatics of Politeness” (2014), was employed to assess the function of illocutionary acts. This research employs three primary methods: Data Source, Data Analysis, and Data Collection. Furthermore, the examination of illocutionary act yielded a total of 40 utterances in this movie, they are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declaration. Overall, the findings of this research highlight the type and function of illocutionary act in the “Dinosaur Prison” movie. The most dominant type of illocutionary act identified in this movie is the Assertive illocutionary act, which predominated due to the characters predominantly making forceful statements intended to influence others to take action.

**Keywords:** Illocutionary Act, Type, Function, Dinosaur Prison

### INTRODUCTION

Implicit language is frequently utilized by individuals to express their intentions, meaning that their words may not always directly reflect what they truly mean. In communication, the speaker conveys their message to the listener through their speech. The term “utterance” refers to linguistic expressions used within a specific context. Misunderstandings can arise when the listener fails to fully grasp the speaker's message or when the meaning of the utterance is unclear. The speaker typically expects that the listener will understand their intended meaning. Successful communication occurs when the listener

comprehends the speaker's intended message.

The linguistic branch that studies how context influences the interpretation of language is called pragmatics. Pragmatics is the study of how speakers or writers convey meaning and how listeners or readers interpret that meaning to discern the intended message (Yule:1996). It goes beyond the literal meaning of words and examines how speakers use language in real-life situations to convey meaning effectively. By relating the situations in which, when, and by whom the language is spoken, it accurately illustrates how the language is understood. This is

because seemingly similar sentences can produce different meanings depending on the contextual background in which the expressions are employed. In the opinion of Yule (1996:3) pragmatics, defined as a subset of linguistics, examines the essence of communication between a speaker or writer and a reader or listener in terms of meaning. In terms of the intended meaning, Levinson (as cited in Huang, 2017), speech acts are a pragmatic theory that explores language concerning the speaker's utterances. This theory encompasses not only meaning but also action, signifying that the speaker expects the listener to comprehend the message and respond accordingly.

The action carried out by utterance is known as a speech act (Yule 2000). Speech acts are when the speaker makes a statement in which performing a specific action. Speech acts is not only about how the way we deliver a message, but it how we say something, and the hearer will understand what the speaker says. According to Leech's (1983:6), pragmatics is connected to meaning concerning the speech situation, and one of the components of a speech situation is a speech act. The speech situation itself serves as the backdrop for social interaction or is termed a discourse scenario. It depends on a variety of contextual aspects, and the components of a speech situation encompass participants, location, purpose, topic, and modality or channel. This pragmatic aspect entails an examination of speech acts. Concerning the precise definition of a speech act, we came to an agreement.

John L. Austin, a philosopher, formulated the concept of Speech Acts in 1962. The definition of a speech act is "an action carried out by a speaker through speech." According to Yule (1996:47), speech acts can be defined as activities or actions expressed through utterance. Stating the same idea, Birner (2013) also says that uttering something means doing

something. The concepts of speech acts proposed by Austin (1962) which mentioned there are three categories of speech acts exist: Locutionary Act, Illocutionary Act, and Perlocutionary act.

Locutionary act is the first type of the speech acts. A locutionary act is the basic act of producing an utterance, involving the pronunciation of words and their grammatical arrangement to convey meaning. It represents the literal or surface meaning of a statement, without considering the speaker's intention or the impact on the listener. The second type refers to the illocutionary act, which is achieved through speech with a communicative purpose. Illocutionary act focuses on what the speaker is trying to accomplish with their utterances rather than the literal meaning of the words they use. Austin (1962), describes that illocutionary acts are speech acts used to express the speaker's intentions, playing a crucial role in understanding the pragmatic dimensions of communication. According to Searle (2005) there are 5 types of illocutionary acts they are: Directives, Commissive, Expressive, Representatives, and Declarations. Meanwhile, Perlocutionary act refers to the impact or reaction produced by the listener or recipient after receiving an utterance. It involves the effect desired or achieved by the speaker through his communication. The perlocutionary act talks about producing the effect of the meaningful, intentional utterance. The illocutionary act is a central category in speech act theory. Speech acts serve the purpose of both expressing and doing something.

Understanding illocutionary acts can assist individuals in recognizing the purposes behind speech and avoiding misunderstandings during communication. Illocutionary acts can be described as communicative acts performed by speakers to achieve certain effects or purposes through language, such as making a request, giving a command, asking a

question, or making a statement. They involve the speaker's intention and the effect on the listener, beyond the literal meaning of the words used.

This research employs two theories for analyzing the data. The first theory is illocutionary acts suggested by Searle (1979) which is used to analyze types of illocutionary acts. The second theory is the function of illocutionary acts suggested by Leech (2014) which is used to analyze the function of illocutionary acts in this movie. Leech (2014) proposed the function of illocutionary acts, emphasizing how this theory relates to maintaining social harmony and establishing comity. It is according to how illocutionary acts relate to the social goals or purposes of establishing and maintaining politeness.

In Leech (1983), speech events were divided by their illocutionary function into four categories, they are: competitive, convivial, collaborative and conflictive. Competitive function, the illocutionary goal competes with the social goal. Convivial function, the illocutionary goal coincides with the social goal. Collaborative function, the illocutionary goal is indifferent to the social goal. Conflictive function, The illocutionary goal conflicts with the social goal. These terms provide a practical understanding of communication functions, though they may not align precisely with the categories proposed by specific linguistic theorists.

There are some studies focused on the use of illocutionary acts in various contexts. Firstly, Simbolon, Ribka (2016) conducted research to find out the illocutionary acts used in New Moon movie produced by Summit Entertainment. The findings show that New Moon dominantly used directives (33.50%) in the vampire-romance movie.

Secondly, Zakiyatil Fakhroh, Lailatul Musyarofah, Yuliyanto Sabat (2019) conducted research to find out the illocutionary acts found in The Speech of Emmanuel Macron in The United States

Congress. The findings shows that there are five types of Illocutionary acts found in Emmanuel's speech: directive in 30%, assertive in 28,57%, commissive in 15,71%, expressive in 14,28% and declarative in 11,42%.

Thirdly, Sinta Devi Budi Pangesti, Senowarsito, Arso Setyaji (2021) conducted research to find out the illocutionary acts used in Sandiaga Uno Interview. The findings shows that five types of illocutionary acts used during the interview: representative 66%, declaration 21%, commissive 7%, directive 4% and expressive 2%.

Lastly, Manik, Tiur (2021) conducted research to find out the illocutionary acts found in Sarcastics Utterances on Youtube's Got Talent Video. The findings shows that there are five types of Illocutionary acts performed: 46,4%) representative speech acts, (16,9%) expressive speech acts, (23,9%) directive speech acts, (9,8%) commissive speech acts and (2,8%) declarative speech acts.

The use of illocutionary acts is commonly encountered in various forms of communication, including advertisements, everyday conversations, speeches, and movie, where language is used to convey meaning and intentions. In the context of films, characters engage in dialogues. These dialogues consist of expressions that can have different meanings or intentions depending on whether the character is delivering them or responding to what is happening in the conversation.

The data in this research differs from previous research because this research will focus on the types of illocutionary acts found in movie. Movie is a part of the entertainment industry. Movies have a lot of genres such as comedy, action, romance, fantasy, drama, horror, thriller, etc. This research used a movie entitled "Dinosaur Prison" directed, by Tyler-James. Kingdom of the Dinosaurs starts as World War III breaks out, a small group of survivors make it to a bunker. When the supplies start

running low, Drew must lead a team to the surface. Once the team is on the surface, they learn of the devastation left on the surface. The dinosaurs have taken over and the facility is under attack from dinosaurs too. Dinosaur Prison is a 2023 British sci-fi horror monster movie about a detention facility that houses caged prehistoric creatures. A group of people find themselves trapped in a prison facility used to contain prehistoric creatures. Knowing that they could become the deadly dinosaur's dinner at any time, they must find a way out before they become extinct one.

Based on the explanation above, this research will focus on analyzing of the illocutionary acts contained in the Dinosaur Prison Movie, which has a horror genre. This movie was selected because it pertains to this research and features numerous instances where characters perform illocutionary acts through their dialogue, making it valuable data for the study.

### RESEARCH METODOLOGY

The method of research is essential for conducting scientific research. Every paper should possess a clear research strategy to facilitate and ensure its scientific rigor. Employing an appropriate methodology is crucial in conducting research to yield satisfactory outcomes. This research employs three primary methods: Data Source, Data Analysis, and Data Collection.

The data source used in this research is taken from the dialogue of the movie entitled "Dinosaur Prison Movie" which was released in 2023 and directed by Tyler-James. The data was obtained by analyzing the character's utterances in the movie with English subtitles, and the script of the Dinosaur Prison Movie 2023. The utterances were collected based on the types of illocutionary acts.

In this research, observation and note-taking were used to collect the data. The observation was applied to the

"Dinosaur Prison Movie" which has a duration of 1 hour, 12 minutes, and 12 seconds. It entails systematic observation of the illocutionary acts of its characters, including Officer Charter, Captain Hill, Dr. Albert, Officer James, Sarah, Officer Hynes, Liana, Beth, and Officer Ben. The data is acquired by watching the movie and then checking the dialogue of the character based on the subtitle and the movie script. The next step was to analyze and determine the dialogue that contained the illocutionary acts. The last step was to categorize and take note of the dialogue according to the types of illocutionary acts.

This research used a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. According to Creswell (2012), qualitative research involves analyzing data to create description and then interpreting the broader meaning of the finding. The data analysis process involves two steps. First, the data that has been categorized according to the types of illocutionary acts is linked according to the theory applied. Second, identifying each illocutionary type based on its function and then provide a detailed description.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research provides an explanation of the Illocutionary Acts Found in the Movie Dinosaur Prison. As outlined in the research scope, the primary objective is to identify and analyze the types of Illocutionary Acts and their functions of Illocutionary Acts Foundation in the Dinosaur Prison Movie.

#### 3.1 The Types and Function of Illocutionary Acts Found in Dinosaur Prison Movie

In this research, there are five fundamental categories of actions that can be executed through spoken words or utterances: Assertive, Directive, Commissive, Expressive, and Declaration. These encompass a range of communicative functions and intentions, each with its own



distinct purpose and effect on interpersonal interaction. A more comprehensive examination of each type is elaborated below:

### 3.1.1 Assertive

Assertives are a type of illocutionary act that serves to affirm the truthfulness of the meaning conveyed by the utterance. This category includes speech acts in which the speaker commits to the proposition of truth expressed. In other words, it involves making a statement, claiming, hypothesizing, describing, telling, demanding, implying, or asserting with the understanding that the speaker holds the belief proposition to be true. According to Searle (1979: 10), assertives are utterances in which the speaker expresses their belief about a certain situation. This category encompasses acts such as asserting, stating, informing, claiming, predicting, etc.

#### Data 1.

S1:E1 (6:59 – 7:11)

Beth : All right. To expose places like this. Liana, come on, we're here, okay.  
Sarah : Look, we're not gonna be that much longer.  
Liana : No, no, **I'm leaving. It's on you two now.**

The participants of this dialogue are Beth, Sarah, and Liana. The dialogue occurred at the prison setting. The utterance "I'm leaving. It's on you two now." Liana's statement falls under the assertive type, that contains an act of informing and falls under the "inform" category in the Assertive type. The illocutionary intention behind this utterance is to assert something she believes. In this instance, Liana conveyed her belief to Beth and Sarah that she would leave, and the responsibility now rested with Beth and Sarah.

Based on the first data, the function used is collaborative, as it involves asserting because the illocutionary act

disregards the social goal. When Liana says "I'm leaving. It's on you two now", Liana as the speaker believes that she would leave and does not want to get involved in this situation. The purpose of stating this statement is to claim that she does not want to be involved, even if the listeners disagree, the hearer cannot confirm the truthfulness of the statement.

### 3.1.2 Directive

A term used to refer to language expressions or speech acts is called directives. A speech act carried out by a speaker with the intention that the listener can take action mentioned in his speech (asking the listener to do something the speaker wants). Searle (1979: 13) states that these things have an illocutionary effect because they are attempting of varying degrees, they are determinates of the determinable, which include the speaker's attempt to persuade by using directives, the speaker aims to influence the listener to act, thus attempting to shape the environment through the listener's response. This type includes an act of ordering, advising, requesting, begging, etc.

#### Data 1.

S1:E1 (36:17 – 36:55)

Beth : Come on, you have enough.  
Sarah : Not yet.  
Beth : Wait, I think someone's coming here. **Can you give me a hand?**  
Sarah : Yeah, of course.  
Beth : Turn all the torch off.

The participants of this dialogue are Beth and Sarah. This dialogue happened in a dark underground holding room. The utterance "Can you give me a hand?" Beth's statement constitutes a directive act involving a "requesting", as directives are speech acts used by a speaker to ask or direct another person to act. In this case, Beth as the speaker requests Sarah as the hearer to turn all the torches off. This

utterance prompts a specific action, thus falling under the category of Directive acts.

Based on the data, Beth's statement had a competitive function, including asking. In accordance with the predicting explanation, it can be inferred that Beth's utterance served a competitive function, as it sought to elicit a particular response from the listener and compete with the social goal. It means that Beth as the speaker asked Sarah as the hearer to turn all the torches off.

### 3.1.3 Commissive

A commissive is a category of speech act wherein the speaker pledges or commits to undertaking a specific course of action in the future. In other words, it involves the speaker making a promising, offering, commitments, or pledge to perform a certain act or fulfill a particular obligation. Commissive acts express the speaker's intention to do something in the future, and they are a fundamental aspect of illocutionary acts, which are speech acts that convey the speaker's intention or meaning beyond the literal content of the words. According to Searle (1979: 10), commissive aims to bind the speaker to future actions.

#### Data 1.

S1:E1 (1:05:39 – 1:05:46)

Jahns : Do you trust me?

Beth : Yeah. **I will follow you to the end**, Jahns.

Jahns : Thanks Beth, come on.  
(1:05:39)

The participants of this dialogue are Beth and Jahns. The dialogue occurred at the prison exit. The utterance "I will follow you to the end" expressed by Beth is a commissive illocutionary act, comprising a commitment that is included in the "promise" category. In this context, is evident in the dialogue where Beth assures Jahns that she would accompany him until the end. Through this statement, Beth

intends to demonstrate her commitment to honoring her word.

Based on the data, the utterance expressed by Beth had a collaborative function, is included asserting. In this case, Beth in her role as the speaker, only wanted to assert something he believes to the hearer which is Jahns. It can be seen that Beth said she would always be with Jahns. When stating the utterance, she only cares about his goal always following Jahns.

### 3.1.4 Expressive

An expressive illocutionary act is a type of speech act where the speaker conveys their personal feelings, emotions, or attitudes. The sentences that include in expressive are sentence of apologizing, praising, complementing, thanking, etc. Searle, in Levinson (1983: 240), provides a specific definition for the classification of illocutionary acts which are primarily intended to convey the speaker's emotions; it is known as an expressive act. When expressing something, language speakers often express what they feel to their listeners.

#### Data 1.

S1:E1 (7:28 – 7:40)

Sarah : Yeah, she's basically an escape artist.

Beth : Hey, hey, **thanks for staying**.

Sarah : I know. Look, I wanna save these animals just as much as you do.

Beth and Sarah are the participants in this dialogue. The conversation took place by the riverside late at night as they strolled along the riverbank. At that time Beth and Sarah were on the way to escape attacks from dinosaurs. Based on the dialogue, one can draw the conclusion that the utterance "thanks for staying" expressed by Beth is an expressive illocutionary act containing an act of thanking is included in the "thanks" category. It can be seen that Beth expressed her psychological state by expressing gratitude to Sarah for staying

with her.

Based on the data above, the utterance expressed by Beth serves a convivial function including thanking. Convivial occurs when the intended outcome of the illocutionary act aligns with the social goal. When Beth says thanks, the intention of the illocutionary act is to convey gratitude to Sarah. This behavior reflects manners aimed at fostering sociability that are consistent with social goal.

### 3.1.5 Declaration

A declaration is a type of speech act that brings about a change in certain circumstances through utterance. When using a declaration, the speaker alters the circumstances through words. Searle, as cited in Levinson (1983: 240), suggests that declarations have the capacity to promptly alter the state of institutional affairs and typically lean on complex non-verbal systems for their implementation. Declaration has performative force, meaning the act of saying something itself brings about the intended effect. Unlike other illocutionary acts that describe or express, declarations directly alter a situation or bring about a new state of affairs.

#### Data 1.

S1:E1 (18:33 – 18:39)

Beth : Shit. Okay, we need to get out. Sarah : <b>We can't. I've tried everything</b> , there's no way.
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Beth and Sarah are the participants in this dialogue. The dialogue occurred in the room where they are locked up. Based on the dialogue above, one can draw the conclusion that Beth's statement is a declaration illocutionary act containing an act of "declaring". It can be seen when Beth says that she can't do anything because there's no way out. In this case, there is a change in the speaker's status, namely a change in the fact that they will not be able

to leave the room because there is no way out. This is the reason why this statement falls under the category of Declaration act.

Based on the first data, the utterance expressed by Sarah serves a collaborative function, is included asserting. In this case, Sarah as the speaker only wanted to assert something she believed to the hearer which was Beth. Sarah expressed a limitation or inability to achieve something, stating "We can't", followed by an explanation of her efforts "I've tried everything." This aligns with collaborative communication, as it involves sharing information about the situation and acknowledging attempted solutions, rather than engaging in conflict.

### CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that there are five types of illocutionary acts found in this movie, they are assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarations. This research identified 40 utterances of illocutionary acts. Specifically, there were 12 utterances of assertive illocutionary acts, 10 utterances of directive illocutionary acts, 9 utterances of commissive illocutionary acts, 8 utterances of expressive illocutionary acts, and 2 utterances belong to declaration illocutionary act. Of the 40 utterances, several utterances do not display the function category of illocutionary acts.

11 utterances belonged to the collaborative function, 14 utterances belonging to the competitive function, 8 utterances belonging to the convivial function, and 7 utterances belonging to the conflictive function. The most prominent illocutionary act type discovered in Dinosaur Prison Movie is the Assertive illocutionary act with 12 data. This happened because the characters in the movie primarily made forceful statements aimed at prompting others to take action. These 40 statements also primarily serve the most frequently executed illocutionary act function, which is the competitive function. This occurs because the majority

of utterances containing illocutionary acts are designed to achieve outcomes through action and strive to align with societal objectives through competition.

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