

## Illocutionary Acts in *Sponge on The Run 2020* Movie

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**Abstract** - The aim of this study is to find out and analyze the types of illocutionary acts by each character from the animated movie entitled *Sponge On The Run 2020*. Searle's (1979) theory was used in this study to classify and analyze illocutionary acts. The method used in this study was a descriptive qualitative method in order to explain the data. The data were collected in several steps: downloading the movie from Netflix, watching the movie, identifying the utterances used by the characters, reading the script, and noting utterances that contained illocutionary acts in this movie. The result of the study shows that there are five types of illocutionary acts found in this movie. They are representatives (22,09%), declaratives (9,30%), commissives (15,11%), expressives (20,93%), and directives (32,55%). Based on the result of the study, understanding various types of illocutionary acts can help speakers and listeners understand each other.

**Keywords:** *Illocutionary acts, utterances, characters*

**Abstrak** - Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui dan menganalisis tipe-tipe dari tindak ilokusi pada setiap karakter dari film animasi yang berjudul *Sponge On The Run 2020*. Teori dari Searle (1979) digunakan dalam penelitian ini untuk mengklasifikasikan dan menganalisis tindak ilokusi. Metode yang digunakan pada penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif deskriptif untuk menjelaskan data. Data dikumpulkan dalam beberapa langkah: mengunduh film dari Netflix, menonton film, mengidentifikasi ungkapan yang digunakan oleh karakter, membaca skrip dan mencatat ungkapan yang mengandung tindak ilokusi dalam film ini. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada lima jenis tindak ilokusi yang ditemukan dalam film ini, yaitu *representatives* (22,09%), *declaratives* (9,30%), *commissives* (15,11%), *expressives* (20,93) dan *directives* (32,55%). Berdasarkan hasil temuan tersebut, tindak ilokusi dapat digunakan untuk mempermudah pemahaman antara pembicara dan pendengar.

**Kata kunci:** *Tindak ilokusi, ungkapan-ungkapan, karakter*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Communication is essential for human interaction as well as conveying the meaning of a sentence or their ideas and opinions. It can also provide information to others so that they can understand each other, whether they are communicating verbally or nonverbally. Weiner et al. (1972, as cited in Buck & VanLear, 2002) states that communication must involve a socially shared symbol system, or code, which is symbolic in nature. Sometimes, the utterances made by the speakers in communication have a deeper meaning than the words or phrases themselves. As a result, before responding appropriately, people must understand what the utterances mean.

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies how to contribute to meaning. According to Yule (1996), pragmatics is the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker and interpreted by a listener. It is also strongly related to the context or situation in which something is said, so it is critical for speakers to focus on the context. Some factors should be considered in the context of pragmatics, such as implicature, speech acts, presupposition, context, adjacency pairs, deixis, and distance.

According to Birner (2013), the theory of speech acts is inherently a pragmatic theory because it involves an intention on the part of the speaker and inference on the part of the hearer. In addition, Saeed (2000, as cited in Hidayat, 2016) speech acts are the roles of language in social interactions such as asking, requesting, thanking, promising, stating, and more institutional verbal actions such as pronunciation in court, baptism, and marriage ceremonies. Yule (1996) added that speech act is a theory which analyzes an action performed via utterance. People can say something means there is an action performed through words or sentences in speech acts. In other words, a speech act is a part of pragmatics in which there are specific goals beyond the words or phrases that a speaker says. Speech acts are actions that are performed by produced utterances.

Speech act is divided into three types they are locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act (Austin, 1962). A speaker is generally involved in those various acts when uttering a sentence. (Austin, 1983 as cited in Hutajulu et al., 2019). When communicating with others, the locutionary contains a statement or information. As a result, the utterance has only one meaning and makes no reference to the hearer. An illocutionary act is one in which the intended meaning is hidden behind the utterance. It includes requesting, asking, ordering, advising, and so on. The act of influencing someone is known as a perlocutionary act. The effect of the utterance can cause someone else to do what the speaker says. According to Searle (1979), there are five categories of illocutionary acts. They are representatives, directives, commissives, declaratives, and expressives. Representatives, as defined by Yule (1996), are types of illocutionary acts about something, whether true or false, that causes the speaker to believe it. Directives

are illocutionary acts in which the speaker commands the listener to do something. They express a speaker's feelings. Commissives are a type of illocutionary act that involves making a commitment or promise to take action in the future. Declaratives are illocutionary acts that, through their utterances, change the status of a listener, and expressives are illocutionary acts that express how the speaker feels.

Some researchers conducted studies on this topic, which had been published in three articles. The first article, "Illocutionary Acts on Aladdin Movie 2019" was written by Sembiring and Ambalegin (2019). Descriptive qualitative method was used by them and Searle's theory was used to analyze the data. Four different types were examined in that study. They included representatives, directives, expressives, and commissives. Directives were used 86 times in Aladdin Movie 2019, making them the most frequent type of data. The second was an article from Rahayu, et al. (2018) entitled "Illocutionary Acts In The Main Characters Utterances In Mirror Mirror Movie". They used a qualitative method in this study. Searle's theory was also used in this study. The five types found in that movie were representatives, declaratives, directives, commissives, and expressives. The most common data found in this study are directives, which were utterances mostly conveyed by the main characters by requesting, ordering, and asking. The last article was written by Ramayanti and Marlina (2018) entitled "The Analysis of Types Illocutionary Acts in "Tangled" movie. In that study, the data was analyzed using the qualitative method. The movie was taken from Youtube and used Searle's theory in that study. According to the data analysis, there are four types of illocutionary acts in the film: representatives, directives, commissives, and expressive. Directives were the most commonly used type, with 44% of the characters in the film using them.

There are many movies that can be analyzed in terms of illocutionary acts, but not all types can be found in a single movie. This study then focuses on illocutionary acts in the movie "Sponge on the Run 2020." This is an animated movie with a funny story and the meaning of each expression is shown in each character and conversation in the movie. Furthermore, this movie was nominated for two awards: the Kids' Choice Awards, USA 2022, and the Visual Effects Society Awards 2021. The purpose of this study is to find out and analyze the types of illocutionary acts performed by each character in the Sponge On The Run 2020 film, using the theory of Searle (1979). This study is unique because it describes how animated characters attempt to comprehend and appropriately respond to the words spoken by other characters.

## **2. METHOD**

A method is a procedure for analyzing research. The method is divided into four sections in this study: research design, data source, data collection method, and data analysis.

## **2.1 Research Design**

The descriptive qualitative method was used in this study, which was supported by observation. Its process involves developing questions and procedures, collecting data, inductively building from particulars to general themes, and making interpretations of the data's meaning (Creswell, 2009). Qualitative research involves purposeful use for describing, explaining, and interpreting collected data. Leedy and Ormrod (as cited in Williams, 2007) alleged that qualitative research is less structured in description because it formulates and builds new theories.

## **2.2 Data Source**

The data was taken from the utterances of the characters in “Sponge On The Run 2020” movie. The movie has been released on November 5, 2020. Duration of this movie is 1 hour and 35 minutes. *Sponge On The Run* Movie is a 2020 American computer animated adventure comedy film based on the animated television series *SpongeBob SquarePants*. The movie script was found on Netflix. The story begins when the main character named *Spongebob* loses his pet, but it turns out that his pet was kidnapped and taken to Atlantis City. The types of illocutionary acts are found in the conversation of a main character playing the role as a friend, a pet, and a scientist.

## **2.3 Data Collection Method**

In this study to collecting the data from *Sponge On The Run 2020* Movie, there were several steps, such as downloading the movie on the internet, watching the movie and identifying the utterances from the movie that contain of illocutionary acts, reading, and rechecking the utterances from the script and also note taking the utterances of each characters from the movie.

## **2.4 Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data, they were described academically and based on fact. In accordance with that, the procedure proposed by Miles et al. (2014) was followed in analyzing the data. The steps are data condensation, data display, drawing and verifying conclusion. In this study, the data was displayed in the form of table and paragraph. It was presented in the form of a table to provide complete information in an efficient way to the readers. Additionally, the paragraph was used to describe further detailed information to the readers. The data collected were analyzed using Searle's (1969) *Speech Act Theory*, which classified illocutionary acts into five types: representatives, directives, commissives, declaratives, and expressives.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 3.1 Result

According to the analysis and categorized the results of illocutionary acts in the movie script entitled *Sponge on The Run 2020*. In this movie, there are utterances that contain types of illocutionary acts, The total utterances that were found in this study about 86 utterances, they are 19 (22,09%) representatives, 28 (32,55%) directives, 8 (9,30%) declaratives, 13 (15,11%) commissives and 18 (20,93) expressives. Which the data were taken from the utterances on the conversation of the characters on the *Sponge on The Run 2020* movie. The finding of the research can be seen in the table below:

*Table 1. Types of illocutionary acts*

No.	Types	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Representatives	19	22,09%
2.	Declaratives	8	9,30%
3.	Directives	28	32,55%
4.	Commissives	13	15,11%
5.	Expressives	18	20,93%
	TOTAL	86	100%

From the table 1 above shows that directives are the dominant type in the *Sponge on the run 2020* film. This can happen because, in this movie the conversations that are often conveyed by the characters contain many utterances that contain a command or giving orders that tell the listener to do something by the speaker. In addition, directives also have the following functions: direct, request, ask, tell, require, demand, command, order, prohibit, enjoin, permit, insist, warn, advise, recommend, beg, supplicate, entreat, beseech, and implore. Moreover, representatives refer to providing information or concluding a fact. declarative is a type that is related to giving the listener a new status. commissive is a commitment or promise to take an action in the future. The last type is expressive, which is related to feelings.

### 3.2 Discussion

#### 1. Representative



Figure 1. *Sponge On the Run 2020. (00.05.37)*

Spongebob : **But you should know that Old Gertrude's getting pretty finicky these days!**

Squidward : Old Gertrude? Who the kelp is that?

Spongebob : you've worked with her for years!. She's the eight burner grill in the kitchen.

The conversation above, shows the utterances "But you should know that Old Gertrude's getting pretty finicky these days!". The utterances that Squidward said contain information which is included in the representative. Squidward, who has just arrived at work, always feels lazy to work because he has to meet Spongebob. He immediately sat down and read a magazine. Suddenly Spongebob came, which surprised him. Spongebob then greeted him but Squidward scolded him for feeling unlucky when he met Spongebob. Then Spongebob intends to provide information to Squidward about the condition of a burner grill named Gertrude. But Squidward doesn't know who Gertrude is and asks Spongebob. He explained that Gertrude was a burner grill in the kitchen, but Squidward ignored it because he did not think it was important.

## 2. Declarative



Figure 2. *Sponge On The Run 2020. (00.03.17)*

Spongebob : Good morning, Patrick!

Patrick : Good morning, Spongebob!

Squidward : Would **you two knuckleheads**. Keep it down out there?!

The utterances “you two knuckleheads” belongs to declarative. Squidward gave a new status for Spongebob and Patrick because previously Spongebob wakes up with his favorite snail and says "good morning" to his snail. Then Spongebob opened his window and greeted Patrick. They greeted each other by saying "good morning", but they both said it many times and spoke very loudly. Meanwhile, the Squidward's house is in the middle, between their houses. Their voices are very loud and disturb Squidward's concentration. Squidward, who was relaxing and wanted to play his favorite clarinet in the house, suddenly opened the window and reprimanded him and said they were knuckleheads and told him to be quiet.

### 3. Commissive



Figure 3. *Sponge On The Run 2020. (00.06.25)*

Squidward : What've you just say? I am not interested. Don't involve me!

Spongebob : What'd you say Squidward? Squidward? Okay, Squidward, doesn't matter. **I'll always be here anyway**

In the sentence "I will always be here" which contains a commission or speech that contains a promise that Spongebob makes to Squidward, which a promise is part of the commissive type. From the conversation above, Squidward is very upset to hear Spongebob talking in the kitchen and is always chatty, he gets angry and says "I'm not interested. Don't involve me!" He looked back to scold Spongebob, but he was hit by an explosion from the stove grill in the kitchen and then he passed out. Spongebob, who did not hear what Squidward said, tried to call him but there was no answer. He also said that he promised to always accompany him there.

### 4. Directive



Figure 4. *Sponge On The Run 2020*. (00.06.32)

Mr. Crab : **stop yer loafing**, Mr. Squidward. There work to be done around here!

The above utterance is taken from Mr. Crab's speech. He said "stop lazing around, Mr Squidward". In the conversation above, there is a warning given by Mr. Crab. Speech that contains a warning is included in the type directive because there is an order in which the listener is instructed to do something. Mr Crab came out of his room and saw Squidward lazing around. He warns Squidward to stop lazing around because previously Squidward fainted from getting an explosion from the burner grill, which looked like he was sleeping and lazing around. The words "stop yer loafing, Mr. Squidward" the utterance shows a warning for Squidward who has to do something or go back to work.

## 5. Expressive



Figure 5. *Sponge On The Run 2020*. (00.05.13)

Squidward : **another day, another migraine**

In the example above, the speech expressed by Squidward is an expressive speech (complaint). Complaint is one of the utterances that belongs to the expressive. He complained to himself that he had to work. He had just arrived at the Restaurant called the Krusty Krab where he worked. He stood in front of the door taking a deep breath and said "another day, another migraine", this expression means that he complained a lot because he felt dizzy. Slowly he walked into the teller he used to live in because he worked as a cashier at the Krusty Krab.



#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that an illocutionary act is a form of an order to do something. In this study, the types of illocutionary acts were analyzed in *Sponge On The Run 2020* Movie. In the data analysis, the Searle's (1979) theory was used in this study which has found several utterances that contain types of illocutionary on the character. The results of the analysis in the *Sponge On The Run 2020* movie, found all types of illocutionary acts, there are five types found in this study, they are representatives 22,09%, declaratives 9,30%, commissives 15,11%, expressives 20,93%, and directives 32,55%. The dominant type that was found in this study is directives, which is 28 data or 32,55% because the conversation in the movie contains many command expressions and utterances, implying that a character orders the other characters to do something. Finally, this study hopes to be useful for anyone who does the same study, especially about the illocutionary act and becomes a source that is used as a reference for further research.

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