

ANALYSIS ASSERTIVE SPEECH ACT IN “PURPLE HEARTS” MOVIE
BY TESS WAKEFIELD: PRAGMATIC APPROACH

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Abstract

Keywords: *Assertive act, Illocutionary Act, Speech Act.* Speech acts are what humans perform by speaking, according to linguistics. Speech acts can be seen in the movie as well as in daily life. This research focuses on the speech and the objectives of this research are to define the various speech actions especially assertive act and examine the most common ones used by the central character. Additionally, the texts in the form of movie scripts serve as the study's objects. The theory that used in this research is Searle (1979) of speech acts. In this research, qualitative method was used to analyze the data. To determine which types in assertive act are most frequently used, and there were 15 utterances need to be examined in total. The findings of this research indicate that types use State, suggest, complain, claim, and report in assertive act. In conclusion, following the completion of the research, it contains suggestions to those who will utilize the similar research, especially pragmatics and the usage of the term assertive acts for communication in society or English community is needed.

Kata Kunci: *Tindakan tegas, Tindak ilokusi, Tindak tutur* **Abstrak** Tindak tutur adalah apa yang dilakukan manusia dengan berbicara, menurut linguistik. Tindak tutur dapat dilihat dalam film maupun dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Penelitian ini berfokus pada tuturan dan tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mendefinisikan berbagai tindak tutur terutama tindak tutur asertif dan mengkaji tindak tutur yang paling umum digunakan oleh tokoh sentral. Selain itu, teks berupa naskah film dijadikan sebagai objek penelitian. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Searle (1979) tentang tindak tutur. Dalam penelitian ini, metode kualitatif digunakan untuk menganalisis data. Untuk menentukan jenis tindak asertif mana yang paling sering digunakan, ada 15 ujaran yang perlu diperiksa secara keseluruhan. Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa tipe-tipe yang menggunakan menyatakan, Sarankan, Keluhan, Klaim, dan Laporkan dalam tindak asertif. Kesimpulannya, setelah selesainya penelitian ini, berisi saran kepada mereka yang akan memanfaatkan penelitian serupa, terutama pragmatik dan penggunaan istilah tindakan tegas untuk komunikasi dalam masyarakat atau komunitas bahasa Inggris diperlukan.

INTRODUCTION

People need to have relation in social life. In social life, people met with other people and they were used language to communicate even though it's just one phrase. The language contained of the message were stated by speaker and accepted by hearer. According to Birner (2013) form and meaning are related when using language and people utilize utterances to represent actions as well as ideas and feelings when using language to try to convey a message. Additionally, the objectives of a speaker, to aid the hearer in creating an internal representation of the discourse that corresponds to mine, and vice versa for the hearer (Birner 2013).

The Phenomena below was occurred in social media as evidence of communication where it found in the speech of Joe Biden. These phenomena had posted by Walter the Jester's post on tweeter. Joe Biden said that American who had vaccinated reach 5 years of age, Nation's Health experts in America **suggest that in a year America update to get COVID**. In other words, Covid just like the flu shot and if American people were fully vaccinated **get one more COVID shot once a year**. That's it." (00:01-00:21)

From the speaker's utterance above, the speaker as president of America explained in front of public or citizen about Vaccine for avoided the Covid in America. In the speaker's utterance consist **suggest types** of assertive act where it used to give suggestion citizen to get once in a year. Therefore, the suggestion above was classified into assertive acts because related to the context of speaker's speech, the assertive act purpose used to give the factual suggestion for hearer and to make citizen commit to the speaker's utterance.

According to (Searle, 1979) mentioned, illocutionary act classified into five types, these are Assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. This research just specified focused to assertive acts where assertive act is an action that commit to express the truth of information which the assertive acts separated into some types, these are **state, suggest, complain, claim, and report**. The phenomena showed the claim on the "Purple Hearts" movie which was performed by the characters.

Nora said that **Cassie was just telling me how much she loved military boys. (2:00:05 – 2:00:02)**. This sentence occurred in the night club at 2:00:02 – 2:00:05. Cassie is a singer in a night club and when she finished her song, the military boys came to the night club for had fun night. One of the military boys is a Cassie's childhood friend. So, Cassie' friend Nora was spoke to the military boys that Cassie loves military boys so much. In the Nora's utterance was consist of assertive act and categorized into **claim types** because Nora had told the truth information and the speaker's utterance made hearer belief to the utterance.

For supporting this research, the researcher was found the other phenomena on the "Purple Hearts" movie.

Mariner said to Luke to **behave his self. Don't do what mariners did (1:58:54 – 1:58: 50)**

This utterance was spoken by mariner in the night club. When Cassie put the drink in front of the mariners, the mariner wants to touch Cassie but Cassie declined mariner's act and go away from mariners. Then Luke as one of mariners at the club, tried to talk to Cassie. The mariner was given suggestion to Luke to respect Cassie. From that situation, Marine called as assertive act because from the utterance above, was explained the factual information. Then, the factual information from speaker was applied by the suggestion speech. Thus, this phenomenon categorized as the suggest type in assertive act because the speaker sentence had explained the suggestion for Luke. This research chose *Purple Hearts* movie by Tess Wakefield to analyze because this movie took first position on the popularity movie's charts, and this movie also took top ten on Netflix which had 48,23 million hours viewed in a week.

These are several researches have the same research concern to the assertive acts. The first research was analyzed by Yulistiana & & Widyastuti (2022) discussed the types and functions of assertive acts involved in Joe Biden's interruption in 2020 of his utterances. Then this journal used theory from Searle (1979) for analyzed the types and function of assertive act through the speaker's interruption. The result of this research, twenty-one interruptions was found in this research. The interruption was categorized into overlap interruption as much

as thirteen times, simple interruption with 6 times, and fewest interruption with two times. Thus, this research found the types state as much as eleven times, claiming with five times, complaining, two times, reporting with one time, and last suggesting with one time.

Second researcher, from Sari & Pranoto (2022) discussed about illocutionary act and perlocutionary act that was found on speech of Queen Elizabeth. Then this journal used theory from Searle (1979) to analyze the types of Queen Elizabeth's speech and to identify the perlocutionary act where it implied in Queen's speech. This research used descriptive qualitative as method to analyst data and interpretation data. The result from this research, 14 data found illocutionary act and 3 data of perlocutionary act. The most dominant types are assertive acts with contains 6 data.

The similarity between this current research and previous research above were taken from the same theory of Searle. Then, the differences both previous and current research placed at the data source and the purpose of the research. The purpose of this research to analysis types and functions of assertive acts found in "Purple Hearts" movie.

Types of Assertive Act

Related to Gill (1979) the purpose of speech act through the application of language and the context of communication used to avoid misunderstanding between speaker and hearer. Then, to reach out the result or response from the listener, the speaker has to understand the meaning of utterances. Thus, according to Searle (1979) the research that discussed about the relationship between language and context of situation speech act and one part of speech acts is assertive act. Assertive act is an action which used to commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed. State, suggest, complain, claim, and report are parts of assertive act.

a. State

State is one of types in assertive act which used to explain the truth information or based on mind and feeling. For example,

Dodger: "Hello, my covey! What's the row?"

Oliver: "I'm very hungry and tired. I've walked a long way. I've been walking these seven days." (Suhardianto, 2018)

The utterance of Oliver explained the state type of assertive act because it can be seen from the context of conversation above which is explaining the Oliver's feel.

b. Suggest

Suggest is one of types in assertive act which used to deliver the advice or guidance regarding something. For example,

Barack Obama: "We've got to have the cooperation of other countries in a global financial system to help enforce financial laws." (Lestari et al., 2022)

In Obama's utterance, he gave the advice to citizen to face the financial problem. Obama's utterance showed the suggestion for citizen to have cooperative in a global financial.

c. Complaint

Complaint is one of types in assertive act used to state the dissatisfied of something and followed the unsatisfied feeling to response something.

Host: Why have our tests not hit the target yet? Why is the ministry's budget absorption still low? Why in the Ministry of Health the regulations and bureaucracy still convoluted? Furthermore, why the protection of our health workers has not been maximized yet? (Qonita Aulia et al., 2021)

The mentioned her complain with questions about why the protection for health workers has not been maximized yet. Thus, the utterance is categorized as a complaint in assertive act.

d. Claim

Claim is one types of assertive act. Claim is an action which used to express the valid information to hearer. For example,

Dr. Buddy: ...and tell them I don't have an anger problem if you want. I can't just sign your papers.

Dave: I didn't do anything wrong (Situmorang & Handayani, 2020)

e. Report

Report is one types of assertive act. Report act used to express the report of information to hearer that has been researched. For example,

Dalia: **“One study found that 80 percent of news coverage about Islam and Muslims is negative. And studies show that Americans say that most don't know a Muslim.** I guess people don't talk to their Uber drivers.” (Fakhriyah et al., 2022)

From the example above, Dalia was reporting the negative perception of Muslim. Thus, Dalia believes that her utterance was true and fact.

METHOD

This research used a descriptive, qualitative approach. The Data are collected in the participant's environment, and the researcher then interprets the meanings Creswell (2018) the main research tool used in this research was the researchers itself, who read, watched, found, and classified the assertive acts of the “Purple hearts” movie. The researcher chose this movie because this movie was the most viewer in movie platform at 2022 and by this movie, the researcher found the types of assertive act reflected by the characters. The observational method of (Sudaryanto, 2015) was utilized to gather the research's data. The research will be non-participatory. The movie was initially viewed on a video. Secondly, the researcher finished watching the movie. Third, read the transcription of every assertive act. The final step is to group the data according to the assertive act types that were discovered in the data source using Searle's theory. Then, following collecting the data, the researcher used Sudaryanto pragmatic identity technique to examine the data (Sudaryanto, 2015). This strategy was used because the data came from utterances. The researchers used Sudaryanto Pragmatic Competence in Equalizing Technique, also from the same expert (Sudaryanto, 2015). The data analysis process involves a few steps. The researcher would first note the highlighted utterances which involved of assertive. Second, the data would be examined using (Searle, 1979) theory in accordance

with the types of assertive acts. The results were displayed descriptively by showing the kinds of assertive acts found in the data source.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Finding

From the data source “Purple Hearts” Movie, the researchers had found 15 data that expressed the Assertive act from the utterances that uttered by the characters from the data sources. Those data consist of five Types of assertive act. First, from the utterances that uttered by characters in “Purple Hearts” movie, the researchers found 4 utterances that expressed the state types, 3 utterances that expressed the suggest types, 2 utterances that expressed the complaint types, 3 utterances that expressed claim types, and the last the researcher found 3 utterances that expressed report types which found from the utterances in the transcript of “Purple Hearts” movie that uttered by characters.

Table 1 Frequency of Assertive Acts used in “Purple Hearts” Movie.

NO	Types of Assertive	Frequency
1	State	4
2	Suggest	3
3	Complain	2
4	Claim	3
5	Report	3
TOTAL		15

Discussion

a. State

According to Suryanti & Irma (2019) State is used to express the factual information refers to the feelings, idea, or inside’s mind of speaker. The similarity of this research at the aim of research. It can be seen from data below.

Data 1

Marisol : “**I'm okay**. I know. I apologize. I ought to be able to take care of you.”

Cassie : “Mommy, I love you so much. I don't want you to worry. You know me well. Just my own weird adventure, really.” (00:13:56 – 00:14: 11)

The data above had occurred at Cassie’s house. Cassie was angry to her mom caused Marisol had paid for Cassie’s medicines. Marisol was felt okay with it. Thus, the bold sentence showed the state types because it used to explain the assertive act which used to state the truth feeling of Marisol.

Data 2

Frankie : “**Hey**, you hungry? Want something?”

Cassie : “**No, I'm good.**”

Frankie : “So, what's the big question, girl? It's, uh... It's going to sound a little crazy. I'm ready.”

Cassie : “**I was wondering...** I had hoped that we would get married.” (00:17:38 – 00:17:55)

The data above had occurred at Frankie’s house. Then, when Frankie asked how’s, Cassie feel, Cassie felt good and wondering. The bold sentence showed the state types in assertive acts because it used to state the truth information about Cassie hope to marry her as a requirement for obtaining health insurance.

Data 3

Luke : “I met this girl, who needs health insurance. And if we get married, I get extra money, each month from the military. I'll give you my cut. Okay?”

Johno : “You sure?”

Luke : “**Yeah, I'm sure. It's gonna be fine.**”

(00:24:51 – 00:25:00) (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Luke and Johnro. Then, Johnro asked Luke to pay off his debt but Luke couldn't pay his debt. Therefore, Luke was assuring Johnro that he would pay his debts after marriage. The bold sentence showed the state types because it used to assure Johnro to believe to his reason that it would be fine.

Data 4

Cassie : “We agreed to take care of one another. In good health as well as bad, we did that. **And I believe that their marriage is sincere. This, I believe, is the most genuine experience I've ever had.**”

Luke : “I’m going for six months.”

Cassie : “I wanna wait for you.” (01:54:33 – 01:54 43)

The data had occurred between Cassie and Luke. Cassie had stated her idea about the real marriage to Luke but Luke had to go for 6 months because of Luke’s fault. Thus, from the bold utterance had showed the state types in assertive acts because the state types used to state the truth information regarding to her idea.

b. Suggest

According to Simon & Dejica-Cartis (2015) suggest was an idea or statement which involved of advice. The similarity of this research is the content contained of advice. The data showed suggest act can be seen in the following.

Data 1

Luke : “Because we're taking wedding photos. **You have to dress a certain way.**”

Cassie : “Really?”

(00:29:44 – 00:29:54) (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Luke and Cassie in Cassie’s house. Then, to get money insurance, they should get marry. Therefore, Luke had asked Cassie to change her dress with wedding dress. The bold sentence showed the suggest types because suggest type in assertive acts used to explain that Luke had given the suggestion for Cassie to change the dress for wedding’s photo.

Data 2

Luke Hey Cassie, you're my next of family in case something happens to me, right? **Call my brother if you like. Inform him about our**

agreement. You'll need to invent a tale for my father. But kindly keep this from my father. Are you okay?"

Cassie : Okay. (00:43:41 – 00:43:54) (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred when Luke would go to America because He is a soldier. Then, Luke had given the suggestion for Cassie to call Luke's brother if something happens to him. Therefore, the bold sentence showed the suggest types in assertive acts because the suggest types used to deliver the suggestion for Cassie.

Data 3

Doctor : "Listen, he's going from zero and this recovery will be lengthy"

Cassie : "What about his ability to run again, doctor?"

Doctor : "**Let's start with getting you exercising. After that, we can discuss running.**" (01:04:55 – 01:05:02) (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Doctor and Cassie. When Luke is injured in battle, Cassie and Luke's family was coming to see Luke. Then the doctor gave advice to recovery and walking practice first before running. Thus, the bold sentence showed the suggest types in assertive act because it used to deliver advice for Luke.

c. Complaint

According to Suryanti & Irma (2019) and this journal have similarity. Complain is an action which used to state the unsatisfied feeling to obtain others' empathy. It can be seen from data below.

Data 1

Luke : "Trust me. **If I had an option, I wouldn't get married; relationships should be based on love.** And it's a lifelong commitment where I come from."

Cassie : "Do you come from a fantasy land? Because, where I come from in reality, marriage is really just a pointless legal arrangement that turns lovers into enemies."

(00:26:08 – 00:26:25)

The data above had occurred between Cassie and Luke. When Luke met with Cassie for discussion about insurance by wedding plan but Cassie declined the terms and condition. Then, Luke had mentioned that he wouldn't marriage without love if not to pay his debts. Thus, from the bold utterance had showed the complaint types in assertive because complaint types showed unsatisfied feel to response something.

Data 2

Cassie : “Okay, then take a bath? It's gonna just make you feel better.”

Luke : “**I can do that myself. Just let me.**” (Wakefield, n.d.)

(01:23:55-01:24:40)

The data above had occurred between Cassie and Luke. When Cassie would help Luke for take a bath but Luke declined it and complain Cassie's offer. Thus, from the Sentence “I can do that myself. Just let me.” It showed the complaint types in assertive act because complaint types showed unsatisfied feel to response something.

d. Claim

According to Ashfira & Hardjanto (2021) contained of truth and facts of someone's belief in one context situation. It has similarity with this research to find the expression of truth by claim type.

Data 1

Nora : “I love that the smell of stale beer inspires you, but we open in ten minutes.”

Cassie : “**I'll be there, I promise.** I love you all.” **(00:01:39 – 00:01:45)** (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Nora and Cassie in the bar. When Cassie was accepting call, Cassie would go to buy medicines for her diabetes. Then, Cassie was claiming that she would be the bar in ten minutes. Thus, from the bold utterance, the conversation above showed the claim types in assertive acts because claim types used to explain the truth condition trough the swearing word.

Data 2

Cassie : **“You won't need to see me ever again** because we will just get divorced.”

Luke : “No, no, no, He already doesn't believe in me. He already observing us.” **(01:05:54 – 01:05:57)**

The data above had occurred between Cassie and Luke in the Hospital. Luke was angry to Cassie because she had told to Luke's Dad about their marriage. So, Cassie said that Luke would never to see her again. Thus, from the bold utterance, the conversation above showed the claim types in assertive act because claim types used to explain the truth condition.

Data 3

Cassie : “You've been working very hard, Luke, and **I know you'll run. I put believe in you.**”

Luke : “All right.” **(01:25:07- 01:25:20)**

The data above had occurred between Cassie and Luke in bathroom. When Cassie helped Luke to take a bath, Cassie was believed to the effort of Luke. Then, Cassie was claiming that Luke would run as soon as possible. Thus, from the bold utterances, the conversation above showed the claim types in assertive acts because claim types used to explain the truth condition.

e. Report

According to Rohid & Mahdi (2018) Report is an action, which speaker done to do in the past situation and being discussed in present time. It can be seen from data below.

Data 1

Pharmacist : “No, your insurance is not renewed, so I cannot refill it. So, if you want to do it out of pocket, we can do that.”

Cassie : “And, um... how much is that?”

Pharmacist : **“220 for the short-acting and 300 for the long-acting. So, a bit more than \$500.” (00:09:15 – 00:09:32)** (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Cassie and Pharmacist in a pharmacy. When Cassie bought the medicines for her diabetes, Cassie's insurance hasn't yet renewed. Then, the pharmacist was explaining the price of Cassie's medicines. Thus, from the bold utterance showed that the pharmacist reported the types and price of medicines.

Data 2

Captain Curtis : "Sure, ma'am Captain Curtis, the Rear Detachment Commander for the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, is present. I called **because your husband was injured while serving, ma'am. From Germany, he will be transported to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.**"

Cassie : "Is he okay?"

Captain Curtis : "**His legs were injured during an IED detonation. He's currently undergoing surgery.**" (01:00:17 – 01:00:38)
(Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above had occurred between Captain Curtis and Cassie via phone. The captain called Cassie as Luke's wife and explain to Cassie about Luke's condition after war that Luke's legs had injured and Luke would transfer too Naval medical. Thus, from the bold utterances showed the report types in assertive acts because it used to report the factual report about Luke's condition.

Data 3

Luke: "**I assured her it didn't. I bear full responsibility**, and I'm prepared to face the consequences of my actions.

Judge: "Lance You will be discharged for bad behavior after serving your term, Corporal Morrow. **Tomorrow at 1700 hours, you'll report for your six-month term. This court will not send Miss Salazar's case to the local authorities in light of the verdict of this trial.**" (01:46:26 – 01:47:01) (Wakefield, n.d.)

The data above occurred between Luke and the Judge. Luke had prepared himself to complete his consequence of Luke's sentence. Then, the Judge had

read out the punishment for Luke where he would discharge for bad conduct and report for six months. Thus, from the bold utterance above showed the report types in assertive acts because Luke had reported his fault to the Judge. Then the Judge also had reported the punishment for Luke.

CONCLUSION

From the data source which had taken in the “Purple Hearts” movie, it can be concluded that five type of Assertive act of Searle (1979) theory those are State, Suggest, Complain, Claim, and report. The researchers found 15 data that expressed Assertive act from the utterances of characters from the data sources. Those data contained of five types of Assertive act. First, the researchers found four utterances that expressed state type. Second, the researchers found three utterances that expressed the suggest type. Third, the researchers found two utterances that expressed the complaint type. Four, the researchers found three utterances that expressed claim type, and last, the researchers found three utterances that expressed report type which found from the utterances in the “Purple Hearts” movie. In conclusion, following the completion of the research, it contains suggestions to those who will utilize the similar research, especially pragmatics and the usage of the term assertive acts for communication in society or the English community is needed.

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