

PERLOCUTIONARY ACT PERFORMED IN *JOHN WICK* MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This study discussed the perlocutionary act performed in the John Wick movie based on the theory of Qiang. The aim of the study is to determine the types of perlocutionary acts used in the movie through the main character's utterances. The descriptive-qualitative method was applied to the research method. Techniques of data collection were carried out by searching, downloading, reading, watching, and coding the data. Techniques of data analysis were conducted by presenting, describing, interpreting, and drawing conclusions. The findings of the study show that perlocutionary acts really exist in the movie and are applied by the main character in order to influence others. There were 11 pieces of data found, which included four types of perlocutionary acts used by John Wick as the main character in the movie. Perlocutionary act serves as the effect of utterances from the speaker to the hearer, intentionally or unintentionally. Among the four types of perlocutionary acts, type 1 is the most dominant type because the speaker's utterance can be clearly understood by the hearer so that the expected effect of the utterances can be realized.

Keywords: *Movie, Perlocutionary Act, Pragmatic.*

INTRODUCTION

In their daily lives, people use words to communicate and express their ideas to others. They communicate through language by using symbols and signs with motion and body language. (Anwar et al., 2020) Furthermore, in communication, people also consider the context or setting where the conversation takes place. This is known as pragmatics. (Leech, 1996) stated that pragmatics is a study of language that relies on the speech situation. In addition, (Yule, 1996) argues that there are four aspects that pragmatics covers. First, pragmatics is related to speaker meaning. Second, it is concerned with contextual meaning. Third, it is about how to communicate beyond what is said, and fourth, it is concerned with the expression of relative distance.

The language that people use to express their ideas and thoughts is not only used for communication but can also be used to perform acts. The study of how to perform action through the use of language is known as speech acts. Hidayat et al. (2016) argues that speech acts happen when there is a special intention by the speaker when he or she utters a language. Similarly, Wahyudiantari (2020) stated that speech acts appear because of not only merely stating a speech but also the intention behind the utterance. From the perspective of speech act theory, Austin in Marlina & Saifullah (2022) classified three modes of communication. They are what we say (locutionary), what we mean when we say it (illocutionary), and what we accomplish by saying it (perlocutionary).

Perlocutionary acts

Perlocutionary acts describe a situation in which someone does something by speaking to the listener, which ultimately generates the effect caused by the expression according to the conditions and circumstances of the sentence. Intentionally or unintentionally, this perlocutionary act has a significant impact. Searle (1975) states that perlocutionary acts are speech acts whose speech is expected to influence listeners. Generally, perlocutionary acts are the result of illocutionary acts. In daily interaction, when a speaker succeeds in performing an illocutionary act, it brings about the expected consequences and produces the act that relates to the speaker's intention. (Liu & Liu, 2008)

Perlocutionary acts come not only in the form of words but also of actions or deeds. Qiang (2013) expressed that in certain situations, perlocutionary acts can be in the form of non-linguistic signs such as facial expressions, gestures, body agony, dumb shows, vocalizations of characters, and so on. In daily life, sometimes to show a welcome or to greet their counterparts, people use non-linguistic signs as an expected effect of perlocutionary acts. Furthermore, Świątek (2019) claimed that if it is used properly, this nonverbal communication could be an extensive part of human interaction as well as influence the other members of communicative acts.

Types of Perlocutionary Act by Qiang

Qiang (2013) classified Perlocutionary act into four types whether it is categorized as non-expected and expected regarding speakers' communicative act purpose. Below are the classifications:

Type 1

Type 1 is the hearer really understands what the speaker is saying. The intention of the one who speaks was entirely comprehended by the interlocutors and other interlocutors and they function conforming to this purpose, that signifies speakers perlocutionary act are produced. Because much of the communication using language conforms to the cooperative principle, and it constitutes the most well-known example.

Type 2

Type 2 is the hearer did not realize and did not understand the speaker utterance. The intention of the speaker is not comprehended completely, the one who speaks does not become the wanted manner of acting. At times this condition is since the interlocutor does not comprehend the intention of the ideas of the one who speaks; pay attention to the utterances of speakers who does not take action in the context of illocutionary.

Type 3

Type 3 is the hearer pretends not to understand, or there is an element of intent, does not want to cooperate, deliberately denies his intentions and deliberately lies. The intention of the speaker is totally or not wholly comprehended by the interlocutor; but the interlocutor does not work like that. Hence, it cannot be found any intended perlocutionary act. The condition that speakers flout cooperative principle which often occur in actual speaking activities. It constitutes the Grice's theory perception.

Type 4

Type 4 is the speaker utterance is confirmed or clarified by a second hearer, third hearer and other who really understands what is really happening. The intention of speaker is not comprehended by the interlocutors, but because of the participation of others in the interaction, communicator intended

perlocutionary act becomes true.

Perlocutionary act can be identified in every day conversation of human being in their daily live as well as in the litetary work. Literary work is served as reflection of human social life in such entertaining ways. One of the literary works that contain perlocutionary acts is movie. Movie is defined as a motion picture considered as a source of entertainment or as an art form. Among many genres of movie, John Wick movie is one of action thriller movie which supposed to have perlocutionary act through utterances of the character. This movie was released in 2014 directed by Chad Stahelski and starring Keanu Reeves as (John Wick) as the main character. This movie tells the story of John Wick, who is a former most dangerous assassin who returns to action after his car is stolen and his dog is killed by the Russian mafia. As an action movie, it shows several numbers of perlocutionary act that interesting to be analyzed.

RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, a descriptive qualitative approach is employed to classify and evaluate the utterances of the main character in the movie. A qualitative method is an evaluation or research approach to a problem that does not rely on statistical processes in its design or implementation. According to (Creswell, 2014) descriptive qualitative research is an approach that tries to describe a situation, event, or phenomenon in its natural setting. Here, researchers gather data, organize it, classify it, interpret it, and finally draw conclusions based on the data analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Data 1

Iosef : How much?

John : Excuse me?

Iosef : I said how much for the car?

John : She's not for sale.

Iosef : Everything's got a price bitch.

U vsem sbastard price = u vsego yest' tsennik (in Russian)

John : **Not this bitch.**

no, it's a bastard = net eto ublyudok (in English)

Viktor : *Enough Iosef it's useless. He won't sell that car.*

Iosef : Who does this guy think he is?

Who does this guy think he is? = Kem etot paren' sebya knotted? (In Russian)

Viktor : Have a nice day, sir.

Context

One day, John was driving around town in his Mustang and decided to refuel at the nearest gas station. Then Iosef (son of Russian mafia) came and amazed by John's car. Iosef tried to persuade John to sell the car but John did not want it.

The utterance "Not this bitch" in the conversation above contains a type 4 perlocutionary act because Iosef (hearer 1) does not understand what John (speaker) means but Viktor (hearer 2) confirms the speaker utterance because he really understands what really happened. The utterance "Enough Iosef it's useless. He won't sell that car" is a sign that the hearer 2 understands the speaker meant.

Data 2

John : My car, is it here?

Aurelio : It was.

John : So, who is this guy?

Can you tell me who stole it

Aurelio : Iosef Tarasov nicked it.

John : Are Viggo's?

Aurelio : yes Viggo's are.

I'm sorry I cannot stop him.

John : It's okay.

Aurelio : So, what are you gonna do?

John : **I need a ride.**

Aurelio : *Sure. No problem.*

Context

That night, John house was robbed . His car was stolen and his dog was died. He went to Aurelio to find out the information about the thief.

The utterance "I need a ride" contains a type 1 perlocutionary act. Here Aurelio (hearer) understands John (speaker) intent that he needs a new vehicle to take revenge because his car has been stolen. "Of course. No problem" as a sign that the hearer understands what the speaker means.

Data 3

John : Oh. It's you

Jimmy : Evenin' john.

John : Evenin' Jimmy.

Noise complaints?

Jimmy : Yeah.

Noise complaints.

John : My neighbour, right?

Jimmy : Yeah, your neighbor reported.

John : Oh, I see.

I'm sorry about that.

Jimmy : You, uh workin' again?

John : **No. just sorting some stuff out.**

Jimmy : *Ah, I see.*

Well, I'll leave you then.

Goodnight, John.

John : Good night, Jimmy.

Context

Jimmy, a police officer came to John house after receiving a noisy complaint from neighborhood. Jimmy who was also John's friend asked John whether he back to work as a hitman then John said he was not working but just sorting things out. hearing that, Jimmy then calmly decided to leave because he did not want to get into the trouble that John caused because it would be useless if he handled the case and only troubled himself.

Utterance "No. just sorting some stuff out" is a type 1 perlocutionary act because Jimmy (hearer) understands what John (speaker) means he knows John killed the group because he had a problem so he decided not to interfere because he did not want to get involved. The "Ah, I will leave you then." as a sign that the hearer understands the speaker intent.

Data 4

Winston : So, what can I help you?

John : Iosev Tarasov.

Winston : What about him?

John : **I'd like to talk with him.**

Winston : *A talk, you say.*

I'm familiar with the parlance, Jonathan.

I want to ask you this, have you returned to the fold?

John : Just visiting.

Context

Winston, owner a Continental hotel bar surprised seeing John came and asked him whether he needed a help. When John replies the question then Winston knew that John was in a problem.

Utterance "I'd like to talk with him" contains a type 1 perlocutionary act because Winston (hearer) understands what John (speaker) means that he actually wanted to kill Iosef not to talk. " Utterance" A talk you say. I'm familiar with the parlance, Jonathan" is a sign that the hearer understands what the speaker means.

Data 5

Francis : I'm really sorry for asking this.

Are you here on business, sir?

John : Afraid so, Francis.

Why don't you take the night off?

Francis : *Thank you sir.*

Context

John found out the Iosef place for hiding and tried to enter there. Inside , John meet Francis, an old acquaintance of John and worked for a crime lord named Viggo

Tarasov who is Iosef father. John advised Francis to leave that place because he did not want to kill him, then Francis accepted John offer because he felt threatened and thanked him for not being killed and then left the place.

Utterance "Why don't you take the night off?" is a type 1 perlocutionary act because Francis (hearer) understands what John (speaker) means to advise Francis to rest so as not to be killed by him. Utterance "Thank you sir" is a sign that the hearer understands what the speaker means.

Data 6

John : Hey, remember me?

Viktor : You're the guy we met at the gas station.

John : You seem have a pretty good memory.

You asshole. Tell me where is Iosef ?

You're an asshole. Tell me, where is Joseph? = Ty mudak. Skazhi mne, gde Iosif? (In Russian)

Viktor : *You think I would tell you that easily huh?* Face me first John Wick.

Context

In the nightclub, John met Viktor, a close friend of Iosef afer a fighting with the body guards. John asked Viktor where Iosef location but did not get the answer.

Utterance "You asshole, tell me where is Iosef? (In Russian)" contains a type 3 perlocutionary act, here, the hearer (Viktor) does not want to tell Iosef location because he does not want to cooperate with speaker (John) because if he gives the location of his friend then his friend will be killed. The utterance of "You think I would tell you that easily huh?" is a sign that the hearer does not want to cooperate with the speaker.

Data 7

Doctor : Hey John.

John : Yeah?

Doctor : I wonder, are you working again?

John : It seems so.

Doctor : Oh, I see.

John : **Hey doc, what kind of movements can I do?**

Doctor : *If you want to get well, then don't move too much.*

Context

Because of the fighting in the nightclub, John got a serious injuries and wounds. He decided to go back to the hotel and called the doctor to treat him. John then asked what movements he could do because he had business to finish but the doctor advised him not to move much so he could recover and gave him a pain killer so he could move freely while doing business.

Utterance "hey doc, what kind of moves can I do?" contains a type 1 perlocutionary act because the doctor (hearer) understood John (Speaker)'s condition that he was seriously injured and advised him not to move too much and gave him medicine to recover quickly. Utterance " If you want to get well, then don't move too much " is proof that the hearer understands the speaker's intent.

Data 8

Perkins : Oh John.

You were always a pussy.

John : Where is Iosef?

Perkins : Fuck you!

John : **Where is he?**

Perkins : *I'm not telling you shit.*

Context

Perkins is a cold-blooded assassin woman and she was John ex-partner in the past, she is willing to kill his own friend for a high enough fee. However, she was failing to killed John. With hard work, John managed to beat Perkins then asked about Iosef location but she refused to tell because she do not want to cooperated with John and she knew that John would hunt down and kill Iosef if she told the location of his hideout.

The utterance "Where is he?" is a type 3 perlocutionary act because Perkins (hearer) does not want to cooperate and does not want to tell John (speaker) about Iosef location because she has been highly paid by Viggo to protect Iosef and was assigned to kill John. Utterance "I'm not telling you shit" is

a sign that the hearer does not want to cooperate with the speaker.

Data 9

Harry : I'm sorry about your wife.

John : Thanks man.

I appreciate that.

Harry : I'll leave you to it, then.

John : **Hey hARRY.**

You keen on earning a coin? Babysiittin' the sleepin one.

Catch and release.

Harry : Catch and release?

John : Yes.

Harry : *Ok then I'll do it.*

Context

The fighting between John and Perkins in a room caused such a commotion and it was heard to Harry's room which was next to John room. Harry, a friend of John looked to John and figured out what's going on. John offers Harry a job looking after an unconscious Perkins in exchange for gold coins if he agrees. Harry then accepted the offer because he realized that John was in trouble and had business to attend to.

Utterance "Hey hARRY. You keen on earning a coin? Babysiittin' the sleepin one. catch and release." is a type 1 perlocutionary act, Harry (hearer) understands what John means (speaker) he accepts the offer to look after Perkins because he realizes that John has problems and has business to do. Utterance "okay then, I'll do it". as a sign that the listener understands what the speaker is saying.

Data 10

Pastor : Do you think you can scare me to opening this gate?

John : Yes, I do.

Now open it.

Pastor : Viggo will kill me.

John : I don't care.

Pastor : What do you think you're going to do with all of that?

John : **Enjoy all of this.**

Pastor : *What are you talking about you son of a bitch?*

Context

The next day, John went to a church where Viggo kept all his treasures in the church. He asked Pastor hostage to lead him to the basement and open the safe. The priest asked John what he would do with the treasure, John then replied he would enjoy all this and he immediately burned all of Viggo treasure until there was nothing left. This made the pastor not understand what John meant and not realize why he burned the treasure.

Utterance "Enjoy all this" is a type 2 perlocutionary act because the pastor (hearer) does not understand and does not realize John means why he has to burn his treasure until there is nothing left. Utterance "What are you talking about you bastard?" is a sign that the hearer does not understand and does not realize what the speaker means.

Data 11

Viggo : Yeah. I know you did.

Then you get married, huh? Settled down.

How did you manage that anyways?

John : Lucky, I guess.

Viggo : Yeah, while you had your wife and I had my son.

John : **Step aside Viggo. Give me your son.**

Viggo : *what do you mean John?*

Are you out of your mind huh?

It was just a fucking car! Just a fucking dog!

Context

John came Viggo 's residence and tried to find Iosef. John met Vigo and had a conversation. Vigo refused to tell Iosef location and unbelievable with John attitude to take revenge only because of car and dog. It made no sense to him.

The utterance "Step aside Viggo. Give me your son" contains a type 2 perlocutionary act. Here, Viggo (the hearer) is does not realize and does not understand John (speaker) intent why he wants to take revenge for the death of his

dog and his stolen car which makes no sense. Utterance "what do you mean John, are you crazy? It's just a damn car! Damn dog!" as evidence that the listener is not aware of and does not understand the speaker's intent.

The result of the finding above shows that the perlocutionary acts is really exist and used by the main character of the movie. The perlocutionary acts is used when main character speaks to interlocutor with several intention such act for revenge, answering his enemy questions or friends. Among 11 data, the most dominant type of perlocutionary is type 1 in which the speaker utterances can be understood clearly by the hearer. Uniquely, even though the character uses implicature in his conversation and the utterances indicate floating the maxim of cooperative principles, the conversation still running well.

CONCLUSION

As an action thriller genre, John Wick movie presents an interesting way of conversation through utterances of the main character which contain perlocutionary acts. This type of speech acts performed mostly through implicature and flouting the maxim of cooperative principle in communication. There are 11 data which included 4 types of perlocutionary acts. Type 1 is the speaker utterance could be clearly understood by the hearer consists of 6 data, type 2 is the hearer does not understand the meaning of the speaker utterance consists of 2 data, then type 3 is the hearer pretended not to understand or there is intent, do not want to cooperate with the speaker, intentionally deny their intentions, and deliberately lied consists of 2 data, and type 4 is the speaker utterance is clarified or confirmed by a second hearer who really understands what is really going on consists of 1 data.

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