

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of the research. It consists of the research background, research questions, research objectives, research significance, and clarification of key terms.

1.1. Background of Research

Humans, as social beings, always interact with one another to carry out activities in their lives. In interacting with other humans, language is an important tool used by humans, not only for communication but also for establishing relationships with others around them. According to Tarigan (1987: 22), language is a medium between members of a community in a group and a tool for interaction both individually and in groups.

Language is a means of expression used to convey meaning to others. The speaker's intended meaning can be understood and comprehended by the listener or interlocutor through the language used. Language as a means of communication serves as a tool for conveying information and arguments. Therefore, language is important in life because it is a tool used by humans to express ideas, opinions, and feelings. Ronal Wardhaugh describes language as “A system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication.”

The branch of linguistics that studies meaning in communication is called pragmatics. Pragmatics refers to the meaning or interpretation of a speaker's utterance. According to Leech (1993:8), pragmatics is the study of meaning in relation to speech situations. In line with Leech's view, Brown and Levinson (1987) state that pragmatics is the study of language from a functional perspective that seeks to explain certain aspects of linguistic structure by referring to various non-linguistic influences and phenomena.

According to Levinson (1983), pragmatics is the study of the ability of language users to match sentences with appropriate contexts. This means that pragmatics cannot be separated from context and the principles of language use. The function of pragmatics is to help someone convey the meaning of their thoughts implicitly, but in accordance with the context. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the external structure of language, namely how language units are used in communication (Wijana and Rohmadi, 2011). Yule (2014) explains that pragmatics is the study of the relationship between linguistic forms and the users of those forms. The benefits of studying pragmatics include the ability to discuss the intended meaning of others, their assumptions, their intentions or goals, and the types of actions they demonstrate during communication.

The discussion of meaning in pragmatics is closely related to speech acts. The theory of speech acts was proposed by British philosopher J.L. Austin, who defined speech acts as expressing a certain attitude when a person utters a sentence. According to Yule (2014), speech act theory is an action performed through speech, and in English it is generally given a more specific label, such as apology, complaint, praise, invitation, promise, or request.

Speech acts as a central and fundamental entity in pragmatics. Speech acts are pragmatic elements that involve the speaker and listener or writer and reader, as well as what is being discussed. Speech acts are individual phenomena, psychological in nature, and their occurrence is determined by the speaker's linguistic ability in dealing with certain situations.

Expressive speech acts are speech acts that involve feelings and attitudes, such as apologizing, expressing gratitude, congratulating, praising, expressing condolences, criticizing, and sarcasm. These actions serve to express the speaker's psychological attitude toward the addressee. Taavitsainen and Jucker (2010) define expressive speech acts as the expression of the speaker's mental state, attitude, and feelings. Searle in Huang (2007) explains that expressive speech acts are speech acts that have the function of expressing psychological aspects of the speaker, such as expressing joy, sadness, and likes or dislikes.

Expressive speech acts with various forms and functions are found not only in everyday life but also in texts and films. The author chose film as a medium for analyzing and understanding these speech acts. Films can depict events from the real world. Additionally, films contain the elements necessary for analyzing speech acts, namely dialogue, characters, and setting. The films used as data in this study are also a medium that is easily understood because, generally, people enjoy watching films, and with the presence of situations or contexts related to speech acts, speech acts can be studied more effectively.

The author chose the film *Barbie: Princess Charm School* as research data by analyzing the utterances spoken by the characters in the film, because the film contains many types of speech acts that are highly relevant to everyday life. The film *Barbie: Princess Charm School* is a work of art that presents expressive speech acts that serve as a linguistic phenomenon. In a film, actors use expressions to attract the audience's attention through their dialogue. Through dialogue, actors can convey expressions and emotions that contain meaning and intent.

The reason that made the author interested in researching this topic is that communication does not only involve language. As we know, the basic composition of communication is language, but it turns out that in communication activities, humans often involve their feelings. These feelings are then expressed through expressions, and these expressions reflect attitudes in everyday communication. Expressive speech acts are forms of expression such as saying congratulations, giving compliments, apologizing, and expressing regret. By understanding a speaker's expressive speech acts, we can understand the speaker's feelings and attitudes.

Based on the above background, the author is interested in conducting research on expressive speech acts with the title: “AN ANALYSIS OF EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACT IN *BARBIE: PRINCESS CHARM SCHOOL* MOVIE.” This topic has been researched by other authors but from a different perspective to this research. Among others are:

1. Research by Yesi Santika Ningrum, with the title “Expressive Speech Act Used In *Harry Potter And The Prisoner Of Azkaban*.” The purposes of this

research were the researcher wants to know what kinds of expressive speech act that are found in the movie's dialogue and to know what was the intended meaning of each kind of expressive speech act that has been found. Totally there are 161 utterances from the beginning until the end that containing illocutionary act expressive speech act, with 13 kinds of expression based on Yule, Searle and Norick theories. The most expressive act that used in this movie is expression of dislike with the frequency 24 times appear. The researcher concludes every utterance that has been analyzed in this research has their own intended meaning by interpreted the utterances with the context situation which happened.

2. Research by Siska Damayanti, with the title “An Analysis Of Expressive Act In Zootopia Movie.” Pragmatics Approach. In this study, the speaker's speech from the talk show transcript was used to identify the different types of expressive acts and to describe their purposes. In the movie, the speaker does 31 expressive behaviors, which can be heard. According to this study, there are six different sorts of expressive acts: thanks, with six data, apologizing with five data, congratulating with two data, wishing with five data, expressing opinions with six data, and greeting with seven data. The eight purposes of expressive acts are as follows. The data to expressing gratitude with six data, expressing remorse with five data, expressing appreciation with one data, praising with one data, expressing sympathy with no data, accepting with two data, griping with three data, and criticizing with one data. Based on the aforementioned data, it can be said that expressing gratitude is the most prevalent function and that the expressive act of greeting is the most prevalent sort of expressive action in the Zootopia film.
3. Research by Amalia Kusumawardani with the tittle “Expressive Speech Acts Performed By The Characters In Before Midnight Movie.” This research aims to analyze the types of expressive speech act performed by the characters in Before Midnight movie and the strategies of expressive speech act performed by the characters in Before Midnight movie. The data found in this research are 63 data. The researcher finds the types of

expressive speech acts which consist of 9 data of apologizing, 12 data of thanking, 1 data of congratulating, 3 data of condoling, 22 data of deploring, 12 data of lamenting, 1 data of welcoming, and 3 data of forgiving. The most dominant data is deploring expressive speech act. The researcher finds the strategies of expressive speech acts which consist of 26 data of direct literal, 16 data of indirect literal, 3 data of direct non-literal, and 18 data of indirect non-literal. The most dominant data is direct literal speech act.

Based on previous research above, researcher finding research gap. In previous research, previous research only focused on the number of classifications of expressive speech act. In this study, what makes it different from previous studies is that the author will conduct research on how does expressive speech acts in Barbie: Princess Charm School movie. This will be focused on seeing how expressive speech act as an expression of feelings or emotional conditions that aim to express the speaker's psychological attitude towards the situation can be analyzed and researched more thoroughly.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the research above, it can be formulated into the research questions as follows:

1. What are the types of expressive speech acts found in Barbie: Princess Charm School movie?
2. How the speaker feels when expressing an expressive speech act in Barbie: Princess Charm School movie?

1.3 Research Purposes

Based on the research problem above, the objectives of this study that gained as follows:

1. To find out the types of expressive speech acts found in Barbie: Princess Charm School movie
2. To explain the speaker feels when expressing an expressive speech act in Barbie: Princess Charm School movie.

1.4 Research Significances

This research has two important meanings, namely theoretical meaning and practical meaning. Theoretically, the findings of this research hold value in the field of pragmatic science, which is a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and its context, as well as the relationship between symbols and their interpretations. Pragmatics also examines the meaning of utterances based on the speaker's intention in the Barbie: Princess Charm School movie. And also in the form of speech acts, particularly expressive speech acts. The author should focus on the forms of expressive speech acts used in the Barbie: Princess Charm School movie.

In Practical significance This study can improve and develop the readers to understand about linguistics, especially in pragmatics subject in the Barbie: Princess Charm School movie. With this study, the author also hopes that readers can understand the procedures for using expressive speech acts in everyday life and how to convey feelings in the form of correct and appropriate speech.

1.5 Clarification of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about the key terms used in this paper, the followings are the definition or the clarification of each term.

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and context, and how language is used in communication. Pragmatics also

examines the ability of speakers and interlocutors to relate language to context. Leech (2011).

Speech acts are: A central unit of linguistic communication in pragmatics. Speech acts can be in the form of a question, command, or statement.

Expressive Speech Act are expressions of feelings or emotional conditions that aim to reveal the speaker's psychological attitude towards the situation being experienced. Searle (1979) stated that expressive speech is part of an illocutionary act where in identifying it one must take into account the context of the speech, who the speaker and speech partner are, when and where the speech act occurs, and other aspects that influence the speech.

