

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Pragmatic is one of area which studies the way in which context contributes to meaning. “Pragmatics is concerned with the interpretation of linguistics meaning in context” (Fromkin, Blair, and Collins, 1999:182). Kadmon (2001:1) states that “ Pragmatics has to do with language use , and with “going beyond the literal meaning”. According to Peccei (1999:2) that “pragmatics concentrates on those aspects of meaning that cannot be predicted by linguistics knowledge alone and takes into account knowledge about physical and social world”. Chomsky states that “pragmatics means knowledge of how language is related to the situation in which it is used”.

There are many functions of language in daily life such as to give speech, announces, speak, tell, etc. “Speech is a formal talk given to an audience to express our thoughts” (Oxford Dictionary, 1995:1142). Speech is useful for everyone, especially for a president to announce what happened in their country.

Presidents usually use speech to explain their argument, ideas and point of view relating to occurrences in their country. One of the most interesting speeches is speeches given by Barack Obama. Obama has very different characteristic in his speech. He usually gives people some promises. The writer is interested to study of promising utterances made by Barack

Obama in his speech. Promising utterance is a statement for somebody to do an action in the future. This is the example of promise in his speech.

As a candidate for President, *I pledged to bring the war in Iraq to a responsible end -- for the sake of our national security and to strengthen American leadership around the world.* After taking office, I announced a new strategy that would end our combat mission in Iraq and remove all of our troops by the end of 2011.

In this data, *“I pledged to bring the war in Iraq to a responsible end -- for the sake of our national security and to strengthen American leadership around the world”*, Barack Obama makes promise to Iraq that he will end the war in that country. Viewed from his locuting act, Barack Obama wanted to end the war in Iraq. As a candidate for president of United States, he would strengthen the national security of America. He would show the world the power of America around the world. He would remove all the troops of United States from Iraq by the end of 2011. The illocutionary acts of promise given by Barack Obama is that when he was elected as the president of United states that he would remove the troops of America by the end o 2011. Obama promised to public that he did not lie. It means when Bush was the president, the troops of America were not remove from Iraq. By giving that promise Iraq would be bound to America. He would remove all of the troops of America from Iraq but he still wanted to strengthen the national Security of America in Iraq. This is his strategy in his politic.

The other example is:

A few hours ago I spoke with Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki. *I reaffirmed that the United States keeps its commitments.* He spoke of the determination of the Iraqi

people to forge their own future. We are in full agreement about how to move forward.

In this sentence, "*I reaffirmed that the United States keeps its commitment*"s is the locutionary act of that utterance is that Obama wanted to keep the commitment of United States to Iraqi people. The illocutionary act of this sentence is that President of United States; Obama would not break the commitment to Iraqi people. He told it to Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki as the representative of Iraqi people. The commitment here is Obama would end the combat mission in Iraq. He would remove all of the troops of United States from Iraq to come back to America. In fact, the troops of United States had been removed more than 100,000 troops. United States would give full responsibility for Iraqi people. Iraqi people have to take the responsibility for their country. This commitment here is to make sure Iraq that America wants to work together. Based on the commitment, Iraq and America still join cooperation. So America still gives their influence to the Iraq.

There are limited research about promising utterance such as Rahayu (2009), Yulianti (2010), Pudjilestari (2012), Laval and Bernicot (2004) and astington (1987). Even though there are many studies of promising utterance, there is no research about promising utterance in Barack Obama speech. However there was research about Barack Obama but it was only in Barack Obama Campaign. That research was conducted by Rahayu (2009). This study is to continue the research from Rahayu (2009) that focus to Barack Obama Speech. Barack Obama Speech here is delivered after Obama was elected as President of United States. This is a proof that after becoming President of

United States, Obama still given promise to his citizen or public. So the writer conducted this research.

The background of Obama Speech is very interesting to be studied, because Barack Obama is first African- American president. He brings new idea to America government. His idea sometimes is controversial. So it makes he becomes a light ray in public of America. His plan for America is different from the other especially from Republic party. So it is very interesting to be studied. Second his point of view in politic is very interesting. America has improvement such as in economic, education, health, etc. From his speech in Congress on Jobs in 2011, he gave fresh idea for America. His idea is welcomed by American. He will create more jobs for American. Small businesses will get a tax cut. He will get more projects for jobs in America. Third Obama is a well- known person as president of America. Many persons are very interesting to him. Many people give attention to him. So what he said in speech is very interesting thing to talk. .Finally some of his statement in speech is promise. Many people have different interpretation to his statement in speech. So this study is conducted to make its clear the interpretation of his statement. This study entitled *A Pragmatic Analysis of Promising Utterances in Barack Obama Speeches*.

B. Scope of the Study

This research concerns on the pragmalinguistics forms and illocutionary acts of Barack Obama speeches. This research used five speeches from Barack Obama: *Obama speech on the Deficit (April 13rd 2011)*, *Remarks by the President on Ending the War in Iraq (October 21st 2011)*, *Obama speech to Congress on Jobs (September 8th 2011)*, *President Barack Obama's 2012 election night victory speech in Chicago (November 7th 2012)*, and *President Obama's Speech on Gun Control and Reform (December 19th 2012)*. The framework of this study is pragmatics of Levinson theory (1983) especially Speech Acts theory.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the phenomena on the background above, the researcher formulates the problem statement as follows:

1. What are the pragmalinguistic forms of promising utterances in Barack Obama speeches?
2. What are the illocutionary acts promising utterances in Barack Obama speeches?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To describe the pragmalinguistic forms of promising utterances in Barack Obama speeches.

2. To investigate illocutionary acts of promising utterances in Barack Obama speeches.

E. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes the study of promising utterances in Barack Obama speeches gives theoretical and practical benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The writer discusses two theoretical benefits of this research, they are:

a. For the Student

The result of this research can be used as reference for students who want to conduct a research in pragmatics study especially pragmatic analysis of promising utterances in speech. The outcome of this study will be an alternative material for the learner in studying linguistic work especially in pragmatics study.

b. For the Lecture

The result of this study can be used as additional knowledge in teaching pragmatics study. This research will enrich the linguistics study especially study of pragmatic analysis of promising utterances in speech.

2. Practical Benefit

The writer discusses two practical benefits of this research as follows:

a. For the Other researcher

The result of this study can be as additional reference and give more knowledge for another researcher about pragmatics study.

b. For the listener

The result of this study can help the listener to understand the meaning of utterances in speeches easily. The listener understands the messages implied in that speech.

F. Research Paper Organization

The organization of this research will be explained in order the reader able to understand. The researcher organizes her research as follows:

Chapter I is introduction. This chapter presents the background of the study that discussed the reason of the writer in arranging this research. The writer also the scope of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization.

Chapter II is underlying theory. This chapter explains the notion of pragmatics, the scope of pragmatics, speech acts, promising utterance, pragmalinguistics forms of promising utterance and previous studies on promising utterance.

Chapter III is research method. The writer discusses type of research. This chapter also discusses the method and the technique how to collect and analyze the data. The writer also stated the data and data source.

Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. This chapter, the writer will present the data analysis and the findings. This research finding is elaborated the pragmalinguistics forms of promising utterance and the intention of promising utterance in five speeches of Barack Obama.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.