

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1995: 1142), speech is a formal talk given to an audience. There are four basic types of speeches, to inform, to instruct, to entertain, and to persuade. To reach the understanding between the orators or speakers and listeners, people have to know what the meaning of speeches is. Pragmatics can be use to learn the meaning of the speeches.

Pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning. Yule (1996: 3) explains that pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader).

In pragmatics, people are familiar with speech act. The human's ideas are commonly expressed by using utterances. Appropriate to Yule (1996: 47) speech acts is actions performed via utterances. There are some kinds of utterances, one of them is assertive utterance. Assertive language is concerned with facts which has purpose is to inform. The focuses discussed assertive are on information, on truth-value of utterance, on speaker's commitment or involvement in what is reported, on manner of communicating, on the nature of the message, and focus on aspect.

In speech act study, the action performed by producing an utterance will consist three related acts, they are locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary act. The most obvious device for indicating the illocutionary force (the Illocutionary Force

Indicating Device, or IFID) is an expression of the type shown in where there is a slot for a verb that explicitly names the illocutionary act being performed. Such a verb can be called a performative verb. Example: *I promise you that I will meet you tomorrow morning.*

One of the evidences of sentence containing pragmatic force can be found in Barack Obama speech entitled The Remaking of America on July 15, 2008 page 4.

These are the indicators of crisis, subject to data and statistics. Less measurable but no less profound is a sapping of confidence across our land – a nagging fear that America’s decline is inevitable, and the next generation must lower its sights. Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real. They are serious and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this, America – they will be met.

This sentence is produced by Obama at Washington DC, January 20, 2009. The underlined sentence above belongs to assertive utterance. The speaker asserts listeners that subject to data and statistics are the indicators of crisis.

There are some researcher who has analyzed assertive utterances. Purnomosari (2008), this research studies about assertive utterances in the English translation of Prophetic tradition related by “Bukhori”. Gunanto (2013) This research focuses describing the intention of directive utterances based on illocutionary act and FTA/ politeness strategy used in Oh, Brother! comic strip.

This research is to continue the previous study by Purnomosari and Gunanto describing the types sentences contain pragmatic force found in the speeches of Barack Obama and describing the illocutionary meaning of the sentences. The speeches of Barack Obama which collected on *President Barack Obama in His Own*

Word released in <http://www.america.gov> is used as data source. Barack Obama is the 44th President of United State born August 4, 1961 in Honolulu, Hawaii. He is the first African American to hold the office. Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he was president of the Harvard Law Review. He was a community organizer in Chicago before earning his law degree. He worked as a civil rights attorney in Chicago and taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 to 2004. He served three terms representing the 13th District in the Illinois Senate from 1997 to 2004, running unsuccessfully for the United States House of Representatives in 2000.

The researcher analyzes the illocutionary act of sentences contain pragmatic force found in President Barack Obama in His Own Word entitled *An Analysis of Assertive Speech Act on Sentences Used in the Speeches of Barack Obama*.

B. Previous Study

This study is not the only one study that focuses on sentence containing pragmatic force. There are some references of previous studies that give inspiration to this study. Here are previous studies that deal with pragmatic analysis.

Purnomosari (2008) studies about assertive utterances in the English translation of Prophetic tradition related by “Bukhori”. The objects used to be analyzed are assertive utterances in the form of sentence and its implicature. The type of this research is descriptive qualitative research. In collecting the data, the writer uses observation and documentation method by selecting the assertive utterances which

can be found in the English Translation of Shahih Bukhori taken from USC – MSA Compendium of Muslim Text especially in the Book of Belief. To achieve the objectives, the writer classifies the data based on sentence form and applies pragmatic context to describe the implicature. This study shows the variety of forms and implicatures of assertive utterances used in the English translation of Prophetic Tradition related by “Bukhori”. The variants of forms of sentences are: (1) declarative, with normal word order of subject and predicate, (2) interrogative, with initially using of auxiliary (did, do, has, have, is), question words (what, why, who, which) and modal (will, shall), (3) imperative, with initially using of predicate (V1 or be). The implicatures of this study cover suggesting, commanding and explaining.

Gunanto (2013) focuses describing the intention of directive utterances based on illocutionary act and FTA/ politeness strategy used in Oh, Brother! comic strip. This research aimed at 1) describing the directive utterances based on illocutionary act, 2) describing the FTA / Politeness Strategy in the Oh, Brother! comic strip. This research applies descriptive qualitative method. The data are utterances that are containing directive utterances in 25 serials of Oh, Brother! comic strip. In collecting the data, the writer uses a documentation method by reading, classifying, underlining and coding the data. The study shows that: 1) the category of directive utterances based on illocutionary act used in Oh, Brother! comic strip are 11 (27,5%) data of the directive commanding category, 4 (10%) data of the directive suggesting category, 21 (52.5%) data of the directive requesting category and 4 (10%) data of the directive warning category. And the last is 2) the FTA / Politeness Strategy, the writer finds 18

(45%) data of the politeness bald on record strategy, 3 (7,5%) data of the politeness off-record strategy, 14 (35%) data of the positive politeness strategy, and 5 (12.5%) data of the negative politeness strategy.

*Accordingly, this research and two previous studies is same in utterances analysis, while the difference between this research and its is the data source used. The first previous study uses English translation of Prophetic tradition related by “Bukhori” and, the second previous study uses Oh, Brother! comic strip. In this research, the writer uses the speeches of Barack Obama as the data source. The writer is sure that this research has not been analyzed yet. So, the researcher interested to conducts the research entitled *An Analysis of Assertive Speech Act on Sentences Used in the Speeches of Barack Obama*.*

C. Limitation of the Study

This research focuses on sentences contains pragmatic force as the data and *President Barack Obama in His Own Word* e-book released in <http://www.america.gov> is used as data source

D. Problem Statement

Based on the background of study above, research problem on this research can be formulated as follows:

1. What are the focuses of assertive speech act which are found in *President Barack Obama in His Own Word* e-book?

2. What are the illocutionary act of the sentences found in *President Barack Obama in His Own Word* e-book?

E. Objective of the Study

Based on the research problem, the researcher has objectives:

1. To describe the focuses of assertive speech act which are found in *President Barack Obama in His Own Word* e-book.
2. To describe the illocutionary act of sentences found in *President Barack Obama in His Own Word* e-book.

F. Benefits of the Study

The researcher hopes this research can give more benefits either theoretically or practically.

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher hopes this research will give contribution to the development of semantic and pragmatic field mainly of assertive utterances. It can be used by other researcher for adding references to open other analysis relating to the research on linguistic study especially of assertive utterances and its contributions for English department students particularly in learning about pragmatics.

2. Practical Benefit

a. Student

This result can be used as the impact in pragmatic analyzing of assertive utterances.

b. Lecturers

This result can add knowledge about assertive utterances.

G. Organization of Research Paper

This research paper consists of five parts.

Chapter I is introduction consisting of background of the study, previous study, limitation of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and organization of research paper.

Chapter II is underlying theory which includes notion and principles of pragmatics, speech act, linguistic form, and IFIDs (Illocutionary Force Indicating Devices).

Chapter III is research method presenting type of the research, object of the research, data and data source, technique of the data collection, and technique of the data analysis.

Chapter IV is data analysis and research finding. This chapter focuses on analysis and discussion.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. In addition, the last part will be bibliography and appendix.