

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Language cannot be separated from life because people use language in his/her daily activities. The language use by people can become an interesting discussion. One of language studies which discusses about language use is speech act. Austin in Cutting (2002: 16) defined speech acts as the actions performed in saying something. He claims that the action performed when an utterance is produced can be analyzed on three different levels: locution, illocution, and perlocution. Locution is 'what is said' or the form of the words uttered; the act of saying something is known as the locutionary act. Illocution is 'what is done in uttering the words'; the function of the words, the specific purpose that the speakers have in mind. Perlocution is the result of the words or 'what is done by uttering the words'; it is the effect of the utterance on the listener or hearer's reaction.

In accordance with the levels of speech act above, especially the illocution, Searle (1976) classifies it into the taxonomy of illocutionary acts, those are: assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations. The most common speech act used by people is directives. In directive speech act, the speaker directs a demand to a listener or ask someone doing

something. The following are examples used by the characters in the novel "The Land of Five Towers". *The dialogue is between Amak and Alif on the balcony of their house. They discuss about Alif's school after he graduated from junior high school. Amak says: "Amak wants to offer her best child for the sake of religion. This is the noble task for the hereafter". Alif answers: "But, it is not my fault that other parents send less than smart children to madrasah..." Amak says again: "The point is, Amak is not willing to let you enroll in public high school!"* The first sentence uttered by Amak is a request. It is an indirect request because Amak doesn't ask Alif to enter religious school directly but she uses sentence: **Amak wants to offer her best child for the sake of religion.** Amak intends Alif to become a religious leader by studying in a religious school. The second sentence uttered by Amak is prohibition. It can be seen from the sentence: **Amak is not willing to let you enroll in public high school.** The word 'not' shows that Amak prohibits Alif to enroll a public school. Request and prohibition are included in directive speech act.

When producing utterances using directive speech act, speaker has to know the appropriate situation or context. In the interaction with others, she/he has to pay attention to contextual factors such as the status of participants, the purpose of the communication and its setting. Of course, it

is done in order to become polite. In English, polite language may be characterized by the use of indirect speech, the use of respectful forms of address systems like, *Sir, Madam*, or the use of formulaic utterances such as, *please, excuse me, sorry, thank you*, and so on (Fauziati, 2013: 85). It is almost similar with politeness in Indonesia. This phenomenon is really interesting, so the writer wants to unearth how people express their directive speech act while they use the politeness principle appropriately.

The directive speech act has been widely examined in pragmatic research. For instance, Qadir and Riloff (2011) in their research entitled "Classifying Sentences as Speech Act in Message Board Posts" analyze the directive speech act which is used in message board posts. Other study investigated directive speech act is Moessner (2010) in his research entitled "Directive Speech Acts: a Cross-generic Diachronic Study". It investigates directive speech act in a corpus of Early Modern English and Present-day English written text from legal, religious and scientific discourse. Beside those previous studies, Oktoberia (2012) also analyzes the directive speech act used in movie scripts. The findings show that the dominant types of directive speech act in fiction film are command and request. Another research was conducted by Martinez (2011) which aims at describing the linguistic parameters of illocutionary constructions within the scope of the

Lexical-Constructional Model. In this work, she explains the semantic and pragmatic base of a number of illocutionary constructions performing the speech acts of requesting and begging. This analysis attempts to reveal the formal differences in the constructions in relation to their illocutionary meaning. On the other study, discussing about politeness was done by Dontcheva-Navratilova (2005). She stressed her study on the performative speech act in UNESCO resolutions with a particular view to relate the semantic analysis of directive and expressive speech act verbs and their co-occurrence with particular addressees are motivated by the socio-pragmatic situation. Another research about politeness strategy was conducted by Fitriyana (2012) in which she analyzes the portrayed of utterances of politeness strategies toward four politeness strategies, namely bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off the record in John Grisham's novel.

Although previous studies have examined directive speech act and politeness in different perspectives, the use of directive speech act and politeness in the novel has been rarely investigated, and hence this study is to fill in this gap. Thus this present study examines both directive speech acts and politeness in a novel.

The directive speech act which commonly occurs in daily communication is often reflected in the conversations of characters in a novel. It usually reflects the communication or interaction in real life. "The Land of Five Towers", as the source of data of this study, is the reflection of the writer's experience in his life. The interaction of characters in "The Land of Five Towers" uses directive speech acts and they also apply the politeness strategies. It is done because in using directive speech act—the act of asking someone in doing something—needs politeness strategies.

Based on the reasons above, the writer is really interested in conducting the study, especially directive speech act and politeness strategies. Hence, the writer constructs it entitled "THE DIRECTIVE UTTERANCES USED BY THE CHARACTERS IN FUADI'S NOVEL "THE LAND OF FIVE TOWERS" (2011): A PRAGMATIC STUDY".

## **B. Problem Statements**

This research will unravel the directive speech act reflected in Ahmad Fuadi's novel 'The Land of Five Towers'. These major questions will be subdivided into the following focuses:

1. What are the sentence type of directive utterances used by the characters in Fuadi's novel 'The Land of Five Towers'?

2. What are the illocutionary acts of directive utterances used by the characters in the novel?
3. What are the politeness strategy of directive utterances used by the characters in the novel?

### **C. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this research involve the following:

1. To describe the sentence type of directive utterances used by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers'.
2. To describe the illocutionary act of directive utterances used by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers'.
3. To investigate the use of politeness strategies in directive utterances by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers'.

### **D. Scope of the Study**

This research paper investigates the sentence type of directive utterances, the illocutionary act of directive utterances, and politeness strategies used by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers' 2011. The sentence type of directive utterances are analyzed based on the theory of Frank (1972), the illocutionary act of directive utterances are analyzed

according to the theory of Austin (1962) and Searle (1976), while the politeness strategies are analyzed according to Brown and Levinson (1987).

#### **E. Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study would be the description about the various sentence types of directive utterances, various illocutionary act of directive utterances, and politeness strategy performed by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers' in a lot of context.

The findings might contribute to the following area:

##### **1. Theoretically**

The writer hopes that this research can give additional contribution especially in the study of directive speech act in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers'. The directive speech acts which are proposed by Searle (1976) are based on the research in that the data could be limited. The result of this study might contribute other research not covered in Searle. In addition, while politeness by Brown and Levinson (1987) has been a relatively solid theory of politeness in western culture, the examples included in their book "Politeness: Some Universal in Language Usage" tend to be limited. The findings of this study would show and provide more examples of how their strategies used in 'real' conversations.

## **2. Practically**

In this research, the writer obtains the information about the sentence type of directive utterances, the illocutionary act and politeness strategies used by the characters in the novel 'The Land of Five Towers'. It gives information to the writer how to ask someone in urgent condition politely and appropriately. Although directive speech acts in a novel considered not real, they inform the readers especially teachers, students, and next researchers about how directive speech act and politeness are used in different conversations with different contexts.

## **F. Organization of Thesis**

The organization of this thesis is given in order to the readers are able to understand the content of thesis. They are as follows: Chapter I is introduction which consist of background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, and organization of thesis. Chapter II consists of the theory which covers pragmatics, speech acts, directives utterances, sentence types and politeness. Chapter III is the research method which consists of type of study, object of the study, data and data source, technique of collecting the data,

and technique for analyzing the data. Chapter IV is research finding and discussion. The last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.