

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Research Context

Pragmatics deals with the study of meaning. According to Yule (1996: 3) pragmatics concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener or reader. It is also the study of the relationship between the form of linguistic and the user of those forms.

Pragmatics is one of the subjects of language study. There are many parts of pragmatics study namely deixis, presupposition, speech acts and implicature.

Speech act is one of the pragmatics theories. Bierwisch & Searle (1980: vii) state that the theory of speech acts starts with the assumption that the minimal unit of human communication is not a sentence or other expression, but rather the performance of certain kinds of acts, such as making statements, asking questions, giving orders, describing, explaining, apologizing, thanking, congratulating, etc. It means that speech act is also the study of contextual meaning which study about the intention of the speaker to hearer.

To conduct a conversation, people need to communicate each other. There are two or more participant in a conversation, called a speaker who transmit a message and a listener who receives a message. By conversation people can understand each other and they will understand the objective of the conversation. The objective of the conversation depends on the topic they discuss. A speaker usually transmits a topic such as information, ideas, opinions, feelings to the listener. To bring the objective they need language and expression. Every human has a different way to express their ideas, feelings, opinion, etc.

Speakers employ a variety of communicative acts, or speech acts, to achieve their communicative goals. Searle proposes seminal broad categories – classification, i.e. commissives, declarations, directives, expressive, and

representatives. As well as more specific acts such as apologies, requests, complaints, and refusals (Kasper & Rose, 2001).

According to Kreidler (1998: 192), commissive is utterances that commit a speaker to a course of action. These include promises, pledges, threats, vows, etc. Commissive verbs are illustrated by agree, ask, offer, refuse, swear, all with following infinitive. They are prospective and concerned with the speaker's commitment to the future action. For example, I promise/ I guarantee.

Commissive does not only happen in real conversation but also in the movies. Many conversations in the movies show the commissive utterances. "The Fault in Our Stars" movie is one of them.

The movie is about a seventeen year-old Hazel Grace has cancer in her lung and needs to carry oxygen tank everywhere. Her mother suggests and forces her to go to the support group against her will. Then, Hazel meets the eighteen year-old Augustus Waters, who lost part of one leg with cancer but seemingly is already cured, and they fall in love with each other.

To give more comprehensive and understanding about commissive utterance this following example might be help;

Doctor	: <i>I may switch you to Zoloft.</i> Or Lexapro. And twice a day instead of once.
Hazel Grace	: Why stop there? Keep 'em coming. I can take it. I'm like the Keith Richards of cancer kids.

From the conversation above it can be concluded that the doctor perform a commissive utterances by saying "*I may switch you to Zoloft*". The illocution of doctor's utterance is doctor promised to Hazel that she will switch the drugs.

The study of commissive utterances is always interesting to conduct because it is a kind of speech act that often used by speakers in daily conversation. For using commissive, the speakers attempt to make communication to the listeners and commissive shows a strong relationship between speakers and listeners.

B. The Problem Statement

Knowing the problem is the most important part in a research, the writer decides some problems that will be discussed here. The problems are formulated as follows:

1. What are the types of commissive utterances used in “The Fault in Our Stars” movie?
2. What are the types of implicature of commissive utterances found in the movie?
3. What maxims are violated in commissive utterances found in “The Fault in Our Stars” movie?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statements above, the objectives of the research are as follows;

1. To find out the types of commissive utterances used in “The Fault in Our Stars” movie.
2. To find out the types of the implicature of commissive utterances found in the movie.
3. To find out violated maxim in commissive utterances found in the movie.

D. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes this research have some benefits as follows:

1. The reader
This research will give information to the reader about commissive utterances and non-observance maxim and to help them to understand the classification of commissive utterances and how it applied in the conversation.
2. Other researcher
The result of the study can be used as an additional reference by other researcher to conduct further research dealing with socio-pragmatics or speech-act analysis.