

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The first chapter contains an introduction which includes an overview of the topic to be studied. The author divides this first chapter into six sections including: background of the Study, Limitation of the Study, Problem Statement, Objective of the Study, Significance of the Study and Research Paper Organization.

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

Currently, movies or movies are no stranger to us. In our daily lives, we always come into contact with movies. Movie is a mass communication medium consisting of a combination of several technologies such as sound recording, photography and art (visual arts, theater arts, literature, architecture and music arts). In this case, film can also be interpreted as a tool to convey messages to the audience through the medium of stories or media of expression to express ideas or story ideas for artists and filmmakers. According to Sihombing and Sinaga (2021) he stated that films are a reflection of how we as humans live side by side, and how easy it is for us to see what can attract our attention, strengths and weaknesses in films rather than depicting them directly through our daily interactions.

In every film, there is social interaction between each actor. The interaction can be in the form of communication. According to Dolese and Kozbelt (2020) communication is a process of making meaning, seeking understanding, and relevance, building similarities and connecting with one's experience. In everyday life communication is used to exchange information between speakers and listeners. When communicating, a person needs a very important component, namely language. The existence of language can make it easier for someone to communicate, express ideas, desires, thoughts, knowledge and feelings. Language occupies a very important position in human life. According to Selsibilla (2022) language is a system of creating

words, sounds, motions that humans use to communicate with others in everyday life. Therefore, in everyday life, humans cannot be separated from language. Because every day humans interact with each other by using language. In addition, language can also be interpreted as a process or series that is used to ensure there is an agreement between the sender and receiver on the meaning of the symbols given and the scheme for combining them to communicate (Siliwangi, 2019) Speech act is an act of language as a whole concerning the actor of the conversation, the method of conveying the message, the topic, and the context of the message. According to Lestari and Hartati (2021), speech acts are basic linguistic units such as warning, greeting, applying, giving information, confirming promises, and other expressions. In addition, Wijaya and Helmie (2019) states that, a speech act is an action carried out through utterances. So, when someone utters a series of words, the speaker tries to convey his actions and goals with words. Speech acts are categorized into several actions, for example psychological actions (thanking, apologizing) and social actions such as influencing the behavior of others (reminding, ordering) or making contracts (promising, naming).

Speech act theory is part of the pragmatics discipline. Pragmatics can be the study of language in different communicative contexts or situations. Pragmatics is a scientific discipline that analyzes language use based on internal and external factors including, but not on, who communicates with whom, when, why, and how. Meanwhile, according to Muchsin (2020) pragmatics is a study that studies the speaker's meaning. Understanding the meaning of language is important for every human life, because every day we always use language as a communication tool to express our feelings, ideas, thoughts, goals and intentions. On the other hand, pragmatics is the study of how much meaning you want to communicate rather than just saying or saying it (Wijaya and Helmie, 2019).

In this study, the researcher wants to discuss the types of apologies and strategies for expressing apologies in the film *Freedom Writers*. Basically, the expression of apology is a form of expressive speech act. Expressive speech

acts are a way to communicate thoughts, ideas, and human thoughts by using speech acts or using certain methods. In addition, expressive speech acts can be interpreted as speech acts used to express or convey the speaker's intent through speech (Izar et al. 2021). According to Widyowati (2019) Expressive speech act is an event where a speaker wants to express feelings, ideas and attitudes about something such as expressions of apologizing, thanking, and greeting someone with speech acts. It is important for us to learn about expressive speech acts because these speech acts cannot be separated from our daily lives.

The expression of apology is a form of expressive speech act. Apologies are expressions and actions that show regret or sympathy, either in the form of words or actions that acknowledge mistakes. According to Abudin and Sundari (2021) an apology does not only express feelings of regret, but can contribute to the management of interpersonal relationships and image improvement. On the other hand, according to Alfghe and Mohammadzadeh (2021) an apology is an expression that is difficult to make, because this expression also applies several other speech acts such as requests, offers, and others. Expressions of apology basically involve different implicit meanings depending on the social context. There are five reasons why someone would express an apology to someone else. First, to show respect to others. Second, take responsibility for our actions. Third, to show that we care about other people's feelings. Fourth, to show that we have good integrity. Fifth, asking to show that we want to make peace.

This research focuses on analyzing the types and strategies of expression of apology used by the characters in the film *Freedom Writers*. This research is a type of qualitative research. The method used in this research is descriptive research method. This study aims to analyze the types of expressions of apology in the *Freedom Writers* film and the apologizing strategies used by all the characters in the *Freedom Writers* film. The research data were obtained from all expressions of apology contained in the *Freedom Writers* film, while the main data sources were taken from the original film

and the subtitles of the Freedom Writers film. Then the data obtained will be analyzed using the theory from Chapman and Thomas and Olshtain and Cohen in Esther relating to speech acts, especially in the expression part of expressions of apology. In collecting data, researchers used observation and documentation techniques. While the data analysis technique uses data reduction. The results of this study are that there are 13 expressions of apology found in the film Freedom Writers which will be analyzed with the theory of types of apology expressions in Chapman and Thomas 2006 and the theory of strategy of expressions of apology by Olshtain and Cohen in Esther 2010. Speech acts of expressions of apology have the intention of apologizing as a feeling of regret and apologizing for their mistakes..

The phenomena of apology expressions found in the film *Freedom Writers* are as follows:

Dialouge 1

Marcus :” Hey, Mama. Mama.”

Marcus's Mother :” What the hell are you doing here?”

Marcus :” I want to come home. I don't want to be in the streets no more. **I'm sorry. I want to change. I can't do it alone. I need you, Mama. I need you.**” (His mother hands him the bag to take it home)

Context

This conversation took place when it was dark in the middle of the night, Marcus decided to meet his mother and he waited for her outside the house. The phrase “**I'm sorry. I want to change. I can't do it alone. I need you, Mama. I need you Mam.**” It is a form of expression of Marcus' apology to his mother.

Datum (11) is a **type of expression of genuinely repent (J4)**. This expression of apology uses the **strategy of expression of apology by promising not to do it again (AP4)**. Marcus apologizes to his mother, because he didn't listen to what his mother said. Marcus chose to leave home

and live on the streets. After the many lectures Marcus gets from Erin Gruwell, he decides to go home and see his mother. Marcus waited for his mother to apologize to his mother. He also told his mother that he wanted to go home, he didn't want to live on the streets anymore, and he couldn't be alone without her. He really needed his mother.

#### Dialouge 2

Margaret :”Let me explain. It’s called site-based instruction. It means that I and the principal each have the authority to make these kind of decisions without having to go to the Board, who have bigger problems to solve. Do you understand how it works now?”

Erin :”**I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to overstep your authority.** I would never do that. I just... I don’t know how to make them interested in reading with these.”

Expression of apology Erin Gruwell to Margaret.

The speech act of expressing an apology occurs between Erin Gruwell and Margaret. Setting the time and place in this conversation that is during the day in the library. At that time, Margaret was checking the book administration at the same time as Erin Gruwell who was looking for books for teaching materials. Saying "**I'm sorry. I didn't mean to overstep your authority**" is a form of expression of Erin Gruwell's apology to Margaret.

Data (3) is a **type of apology expressing regret (J1)**. This speech act of apologizing uses the **apology strategy by giving an explanation (AP1)**. This conversation takes place after Erin and Margaret's earlier misunderstanding. After the conversation above, Margaret angrily explained to Erin about the work system at the school. Listen to Margaret explain. Erin Gruwell intended to apologize to Margaret, as she had not intended to offend and overstep Margaret's authority.

Based on the above phenomenon, the researcher will conduct a research entitled “Types And Strategies Of Apology In The *Freedom Writers* Movie.”

## **B. Problem Statement**

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the researcher formulates the research problem as follows:

1. What are the type of apology in the *Freedom Writers* movie?
2. What are the strategies of apologizing in the *Freedom Writers* movie?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the formulation of the problem that has been formulated above, the purpose of this research is:

1. To classify the type of apology in the *Freedom Writers* movie.
2. To classify the strategy of apology in the *Freedom Writers* movie.

## **D. Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to provide theoretical and practical benefits:

### 1. Theoretically

The theoretical benefit of this research is to help deepen understanding in linguistics. In addition, it can add substance to pragmatic studies and serve as reference material related to research on types of expressions of apology and strategies for expressions of apology in the film *Freedom Writers*.

### 2. Practical

#### a. For pragmatics lecturers

The results of this study are expected to provide a reference for linguistic studies, especially on types of expressions of apology and strategies for expressions of apology in the film *Freedom Writers*.

#### b. For further research

The researcher hopes that this research can contribute to further research as a reference for those who are interested in analyzing and learning more about types of expressions of apology and strategies for expressions of apology.