

# AN ANALYSIS OF EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACT FOUND IN THE MIND YOUR LANGUAGE MOVIE SERIES

Iqbal Jody Hernanto; Hepy Adityarini

School Of Teacher Training And Education, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

## Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membedakan penutur asli dan non-penutur asli dalam Serial TV Mind Your Language season 1 sebanyak 1-5 episode. Penelitian ini fokus pada tindak tutur ekspresif dengan tipe ucapan terima kasih, ucapan selamat, belasungkawa, pujian, menyalahkan dan permintaan maaf. Penutur asli memiliki 14 ucapan terima kasih, 1 ucapan belasungkawa, 12 pujian, 3 menyalahkan dan 6 permintaan maaf, Penutur non-pribumi memiliki 7 ucapan terima kasih, 3 pujian, 9 menyalahkan dan 6 permintaan maaf. Penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi dengan menonton video YouTube dan mencatat tindak tutur ekspresif penutur asli dan non-pribumi dalam MYL TV Series season 1 sebanyak 1-5 episode. Hal ini menunjukkan ungkapan terima kasih paling tinggi pada penutur asli, paling rendah menyatakan belasungkawa dan meminta maaf, ungkapan paling tinggi pada bukan penutur asli, paling rendah memuji. Selain itu, terdapat karakteristik unik dalam cara penutur non-pribumi menggunakan tindak tutur ekspresif.

**Kata Kunci:** Serial TV, Tindak Pidato, Tindak Pidato Ekspresif, Mind Your Language

## Abstract

This study aims to differentiate between native and non-native speakers in Mind Your Language TV Series season 1 from 1-5 episodes. This study focused on expressive speech act with the type of thanking, congratulating, condoling, praising, blaming and apologizing. Native speakers have 14 thanking, 1 condoling, 12 praising, 3 blaming and 7 apologizing, Non-native speakers have 9 thanking, 4 praising, 8 blaming and 10 apologizing. This study used descriptive qualitative. The data were collected through observation by watching YouTube videos and taking a note of the expressive speech acts from native and non-natives speakers in MYL TV Series season 1 from 1-5 episodes. This shows thanking as a highest expression in native speakers, the lowest is condoling and apologizing as the highest expression in non-native speakers, the lowest is praising. In addition, there are unique characteristics in the way non-native speakers used expressive speech acts.

**Keywords:** TV Series, Speech act, Expressive speech act, Mind Your Language

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language plays a vital role in day-to-day activities for people in the Y–Z generation, particularly in social interactions. Language can be used as a tool to express a wide range of ideas, thoughts, and emotions when interacting with others in business or education.

Human existence has always required communication. The exchange of ideas among people through communication immediately influences the event of the level of living. Act also plays a crucial function through communication.

A speech act is a personal expression that combines pragmatic activity with the presentation of knowledge. An example of a speech act would be, "I would like a monkey." By its very nature, it facilitates communication.

In this study, we will examine the first five episodes of the Mind Your Language television series with an emphasis on expressive utterances as the primary speech act issue.

In 1977, the British sitcom Mind Your Language had its television debut on ITV. Stuart Allen directed and London Weekend Television produced it. London Weekend Television produced three seasons between 1977 and 1979. Six of the original cast members returned for a brief revival in 1985 (or 1986 in most ITV regions). In the series, students studying English as a foreign language from various nations with diverse social backgrounds, languages, and religions coexist in the same classroom.

In the Mind Your Language TV Series, both native and non-native speakers participate. It is crucial to conduct research on this topic because there is a connection between them based on the expressive speech act; native speakers teach English as an international language, and non-native speakers take instructions from native speakers. In the movie, non-natives come from various nations with distinct accents; non-native speakers frequently utilize the specific language from their country. Native speakers provide questions to see if non-native speakers can respond.

Eckert et al. (2019) expanded the field of sociolinguistic and pragmatic research by presenting two variants and offering a systematic explanation of the impact. A subfield of linguistics known as "pragmatics" is concerned with the analysis of how language is

employed in context to transmit meaning and accomplish particular communication objectives. It considers how language is used to achieve many social, cultural, and interactional goals, addressing facets of language beyond the literal or grammatical meaning of words and phrases.

The utterances used to carry out a linguistic activity or function in communication are known as communicative acts. To apologize, ask, complement, invite, decline, greet, and criticize, for instance, we employ words. In order to describe the concept of Communicative Action, Habermas (1981) put up a number of significant generalizations, including dialogic knowledge, moral heart, communicative action, and communicative rationality. It is necessary to consider the moral heart as a presumption of the propositions of Communicative Action, from which the actors present their arguments, of universality, in the sense of an addition of all generalities, and of reciprocity, of equal recognition of the pretensions of each party by all others, in order to comprehend the significance of complete reversibility of the points of view. Communicative rationality and dialectical knowledge are organized and cooperative.

Linguistics may have a subfield called speech act theory. This field of research considers the manner in which words are employed to convey information as well as to convey actions. It's used in linguistics, philosophy, psychology, legal theories, and literary theories. In fact, speech-act theory was expanded further by yank thinker J.R. Searle after Oxford scholar J.L. Austin first it in "How to try to Things with Words" in 1975. It takes into account three levels or components of speech: perlocutionary acts (speaking one thing that prompts someone to act), illocutionary acts (speaking one thing with an intention, such as informing), and locutionary acts (making a meaningful statement or speech one thing that an observer understands).

According to research by Searle (1979) and Ilie & Norrick (2018), there are several kind of expressive verbal acts, including drinking, expressing regret, expressing gratitude, expressing sympathy, and congratulating. Furthermore, Searle (1979) asserted that when a speaker engages in an expressive speech act, they are neither attempting to make the world compatible with their words or the words compatible with the world.

A sort of illocutionary conduct known as an "expressive speech act of thanking" occurs when a speaker utilizes words to convey appreciation or gratitude. The main goals of this communication style are to express the speaker's pleasant feelings and to thank someone for a favor, kindness, or aid. Congratulating, the main goals of this communication style are to convey joy, respect, and acceptance for the recipient's achievements. "Expressive speech act of condoling" refers to the use of words to show empathy, support, and sympathy to someone going through a trying time, be it a challenging situation, grief, or loss. "Expressive speech act of praising" refers to the use of words to show gratitude, admiration, and affirmation for the accomplishments, attributes, or deeds of another person. "Expressive speech act of blaming" refers to the use of words to convey blame, culpability, or displeasure toward someone for an alleged transgression or unfavorable result. An "expressive speech act of apologizing" is expressing regret, acknowledging responsibility for a mistake or transgression, and utilizing words to do it. To this end, this study formulates the following research questions:

- a. What are the types of expressive speech act used by native speakers in the Mind Your Language TV Series?
- b. Which type of expressive speech act that is frequently used by native speakers in Mind Your Language TV series?
- c. What are the types of expressive speech act used by non-native speakers in the Mind Your Language TV Series?
- d. Which type of expressive speech act that is frequently used by non-native speakers in Mind Your Language TV Series?
- e. What are the differences between expressive speech act used by native and non-native speakers in Mind Your Language TV Series?

## **2. METHOD**

Descriptive qualitative research methodology was used. A method of inquiry used in social science and other fields to investigate and comprehend a phenomenon, concept, or social context is descriptive qualitative research. Because the goal of the MYL TV Series's first

five episodes is to depict human behavior and societal phenomena, expressive speech acts in this context.

The scene was set in a London adult education institution, with the main focus being on Mr. Jeremy Brown's English as a Foreign Language class, which was taught to a group of enrolled foreign students. It was from 1977 until 1986.

The study's focus was on expressive utterances made in MYL TV series episodes one through five by both native and non-native speakers.

The methods used to gather the data were observation and note-taking of the expressive speech acts performed by native and non-native speakers in the first five episodes of the MYL TV Series. The researcher employed content analysis as a method of data analysis. The study of content analysis uses qualitative data to identify themes, concepts, and specific words. Every episode from the first to the fifth of the MYL TV Series had its data analyzed by the researcher.

All utterances made by native and non-native speakers in episodes 1 through 5 of the MYL TV series were used as the study's data. The MYL TV Series episodes one through five served as the source of the data.

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 The Representation of Types of Expressive Speech Act from Native Speakers.

The types of expressive speech act that are frequently used by native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes. After evaluating all types of the expressive speech acts used by native speaker, the findings can be inserted into the table below:

**Table 1.** Representation of types of expressive speech act that are frequently used by native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes.

<b>Type of expressive speech act used by native speakers</b>	<b>Frequency of occurrence</b>
Thanking	14
Congratulating	-
Condoling	1
Praising	12
Blaming	3
Apologizing	6

After conducting the analysis the study found 6 types of expressive speech act used by the native speakers: Thanking, Congratulating, Condoling, Praising, Blaming, and Apologizing. The examples of the expressive speech acts can be seen the following sections:

*Thanking:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 14 thanking expressions used by native speakers' characters in MYL TV Series, for example:

3:49, episode 1

Miss Courtney (England): "he just snapped it was really quite disgusting"

Mr Brown (England): "what did he do?"

Miss Courtney (England): "climbed out of the classroom, we know on to the roof took off all his clothes and they are sharpening, singing,, I was another bunch of paper"

Mr Brown (England): "well, there's no need to worry on my account I mean I'm not likely to climb out of the classroom window"

Miss Courtney (England): "I know you aren't"

Mr Brown (England): "**thank you for your confidence**"

Miss Courtney (England): "it has nothing to do with confidence"

In the conversation Miss Courtney told Mr Brown that there was a man named Mr Warburton who taught English with his students that he did embarrassing and disgusting moment, but Mr Brown did not do that thing: Miss Courtney knew what Mr Brown was not like disgusting man, so Mr Brown say thank you for your confidence due to the firm of Miss Courtney.

*Congratulating:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there was no congratulating expression used by native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series.

*Condoling:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there was 1 condoling expression used by native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example:

23:06, episode 4

Another condoling expression was spoken by 3 people; Sidney said that there was nobody inside after closing the class door because the students were going outside. So, Mr Brown said sorry as condolence because of the trap in the night class. Miss Courtney response Mr Brown's condolence but there were utensils inside then Mr Brown entered the class again together with Miss Courtney but Sidney thought that they had gone home, finally he closed and locked the door, both were trapped all night long. As can be seen in following dialogue:

Sidney (Australia): "I don't see there's anybody else about"

Mr Brown (England): "**I really very sorry**"

Miss Courtney (England): "I should hope you are"

*Praising:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 12 praising expressions used by native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example: 5:21, episode 5

Another praising expression was also found in the conversation between Taro and Mr Brown in dialogue practice. When conversation takes place in the classroom, Mr Brown confused about what Taro said about bank in Japanese language after saying good morning and Taro replied good bye. Mr Brown asked about the price of the money from 10 -30 pound and Taro difficult to answer in unclear spelling especially when he said "in money please 30" and finally Taro accused his mistake and Mr Brown said Thank you as the praising expression, following this dialogue:

Taro (Japan): "I have the c... five so"

Mr Brown (England): "no, that would be 150 pound"

Taro (Japan): "sorry for the mistake"

Mr Brown (England): "yeah well not to worry, **thank you that's not too bad**"

*Blaming:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 3 blaming expressions used by native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example: 1:16, episode 2

Another blaming expression was referred by Miss Courtney after the confusion dialogue with Juan; he spoke Spanish that made her dizzy to answer, when Juan asked “for favour?” which means “sorry?” “Then Miss Courtney blamed him that he didn’t speak English well, following this dialogue:

Miss Courtney (England): “but are you in Mr Brown class English as a foreign language”

Juan (Spain): “for favour?”

Miss Courtney (England): “**are you really stupid as you look?**”

*Apologizing:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 6 apologizing expressions used by native speakers’ characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example:14:33, episode 2

Giovanni (Italia): “have the biscuit, please!”

Gladys (England): “**oh, I’m sorry we haven’t any less**”

That’s conversation was taken place in canteen between Giovanni and Gladys. When he asked for the biscuit then she replied as apologizing expression that the biscuit was sold out.

### **3.2 The Representation of Types of Expressive Speech Act from Non-Native Speakers.**

The type of expressive speech act that are frequently used by non-native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes. After evaluating all types of the expressive speech acts used by non-native speaker, the findings can be inserted into the table below:

**Table2.** Representation of types of expressive speech act that are frequently used by non-native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes:

<b>Type of expressive speech act used by non-native speakers</b>	<b>Frequency of occurrence</b>
Thanking	7
Congratulating	-
Condoling	-
Praising	3
Blaming	9
Apologizing	6

After conducting the analysis the study found 6 types of expressive speech act used by the non-native speakers: Thanking, Congratulating, Condoling, Praising, Blaming, and



Apologizing. The examples of the expressive speech acts can be seen the following sections:

*Thanking:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 7 thanking expressions used by non-native speakers' characters in MYL TV Series, for example:

2:18, episode 1

Another thanking expression was found in the conversation between Miss Courtney and Ali after the confusion dialogue, when Ali asked Miss Courtney about the room class, she gave the direction then Ali felt confusion about what she said until he got the room five then he expressed thanking, following the dialogue:

Miss Courtney (England): "look, you just go down the corridor, turn left and wait for room five, room by"

Ali (Pakistan): "ah, now I understand you, room five"

Miss Courtney (England): "yes" Ali (Pakistan): "**jolly good thank you**"

*Congratulating:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there was no congratulating expression used by non-native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series.

*Condoling:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there was no condoling expression used by non-native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series.

*Praising:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 3 praising expressions used by non-native speakers' characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example:

11:58, episode 3

Another praising expression was found in the conversation between Mr Brown and Ranjeet. After Ranjeet was chased and intimidated by his future wife, he was feeling afraid and decided to suicide but Mr Brown prevented him finally, Ranjeet praised Mr Brown, following the dialogue:

Mr Brown (England): "promise you won't kill yourself"

Ranjeet (India): "killing myself is not good at me"

Mr Brown (England): “stay attitude”

Ranjeet (India): “**so much good Idea**”

*Blaming:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 9 blaming expressions used by non-native speakers’ characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example:  
2:35, episode 2

Mr Brown (England): good, so we appear to be some missing, I hope haven’t dropped out”

Ali (Pakistan): “**I’m always thinking the sick son of a guru was a Punjabi dropout**”

Ranjeet (India): “speak Indian with angry”

Mr Brown (England): “don’t you two start again”

In the conversation, Mr Brown hoped that the students never drop out but Ali blame in racial to Ranjeet. So, Ranjeet spoke Indian by angry and wanted to punch Ali’s face. Finally, Mr Brown separated them.

*Apologizing:*

Based on the analysis of the data, the study found there were 6 apologizing expressions used by non-native speakers’ characters in Mind Your Language TV Series, for example:22:45, episode 2

Mr Brown (England):”get out your textbooks; I’m going to give you all few exercises”

Giovanni (Italia): “**exclusively sorry sir, I can’t do any exercise**”

Mr Brown (England): “why not?”

Giovanni (Italia): “I put a bad back”

This conversation, Mr Brown asked the students to get out the text books for giving exercise as an assignment but there was misconception in Giovanni dialogue that he could not do physical workout due the back pain.

### **3.3 The Representation of Differences of Expressive Speech Act from Native and Non-Native Speakers.**

The differences between expressive speech acts used by native and non-native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes. After the types of expressive speech act have found, it can be counted as the total from different native and non-native speakers into this table below:

**Table 3.** Representation of the differences between expressive speech acts used by native and non-native speakers in MYL TV Series Season 1 from 1 – 5 episodes:

Type of expressive speech used by native speakers	Frequency of occurrence	Type of expressive speech used by non-native speakers	Frequency of occurrence
Thanking	14	Thanking	7
Congratulating	-	Congratulating	-
Condoling	1	Condoling	-
Praising	12	Praising	3
Blaming	3	Blaming	9
Apologizing	7	Apologizing	6
Total	37	Total	25

The results of this study showed that native speakers tend to use the following expressive acts thanking, congratulating, condoling, blaming, praising and apologizing. This finding is similar to the study conducted by Selsibilla (2022), Wahyuningtias (2023), and Virginia & Mubarak (2021) which the native speakers used the following expressive speech acts: congratulating, thanking, apologizing, and condoling. In contrast Selsibilla (2022) used greeting, agreeing, wishing and exclamation. Wahyuningtias (2023) used attitude and wishing. Virginia & Mubarak (2021) used welcoming, greeting, complaining, complimenting, and deploring.

The results of this study showed that non-native speakers tend to use the following expressive acts thanking, congratulating, condoling, blaming, praising and apologizing. This finding is similar to the study conducted by Mazidah (2018), Sukarto & Anggraini (2022), Nuraini (2020) which the native speakers used the following expressive speech acts: apologizing, thanking, condoling, congratulating. In contrast Mazidah (2018) used deploring and welcoming. Sukarto & Anggraini (2022) used satirizing and complaining.

Nuraini (2020) used regretting, liking, disliking, approving, disapproving, criticizing, boasting, lamenting, and blaming.

The result of frequency native speakers from expressive speech act of this study is thanking. This is compared to 3 previous studies from Selsibilla (2022), Wahyuningtias (2023), and Virginia & Mubarak (2021). Selsibilla (2022) stated that greeting was the most frequently. Wahyuningtias (2023) stated that thanking was the most frequently. Virginia & Mubarak (2021) stated that complimenting was the most frequently. From all previous studies current study is related to Wahyuningtias as thanking of the highest utterances from expressive speech act.

The result of frequency non-native speakers from expressive speech act of this study is apologizing. This is compared to 3 previous studies from Mazidah (2018), Sukarto & Anggraini (2022), Nuraini (2020). Mazidah (2018) stated that welcoming was the most frequently. Sukarto & Anggraini (2022) stated that satirizing was the most frequently. Nuraini (2020) stated that there are no specific numbers of amounts and total of expressive speech act utterances. Based on this frequency, current study has no welcoming utterance rather than Mazidah' study that welcoming was the most widely utterances in expressive speech act.

The results of characteristics from 6 previous studies from native and non-native speakers in expressive speech act. The native speakers were from Selsibilla (2022) explained that the using of informal and formal language is important for expressive speech act in Joker Movie, Wahyuningtias (2023) stated that expressive speech act that can be related to emotion in King's Speech Movie, Virginia and Mubarak (2021) applied expressive acts theory carried out by Searle and Vanderveken (1985) assumed that the thing being complimented is good, even if it is not always good for the speaker. The non-native speakers were Mazidah (2018) focused on social media and background of the speaker and the characteristics of linguistics in using illocutionary acts that connected to expressive speech act from EFL classroom in Indonesia, Sukarto & Anggraini (2022) showed that expressive speech acts are part of illocutionary speech acts which different functions according to the speech have spoken by the speaker In Tilik Movie, Nuraini (2020) found two different forms of expressive speech acts in the object, that is declarative and

interrogative speech act in Mata Najwa Talkshow Lakon Politik Republik. From the entire previous researchers compared with this current research is the use of mother tongue, uncommon adverb and exaggerating words in MYL TV Series from 1-5 episodes that will not be found, the reason why this current research is so unique.

#### **4. CLOSING**

The expressive speech acts of thanking, congratulating, condoling, praising, blaming, and apologizing were employed by the native speakers in the MYL TV Series. The most used expressive speech act among these is the statement of gratitude.

The MYL TV Series included non-native speakers who employed various expressive speech acts, such as expressing gratitude, congratulating, offering condolences, praising, blaming, and apologizing. The most utilized expressive speech act among these is the expressing of apology.

The MYL TV Series distinguishes native speakers from non-native speakers through distinctive expressions such as mother tongue, unusual adverbs, and exaggeration.

The study's conclusions support teachers' preparation by highlighting the significance of expressive speech acts between native speakers and non-native speakers. This study may increase curiosity in the ability to distinguish between different sorts of expressive speech acts. Putri & Rusdi Hanna (2022) Based on the way students react to their teachers' words, it can be concluded that when teachers utilize expressive speech acts during the teaching and learning process, the students respond more positively.

Three research recommendations were made by this study. The next researcher can examine the directive, commissive, and declarative speech acts for novels, movies, and books. Second, the following research can look into how speech acts are used in real-world interactions, such as talks between students in the dorm, teacher-student interactions in the classroom, and interactions between visitors and tour guides. Third, the interactions between netizens on different social media platforms can be investigated in future research.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Eckert, P., Podesva, R., Potts, C., Seely, D., Thomas, E., Traugott, E., & Campbell-kibler, K. (2019). *The Americans*. 2008.
- Selsibilla, S. (2022). Jurnal PAJAR ( Pendidikan dan Pengajaran ) Volume 6 Nomor 1 Januari 2022 | ISSN Cetak : 2580 - 8435 | ISSN Online : 2614 - 1337 DOI : <http://dx.doi.org/10.33578/pjr.v6i1.8549> ANALYZING EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE Jurnal PAJAR ( Pendidikan dan Pengajaran ) Volume 6 Nomor 1 Januari | ISSN Cetak : 2580 - 8435 | ISSN Online : 2614 - 1337 DOI : <http://dx.doi.org/10.33578/pjr.v6i1.8549>. 6(1962), 60–67.
- Wahyuningtyas, D. (2023). An Analysis of Expressive Speech Acts Types in “ The King ’ s Speech ”. 2023, 635–642.
- Mazidah, N. Y. (2018). Expressive Speech Act Found in EFL Classroom. 67.
- Rusdi, H. F., & Putri, N. E. (2022). Journal of English Language Teaching Teachers ’ Speech Acts and Students ’ Response during English Class on the Third Year at SMPN 29 Padang. 11(3), 280–287. <https://doi.org/10.24036/jelt.v11i3.118663>
- Nuraini, F. I. (2020). *Expressive Speech Acts in Lakon Politik Republik Episode of Mata Najwa Talkshow*. 5(1983), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.22515/ljbs.v5i1.1853>
- Sukarto, K. A., & Anggraini, I. L. (2022). *The Analysis of Expressive Speech Act on Tilik Short Film by Agung Prasetyo*. VI(Vii), 517–527.
- Virginia, F., & Mubarak, Z. H. (2021). *E xpressive Acts Realization in “ I C are a Lot ” Movie*. 8(1), 75–88.