

# **An Analysis The Types Of Directive Illocutionary Acts By The Characters Found In “Trolls 2016” Movie**

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**Abstract** – The occurrence of illocutionary acts in a movie is a common phenomenon that appears in characters' dialogue. This study aims to answer the research problem especially the types of directive illocutionary acts in the selected utterances expressed by the characters in “Trolls” movie (2016). This research only focuses on 4 kinds of directive illocutionary act, namely commanding, ordering, requesting, and suggesting. This study is conducted by using descriptive qualitative method and the data were analyzed based on the theory of Yule (1996) to distinguish the types of directive illocutionary acts that found in the movie. There were 254 data that are related to the types of directive illocutionary acts as the findings of this study. Commanding act becomes the most dominant directive illocutionary acts occurred in this research, it provides 98 utterances from 254 utterances. On the other hand, the second dominant type of directive illocutionary acts is suggesting act which shows 68 utterances. Then, it is followed by 54 utterances of ordering act and the least occurrence is 34 utterances of requesting act.

**Keywords:** Trolls Movie, Illocutionary Act, Directive, Speech Act

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Language plays the significant role in the process of transmitting information from one person to another. It can also develop the possibilities of communication through its adaptable and dynamic features (Candra & Megandari, 2018). Each individual has to communicate with others regarding to their feeling expression and need fulfillment (Septidiantari, 2019). People must run the conversation properly in order to make a good communication between a speaker and a listener. The phenomenon of language that is employed to maintain the communication's purpose can be observed in the pragmatic study. According to Yule (1996:3), pragmatics concerns in the study of meaning as conveyed by a speaker and interpreted by a listener. It means that the addressee has to understand the speaker's meaning, intention, and expectation beyond the speech that they delivered (Ariesta & Simatupang, 2019 as cited in Lestari, 2023). On the other hand, if the speaker engages in the conversation, there are several demands that they need to fulfill, which is referred to speech act as the one sub-field of pragmatics.

Speech acts are actions that conveyed using words. According to Austin (1962), speech acts are the act of communication that occurs in delivering something. People usually use speech acts in daily conversation without they are aware about it. Austin (1983: 236) classified speech acts into three categories that can be divided into locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. First, locutionary act describes the act of saying something based on its meaning literally. Second, illocutionary act is referred to the additional meaning that is added to the statement according to its literal meaning. Furthermore, perlocutionary act is the effect of the utterances on the listener. Since the process that leads to illocutionary act can be expanded in various varieties, conducting a research of illocutionary acts is an interesting study on this occasion.

Searle (1979) points out the illocutionary acts into five categories namely assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, declaratives. Assertive act is a situation where the people believe the utterance has been delivered is factual. Directive act encourages the listener to take an action after receiving the speaker's utterances. Commissive act indicates the listener for a future course of action based on the utterances that speaker delivers. Expressive act conveys the emotional state that describes the sincere condition regarding a situation. Declarative act expects a sudden change from the speaker's words. Between those categories of illocutionary acts, directive act is one of the type that is interesting to be examined because it often occurs in the real-life situation since

the meaning can be easily realized when the speaker intentionally asks the listener to take an action after conducting a conversation. Searle (1979) also classified directive acts into several classifications such as asking, ordering, begging, commanding, permitting, advising, requesting, etc.

Directive illocutionary act can be occurred in numerous kinds of literary work such as songs, novels, and movies. Movie is one type of literary work that represents the reality and provides a true portrayal of our everyday lives (Utami, 2018 as cited in Lestari, 2023). Movie is an audio-visual medium that uses moving images and sounds to create stories or stories that can provide an aesthetic experience and stimulate the imagination of the audience. There are a great number of utterances in the movie that contained directive acts. "Trolls" is an interesting movie that can be analyzed in this research. This movie was released in 2016 as an American computer-animated jukebox musical comedy film produced by DreamWorks Animation and distributed by 20th Century Fox. The film is based on Thomas Dam's Good Luck Trolls toys. The plot revolves around two trolls, Poppy and Branch, who set out on a quest to save their community from the Bergens, huge animals who devour Trolls to stay happy.

In conducting the research analysis, this study provides several related researches that addressed the directive acts as their researches' concerns. A research that is concerned in the phenomenon of illocutionary acts in a movie entitled Aladdin focused the illocutionary act analysis that employed descriptive qualitative method (Sembiring & Ambalegin, 2019). Moreover, the research that is conducted to analyze the illocutionary act in "You Are My Home" movie utilized qualitative and quantitative methods (Hutajulu & Herman, 2019). Furthermore, there was a research that proposed analysis of illocutionary act in "Tangled" movie through qualitative and quantitative methods (Ramayanti & Marlina, 2018). All analyses focused on the illocutionary act types which covered assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives. The first research discovered 30 utterances that showed the most dominant type was directives. On the other hand, the second research showed 216 utterances that can be divided into 78 representatives, 90 declaratives, 40 expressives, and 8 commissives. Also, the third research mentioned directive act was the highest dominant around 44% above rather than representatives, expressives, and commissives.

Other researches that are only focused on directive acts were discovered in three studies that analyzed "Love, Simon", "Onward", and "Red Shoes and The Seven Dwarfs" movies (Lestari, 2023; Kumala & Rohmah, 2021; Pradnyani, Maharani, Candra, 2022). The fourth research found 5 types of directive acts in her study which covered asking, ordering, commanding, requesting, and begging. It also proposed a different theory with this research because it used Searle's theory (1979), while this research uses Yule's theory (1996). On the other hand, the fifth study discovered 51 directive acts which covered several categories such as advising, requiring, permitting, prohibiting, requesting, and questioning through Allan's theory (1986). The sixth study that was analyzed based on Kreidler's theory (1998) found three types of directive acts which are commanding, requesting, and suggesting.

To understand the intended meaning that indicated from the utterances, this study analyzes directive illocutionary acts in "Trolls" movie. Directive illocutionary acts are commonly expressed in everyday conversation, especially in this movie because the characters have to deliver the intended meaning through their utterances that encourage the listeners to take an action. This study uses the theory that proposed by Yule (1996) to investigate the phenomenon of directive illocutionary acts in the movie.

### **Illocutionary Act**

Illocutionary act can be performed at least one or more in every utterances. According to Yule (1996: 48), the utterances are forceably expressed in the conversation as how the speaker makes a statement, an offer, an explanation, a recommendation, and a promise. Yule (1996: 53) also divided illocutionary acts into five categories namely, assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives. First, assertive acts are about stating, asserting, concluding, and describing. Second, directive acts are referred to ordering, commanding, requesting, and suggesting. Third, commissive acts are described into promising, threatening, pledging, and refusing. Fourth, expressive acts express

apologizing, congratulating, thanking, and welcoming. Last, declarative acts are about declaring, cursing, pronouncing, and christening.

### Directive Illocutionary Act

Directive illocutionary act is an illocutionary act that encourages the listener to do something regarding the speaker's wishes. When the speaker uses directives, the meaning can be expressed through the words related to the real-life conversation. The directive illocutionary act involves asking, ordering, begging, commanding, permitting, advising, requesting, etc. However, this research only focuses on 4 types of the directive illocutionary act which covered commanding, ordering, requesting, and suggesting. Commanding is a directive illocutionary act that gives the forceful expression into the speaker's position over the listener in the conversation. Ordering is a directive illocutionary act where the speaker attempts to get the hearer to do something. Requesting is another type of directive illocutionary act, where the speaker asks the hearer to do something, often politely or in a less commanding manner than ordering. Suggesting is also a type of directive illocutionary act, where the speaker proposes an idea or course of action for the hearer to consider.

## 2. METHOD

This study was analyzed with descriptive-qualitative method and described the directive illocutionary acts that uttered by the characters in "Trolls" movie descriptively. The data were collected through some procedures that divided into these following steps. To begin with, the movie was watched and the transcript was read significantly for several times. Then, underlined the utterances that belong to directive illocutionary acts uttered by the characters in the movie. Afterwards, the data were collected and categorized into each type of directive acts based on Yule's theory (1996) related to directive illocutionary acts. The findings were presented both formally and informally. The data were informally presented in the narrative style in order to explain the categories of directive illocutionary acts. On the other hand, the data were also formulated in the tables and percentages to recognize the amount of directive illocutionary acts that occurred in the movie.

## 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1 Results

The results of the data in this article are based on Yule's theory (1996). After analyzing the data in the movie "Trolls", it discovered 254 data on directive illocutionary acts. The following table presents the findings that covered its types occurred in the movie.

**Tabel 1.** Types of Directive Illocutionary Acts in "Trolls" Movie

No	Types of Directive Illocutionary Act	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Commanding	98	40%
2.	Ordering	54	21%
3.	Requesting	34	13%
4.	Suggesting	68	26%
	Total	254	100%

Based on the table above, it shows 254 utterances that divided into 4 types of directive illocutionary act used by the characters. The most dominant type is commanding with 98 occurrence or approximately 40% out of 100%. On the other hand, the second type is suggesting with 64 utterances (26%). And then, it is followed by ordering with 54 utterances (21%) and the least dominant is requesting with 34 utterances (13%).

### 3.2 Discussions

The findings that have been formulated in the table above are explained descriptively in the discussion together with the pictures of the related scenes and dialogues of the characters as the evidence of the illocutionary act in the movie.

#### a. Commanding

Commanding is a directive illocutionary act that gives the forceful expression into the speaker's position over the listener in the conversation. They can impose the listener to perform a certain action to follow the speaker's intentions. The characters in "Trolls" movie showed 98 utterances that categorized as commanding.

##### Data 1



Prince Gristle : Good morning, Daddy! *Daddy, wake up! Daddy, wake up! Wake up! Wake up, Daddy!*

King : Gristle! What time is it?

Prince Gristle : It's Trollstice! Trollstice! Our one day to be happy.

King : Yeah!

The story is started by Prince Gristle who comes to the King's room in order to wake him up because it is a special day for all Bergens in the city. Prince Gristle reminds his father about Trollstice will be celebrated on that day. Based on what he has delivered to his father, Prince Gristle already utilized commanding through the passage "*Daddy, wake up! Wake up!*" since he has expressed a statement strongly to make him awaken. The King realizes about his son's reminder and he woke up from his sleep and prepared his clothes immediately.

##### Data 2



King : Don't just stand there! *Make my son happy!*

Chef : He will be happy!

During the Trollstice festival, the King invites all Bergens to come to Trolls' tree. They can watch the new Bergens, especially his son, Prince Gristle to eat the Trolls for their happiness. In this dialogue, the King is giving a command to the Chef, who have served the King for a long time. Even though, she has a lot of experience to be the King's server, but she is afraid with the King's command. It is clearly seen from the King's statement "*Make my son happy!*" which expressed the commanding expression and it makes the Chef to follow the rules.

### **b. Ordering**

Ordering is a directive illocutionary act where the speaker attempts to get the hearer to do something. The speaker gives an instruction to the listener for the specific action. There are 54 utterances that are discovered in the movie.

#### **Data 3**



Poppy : Sorry, Branch!

King Peppy : Poppy, wait. *Please be careful.*

Poppy : Don't worry, Dad. I can do this.

King Peppy : I love you, Poppy.

Poppy : I love you too, Dad.

After the Trolls' village has been attacked by the Chef to take a revenge for her career, Poppy and Branch want to save all the things that they can do. Poppy asks a permission to her father that she will go to Bergens' kingdom to bring her friends back. King Peppy delivers a statement "*Please be careful*" which is uttered to Poppy since she is the only child that he has. Through this phenomenon, King Peppy utilizes a directive illocutionary act of ordering because he attempts someone to follow his instruction in order to achieve a specific action.

#### **Data 4**





Branch : Okay, fine. Which way do we go?  
Cloudy : First, *you have to give me a high five*. Then I'll tell you.  
Branch : What?  
Poppy : I love high fives. I'll do it.  
Cloudy : Oh, I know you'll do it. But will he? All right, dumpy diapers, up high!  
Branch : Nope, I don't do high fives.

On the way to the Bergens' kingdom, Poppy and Branch meet the Cloudy. He is the one who knows the alternative way to the Bergens'. Both of Poppy and Branch need to follow his instruction that is a little bit silly. Cloudy asks Branch to give him a "toss" which can be seen from the passage "*You have to give me a high five*". This utterance already shows the directive illocutionary act of ordering since he asks someone to follow the instruction that he already made and cannot be rejected.

### c. Requesting

Requesting is another type of directive illocutionary act, where the speaker asks the hearer to do something, often politely or in a less commanding manner than ordering. This research provides 34 utterances that found between the characters' dialogue.

#### Data 5



King Peppy : Go! Go!  
Cooper : We got Poppy!  
King Peppy : *Pass her to me!* Here comes Poppy!  
Cooper : Here she is!  
King Peppy : There's my princess.

When the Bergens attacked Trolls' family twenty years ago, King Peppy was trying to save his daughter from them. He requested a help from his people as the king of Trolls, everyone wants to give a help. Based on this utterance, it is mentioned that "*Pass her to me*" which shows the phenomenon of directive illocutionary act through this statement. King Peppy asks for a request to all Trolls to help him to save Princess Poppy from the Trollstice, they passed Poppy from one to another and finally was caught by King Peppy at the end.

**Data 6**



Poppy : Run! Run, Smidge! Oh, my God!

Smidge : *Poppy, help!*

Poppy : Hurry! Go! Go! Go!

When the Chef from Bergens comes to the Trolls' village, she catches some Trolls and puts them in her pocket. Smidge, one of Poppy's friends is also caught by the Chef and he asks Poppy to save him. From the utterance above "*Poppy, help!*" shows the character requests for a help to another character. Through this request, the utterance can be seen as directive illocutionary act because the speaker delivers a statement politely where the listener must be aware with the meaning and take the sudden action at that time.

**d. Suggesting**

Suggesting is also a type of directive illocutionary act, where the speaker proposes an idea or course of action for the hearer to consider. This research found 68 utterances from 254 data in total.

**Data 7**



Smidge : Oh, no. I do taste delicious. Isn't there anything else to make them happy? *What about having birthday parties? Or slumber parties?*

Mr. Dinkles : Or staring at your parents while they sleep. But I don't want to be food.

Poppy is discussing with other Trolls about the party that they will have to celebrate King Peppy's heroic action twenty years ago. She asks everyone in the room about their plan, Smidge suggests an interesting thing that can be seen from the utterance above "*What about having birthday*

*parties? Or slumber parties*” through this statement, he is giving an option that can choose for the party celebration. According to the theory, it is considered as directive illocutionary act of suggesting. Because the speaker gives a suggestion to the listener about the party that they will have sooner.

#### Data 8



Smidge : Okay, first of all, mate, thanks for sharing your unique perspective on things.

Branch : Again.

Smidge : But, just for now, *why don't you try on some positivity, eh?* A little positivity might go with that vest.

Branch : Okay, fine. I'm positive you all are going to get eaten.

Branch is very afraid with the party that will be celebrated by Poppy and other Trolls. Because he thinks that the big sound and light in the public area can trigger the Bergens. On the other hand, Smidge mocks at him by saying “*Why don't you try some positivity, eh?*” since he believes that all the things that stated by Branch will be never happened. From this phenomenon, Smidge utilizes a directive illocutionary act of suggesting. It can be seen from the speaker gives an idea to the listener for his consideration.

## 4. CONCLUSION

This study focuses on analyzing the type of directive illocutionary act in “Trolls” movie. Based on the data analysis that the research is conducted through the theory that proposed by Yule (1996). Directive illocutionary act encourages the speaker to have a platform in expressing their wishes through the conversation. It triggers the listener to take an action based on the speaker’s needs. After analyzing the “Trolls” movie, there are 4 classifications of directive act found in this research which covered commanding (98 utterances), ordering (54 utterances), requesting (34 utterances), and suggesting (68 utterances). From those four types of directive illocutionary acts, commanding is considered as the most dominant type of directive act with the highest occurrence among others.

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