Speech Act Found in The Fault in Our Stars Movie

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Abstract

This research discussed about meaning, function, and maxims found in that movie. The theory used in this research was the meaning of speech act theory by (Chaer, 2010), the function of speech act theory by (Searle, 1969), and maxims theory by (Grice, 1989). The data source of this research was The Fault in Our Stars Movie. In collecting the data, the researcher used the observation method and note-taking technique. Data collected were classified based on their meaning, function, and maxims. The results of the analysis were presented by using the informal method. Based on the result of analysis, it was found the meaning of speech act such as locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary meanings. The function of speech act that found such as representative, directive, commissive, and expressive functions. The maxims found including maxim of quantity, maxims of quality, maxims of relevancy and maxim of manner in the form of fulfillment or violation.

Keywords: meaning of speech act, function of speech act, maxims

1. INTRODUCTION

Humans as social people need communication to interact with each other in applying their social attitudes. Communication is a medium for delivering information, idea, message, feeling, and someone’s thoughts that deliver from language. In all communication process, several things happen like speech events and speech act in one speech situation (Chaer, 2010). Speech acts are used to convey meaning and purpose from the speaker to the interlocutor to get the meaning from the interlocutor. Speeches produced by the speaker have meaning and function which is aimed at the speech partner to convey information to the spoken partner. That speech can be expressed through spoken or written media, so it makes both speakers easier to understand. Many media are used to express the speech, one of them is movie. A movie can’t be separated from a speech act both written and spoken. Language phenomena that happen in the movie are very diverse. In this research, the data source that will be
used is a romantic drama movie entitled The Fault in Our Stars which aired in 2014. This movie was adapted from a novel created by John Green and got positive reviews from politicians. In that movie, there are many conversations between participants that contain conversational conversations. This research discusses the meaning of speech acts, the function of speech acts, fulfillment, and violating maxims found in The Fault in Our Stars Movie.

2. METHOD

This research is qualitative research because the data involves written data without analyzing number. The type of data used is primary data such as data obtain from the data source directly. The data used record data that taken from dialogues or conversation in movie. While the data source used in this movie is The Fault in Our Stars Movie. The method used in this research is documentation method by downloading the movie first through teman21.com website. Then, other methods used are observation method and note taking technique. The observation method is listening to the use of language (Sudaryanto, 1993). In addition to listening to speech or language use, there is also a process of listening in setting, flow, speaker intonation, to whom the speaker is speaking, so that in analyzing the meaning from the speech that produces to the context of the situation of the speaker and interlocutor in the movie. While the note-taking technique is written the speech or utterances are produced from the participants in the movie. This technique uses the mental sorting power of the researcher (Sudaryanto, 1993). Related to these methods and techniques, there are three theories used to answer the problems in this study. The presentation of the results of the data analysis will be presented in a descriptive way because the purpose of this research is to describe the meaning and function of speech acts as well as the principles of cooperation found in films.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This section describes the initial stages of the analysis. The data were analyzed based on the scope of problems that focused on the meaning of speech acts, the function of speech act and maxims.

- Meaning of Speech
- Act Locutionary Act
- Data 1:
Angel: I'm Angel has acute myeloid leukemia (00:02:57)

In a community there is an association of people with cancer. They all get together and sit in a semicircle and share stories with each other. One of them began to introduce themselves by saying "I am Angel have acute myeloid leukemia." The speech above is a speech spoken by a community member named Angel. The speech has a locus of meaning because Angel provides information about her name, age and cancer without any other purpose or purpose.

Illocutionary Act
Data 1:

Hazel: What, you think that's cool? (00:11:58)

This speech was told by Hazel to August when August began to take the cigarette in his pocket and bite the cigarette between his teeth. Then Hazel said "What, you think that's cool?." the speech said by Hazel has an illocutionary meaning. This speech implies that the speaker asks her interlocutor not to smoke, especially August is suffering from osteosarcoma or bone cancer.

Perlocutionary Act:
Data 1:

Hazel: Let me tell you... not being able to breathe? Sucks. Totally sucks. (00:12)

This speech was said by Hazel to August when August started putting a cigarette between her teeth. Then Hazel said, “Let me tell you ... not being able to breathe? Sucks. Totally sucks.” The utterance that was said by Hazel had perlocutionary meaning because it was intended to influence the interlocutor. So this speech has the effect of scaring off the other person by giving an overview of how painful it is when we can't breathe because Hazel often suffered it. Hazel tried to advise August to don't smoke by saying this.

Function of Speech Act
Representative
Data 1:

Hazel's Mom: She eats like a bird. She barely leaves the house (00:01:21)

One time Hazel did a medical check-up with her mother, then her mother explained how Hazel was while she was at home. Her mother said "she eats like a bird. She barely leaves the house" to the doctor. This speech has a representative function because the mother character gives speculation or opinion about the condition of her daughter to her personal doctor.

Direktive
Data 1:
Hazel's mom: Hazel, you need to get out of the house. Make friends. Be a teenager (00:05:24)

An example of the above speech included in the directive function is “Hazel, you need to get out of the house. Make friends. Be a teenager”, this example is included directive of telling or ordering. These utterances are spoken by speakers with the aim of making the speakers perform the actions that are stated in the utterance. Hazel's mother wants her child to be a normal teenager and not just stay at home thinking about her illness.

Commissive
Data 1:
Isaac: I will help to clean it (00:24:58)

The speech situation occurred when he was at August's house and was feeling hurt because his lover left him. Then August advises Isaac to destroy an object so that the pain can be reduced and August gives the trophies to destroy. After Isaac destroyed August's trophies he said “I will help to clean it.” So here Isaac is implying the ability that he will help August clean up the trophies he destroyed.

Expressive
Data 1:
Mom: Oh gus you look so awesome (00:57:51)
August: Thank you mom (00:57:52)

Once upon a time when August and Hazel had arrived in Amsterdam, they were invited by Peter Van Houten to have dinner at Oranje Café. Then August dressed up in a shirt and coat to make it look more casual, when he wanted to meet Hazel in his room, he met Mrs. Landcaster, Hazel's mother. Then Mrs. Landcaster said “Oh gus you look so awesome,” this speech is a compliment to someone's appearance.

Fulfillment and Violating Maxims
Fulfillment of Maxims Quantity
Data 1:
August: Are you okay? (00:44:26)
Hazel: No (00:44:36)

One time Hazel called August while sitting in a park, when the phone was picked up by August he also asked “Are you okay?” then Hazel answered “No”. The speech that was said by Hazel was a speech that fulfilled the maxim of quantity because Hazel
provided information that was not excessive and very informative from what August was asking.

**Violating of Maxims Quantity**

Data 1:

Bartender: Want more drink? (01:04:02)

August: No, thanks, we just want to get a bill (01:04:06)

This speech happened when Hazel and August were enjoying dinner at Café Oranje, then a bartender came and asked “Want more drink?” The bartender’s speech was answered by August by saying “No thanks, we just want to get a bill.” The speech said by August is a speech that violates the maxim of quantity because August gave uninformative information about what the bartender asked, August should have answered by saying “No thanks” so that there is fulfillment of the maximal quantity because the answer is relatively adequate.

**Fulfillment of Maxims Relevancy**

Data 1:

August: What's your name? (00:10:30)

Hazel: Hazel (00:10:31)

This speech occurred when August and Hazel had finished carrying out activities in the cancer community. They chatted in front of the building, then August asked Hazel “What's your name?” then Hazel answered by saying her name. So, the speech above can be said to comply with or fulfill the maxim of relevance because the speech conveyed by the Hazel character provides information that is relevant or does not deviate from what the character August asked.

**Violating of Maxims Relevancy**

Data 1:

Hazel: Can I meet him? (01:39:19)

August mom: We’ll let him know you’re here (01:39:22)

This speech happened when Hazel visited August at the hospital and she wanted to see him in her room. Then he asked “Can I meet him?” and was answered by August’s mother “We will let him know you are here.” The speech uttered by August’s mother was a violation of the maxim of relevance because the answer she gave was not in accordance with what was asked by Hazel because the answer is very relevant.

**Fulfillment of Maxims Quality**

Data 1:
Hazel: Do you want to talk about it? (00:21:57)
Isaac: I just want to cry and play video games (00:21:59)

The utterance above happened when Hazel visited August’s house and he met Isaac who was crying while playing a video game. Then Hazel asked him “Do you want to talk about it?” and Isaac answered by saying “I just want to cry and play video games.” Isaac’s speech contains the maxim of quality because he speaks clearly and its based on the fact that he does not want to tell stories and wants to play video games only.

Violating of Maxims Quality

Data 1:
August: Can you tell her I'm here? (00:39:57)
Hazel’s dad: Of course, I will tell later (00:39:58)

This speech occurs when August visits Hazel in the hospital and meets Mr. Landcaster, Hazel's father. Then August asked “Can you tell her I am here?” and was answered “Of course, I will tell later” by Hazel's father. The speech uttered by Hazel's father is a speech that violates the maxim of quality because it provides unclear information, it can be seen from the word “later.” it is not clear when Mr. Landcaster will tell Hazel that August is visiting him at the hospital Hazel's father should answer by saying “Of course, I will tell her no” so there is fulfillment of the maximal quality because it provides clear information by saying “now.”

Fulfillment of Maxims Manner

Data 1:
August: Have you tried contacting this... Peter Van Houten? (00:24:38)
Hazel: I have sent emails but never been anwered (00:24:40)

When Hazel and August at August’s house and talking about Hazel’s favorite novel, August asks if Hazel has ever tried to contact the author of her favorite novel by saying “Have you tried contacting this ... Peter Van Houten?.” Then Hazel replied by saying “I have sent emails but never been anwered.” The speech that was said by Hazel was a speech that contained the fulfillment of the maxims of manner because the speech conveyed by Hazel contained clear information and was not obscure with what August was asking. He replied that he had contacted Peter Van Houten by email.

Violating of Maxims Manner

Data 1:
Hazel’s mom: Is there any other way? (00:41:27)
Dr. Simmons: It would be increases some risks (00:41:28)
This speech happened when Hazel and her mother consulted a doctor to ask if she could go to Amsterdam with her current health condition. Then one of the doctors said that it was not possible after that Hazel's mother asked the doctor “Is there any other way?” and the doctor answered by saying “It would be increased some risks.” The speech uttered by the doctor included speech that violated the maxims of method because the doctor did not provide clear information or a way so that Hazel could go to Amsterdam but said that it would increase the risk that the doctor should say “there is no other way” or “there is one way such as.” it will be a fulfillment of the maxim of manner because the doctor provides information or a clear way of what is being questioned by the speaker.

4. CONCLUSION

The phenomena of conversational implicature found are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act in the film. In locutionary act found the meaning which informs and explains something. Then in illocutionary acts, found in the form of asking something. In the perlocutionary act, sound the meaning which has the effect of scaring the interlocutor. Then also found four speech act functions, namely representative, directive, commissive and expressive. In representative speech acts, the utterance is found in the form of stating speculation. In directive speech acts, the speech is found in the form of ordering. Then in commissive speech acts, the utterances are found in the form of promises. And the last is expressive speech acts found in the form of praise for something. And the last found four maxims in terms of fulfillment or violation. In the maxim of quantity, it is found fulfillment and also violation, in the fulfillment of the quantity maxim there are speeches that provide sufficient or not excessive information, while in violations of the quantity maxims, it shows that there is no limitation in providing information when speaking. Then in the maxim of relevance, it is found fulfillment maxims because speech participants providing relevant answers so that the conversation goes well. Meanwhile, the violation of the maxim of relevance occurs because the participants speak without making a relevant contribution. In the maxim of quality, found the fulfillment of the maxims because the participants reveal things that are true and clear and don’t confuse the interlocutor, while the violation of the maxim of quality occurs because the speaker does not convey something real and it is not following the facts in the speech. And the last one finds fulfillment and violation of the maxim of manner. Fulfillment of the maxim of manner occurs because the speakers in the film speak clearly, without ambiguity, and concise and orderly in
providing information. Meanwhile, violations of the maxims occur because the speakers give unclear answers to the interlocutors so that they are ambiguous.

References