DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH ACT IN OPRAH WINFREY'S MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH "LIFE ADVICE WILL CHANGE YOUR FUTURE"

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Abstract

This research was designed in descriptive qualitative research. The aims of the research were to find out direct and indirect speech act and the contextual meaning in **Oprah Winfrey's Motivational Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future".** In collecting the data, the researcher used content Analysis technique. The researcher used Miles and Huberman theory in analyzing the data. In doing the research, the theory of Finegan is used. Finegan stated that there were two types of speech act, direct and indirect speech act and it can be in the form of representatives, commissives, directives, declarations, expressives and verdictives. The result shows that there were found 30 expression of direct speech act and 26 expression of indirect speech act. Therefore, speech act can be found in many discourses and daily life conversation. The researcher expected that this research will be useful for teacher, students, and the next researcher who are going to do related research.

Keywords: *Speech Act; direct speech act and indirect Speech Act; Pragmatics.*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini dirancang dalam penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui tindak tutur langsung dan tidak langsung serta makna kontekstual dalam Pidato Motivasi Oprah Winfrey "Nasihat Hidup Akan Mengubah Masa Depan Anda". Dalam pengumpulan data, peneliti menggunakan teknik Analisis Isi. Peneliti menggunakan teori Miles dan Huberman dalam menganalisis data. Dalam melakukan penelitian digunakan teori Finegan. Finegan menyatakan bahwa ada dua jenis tindak tutur, yaitu tindak tutur langsung dan tidak langsung dan dapat berbentuk representatif, komisif, direktif, deklarasi, ekspresif, dan vonisif. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 30 ekspresi tindak tutur langsung dan 26 ekspresi tindak tutur tidak langsung. Oleh karena itu, tindak tutur dapat ditemukan dalam berbagai wacana dan percakapan kehidupan sehari-hari. Peneliti berharap penelitian ini dapat bermanfaat bagi guru, siswa, dan peneliti selanjutnya yang akan melakukan penelitian terkait.

A. Introduction

People use language as a media to share information or idea. People used to communicate through gesture, but the way people communicate had changed since spoken language is used. "Language, we learn as undergrads, does not only represent the world; it also allows us to do things: to conjecture and to affirm, to command and to supplicate, to promise and to threaten, to baptise and to make oaths – to perform speech acts" stated by Kissine (2013:01). According to Finegan (2008:282) "People use language principally as a tool to do things: request a favor, make a promise, report a piece of news, give directions, offer a greeting, seek information, invite someone to dinner, and perform hundreds of other ordinary verbal actions of everyday life". In addition, language is the key for a success communication in daily life, which also help us to perform some action while saying something.

Every spoken word has the meaning that can be interpreted literally. But sometimes, there are spoken words or utterance than cannot be interpreted literally, because the meaning is based on the context where the utterance spoken. Context includes the speaker, situation and where the utterance takes place.

The way people use language or spoken utterance in context is studied in pragmatics. Pragmatics is the study of language used in society. Each society has

their own way in sharing information and idea through language, and of course the meaning of the language is different.

Thomas (2013:01) stated "If a single group of words such as 'It's hot in here!' could mean so many different things at different times, how do we work out what it actually does mean on one specific occasion? And why don't people just say what they mean? These, and many other issues, are addressed within the area of linguistics known as pragmatics". Therefore, studying pragmatics is important to understand the actual meaning in the society to avoid misunderstanding.

Speech act is one aspect studied in pragmatics. The relationship between language and the context or situation where language spoken cannot be separated because people often describe the things which is exist in the real world. "The assertion of facts about the world is just one of the acts which we can use language to perform: we also ask questions, issue orders, and make requests, to mention only the three most obvious types of other act for which language is used." (Riemer, 2010:108). The act of asserting, asking question, or request are the act of saying something to make someone do things we want.

The context where it is spoken is always determine the meaning of the language we speak. The intension of the speaker and the interpretation of the

listener is based on the situation of the utterance. If the speaker is a judge and declares "You will be prisoned in six months". The utterance has a power to give impact to the listener because the speaker is a judge in a court. The place, speaker, and listener are the component of the situation.

Speech act is an act of doing something. Finnegan defined speech act as equal things. Saying is doing. When we say something, actually we are doing something. When we say "it is hot here" it means that we are making someone to do something about it, such as "open the window", "switch on the fair conditioner", or "let us have a walk outside". There are two kinds of speech act, direct speech act and indirect speech act.

Direct speech act is the act of making someone to do something by saying some words, for example when we directly ask him to open the window so the air would enter the room. Meanwhile, indirect speech act is the act of making someone do something by saying words that cannot be interpreted literally, for example when we tell someone that something is hot in a room, it can be interpreted as a request to pen the window, a complain about the place or it can be invitation to go for a walk outside because its hot in here.

Direct and indirect speech act are things that can be found in daily life conversation or discourse such as text, books, podcast, movie, or speech. Speech is documented conversation that can be recorded to be watched by people around the world. Speech is the activity if expressing thoughts and feelings by using some articulate sounds and usually carries advise and suggestion that has a power to motivate people to be a better person. The suggestion can be conveyed directly or indirectly.

The title of Oprah Winfrey's Speech is "Life Advice Will Change Your Future". It is a speech that contains lots of motivation to encourage the younger or those fresh graduates to do the best in their life after they finish their study in college. The implementation of what they have learned for years is to give service as the feed back to the world. Therefore, the speech contains utterance which is used to encourage someone do something about their life.

Direct speech act is the act of making someone do something directly in a form of question, request, command, invitation or suggestion which carry explicit message.

Indirect Speech Act is the act of making someone do something indirectly by saying utterances which cannot be interpreted literally and carry implicit message.

Thomas (2013:01) stated that pragmatics is the area of linguistics where there was no definition of pragmatics, but recently there were interests in the linguists to define pragmatics as the new area which study the meaning beyond grammar and literal meaning. A number of linguist and universities had done an introduction of pragmatics and conducted lots of research related to pragmatics. According to Finegan (2008:204), "Pragmatics is the branch of

linguistics that concerns itself with utterance meaning". Moreover, he added "Pragmatics is concerned with the encoding of information structure—the relative significance of different elements in a clause, principally noun phrases. It treats the relationship of sentences to their discourse environment" (2008:270). This statement also supported by Thomas (2013:184) by stated "Pragmatics is concerned with issues not addressed within other areas of linguistics, such as the assignment of meaning in context — utterance meaning and pragmatic force — speech acts, implicature, indirectness and the negotiation of meaning between speaker and hearer. "Furthermore, Birner (2013: 302), "Pragmatics is a central and growing concern in any number of real-world contexts – indeed, in all real-world communicative contexts".

In addition, pragmatics is the study of how the language is used to determine the meaning of a language based on the context where the language is spoken.

Based on the explanation above, the aim of the research was to find out direct and indirect speech act and the meaning carried by each utterance spoken by Oprah Winfrey. Therefore, the researcher is interested to conduct research, which has a title **Direct and Indirect Speech Act in Oprah Winfrey's Motivational Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future".**

B. Research Method

This research was conducted in descriptive qualitative research. According to Creswell (2018:41), "Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social human problem. "Qualitative research avoids numbers, deals with 'interpreting' social realities, and is considered 'soft' research." (Bauer and Gaskell, 2007:7). This kind of research well known as interview.

Based on the definitions above, it can be concluded that qualitative research is a kind of research that opposite with quantitative research, which requires obtaining or collecting narrative data by preparing listed questions in certain social settings by doing interview in order to be able to describe, interpret and explain certain phenomena in a natural setting. Therefore, this research will be conducted in descriptive qualitative research.

In collecting data, researcher used content analysis as the technique. It is a method for systematically describing the meaning of qualitative material. It is done by classifying material as instances of a categories of a coding frame.

According to Miles, Huberman & Saldana (2014:34-35), there are 3 activities in analyzing qualitative data: (1) Data Condensation. It refers to the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and/or transforming the data that appear in the full corpus (body) of written-up filed notes, interview transcripts, documents, and other empirical materials. By condensing, we're making data stronger.

(2) Data Display. Generically, a display is an organized, compressed assembly of information that allows conclusion drawing and action. Designing displays are analytic activities because it involves deciding on the rows and columns of matrix for qualitative data and deciding which data, in which form, should be entered in the cells. (3)Drawing and Verifying Conclusion. In this step, after the data of speech act condensed and displayed, the researcher reviewed and drawn conclusion of overall data based on the research questions, whether the result is appropriate with the research question and the research questions have been answered.

C. Research Finding and Discussion

The data presents in this chapter were based on the formulation of the problem. (1) What are direct and indirect speech act found in Oprah Winfrey Motivational Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future"? (2) What are the contextual meaning of direct and indirect speech act in Oprah Winfrey's Motivational Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future"?

1. **Direct and indirect speech act found in Oprah Winfrey's Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future"**

In analysing the data, the researcher found 56 expressions of direct and indirect speech act. 30 expression of direct speech act and 26 expressions of indirect speech act.

2. **The contextual meaning of direct and indirect speech act in Oprah Winfrey's**

Motivational Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future"?

Based on the analysis, the researcher found that the meaning of the expressions is based on the context where the expression is spoken.

The theory of Finegan stated that speech act is the act of making someone perform action by using words or expressions. He stated that there are two types of speech act, they are direct and indirect speech act. This speech act are often occurs in the form of representatives expression, commissives expression, directives expression, declaratives expressions, expressives expression, and and verdictives expression.

The first was conducted by Oktadistion (2018) An Analysis of Direct and Indirect Speech Acts performed by Main Character in the Movie Revenant Script. The aim of the aims of the study was to find out the types and functions of speech act whether it is direct speech act or indirect speech act in the movie script 'Revenant'. The main theory used by the researcher is Yule (1996). The result of the research shows that both direct and indirect speech act used by the main characters in Revenant movie. The most dominant type of speech act used in the movie script was direct speech act (13 utterances) and then followed by indirect speech act (9 utterances) and for the functions, direct speech acts are classified into statement (2 utterances), order/request (5 utterances), and the last function of question (6 utterances). Indirect speech act also

classified into question (9 utterances), and no functions of statement and order. Based on the result, the researcher found that Felicity Conditions and genre were the factors affected main characters in producing direct speech acts more than indirect speech acts.

The second latest related research was conducted by Marbun (2020) that has a title 'An Analysis of Speech Act in Grown Ups Movie". the aim of this research was to find out the types of speech act found in Grown Ups Movie. The result showed there were found 30 utterances of speech acts in Grown Ups movie. From the 30 data that researcher collected, the main characters most expressed the types of speech act. They are 6 locutionary acts, 15 illocutionary acts, and 9 perlocutionary.

In conducting this research, the expression of direct and indirect speech act and its types were found in Oprah Winrey's Motivational Speech and the meaning of each direct and indirect speech act is based on the context where it was spoken. Based the discussion above, it can be concluded that direct and indirect speech act can always be found in discourses. The types and meaning of each utterance have been existed in this research and completed the things which is not exist in other latest related research.

D. Conclusion and Suggestion

Language is a media used by human to share thoughts and communicates one another. There are six aspects of language, phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Sometimes people are talking beyond grammar and the structure of language and the meaning is based on the context. This is called pragmatics.

Pragmatics is the study of how society use language when they have conversation. Sometimes when they say something, they also do something. When they ask someone to pass a towel, the make someone move and do something to take the towel and forwarded it to them, and this phenomena called speech act, making someone do something.

Speech act divided into two types, direct and indirect speech act. Direct speech act happens when someone directly ask someone to do something, meanwhile indirect speech act happens when someone say something different to make someone do something else.

Based on the research result in the previous chapter, there are two types of speech act according to Finegan (2008), they are direct speech and indirect speech act which is in the form of representatives, commissives, directives, expressives, declaration, and verdictives. The result of the research showed that there are two types of speech act found in Oprah Winfrey's Speech "Life Advice Will Change Your Future" and there are 56 expressions of speech act found. 30 expressions for direct speech act and 26 expressions for indirect speech act.

People often used polite way to say something, and use speech act to motivate people to do something for their future and

this can be found in many discourses. Therefore, the analysis of speech act is very important.

This research is expected to give some contribution theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research can be useful as the source of information or references to conduct further research about speech act, especially direct and indirect speech act. Practically, this study is expected to be useful for students and teacher to give additional knowledge of speech act that occur in daily life activity especially in teaching and learning processes.

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