

## The Perlocutionary Acts in the Adam Project Movie: Pragmatics Study

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### Abstract

*This research aims to analyze what is the context of situation that influences perlocutionary act and grouping them as what type perlocutionary act that found in the Adam Project movie. The method used in this research is a qualitative method. The data used were taken in this research is from the dialogues in The Adam Project movie. The result demonstrated that after analyzed the context of situation that influences perlocutionary act, there are 6 data that contains 3 types of perlocutionary act that found in The Adam Project movie. Furthermore, most of types perlocutionary that found in The Adam Project movie are persuading (50%), then convincing (16,67%) scaring (16,67%) and insulting (16,66%).*

### Keywords

pragmatic study; speech act;  
perlocutionary act



## I. Introduction

Language is one of the most important things in the life of every human being (Purba, N. et al. (2020). It create meaningful communication between people. Communication is a tool for people, with a communication people can understand each other and interacting from one person to another person. Berelson and Steiner (1964) say that communication is the transmission of information, ideas, emotions and skills by the use of symbols. In conclusion, with a communication, people can be easier to convey their ideas and transmissing information to the hearer. From communication, the speaker has to delivering information to the hearer with a puporse to get the information that the speaker delivered. Therefore, pragmatic is the study how language use, and people do not only analyze the meaning of utterance but also the contextual of meaning.

Speech act is the part of pragmatics study. It can be defined as something which is done by utterances. When the speaker is utter something , it does not mean that utterances is cointain nothing, there is an implicit meaning inside his or her utterance. Speech act also classified into three parts; Locutionary, Illocutionary, and Perlocutionary act. First, Locutionary is an act of saying something and the basic of utterance. Its only producing a meaningful expression of experience. (Setyaji, 2016) stated, Locutionary acts are the basic meaning and the meaning refered by the utterance. Second, Illocutionary act is an act that force the hearer to do something that speaker intend via utterances. In performing Illocutionary act, the speaker should utter something to make the hearer do something as what the speaker expect. (Wijaya & Helmie, 2019) stated, mostly people don't just produce well-formed utterances with no purpose, People is a form an utterance with some kind of function in mind. Third, Perlocutionary act is the effect of the utterance which the speaker said to the hearer to do something that the speaker expected. Perlocutionary act is bringing about of the effects on the audience by means of uttering the sentence, such effects to special circums of utterance (Austin in Levinson, 1983:236.) cited in (Akhimien & Akhimien, n.d.). In conclusion, Locutionary is an act saying something that only produce

statement or information to the hearer without any references, while illocutionary is an act forcing someone by utterance to do what speaker intend and perlocutionary is an act of affecting someone. The effects of utterance can bring the hearer do something what it is the speaker said. However, the purpose of this study is to know Perlocutionary act that used in The Adam Project Movie dialogues. Most of the speaker did not realize they produces utterances that can affecting the hearer to do something what it is the speaker said, because of this, the writter was interested to discuss this research. Therefore, this topic is important to conduct in this movie, it can help the readers to know more knowledge and understanding about Perlocutionary act not only in literary works but also people's real life. The problem of this study are formulated as below:

1. What is the context of situation influence perlocutionary act that found in the Adam Project Movie
2. What are types of percolutionary act that found in the Adam Project Movie.

## II. Review of Literature

### 2.1 Pragmatic

Pragmatic is the field of linguistics studying communication. (Siddiqui, 2018) stated, therefore, the study of Pragmatics is concerned mainly with meaning and its definition of role variation with different communicative tasks that are provided by speaker in a way to interpret by a reader or listener. Therefore, pragmatic is not only the study that how language use, but also analyze the meaning of utterance and the contextual meaning. According to (Simatupang et al., 2021) Pragmatics is a part of linguistics that studies how context contributes to meaning in a speech act.

Mey (1994: 3) has suggested that Pragmatics is a science that has something to do with language and users. In conclusion, pragmatics is study how language use, and the study of relation between language and context that are dependent on what the speaker addresse, and the contextual of meaning.

### 2.2 Speech Act

A speech act is any kind of act possibly done by a speaker in expressing an utterance (Wijana, 2021). Speech act is not only expressing an utterance but also means so mething in that utterance. When the speaker saying a question to the hearer, is not just only a simple question that need specific answer, it is an action or offering. For exam ple "Do you want some tea?" or "Coffee or tea?". When someone having a conversation, he or she produces an utterance that means he or she performing an act, not only produces an utterance but also force the hearer to do something.

Yule (1996:47) stated that speech act is action that is performed via utterances. this explains that speech acts is an action how people do things with just an utterance, for example, "Close the door!" this speaker performs an act of commanding and also expects the listener to do what the speaker intends to close the door. Speech act also classified into three parts; Locutionary, Illocutionary, and Perlocutionary act.

### 2.3 Perlocutionary Act

Perlocutionary act is the act affecting someone. In perlocutionary act, the speaker's utterance bring the hearer do what the speaker said. (Christianto, 2020) Stated, also, this act has a social function in the utterance and feedback by the listener as a response to what the speaker says.

In performed perlocutionary act, a father said to his son *"Its almost dark, son. Enough playing and get inside the house or you will see a ghost!"*, by this utterance, a father wants his son get inside the house before dark by scaring his son, if the son still playing in the outside he will see a ghost. When a father utters that, it can be said the father affecting his son, and there will be effect that caused by that utterance (getting his son to be affraid). After his son heard that utterance, he may get inside the house.

### III. Research Method

In this research, the writer used qualitative method by observing the data and collecting the data from dialogues which are contains perlocutionary acts that found in The Adam Project movie. Also the writer identify first what kind of utterance that found in The Adam Project movie and categorizing them whether they were locutionary or illocutionary based on theory classification of illocutionary act proposed by Searle (1979) and analyze the context of situation that influence perlocutionary act by using the theory Ethnography of Communication proposed by Dell Hymes (1972). The last one, the writer analyzing the types of perlocutionary act.

### IV. Results and Discussion

The writer focused on identifying utterance that found in The Adam Project movie and categorizing them into 1 locutionary act and 3 illocutionary act they are assertive (1 illocution), directives (3 illocutions), and commissives (1 illocution). After categorizing them, the writer analyzed the context of situation that influence perlocutionary act and grouping them as perlocutionary act types that found in The Adam Project movie.

#### 4.1 Insulting

Old Adam: *"Yeah... No, actually, no. No, I was stabbed with a bullet. What do you think, you moron?"*

Young Adam: *"I'm a moron? You're the one who was shot."*

Minute 00:11:19 – 00:11:34

The conversation above happened in dining room, young Adam's house. Specifically, old Adam are wounded and he needs to clean his wound and stop the bleeding, then he had conversation with young Adam. Young Adam was shocked when he saw old Adam's wound. Before this scene, old Adam's body got hit by a shot in the beginning of movie while he was trying to escape from his enemies from 2050 by using jet with using wormhole to go back to 2018, but he and his jet got hit then he landed in year 2022 instead of 2018. In 2022, he met himself with a younger version in garage that separated from young Adam's house. Therefore, they had conversation in garage until old Adam go into the house, to dining room with young Adam. In this scene, they had conversation, old Adam's utterance *"I was stabbed with a bullet. What do you think, you moron?"* is considered as locutionary act because it is the utterance itself. Locutionary act is an act saying something, produces meaningful expression, information, or statment. While the speaker clean his wound, the speaker wanted the hearer stop asking about his wound with insulting the hearer *"What do you think, you moron?"*

Old Adam's utterance also give the effect to the hearer, it is considered as perlocutionary act. Perlocutionary is an act affecting someone, when the speaker said to the hearer *"What do you think, you moron?"* it can be said insulting, getting them to be offended. When young Adam said *"I'm a moron? You're the one who was shot."* He got

offended by old Adam's utterance. Types of perlocutionary act on conversatiton above is insulting, which means getting them to be offended.

#### 4.2 Persuading

Old Adam: *"Uh, we're gonna switch to plan A, which is where you come in. You see, time jets, like all tech in the future, is coded to its user's DNA. Because I'm injured... aah, the jet won't even clear me to fly, which means I can't get in there to fix her. But guess who can?"*

Young Adam: *(Touches the key and the jet shows up with the engine starting up)*

Minute 00:14:32 – 00:15:10

This Scene is taking place in the forest near young Adam's house where old Adam parking his jet on top of trees, old Adam explain to young adam he wasn't supposed to land in 2022, he was aiming for 2018 and he needs to go back to save someone in 2018. The key of the jet is coded to its user's DNA, unfortunately old Adam is wounded, which mean old Adam can't get in to his jet before his wound healed. Then old Adam said to young Adam *"Uh, we're gonna switch to plan A, which is where you come in. You see, time jets, like all tech in the future, is coded to its user's DNA. Because I'm injured... aah, the jet won't even clear me to fly, which means I can't get in there to fix her. But guess who can?"* this utterance is considered as assertive, type of illocutionary act. Illocutionary act is an act force the hearer to do what the speaker intend. Illocutionary act performed by the speaker are describing, telling, suggesting, and reporting. In this case, the speaker, in the last his utterance *"But guess who can?"* Which means affecting the hearer.

When the speaker affecting the hearer, to do something, it means the hearer performed perlocutionary act. The speaker's utterance *"But guess who can?"* he tried to persuading, getting them to do something. Then the hearer do what the speaker's persuade (*young Adam touches the key and the jet shows up with the engine starting up*) and persuading is considered as type of perlocutionary act.

#### 4.3 Persuading

Old Adam: *"Isn't it, though?..... Mind hitting the light on your way out?"*

Young Adam: *(walk into the house and turning off the garage light)*

Minute 00:18:06 – 00:18:19

This scene is happened in the garage, after old Adam and young Adam had conversation in the forest about the jet and explain about how time travellers work. In this case, old Adam wants lay down on a couch while he waiting his wound healed. Young Adam adore to what happened at that night, about the jet and time travellers. After what happened in the forest, in garage, they had a small conversation, old Adam ordering young Adam to turn of the light *"Isn't it, though?..... Mind hitting the light on your way out?"* When old Adam said that, he performed illocutionary act directives; giving order and commanding young Adam.

The speaker's utterance also giving an effect to the hearer, to do something what the speaker intend. (*walk into the house and turning off the garage light*) in this scene young Adam do what old Adam said and what young Adam did is considered as perlocutionary act. The speaker's utterance is not only commanding, ordering but also persuading the hearer to do something that the speaker said, it can be called as type of perlocutionary act.

#### 4.4 Persuading

Old Adam: *"He doesn't know that, does he? So you're gonna walk over there, and you're gonna raise your hands, and then you're gonna look Ray right in the eye. You're gonna smile in a way that says, 'I've waited my entire life for this moment.' Like you can't wait to watch his soul exit his body. Then you're gonna drop to your knees and punch him hard in the private bathing suit parts."*

Young Adam: "I'm sorry, the what now?"

Old Adam: "Ah! Are we gonna smoke this banana? Or are we gonna talk about it all day? Let's go, go, go, go, go."

Young Adam: *(approach Ray and start to fight then young Adam defeated)*

Minute 00:25:34 – 00:26:25

The conversation above is happened behind Rainer Pharmacy, when young Adam meet Ray and Chuckie who bullied young Adam at school, they grabbed young Adam into the wall and punch him, then old Adam shows up after bought medicine for heal his wound and remembered those kids in the past. Therefore, old Adam does not break this up, because it supposed to happen like in old Adam's past. Old Adam speak to young Adam first before old Adam telling him to continue what happened. Old Adam tell about Ray and himself, which is Ray always bullied young Adam for years and young Adam are small, fragile and have big mouth. Then old Adam said to young Adam *"He doesn't know that, does he? So you're gonna walk over there, and you're gonna raise your hands, and then you're gonna look Ray right in the eye. You're gonna smile in a way that says, 'I've waited my entire life for this moment.' Like you can't wait to watch his soul exit his body. Then you're gonna drop to your knees and punch him hard in the private bathing suit parts."* It means old Adam wants young Adam fight Ray and punch him hard, it considered as illocutionary act. Type of illocutionary act that performed by speaker is directive; commanding, ordering, and requesting. Then old Adam emphasize his intend with continue his utterance, the speaker performed illocutionary act to the hearer when the speaker force the hearer with his utterance and give the effect.

*(young Adam approach Ray and start to fight then young Adam defeated)*, young Adam approach Ray it because the effect of old Adam's utterance and do what his said. The kind of illocutionary that performed by the speaker makes the hearer do what speaker uttered, which mean is also the speaker's utterance give an effect, persuading the hearer (type of perlocutionary act) or getting them to do something.

#### 4.5 Scaring

Old Adam: "You're a good fighter. You like to kick ass. You're a big kid. *But if you go near Adam again, I'll know, and I will find you, Ray. And it won't be like a couple of kids in a playground scrap. I will pull bones out of your body. I will sharpen them. I will use them to stab little Chuckie.*"

Old Adam: "..... Did you understand what I'm saying? Got all of it? The bones? Your feet in Chuckie's mouth? [Ray: "Yeah."] Good. Are you peeing right now? [Ray: "Yeah."] You're a real streamer. Get yourself home and clean yourself up. Be the change you wanna see, okay?"

Ray: *(peeing in his pants and running with chuckie)*

Minute 00:26:36 - 00:27:22

This scene is happened after old Adam told young Adam to do what his said, to fight and punch Ray. When young Adam start what old Adam said, but young Adam is defeated. Ray continue bullying young Adam because he defeated. Because of young Adam defeated, old Adam started to grabbed Ray and pushed him into the wall and old Adam



know this is not supposed to happen, talking to Ray. Furthermore, old Adam talking about every bully has a bully, he will take over this and end up this. Therefore, old Adam threatening Ray by his utterance, old Adam said “. . . *But if you go near Adam again, I'll know, and I will find you, Ray. And it won't be like a couple of kids in a playground scrap. I will pull bones out of your body. I will sharpen them. I will use them to stab little Chuckie.*” The speaker perform illocutionary act, using commissives, type of illocutionary act, which are promising, and threatening.

When the speaker utters that is not only expresses what the speaker intends but also affecting the hearer by utterance. After that old Adam said that, he continue his intends with his utterance, telling that is Ray understand or not. (*Ray peeing in his pants and running with chuckie*) in this scene, what Ray did is the effect of the speaker's utterance, which is threatening, threatening is scaring (getting them to be afraid) and scaring is type of perlocutionary act.

#### 4.6 Convincing

Old Adam: “*What do you say, kid? Your call. We don't pull this off, we're not gettin' back, either one of us.*”

Young Adam: (*Thinking for a sec*) “Punch that shit.”

Minute 00:54:56 - 00:55:30

This scene is happened in valley, when old Adam and young Adam using jet and hiding from getting chased by Maya. Maya is the enemy of old Adam in 2050, because what Maya did in old Adam's timeline. In 2022, Maya pursue old Adam to back to 2050, she pursue old Adam because she don't want old Adam do whatever old Adam doing, which is to stop time travellers from being invented. The conversation above is old Adam trying to jump to 2018, to meet their father about what happened and telling father is the one who invented time travellers The speaker's utterance above “*What do you say, kid? Your call. We don't pull this off, we're not gettin' back, either one of us.*” This is considered as directives, type of illocutionary act, this is what the speaker intends to the hearer, the speaker was giving order or a command to the hearer.

The speaker wants the hearer to make a choice, to jump or not. In this case, the speaker also made the hearer think by his utterance, then young Adam (*Thinking for a sec*) “Punch that shit.” Made a choice to jump in to 2018. The speaker's utterance is not only giving an order but also make the hearer think, it can be said the effect from the speaker's utterance is considered as type of perlocutionary act, convincing the hearer, getting the to think and the hearer made his choice by the speaker's utterance.

## V. Conclusion

Based on the dialogues in “The Adam Project” movie previously presented, the context of situation takes important part because how the context of situation influences the hearer made an action from the speaker’s utterance. Based on the analysis, perlocutionary act can’t stand alone without locutionary and illocutionary act. Additionally, in this research the writer after analyzed the context of situation that influence perlocutionary act by using the theory of Ethnography of Communication proposed by Dell Hymes (1972) then, categorizing the dialogues into 3 types of illocutionary using theory Searle (1979) and 1 locutionary that causing the types of perlocutionary. From this research that can be concluded the data found in “ The Adam Project” movie shows from 6 data that were found, there are 3 types of perlocutionary act which are persuading (50%) convincing (16,67%) scaring (16,67%) and insulting (16,66%).

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