

## Speech Function in the “Moxie” Movie Sociolinguistics Study

Widya Novia Damayanti<sup>1</sup>, Meita Luckitawati Sujatna<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Widyatama, Indonesia

[widya.novia@widyatama.ac.id](mailto:widya.novia@widyatama.ac.id), [meita.sujatna@widyatama.ac.id](mailto:meita.sujatna@widyatama.ac.id)

### Abstract

*This study aims to determine the types of speech functions that exist in "Moxie" movie and also to determine the purpose of the speech function used by the characters in the film when the characters are having conversations. The source of this research data taking from the "Moxie" movie. The results of this study obtained the results of 227 utterances contained in the speech function from the dialogue movie, and the data was classified into four: 78 Statement (34,4%), 106 Questions (46,7%), 16 Offer (7%) and command 27 (11,9%). The most dominant type of speech function used in the film "Moxie" is questions 106 (46,7%), it can be seen that in the film there are many conversations related to question because the characters in the film use a lot of questions when having conversations. The purpose of speech function in the "Moxie" movie by using the types speech function so that the speaker and listener can communicate well, communication to make the listener understand the speaker's mean.*

### Keywords

Sociolinguistics; speech function; movie; moxie; purpose



## I. Introduction

A language is an important tool for humans to speak, communicate and interact. He gave two language understanding. First, language is a tool used to shape our thoughts and feelings, desires and actions, a tool used to influence and be influenced. Second, language is a clear sign of a good personality and a bad, a clear sign of the family and the nation, and a clear sign of the human mind (Syamsuddin 1986:2). Everyone can modify the way they speak depending on who they are in the situation. It will have an impact on its meaning and function in a social setting. To communicate with each other, everyone needs to use language. Language is primarily utilized as a mechanism of communication among people in communities. It is universal, which implies that everyone has the ability to convey their thoughts, emotions, messages, and other forms of communication using language (Vika and Ervina, 2022). Communication is very important for every human being to interact and cooperate easily with other people, it is also one of the keys for humans to be active in their surroundings. In communication, two or more people are definitely needed, with us communicating we can find out someone's condition, and we can know each other's information between the speaker and the listener. Language is one of the most important things in the life of every human being. Each of them is of course inseparable from language, the first time a child gets a language that is heard directly from the father or mother when the child is born into this world. Then as time goes by and as the child grows, they will acquire a language other than the language taught by the mother and father, either in the form of a second, third, foreign language or so on which is called language acquisition where it depends on the social environment and cognitive level possessed by these children through the learning process in their environment. (Purba, N. et al. (2020).

The research is interested to analyze Speech Function in the film " Moxie " many things we can learn while watching the movie. In the film "Moxie" we can study moral values, literary elements, language, feminism, friendship, women's welfare, and its speech function. The researcher took the theories that were used as the basis for carrying out the research sequentially. The researcher analyzes the speech function in the moxie film because communication or the process of delivering information is often not conveyed properly. The speech functions in the film can be analyzed by determining the type, can find about the types of speech functions in the movie and about the purpose in the film.

#### Research Question

1. What are the types of speech functions used in the "Moxie" movie?
2. What are the purposes of speech function in the "Moxie" movie?

## II. Review of Literature

### 2.1 Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social contexts, and they are concerned with identifying the social function of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning (Holmes, 2001). Sociolinguistics is the study of the impact of many characteristics of society, such as cultural norms, expectations, ethnicity, age, or social class, instance, and context, on how language is used, as well as the impact of society on language. It is distinct from language sociology, which focuses on the impact of language on society. Sociolinguistics is the study of the link between language and society, language variation, and attitudes about language (Spolsky, 2010). The study of sociolinguistics focuses on how people talk differently in various social circumstances and how people may also employ particular linguistic functions to communicate social meaning or parts of their identity.

### 2.2 Speech function

Speech function is the role of language plays in the context of society or individuals, and speech function is the way someone conveys ideas in communication so that listeners can understand ideas well. Speech function is an action or performance done by language users such as asking, commanding, and answering in order to fulfill the intention of the speakers and listeners (Ye 2006:36). The most fundamental types of speech roles, which lie behind all the more specific types that we may even truly be able to recognize, are just two: (a) giving and (b) demanding. Either the speaker gives something to the listener or he is demanding something from him. Even this element category already involved complex notions: giving means "inviting to receive", and demanding means "inviting to give". The speaker is not only doing something himself, he is also requiring something from the listener. A speech function is the appearance or action by the language user in the form of the speech function itself has four types, namely statements, questions, orders and offers (Halliday, 1994:30). Speech function is one of a part of Sociolinguistics that has different ways of communicating.

The types of speech function are, first type is statement, a statement is a way of giving information that can be either positive or negative. A statement is used to provide information, make remarks, assertion. A statement often begins with a subject, followed by a main or auxiliary verb, and ends with a period. The second type of speech function is the question, the question in the analysis is to ask someone for information, a regular question

will end with a question mark, and the listener answers the information. The third type of speech function is the offer, offer is a purposeful function where the speaker gives the listener some goods or services, and the speaker invites the listener to accept the goods and services or it can also be called the act of proposing something for consideration, acceptance or rejection or something suggested or proposed. The four types of speech functions is command which require the listener to do what is ordered by the speaker, and the speaker invites the listener to receive goods and services. Commands to receive information are also used to ask for help and commands end with an exclamation point.

### III. Research Method

Descriptive qualitative research is related to synthesizing the information and describing it clearly. (Bogdan and Biklen, 1982:30) explained that the qualitative approach is identical to the descriptive. Analysis using descriptive qualitative aims for readers to understand this analysis using descriptive qualitative and to know something in detail using data. Qualitative methods are used in this analysis to analyze data by collecting data in the form of observational data in the form of text, or about the problem being studied that occurred in the situation. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method which is taken from the movie "Moxie". The researcher analyzed the type of speech function and the purpose speech function in the film. The purpose of the researcher using the descriptive qualitative method is to find out the data in the film by using the speech function analysis.

### IV. Result and Discussion

#### 4.1 Statement

##### Data 1

Mom : *Milk is good for you.* ( Minute 1:14:26 )

This conversation took place at Vivian's house when Vivian was in a relationship with a man at her school and wants to introduce this man to her mother so that her mother can get to know the man. The man named is Shet, As a mother, Vivian's mom wants to know and meet Vivian's boyfriend, therefore Vivian's mom invites Shet to come to Vivian's house for dinner. Shet came, Vivian and Vivian's mom opened the door and met at the entrance, then Vivian's mom and Shet greeted each other, and Vivian's mom talked about dairy products to Shet.

In data 1 there is a type of speech function, the sentence found is "*The milk is good for you*" uttered by Mama Vivian. This sentence is classified into the type of speech function that is statement because used to provide information to the reader or listener. In that sentence Vivian's mom uses statements to inform Shet about the dairy product they are talking about, Shet doesn't know milk is good for him, therefore Vivian's mom tells Shet that milk is good for him.

The purpose of the sentence "*Milk is good for you*" is for the speaker to provide information about something that is being discussed earlier, so that listener knows more information about something new that they previously listener didn't know about that. In the sentence, Vivian's mother gave information to Shet about the dairy product they were talking about, Shet is able to know new information that milk is good for him because Vivian's mother gave a statement to Shet about the dairy product.

## 4.2 Question

### Data 2

Vivian : *How do you know if you're having fun?* (Minute 40: 48)

Claudia: I think I'm having fun.

The conversation took place at Vivian's friend's house who was having a party and invited all of her school friends including Vivian and Claudia. Claudia and Vivian just came to the party, they saw a lot of crowds of people in the party and people enjoying the party, games, and food that had been prepared at the party. Then Vivian wanted to know how Claudia felt at the party, Vivian asked Claudia about her feelings now when she was at a crowded and full of music party.

In data 2 there are types of speech functions, the sentence found "*How do you know if you are having fun?*" was uttered by Vivian. The sentence is included in the type of question because the sentence starts with auxiliary verb and ended with question mark. Vivian asks Claudia about how she feels when Claudia is at a party full of people, and how she knows she can be happy and enjoy a party with so many people at the party.

The purpose of the sentence "*How do you know if you're having fun?*" That is the speaker asks about the listener's feelings, to find out information and ascertain the situation that the listener is currently experiencing so that the speaker knows the state of the listener's feelings that are being felt by the listener, in that sentence Vivian asks about Claudia's feelings while at the party, Vivian's question is to get information.

## 4.3 Offer

### Data 3

Mitchell: *Can I buy you a drink?* ( Minute 13 : 45 )

The conversation above occurred on campus, when Lucy was going to buy a drink she was in front of the drink machine and inserting a coin into the machine to buy the drink, suddenly Mitchell came to Lucy and made an offer to Lucy.

In data 3 there are other types of speech functions it is offered "*May I buy you a drink?*" uttered by Mitchell. This means that Mitchell made an offer to Lucy Mitchell seeing Lucy was in front of the drink machine and want to buy a drink immediately Mitchell tried to move quickly to offer to buy Lucy a drink. The sentence "*May I buy you a drink?*" is offered because start with capital letter and always end with a question mark.

The purpose of the sentence "*May I buy you a drink?*" is when Mitchell wants offer to buy Lucy a drink because Mitchell knows that Lucy is in front of the drink machine therefore Mitchell takes quick action to first offer what Lucy wants, and indeed Lucy wants to buy a drink. The speaker offers something that makes the listener feel the good service provided by the speaker, the speaker expresses a willingness to provide something that the listener may want or need.

### Data 4

Sheth: *You want Twizzler?* (Minute 58: 40 )

The above conversation took place at the school stadium, Vivian was talking to Claudia, suddenly Sheth saw Claudia and Vivian were talking then Sheth brought chocolate and came to them but when Sheth came to those who were talking suddenly Claudia left Vivian and let Sheth meet Vivian and Sheth immediately offered something to Vivian.

In data 4 there is a type of speech function is offer, the sentence found is "*You want Twizzler?*" uttered by Sheth. This sentence is included in the offer because Sheth brings chocolate and offers chocolate to Vivian. In the sentence is offer because start with capital modal and ended with a question mark.

The purpose of the sentence *"You want Twizzler?"* which aims for the speaker to offer something to the listener as in the sentence Shet offers chocolate to Vivian. The speaker offer something that makes the listener feel good about the service provided by the speaker and offer something that the listener might like, can accept about something that is offer by the speaker.

#### 4.4 Command

##### Data 5

Teacher: *Let's give Kiera a hand. Come on, stand up!*. (Minute 56: 58)

This conversation took place in the field when the school was holding a competition and the teacher gave an opportunity to all students who would take part in the competition, the students cheered in the field choosing and saying Kiera's name, and the students cheered for the teacher to choose Kiera to take part in the competition.

In data 5 there is a type of speech function *"Let's help Kiera. Come on, stand up!"* "Uttered by the teacher. This sentence is included in the type of speech function it is a command, in the sentence the teacher ordered the students to clap and stand up to greet Kiera who will be the nominee of participants who take part in the competition at school. In the sentence it requires the listener to do what is ordered by the speaker, the speaker invites the listener to accept what is ordered.

The purpose of the phrase *"Come help Kiera. Come on, stand up!"* is to make the listener do what the speaker wants and the listener receives the information, services and goods by forcing the listener to accept what the speaker is saying, when teacher orders all students to stand up and clap, is a form of appreciation given by all students to Kiera who will take part in the competition.

##### Data 6

Lucy: *Hey Give it back!* (Minute 29:56)

This conversation took place in the classroom, when Lucy was reading a brochure about moxie, Mitchell took the brochure and didn't return it to Lucy until Lucy admitted and said that she was the head of moxie and she made the moxie brochure at school.

In data 6 there are types of speech functions it is command, the sentence *"Hey Give that back!"* Uttered by Lucy. This sentence is included in command because Lucy asked Mitchell to return the brochure that had been taken by Mitchell, the speaker ordered something to be desired to the listener, the listener had to do what was asked by the speaker.

The purpose of the sentence *"Hey! Give it back."* uttered by lucy is to make an order for Mitchell to return the brochure that has been taken and return it to Lucy. The speaker asks the listener to do something that is ordered and the listener accepts what the speaker is instructed.

## V. Conclusion

This conclusion can be found in the types of speech functions performed by the characters when they are having a conversation. There are 227 utterances of the main characters contained in the speech function. The data are classified into four types of speech functions found in "Moxie" movie: 78 Statement (34,4%), 106 Question (46,7%), 16 Offer (7%) and command 27 (11,9 %). The most dominant type used in the character in the moxie movie is the question. The reason why the characters in the film use questions is because in the film there are many conversations related to questions, the speaker uses a lot



of questions to ask something that the listener doesn't know, asking the listener for information because they know that this film is about finding out who the real moxie is therefore many questions were asked by the speaker.

From the results of the analysis, the purpose of speech function in moxie movie by using the types contained in the speech function, namely statements, questions, offers, and command objectives so that the speaker and listener can communicate well, in communication between the listener and the speaker there is no miscommunication, the information is conveyed properly and the listener receives the information conveyed by the speaker. The speaker can convey ideas in communication to make the listener understand ideas well. The speaker can make statements, questions, offers, and commands the listener can understand, clearly and respond to what the speaker means.

## References

- Andriani, N. (2018). An analysis of speech function on the cigarettes advertisement. *Journal MELT (Medium for English Language Teaching)*, 3(2), 190. <https://doi.org/10.22303/melt.3.2.2018.152-160>
- Batubara, M. H. (2020). An analysis of speech functions on the banking and Daily Need Billboard texts. *International Journal of Humanity Studies (IJHS)*, 4(1), 110–121. <https://doi.org/10.24071/ijhs.v4i1.2816>
- Bogdan, R. C. & Biklen, K. S. (1992). *Qualitative research for education: An introduction to theory and methods*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.
- Fitriany, F. (2021). The speech function in advertisements. *Journal of Language, Literature, and Teaching*, 3(1), 31–36. <https://doi.org/10.35529/jllte.v3i1.31-36>
- Grolier, A. (1992). *New Webster's dictionary*. Connecticut: Grolier.
- Halliday, M. A. K. 1994. *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*, 2nd edn. London: Edward Arnold
- Halliday, M.A.K & Matthiessen, C. 1997. *Systemic Functional Grammar: First Step into the Theory*. Unpublished
- Holmes, J. (2001). *An introduction to sociolinguistics*. London and New York: Longman
- Isda, I. D. (2019). An analysis of speech function at traditional shopping center in Langsa. *JL3T (Journal of Linguistics Literature and Language Teaching)*, 5(1), 47–65. <https://doi.org/10.32505/jl3t.v5i1.1046>
- Larasati, O.V., Simatupang, E. (2022). *Language Style In The Movie Luca (2021) Sociolinguistics Study*. Bandung: BIRCI-Journal
- Purba, N. et al. (2020). *Language Acquisition of Children Age 4-5 Years Old in TK Dhinukum Zholtan Deli Serdang*. P.19-24
- Spolsky, B. 2010. *Sociolinguistics and the Sociology of Language*. Los Angeles: SAGE.
- Sulistiyowati, Titis . (2010) *The Speech Function in the Conversation Beetwen The Fourth Semester English Departement Students of Muria Kudus University and Some Foreigners*.
- Syamsuddin, A.R. (1986). *Sanggar Bahasa Indonesia*. Jakarta: Universitas Terbuka Jakarta
- Ye, Ruijuan. (2006). The Interpersonal Metafunction Analysis of Barack Obama's Victory Speech. *English Language Teaching Journal*, II (3) 146-151