FUNCTIONS OF SPEECH ACTS IN AUSTRALIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPEECH AT UNGA

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ABSTRACT

Sometimes, politicians may use speech acts in their political speeches that the audience may interpret in a variety of ways. Speech acts are used when a speaker expresses words or phrases to achieve specified objectives and it relates to pragmatics in some way. This research aims to find the most dominant and the functions of illocutionary acts found in Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs speech at UNGA. The theory used was from Searle and it was found that there were four illocutionary acts in the speech, namely representative, commissive, directive, and expressive. It was found that representative was the most dominant type of act in the speech. It occurred 54 times to inform and state the current condition and issues of the world. The second was commissive with 23 occurences, followed by directive with 14 occurences, and expressive with 6 occurences. While declarative was not found because there was not any declaration that could change the current condition.
Keywords: speech acts; pragmatics; function of speech; UNGA

ABSTRAK

Terkadang, politisi dapat menggunakan tindak tutur dalam pidato politiknya yang dapat ditafsirkan oleh audiens dengan berbagai cara. Tindak tutur digunakan ketika seorang pembicara mengungkapkan kata-kata atau frase untuk mencapai tujuan tertentu dan itu berhubungan dengan pragmatik dalam beberapa cara. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan fungsi ilokusi yang paling dominan dan fungsi yang ditemukan dalam pidato Menteri Luar Negeri Australia di UNGA. Teori yang digunakan adalah dari Searle dan ditemukan bahwa ada empat tindak ilokusi dalam tuturan, yaitu representatif, komisif, direktif, dan ekspresif. Ditemukan bahwa representatif merupakan jenis tindak tutur yang paling dominan. Muncul sebanyak 54 kali untuk menginformasikan dan menyatakan kondisi dan isu dunia terkini. Yang kedua adalah komisif dengan 23 data, diikuti direktif dengan 14 data, dan ekspresif dengan 6 data. Sedangkan deklaratif tidak ditemukan karena tidak ada deklarasi yang dapat mengubah kondisi saat ini.
***Kata Kunci:** tindak tutur; pragmatik; fungsi tutur; UNGA*

INTRODUCTION

Language has a huge impact on how people see political spheres. It is also crucial to politicians and affects many of their actions, including elections, rallies, campaigns, and inaugurations (Hidayat, 2022). They utilize speech as a tool to drive people's thoughts and opinions in a political setting. They must know the intended meaning of the speech they are giving, whether it is to persuade, promise, threaten, direct, or affirm some specific topics (Firdaus, 2020, p.82). Political speeches mostly contain speech acts that the audience may interpret in several ways.

Numerous linguistic studies have focused on the investigation of the methods and forms of language used by politicians to support their supporters' views and achieve their goals. One of them talks about illocutionary acts on a political speech.

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This study was conducted by Murfiah, et al. (2018). They analyzed a speech by Donald Trump as the President of America. It aimed to find out the most dominant type of speech act in the speech using Yule's theory. The result showed that representative was the dominant type with 46% occurrence, followed by directive (16%) and declarative (14,3%). It asserts to the audience about the nation will be and mostly about statement of fact and assertion. We can also conclude that Trump hoped to ignite or create motivation for the audiences to act toward the issue.

Another study was conducted by Desi Novita Sari and Asep Purwo Yudi Utomo (2020) entitled Directive speech act in President Joko Widodo's speech related to handling coronavirus (Covid-19) in Indonesia (Pragmatic review). This study's objective was to describe the many forms and objectives of the president's speech's speech acts in relation to how the Covid-19 is handled in light of pragmatic research. Recording, observing, observation, and note-taking were the methods used to acquire data. The findings revealed that asking, inviting, pleading, ordering, and prohibiting are all examples of directive speech acts. The speech act took the form of an oral statement made by the president about the coronavirus's management, which had a tendency to be of high quality. The directing speech act served to persuade, encourage, tell or explain something, expect attention, forbid, praise, and criticize.

The difference of this research and those previous ones is from the data used. This research analyzed a political speech that was delivered at UNGA from Australian Prime Minister, Penny Wong. It aims to answers these problem formulation below.

1. What are the types of illocutionary acts found in the speech?
2. What are the functions of illocutionary act found in the speech?

Based on the speaker's context, it attempts to determine the meaning of utterances. There are a few justifications for picking this subject. The novelty is the subject of the first. The majority of earlier studies focused on speaking and what was being said,

but they neglected other factors that could give speech its hidden meanings in addition to its literal connotations. In addition to what is uttered, this paper describes what is actually conveyed within a message.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Pragmatics

The field of pragmatics studies the interaction between language and the setting in which an utterance is made. Additionally, Mey (2001) explains pragmatics as the study of how people use language. It examines the speaker's implied meaning, or how the listener understands what the speaker is trying to convey even when it is not explicitly stated (or written). In particular, pragmatics examines language in terms of context (Yule, 1996).

It is said that people need pragmatic competence to speak effectively in specific situations in order to communicate and fulfill the intended goals of that communication (Yan, 2022). According to Muhammed (2022), when the receiver replies to the signal by starting a new cycle of meaning exchange and sending that back to the sender, the communication process has completed itself. Rahayu (2021, p. 538) states that verbal and nonverbal communication are the two main forms of communication. Verbal communication is the process of conveying ideas via the use of words. Nonverbal communication is a means of exchanging information by employing gestures, body language, eye contact, facial expressions, or general behaviour.

However, there are other factors that must be taken into account while conveying and receiving meaning, such as the verbal and nonverbal cues that both interlocutors employ while conversing. Depending on the situation and how it is said, an utterance might mean many things (Naufaldi, 2022, p. 365). For instance, if "I'm good!" is uttered in a high-pitched intonation, it can convey the speaker's joy. However, if that statement is made in a low voice and with a gloomy intonation, it can convey the speaker's sadness. These

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illustrations show that speaking involves more than just what is said; it also involves the manner in which it is said.

Speech Acts

Speech acts are when a speaker uses words or phrases to achieve specified objectives and it relates to pragmatics in some way.The speech act is demonstrated in actual language use settings, according to Searle as stated in Sobirova (2022, p.6). He claims that, as a result, the fundamental premise of the speech act theory should be that the performance of particular kinds of acts is the smallest unit in human communication.

Austin's three-way taxonomy of speech acts, published in 1962, states that a speaker can, pragmatically, engage in three acts. These include locution (the act of speaking), illocution (the act of acting), and perlocution (the act of affecting someone). Locution act just defines the situation and can be easily recognized in isolation. A speech act may be realized by an utterance in addition to describing or referring to something. Perlocution is the result of a speech act that a speaker utters to an audience member. A perlocution might comprise both locution and illocution at the same time in addition to impacting the hearer.

Instead of perlocution and locution, this study examines the illocution. The reason for this is that language-based messages from politicians are conveyed to audience through a speech. The words used can either directly or indirectly convey the message. Five categories of speech acts were used by Searle (1969) to categorize illocutionary activities in his taxonomy.

Firstly, assertive is a form of act often referred to as representative, which is intended to portray a scenario or condition of affairs to be taken as true or false. such as stating, rejecting, confessing, informing, expressing the obvious, and acknowledging, among the other verbs.

The second one is directive. This action is used to make the listener to perform something when the utterance is made.

Including suggestions, cautions, requests, insistences, prohibitions, etc.

Third, commissive is used when the speaker promises to take a certain action in the future. For example, making an offer, a promise, a wager, a vow, etc.

Fourth, expressive acts are those that serve to convey the speaker's emotions or feelings. For instance, saying "I'm sorry," "You're funny," "Thank you," "Congratulations,"

The last one, declarative is used when something is being declared with the intent of changing a situation, condition, or even the status of an entity. For instance, giving up, quitting, being appointed, etc.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The data for this paper was from a speech by Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs, addresses the general debate of the 77th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. It was the UN's primary policy-making forum. The UN General Assembly provides a platform for international cooperation to address the most important issues confronting the world today. The United States also reaffirmed the President's commitment to multilateral action at the 77th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 77) by actively participating in the entire range of UNGA events and activities. UNGA was held on September 13, 2022. The data was taken from a Youtube video entitled *"Australia - Minister of Foreign Affairs Addresses UN General Debate, 77th Session (English) | UNGA"* . The duration for this video was 16.43 minutes.

The researcher used qualitative design with content analysis research which aimed to explain and analyze the speech uttered by Penny Wong. The data was analyzed by collecting, selecting, and classifying the suitable utterances with the method and relevant concept especially Searle's theory on illocutionary acts. In this research, the process of collecting data was done through the following steps. First, the researcher watched

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the video of the speech and read the transcription. Second, the researcher grouped the utterances on the speech script and gave code on each clause. After giving code to each clause, the researcher categorized each of it based on the type of speech acts. Finally, the researcher analyzed the data to find the dominant type of speech acts and the functions by showing the data frequency.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

The researcher categorized the data into five categories of illocutionary speech acts after analyzing the illocutionary speech actions made by the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs. The data analysis is explained below.

1. Representative

The statements that the speaker thinks to be true are considered representative. This category comprises statements, information, descriptions, complaints, claims, boasts, and assertions (Ramayanti, 2018). Below are some examples of the representative illocutionary acts found in the speech.

Data: Rep/ 28-30
More than 800 million people go to bed hungry each night. 345 million people face acute food insecurity. 50 million people across 45 countries are on the brink of famine.
The data above show the condition of the world today. It shows that food security crisis is on rising, affecting families who cannot afford food daily and cause the brink of famine. Those data show are categorized as representative illucotionary acts because those show the information or utterances that the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs to be true. She describes the real condition we are facing today.

Datum: Rep/ 33
Over the coming months, we are designing a new development policy outlining how we will play our part in an era of crisis and how we will help developing countries without driving them into unsustainable debt.
The datum above shows that it is categorized as representative because it informs the step that is being taken by Australia. In order to help the crisis, Australia is designing a new development policy, so that people will not get into a debt.

Datum: Rep/ 45
Russia's attack on Ukraine is an attack on all smaller countries it is an assertion that a larger country is entitled to subjugate a smaller neighbor to decide whether another country can even exist.
The datum above shows Australian's point of view of Russia and Ukraine war. The Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs states that a big country should not dominate smaller country freely. Nuclear weapons can create a dangerous situation to the world, not only the affected country, but also all countries in the world. It is categorized as representative because it is complaining the action done by Russia.

2. Commissive

Promise, pledge, threat, rejection, and assurance are within the commissive category (Corredor, 2018). Below are some examples of the commissive illocutionary acts found in the speech.

Datum: Com/ 6
We want to help the global energy transition and Australia will be a renewable energy superpower.
The utterance above shows that Australia want to take an action to help the global issue by providing renewable energy. It is categorized as commissive because it is an assurance from Australian government to help other countries and a desire they wish to come true in the future.

Datum: Com/ 16
We cannot accept a situation where large countries determine the fate of smaller countries.

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The utterance above shows rejection from Australia of the domination shown in the Russia & Ukraine war. Australia clearly states that every country has the right to feel the freedom and shouldn't be rulled by a bigger country. It is also included in Australia's upcoming plans in achieving peaceful world.

Datum: Com/ 19
Australia has always pursued a world without nuclear weapons and we will redouble our efforts towards this goal and to strengthening the non-proliferation regime.
In the next datum, we can see how Australia perceives the situation and they want a world that is free from nuclear weapons. That is why they want to redouble the effort to achieve that goal and to strengthen the security. It is categorized as commissive illocutionary acts because it shows Australia's commitment to increase their effort.

3. Directive
The word "directive" refers to speaking acts that the speaker uses to try to persuade the listener to do something. Directives carry out tasks like asking or asking, directing, commanding, ordering, and more. (Sobola, 2018; Srikandi, 2020)

Datum: Dir/ 6
We must contribute to the strategic balance of the region.
The utterance above is categorized as directive illocutionary act because it shows the direction from Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs. She states that the country must give contribution to the balanc of the region. It is included in the key message of Australia's upcoming plans in order to achieve peace in the world.

Datum: Dir/ 10
We must ensure that competition does not escalate into conflict, because if conflict were to break out in the Indo-Pacific, it would be catastrophic for our people and our prosperity.
The datum shows that there must be some competitions between countries, however we shouldn't take it further into chaos because if the conflict arises, it will be bad for countries around Indo-Pacific. Therefore, each country is suggested to have a healthy competition and strong support in order to survive. It is categorized as directive illocutionary act because it uses 'must', which is an action that Australian government have to do.

4. Expressive
Expressive speech is used to congratulate and express empathy for others, as well as to show appreciation. Below are some examples of it.

Datum: Exp/1
President, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Australia in this venerator General Assembly Hall that signifies so much to the world's peoples.
In the beginning of the speech, the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs shows the gratitude towards the President because it is an honour for her to deliver the speech. Therefore, it is categorized as expressive because it shows gratitude towards others.

Datum: Exp/ 2
I am humbled to be guided in these efforts by First Nations colleagues.
Another example of expressive here is the feeling of grateful expressed by the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs to be guided in the event by First Nations colleagues. It shows the expressive illocutionary act, moreover because she is also thankful for the opportunity.

5. Declarative
Declarative speech acts are employed for a declaration that might cause a change in reality. The speech was insufficient to improve social realities, but values, judgment, and moral critique of the speech were essential components of critical social science (Sayer, 2003). However, in this speech, there isn't any declarative utterances found.

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Discussion

Based on the findings, four types of illocutionary acts expressed by Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs found in her speech. The data is summarized in the table below:

Table 1. The Frequency of Illucutionary Acts in Australian Speech at UNGA by Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs

Type of Illucotionary Acts	Frequency	%
Representative	54	56%
Commissive	23	24%
Directive	14	14%
Expressive	6	6%
Total	**97**	**100%**

The table above shows that the illocutionary acts found in Australian Foreign Prime Minister's speech consisted of representatives, directives, commisives, and expressive. Representative had the highest frequency with 54 occurences. The function of the representative illocutionary acts was mostly to inform and state the current condition of our world. Penny Wong stated several facts and information about real situations that happened in Australia and other countries.

It was followed by commissive with 23 occurences. This type showed Australian wish and pledge to make a better situation for Australian people and how they would take a part in achieving world's peace. It usually shows as promise and government's desire for the better future of Australia and other countries, such as when she stated that Australia will be one of the renewable energy superpower countries.

The third one was directives with 14 occurences and mostly functioned as directions suggested by Australian government. It mostly used the word "must" to show the necessity. The least dominant type that was found was expressive with 6 occurrences, which mostly used to express gratitude and thankfulness.

The declarative type of illocutionary acts, which relate to an illocutionary act that creates the state of affairs of anything new such as status, position, and circumstance, did not emerge at all in Australian speech. A change in status, position, or attitude toward something could result from this action. However, there is no declaration of war or alteration of the situation in the speech.

There were also 4 big agendas that were being uttered in the speech, namely Australia's view on the world condition these days, Australia's view on the Russia & Ukraine war, Australia's upcoming plans, and Australia's point of view of what the other countries should do to overcome any issues uttered in the speech.

To deepen the analysis of speech acts, the result of previous studies were also discussed. The speech act analysis from Donald Trump's speech (Murfiah, 2018) revealed that the representative speech act was frequently used, occurring 29 times times, which represents 46% of the total number of utterances. In his speech, Donald Trump made a prediction about how the country will turn out. Trump's speech acts were discovered to be statements of fact and assertions in nature. Discussion on the hopes portrayed in Trump's public behavior. Trump sought to influence his audiences to take action.

The most dominant type found was the same as this study, because representative was also the dominant type in the Australian Foreign Minister's speech to give statement of facts and assertions. However, in this study there was not any declarative speech act found. In the previous study from Donald Trump's speech, there were 9 declarative speech act type found which declare the position and next step of the government.

In another pevious study conducted by Desi Novita Sari & Asep Purwo Yudi Utomo (2020), the political speech was from President Joko Widodo when discussing how to handle the Covid-19 case in Indonesia. The difference

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from this study and Desi's study was from the analyzed types.

This study analyzed all types of speech acts, such as representative, commissive, directive, and expressive. However, Desi's study analyzed only the directive speech act type from Jokowi's presidential statements. The results supported the idea that many of Jokowi's directive speech acts were commanding. As a result, the government made an order for everyone in Indonesia comply with the advisory. It had the same result from the function of this study's directive speech acts, it could be seen that most of the utterances from Australian Foreign Minister's speech were also to command the interlocutors to follow the regulation and not against humanity.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

The result of the study showed that out of five, there were only four kinds of illocutionary speech acts which were shown in Australian speech at UNGA, namely representative, commissive, directive, and expressive. According to the result, the illocutionary act of representative (56%) was often used by Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs in her utterances. Representative is the act that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not. From this result, we can conclude that most of the utterance Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs's speech used representative speech acts to show facts and description about Australia and other countris conditions.

Suggestions

After all the data research was found and the conclusion was made, the researcher gives suggestion for the reader who reads this research. For the other researchers who are going to analyze this topic, maybe they can explore other theories or doing a comparison study with another speech during a conference.

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