The Speech Act Analysis of Talk of Minang Community in Tangerang

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Abstract

The purposes of conducting this research are to find the types of speech acts and the dominant type of speech acts found in the data. The data were collected from the interview the researchers had with the respondent who is engaged in Tangerang and a member of Minang community. This research employs descriptive qualitative method. In this regard, the data collected are qualitative. Searle's classifications of speech acts (2005) are applied. Based on the data analysis, the researchers have found that all of the types of speech acts. Based on the research findings, theresearchers have found that the Expressive have happened four times. The Commissures have happened three times. The Representatives have happened once. The Directives have happened once. The Declaratives have happened once. Therefore, the dominant type of speech acts is the expressive.

I. INTRODUCTION

As social creatures, human beings do not live alone in this world. They need other human beings to communicate. To do so, they need language. Todd (1987: 6) defines language as a set of signals by which we communicate. From the two definitions of language, it is worth noting that language is used by human beings to communicate. Hence, as a means of communication, it goeswithout saying that language plays a very important role in life.

Communication by using language can be effective and successful when both parties – involved can understand each other through which the language they use in their communication.In this regard, understanding the language does not mean merely understanding its surface structure. According to Chomsky, surface structure refers to the words/language we use to represent the deep structure whereas deep structure refers to concepts, thoughts, ideas and feelings. As such, understanding the deep structure is important since it carries the message. Moreover, people often implicitly convey their messages to others. It is possible for them to do that as every language has its means.

Failure to understand the implicit meaning or message in the deep structure can give rise to misunderstanding and results in ineffective and unsuccessful communication. It is pragmatics which deals with implicit or deeper meanings or messages. It is a branch of linguistics which studies what is communicated is more than what is said (Yule, 1996: 3). It means that the utterances which are produced by the speakers in communication hold deeper meanings than the actual ones of the words or phrases themselves. Further, the speakers convey their messages by showing their action so that the listeners can understand them easily. It is called speech act whichis one of the areas of interest in pragmatics.

II. Related Works/Literature Review (Optional)

I. Linguistic

Linguistics is the systematic study of the structure and evolution of human language, and it is applicable to every aspect of human endeavor. Linguistics is the study of language, how it is put together and how it functions. Various building blocks of different types and sizes are combined to make up a language. Sounds are brought together and sometimes when this happens, they change their form and do interesting things. Words are arranged in a certain order, and sometimes the beginnings and endings of the words are changed to adjust the meaning. Then the meaning itself can be affected by the arrangement of words and by the knowledge of the speaker about what the hearer will understand. Linguistics is the study of all of this.

According to Tarigan (1986), linguistics is a set of knowledge obtained by applying the scientific method to language phenomena. Popularly, foreigners say that linguistics is the science of language or the science that makes language the object of its study. Learning Linguistics is very important, because language is the main communication tool for every human being. In everyday life, humans use various forms of language to meet their needs. The most important human need is to be able to communicate with other people, because it cannot be denied that humans are social beings who are interconnected.

Linguistics is the science of language, and linguists are scientists who apply the scientific method to questions about the nature and function of language. Linguists conduct formal studies of speech sounds, grammatical structures, and meaning across all the world's over 6,000 languages. They also investigate the history of and changes within language families and how language is acquired when we are infants. Linguists examine the relationship between written and spoken language as well as the underlying structures that enable us to use language.

The discipline of linguistics focuses on theories of language structure, variation and use, the description and documentation of contemporary languages, and the implications of theories of language for an understanding of the mind and brain, human culture, social behavior, and language learning and teaching. There are various branches of linguistics which are given their own name, some of which are described below.

II. Speech Acts

The speech act is an utterance that serves a function in communication. Searle in Yule (1996: 47) defines speech act as the actions taken or executed via utterances. Austin (1962: 109) defines speech act as the theory which studies the effect of an utterance in the relationship between the speaker and the listener's behavior. With regard to the type of speech acts, Austin mentions that there are three types of speech acts – locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts.

From the linguists' above definitions of speech act, it is revealed that speech act is important in communication using language. A lot of studies on speech acts have been conducted. However, the issue is still interesting to be discussed. In this paper, the writers would like to discuss speech acts in Minang language which is the local one spoken in West Sumatera. The writers have two main reasons in conducting their research. First, from the data gathered from internet few studies have been conducted on speech acts in Minang language. Second, in view of social aspects, Minang people are sociable. In their interaction, they communicate each other in their native language, Minang language. As such, how Minang people perform speech acts will be examined in the research.

Effective and successful communication happen when both parties engaged incommunication can understand each other through which the language they use. In this regard, they understand the utterances they produce in their communication. Their utterances serve a function in their communication. It means how they perform speech acts in their communication.

In this paper, the writers would like to focus on analyzing the speech acts of talk in Minang language of Minang Community in Tangerang.

This research has two research questions. First, what are the types of speech acts found inthe talk in Minang language of Minang Community in Tangerang? and what is the dominant typeof speech acts found in the talk in Minang language of Minang Community in Tangerang? It is important that researchers determine their goals and functions before they conduct their research. The goals and the functions can serve as the direction for their research. The goals deal with the answers to the research questions. The goals and the functions of the research are to find out the types of speech acts found in the talk in Minang language of Minang Community in Tangerang and to find out the dominant type of speech acts found in the talk in Minang language of Minang Community in Tangerang.

The functions deal with the benefits of the research to be given to readers and other researchers. The functions of the research are to give readers more insights about pragmatics, to give readers more insights about speech acts performed in communication, to give the information the types and the dominant type of speech acts performed in talk of Minang Community in Tangerang and to serve as a reference for next researchers to conduct further research on the same topic. The scope of the research covers the discussions of speech acts performed by Minang community in their communication. With regard to the scope of the research, the writers cannot discuss speech acts performed by Minang communities in Indonesia. Hence, they limit the discussion on the speech acts performed by a Minang community in Tangerang in their talk in Minang language. The theories of speech acts of Searle will be employed to investigate the speech acts performed by the said ethnic community.

There are many experts proposed their theories of speech acts. Some are Austin (1962) defines speech act, as the action performed by language to modify the state of the object on which the action is performed. The writer represents an action effectively fulfilled by a sentence. According to Austin (in Levinson, 1983: 236), speech act can be divided into three types. They are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is the act simply uttering a sentence from a language; it is a description of what the speaker says. Illocutionary act is performed in saying something, and includes acts such as betting, promising, denying, stating, promising, apologizing, threatening, predicting, ordering and requesting, and ordering, some of the verbs to label illocutionary acts can themselves be used per formatively. Perlocutionary acts produce some effect on the hearer of what the speaker says. Hence, perlocutionary act is hearer's behavioral response to the meaning of utterance. It can be physical or verbal response, perhaps merely a mental and emotional response of some kind. Yule (1996: 47) says that in attempting toexpress themselves, people do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures andwords, they perform actions via actions. Actions performed via actions called speech acts.

According to Searle (2005 in Yule: 1996: 53-55), one general classification system lists five types of general functions performed by speech acts: declarations, representatives, expressive, directives, and commissives. Declarations are those kinds of speech acts that change the world via their utterances. As in the examples in [15] illustrate, the speaker has to have an institutional role, in a specific context, in order to perform a declaration appropriately.

[15] a. Priest: I now pronounce you husband and wife.
   b. Referee: You're out!
   c. Jury Foreman: We find the defendant guilty.

In using a declaration, the speaker changes the world via words. Representatives are those kinds of speech acts that states that what the speaker believes to be the case or not. Statements of facts, assertions, conclusions, and descriptions, as illustrated in [16] are all the examples of the speaker representing as he or she believes it is.

[16] a. The earth is flat.
   b. Chomsky didn't write about peanut.
   c. It was a warm sunny day.

In using a representative, the speaker makes words fit the world (of belief). Expressives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker feels. They express psychological states and can be statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. As illustrated in [17], they can be caused by something the speaker does or the hearer does, but they are the speaker's experience.

[17] a. I'm really sorry!
   b. Congratulations!
   c. Oh, yes, great, mmmm, ssahh!

In using an expressive, the speaker makes the words fit the world (of feeling). Directives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something. They express what the speaker wants. They are commands, orders, requests, suggestions, and as illustrated in [18], they can be positive or negative.

[18] a. Gimme a cup of coffee. Make it black.
   b. Could you lend me a pen, please?
   c. Don't touch that!

In using a directive, the speaker attempts to make the world fit the words (via the hearer). Commissives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to commit themselves for some future action. They are promises, threats, refusals, pledges, and as in shown in (19), they can be performed by the speaker alone, as a member of a group.

[19] a. I'll be back!
   b. I'm going to get it right next week.
   c. We'll not do that.

In using a commissive, the speaker undertakes to make the world fit the words (via the speaker).

III. METHODS

This research applies descriptive qualitative method. In this regard, the type of data collected are qualitative ones. The said data were collected through an interview made by the writers to the

respondent. The interview was conducted by using Minang language. Then, the utterances made by the respondent were transcribed and translated into Indonesian. The respondent has been engaged in business and belongs to a Minang community in Tangerang. Finally, the transcribed and translated data were analyzed by employing Searle's theories of Speech act categorization, inorder to find the answers to the two research questions. In this regard, this research focuses more on the illocutionary act.

IV. RESULTS

After the data were collected from the results of the interview the writers had with Ibu Yanti, a business woman in Tangerang. Following are details of the data analysis which is divided into two parts in accordance with the goals of this research.

The following are the types of the Acts found in the data collected from the interview the researcher had with the respondent.

Data 1.

Researcher : Assalamu'alaikum. ibu Yanti yo…. yo..yo
(***Assalamu'alaikum ibu Yanti ya..ya .ya***)
Respondent : Iyo pak.Wa'alaikumussamWarahmatullahi Wabarokatu.
(***Iya pak.Wa'alaikumussam Warahmatullahi Wabarokatu***)

Researcher : Ba a keadaan buk, Lai sehat buk?
(***Bagaimana kedaan buk, sehat kan buk?***)
Respondent : Alhamdulillah, sehat pak.
(***Alhamdulillah, sehat pak***)

When greeted asked how the respondent' feeling at that time by the researcher, the respondent expressed her joy and responded by saying fine. In this regard, the respondent's response belongsto **an expressive**.

Data 2.

Resarcher : Awak ingin tanyo tanyoko a buk mengenai usaho ibuk. Tu ba a usaho ibuk salamo pandemi ko nyeh buk?
(***Saya ingin bertanya mengenai usaha ibuk. Oh ya, bagaimana usaha ibuk selama pandemi ini buk?***)
Respondent: Itulah dek pak kiniko kan, a namo e ko a batutuik kini ko a. PPKM a namoe indak tantu dek wak namo e doh. Awak disughuah batutuik dek pemerintah. Kalau adoh kepeang wak, tantu bisa awak makan.

(Ya..gitulah pak, sekarangkan saya tutup. Apa namaya PPKM, maaf nih saya gak tau istilah itu. Disuruh tutup oleh pemerintah. Kalau ada uang, tentulah kitabisa makan).

When asked how the respondent's business in the pandemic by the researcher, the respondent expressed her sorrow by saying that's it. Now, I'm closing down my business. She further said that she did not know about what PPKM Micro. She said sorry. Hence, the respondent's responses to the researcher's questions belong to **an expressive**. In addition, the respondent also said that the government asked to close down her business. It belongs to an order from the government. It is classified as **a directive**.

Data 3.

Researcher : Yo..yo..
(Ya… ya…)

Responden : Kalau indak bapitih awak doh, ba a kecek wak ka makan. Awak moh, apolagi ugh..ugh..utang banyak ka dibayie dek pak, disughuah lo awak batutuik dek pemerintah. Mudah mudahan sudah ko bisa wak babukak baliak. Dan mode biasolah kalau dapek.
(Kalau nggak ada uang, bagaimana kita makan. Saya kan.. ugh…ugh… utang banyak yang harus dibayar, pak. Disuruh pemerintah tutup. Mudah-mudahan seteleah ini kita buka lagi. Kalau bisa seperti biasalah).

In addition, the respondent also said that the government asked to close down her business. Her statement is classified as a command or order by the government for her to stop running her business due to the PPKM Mikro. Therefore, the respondent's statement belongs to a **commissive.**
She also further hopes that after PPKM Micro, the government would ask her to start running her business again. In this regard, her statement belongs to **a commissive**.

Data 4.

Researcher: Tu ba a caroe ibuk bertahan dimaso pandemi ko dalam keadaan ko batutuik sagalo macam.

(Terus, bagaimana caranya ibuk bisa bertahan dimasa pandemi ini?)

Respondent: Ba a li. Nan taandok sakenek patang ko tapaso dipakai. Kok ndak adoh kepeang tapaso maminjam. Nan pantiang awak bisa makan jo anak anak ugh..ugh. Apolagi kini suami wak dumah lo. Biaso e nyo karajo ugh... Dumah, lah kughang transportasi kecek e... A.. itulah dek pak tu a. Rencana adoh ka ditambah tambah jua kacang tujin gai.

(Gimana lagi. Simpanan yang ada dipakai dulu. Kalau nggak ada uang, pinjam. Yang penting kita bisa makan dengan anak-anak, ugh..ugh.. Apalagi sekarang

ini suami saya di rumah. Biasanya kerja. Di rumah, transportasi ya dikurangi. Kira-kira begiltulah pak. Rencana ada sih untuk jual kacang tujin).

When asked how she survives in pandemic, the respondent replied by saying what to do (no choice) without money. Her response belongs to **an expressive**.

Data 5.

Researcher : Tu, kalau dicaliak bana kondisi mode ko, apo nan paliang bapangaruah ka usaho ibuk?

*(**Terus, kalau dilihat kondisi seperti ini, apa yang sangat mempengaruhi usaha ibuk?**)*

Respondent: Laillahaillallah…..kanlah ambo sabuik dakek apak. 50% kughang penjualan; ughang mambali. Antahlah walam e nyeh pak oi…..indak dapek disabuik doh….. nan pantiang kiniko, nan untuak kapambali umah gai indak adoh nampak e doh pak. Untuak ka makan e nampak e nyeh. Mudah-mudahan adolah solusi dek pemerintah ne e. Kalau bisa ne e ughang nan manggaleh ko, jan ughang nan di PHK juo ne e, kalau dapek … kalau dapek kecek awak. Ugh…. Jan di PHK, tenaga asing tu jan masuak juo ka Indonesia Raya ko. Mambana kami. Lah mancakiak kini keadaan pak… mancakiak… apolagi, kok nyampang kami sakik dek apak ndak a.. kok nyampang ko a, lai kami je nan mambiayai dumah nyeh. Agiahlah kami, misal e, ko a lah namo e daghi pemerintah; bantuan kek, apo kek tiok bulan missal e kok 500 je dihnyeh. 500 ibu.

*(**Laillahaillallah…..kan saya udah katakan pak, 50% penjualan menurun. Entahlah pak…udah nggak bisa dibahas pak. Yang penting sekarang ini, untuk membeli rumah pun sepertinya udah nggak mungkin. Paling untuk makan aja. Mudah-mudahan ada solusi dari pemerintah. Kalau bisa yang jualan, jangan ada PHK lagi, kalau bisa… kalau bisa… Ugh. Jangan di PHK. Tenaga asing jangan masuk lagi ke Indonesia. Tolonglah.. Keadaan lagi sulit, sangat sulit. Seandainya kami sakit, biaya dari kami sendiri. Seharusnya penerintah memberi apa gitu; bantuan kek, apa kek tiap bulan Rp. 500.000 aja. Rp. 500.000**)*

When asked about the impacts of her business, the respondent explained that her business income dropped to 50%. She gave the real condition of her business income or the fact of her shrunk income. Hence, it belongs to **a representative**.

She also suggested the government that it help the companies in financial difficulties so that they would lay off their employees and help people (in need) financially. She also suggested the government that it stop importing foreign workers to Indonesia. Hence, her response belongs to suggestion. It is categorized as **a declarative**.

Data 6.

Researcher: Mudah-mudahan lah buk. Untuang-untuang lancar. Kalau ibuk pribadi apo harapane, apo rencana ibuk muko? Apo nan ka ibuk karajo an.

(***Mudah-mudahan lah buk. Mudah-mudahn lancar. Kalau ibuk sendiri apa harapan dan rencana ibuk kedepanya? Apa yang akan ibuk kerjakan?***)

Respondent: Iyo .. apo nan ka dapek e nyeh pak..dibuek kacang tujin gai a namo e kacang tujin. Mode ambo ko manggaleh pakk..dijua kacang tujin gai. Rencana adoh manjua teh manih gai. Kok diosong ilie-mudiak gai. A… Ba a dek lai..ba a dek apak lai pak…..oi. Dibuek lontong, awak kughang pandai mamasak, a..

(***Iya..apa aja yang dapat dikerjakan aja lah pak. Buat kacang tujin. Saya kan jualan pak, bisa jual kacang tujin. Rencana mau jual teh manis juga. Walaupun harus dorong sana sini. Mau gimana lagi pak… Mau buat lontong, saya tidak bisa masak***).

When asked for her hope in (the pandemic), she said that she would do anything she could do to make a living. Her response belongs to a promise. In this regards, it is classified as a **commissive**.

Data 7.

Researcher: Bialah dulu yo buk yo. Assalamu'alikum.
(***Ya udah dulu ya buk. Assalamu'alikum***).
Responden: Wa'alaikumussalam.
(***Wa'alaikumussalam***).

In the end of the interview, the respondent still said greeting in the Muslim way. It belongs to an expressive

V. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the research findings, all the types of Speech Acts – Expressives, Representatives, Commissives, Directives and Declaratives – have been found in the data collected from the interview the researchers had with the respondent. The dominant type od speech acts is the Expressives.

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