

**Illocutionary Act in ABC new Interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry: A
Pragmatic Study**

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ABSTRACT

This research discusses about the form of illocution act of speech in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry. This research is aimed to describe the form of illocution act of speech in ABC new interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry regarding their engagement moment. The data of this research is the utterance between the interviewer, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry in ABC news interview. This research uses descriptive-qualitative research because this research contains the performed utterances in ABC news interview. The instrument used in this research is the own researcher whose armed with sense of pragmatic study, that is the speech act. In the result of this research, the directive of begging, requesting, inquiring and offering, the commissive of promising, the expressive of thanking, greeting and praising, the declarative of naming and deciding, The representative of asserting and refusing were found in the data. The representative of asserting was frequently used in the data, while the commissive of promising was the least one.

Keyword: illocutionary act, ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry, pragmatic study.

INTRODUCTION

The study of language is linguistics. One branch of linguistics is pragmatics. Pragmatics is the study of the relationship between linguistic forms and the use of those forms (Yule, 2006: 3). One of the pragmatic study is speech act. Speech act is a pragmatic phenomenon that deals with the actions of speakers which are shown through the utterance. Yule (2006: 82–84) says that speech act is an action that is displayed through the utterance. The action displayed by generating an utterance that will contain the three interconnected actions, namely locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary speech act.

This research focused on illocutionary speech act in Meghan Markle's utterances in the interview about her engagement with British princes, Prince Harry on ABC news in November 2017. The utterances of Meghan Markle and Prince Harry in ABC new Interview are chosen to be analyzed based on illocutionary act since Meghan Markle and Prince Harry 's figure caused pro and contra because of Meghan Markle's status from an ordinary family, unexpectedly turned into a member of the British royal family. In this interview, the utterances uttered by interviewer, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry contained of illocutionary speech act. Meghan Markle herself is known as the meaning of the United States that plays the character Rachel Zane in Suits, US television drama.

In this interview, the utterances uttered by interviewer, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry contained of illocutionary speech act. This research uses the speech act theory in pragmatic study. The selection of pragmatics as a theoretical basis is based on the reason that pragmatics is a branch of language science that studies the structure of language externally, namely how the linguistic unit is used in communication (Wijaya, 2008:4). The selection of speech act theory itself because the use of language as a medium for interacting the speakers is contained in the ABC news interview which contains illocutionary speech act. Concerning with illocutionary acts, Searle (1979:8) divides

illocutionary acts into five types, namely representative, declarative, commissive, directive and expressive.

Representatives

Yule states that representative is state what the speaker believes to be the case or not (Yule, 1996:53). The act of representative is to assert what the speaker's belief, to assert a fact, to describe a certain condition in past or present and to give information to the listeners. Then, according to Searle (1979:8), representative is we tell people how things are and divided into asserting, mentioning, submitting, refusing, and recognizing.

Declaratives

Yule (1996:53) states that declarative is the speaker has to have a special institutional role, in a specific context, in order to perform a declaration appropriately. Declaratives bring about a changing. Leech (1983:179) states there are conventions among community then they declare something such as naming and deciding.

Commissive

Yule (1996:53) states that Commissives are acts which commit the speaker to some future course of action. It expresses the speaker's intention and belief that his utterance obligates him to do something. Commissives can be in the form of promising.

Directives

Yule (1996:54) states that directive is the kind of speech acts that the speaker uses to get someone else to do something which is essentially commands. The speaker tries to get the listener to act in such a way or to do a future action according to the intention of the speaker. According to Searle (1979:27), directives of these consists in the fact that they are attempts (of varying degrees, and hence, more precisely, they are determinates of the determinable which includes attempting) by the speaker to get the listener to do something such as begging, requesting, inquiring, warning, advising, calling, and offering.

Expressives

Yule (1996:53) states that expressive is state what the speaker feels. According to Searle (1979:29) this class is to express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content. In this act, the words of the speaker based on the psychological and the speaker is also responsible for the action. Thus, Expressive is speech acts that express the speaker's gesture body and emotions towards the proposition.

Based on the background described above, the formulation of the problem in this study is how are the forms of illocutionary speech act at Meghan Markle's utterances in the interview about her engagement with Prince Harry on ABC news. The purpose of this study is to describe the forms of illocutionary speech act at Meghan Markle's utterances in the interview about her engagement with Prince Harry on ABC news.

METHOD

The research used the qualitative methods in analyzing Meghan Markle's utterances in ABC news interview about her engagement with Prince Harry and the documentation study research to collect the data. Sugiyono (2012: 329) stated that documents are records of past events in the form of writing, images, or monumental works from someone. There are 127 utterances in the interview. Types of illocutionary acts were classified based on Searle's theory. In analyzing the data, the research used four linked processes by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014), they are data collection, data condensation, data display, and conclusion drawing.

RESULT

The data description is in the form of Meghan Markle's utterances in ABC news interview. Through analysis of Meghan Markle's utterances in ABC news interview, the representative, declarative, expressive, commissive and directive were used.

No	Illocutionary Act		Total
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1	Representative		
	Asserting	45	55
	Refusing	10	
2	Declarative		
	Naming	2	3
	Deciding	1	
3	Expressive		
	Praising	15	18
	Greeting	1	
	Thanking	2	
4	Commissive		
	Promising	1	1
5	Directive		
	Begging	3	31
	Requesting	1	
	Inquiring	26	
	Offering	1	
			108

a. Representative

Representative is kind of illocutionary act that commit the speaker believe about something the truth or not. The acts of this classification can be asserting, refusing, and recognizing.

- Assertive

Int : That has to be a good sign. Speaking of dogs, have you brought yours to the UK?

MM : *Well I have two dogs that I've had for quite a long time, both my rescue pups. And one is now staying with very close friends and my other little guy is - yes he's in the UK, he's been here for a while.*

(#Data 98) Representative 46 - Asserting 39

In #Data 98, Meghan Markle's performs representative of asserting as one of the types of illocutionary act. Meghan Markle's utterance to the interviewer gives definitely answer in the interviewer's question about Mrghan Markle's plan that would bring her dogs to live with her in the UK or not. Then, Megha Markle conveys the statement that her two dogs did not live with her anymore because her close friend had adopted one of her dogs and the other would soon leave UK. The act that performed in this illocutionary act is asserting. Meghan Markle asserts to the interviewer.

- Refusing

The representative of refusing is the rejection to state that the information was incorrect to say. The following data through the refusing in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : Which for most people would be quite a whirlwind. Is that how it's felt to you?

MM : *I don't think that I would call it a whirlwind in terms of our relationship. Obviously there have been layers attached to how public it has become after we had a good five, six months almost with just privacy, which was amazing. But no, I think we were able to really have so much time just to connect and we never*

went longer than two weeks without seeing each other, even though we were obviously doing a long distance relationship. So it's - we made it work.

(#Data 22) Representative 7 - Refusing 1

In #Data 22, Meghan Markle's utterance performs representative of refusing. Meghan Markle refuses the interviewer's statement about the people in Prince Harry's family which was quite a whirlwind. Meghan Markle immediately stated that there was no type of person like that because everyone treated her well. Meghan also admitted that there were many opinions from people who valued her relationship with the royal family, but actually they were very kind to her.

Int : How did you first meet?

PH : Ah yes, we first met - we were introduced actually by a mutual friend, who - we will ...

MM : *We should protect her privacy and not reveal too much of that.*

(#Data 25) Representative 9 – Refusing 2

PH : *We'll protect her privacy yeah.* And - but it was - it was literally – it was through her and then we met once and then twice back to back two dates in London, last July.

(#Data 26) Representative 10 - Refusing 3

In #Data 25 and #Data 26, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry's utterances perform representative of refusing. Meghan Markle and Prince Harry agreed not to divulge any information regarding the person who had introduced them. Meghan Markle and Prince Harry refused to give their mutual friend's identity to protect the privacy.

b. Declarative

Declarative illocutionary act brings a changing in the situation through the speaker's utterances. This act changes the world via utterance.

- Naming

The declarative of naming is giving a name. The following data through the naming in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : *And Meghan, given your acting and the profile you had, you'd already been involved in various courses. You've been an ambassador for U.N. women.* What about this new role, I mean, you're going to have a bigger platform, a bigger voice. What do you want to do with it?

(#Data 60) Declarative 16 – Naming 2

In #Data 60, the interviewer's utterance performs the declarative of naming. The interviewer says that Meghan Markle is an actresses because she did acting. The interviewer also says that Meghan Markle is the ambassador for U.N woman.

- Deciding

The declarative of deciding is a resolution in the mind as result of consideration. The following data through the deciding in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

MM : It's a new chapter. Right. And also keep in mind I been working on my show for seven years. So we're very very fortunate to be able to have that sort of longevity on a series and for me, once we hit the 100 episode marker I thought you know what I have I have

ticked this box and I feel really proud of the work I've done there
and *now it's time to, as you said work work as a team with you.*

(#Data 66) Declarative 3 – Deciding 1

In #Data 66, Meghan Markle's utterance performs illocutionary of declarative of deciding. Meghan Markle said that she had worked hard so far in the entertainment world that had passed hundreds of episodes in her work. Now, Meghan has to deal with a job that is not easy as well as the princess who accompanies the prince, but she is sure to be able to live it because this is not the first time to go through hard work. She decided to become a partner with Prince Harry in going through the hard work.

c. Expressive

Expressive illocutionary speech act is expressed by pleasure, disappointment, likes, dislikes, and so on. This speech act states what the speaker feels. It can be found in the act of thanking, greeting and praising.

- Thanking

The expressive of thanking means give express gratitude to someone, especially say *thank you*. The following data through the begging in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : Your Royal Highness, Meghan Markle, congratulations to you both

MM : *Thank you.*

(#Data 2) Expressive 2 – Thanking 1

In #Data 2, Meghan Markle's utterance performs expressive of thanking. This expression of gratitude was expressed by Meghan Markle as the new Duchess of Sussex for the congratulations expressed by the interviewer at the opening of the interview.

- Greeting

The expressive of greeting is give a polite word or sign of welcome to someone on meeting. The following data through the begging in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : *Your Royal Highness, Meghan Markle*, congratulations to you
both.

(#Data 1) Expressive 1 - Greeting 1

In #Data 1, the interview's utterance performs the expressive of greeting. this was the first time the interviewer met Meghan Markle who had just been approved as the new Duchess of Sussex.

- Praising

The expressive of praising is a polite expression of praise or admiration. The following data through the begging in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

MM : I have! On both sides of his family. *His mom's side as well which has been really important to me too. But yes the family has been great, and over the past year and a half we've just had a really nice time getting to know them and progressively helping me feel a part of not just the institution but also part of the family, which has been really, really special.*

(#Data 78) Expressive 5 – Praising 4

MM : *It's incredible*, I think, you know, a) to be able to meet her through his lens, *not just with his honor and respect for her as the monarch, but the love that he has for her as his grandmother, all*

of those layers have been so important for me so that when I met her I had such a deep understanding and of course incredible respect for being able to have that time with her. And we've had a really - she's - she's an incredible woman.

(#Data 91) Expressive 7 – Praising 6

In #Data 78 and #Data 91, Meghan Markle's utterance performs expressive of praising. Meghan Markle expressed her feelings when she met the royal family, especially Prince Harry's second mother. Her admiration for Prince Harry's family made her continue to praise her husband's family by revealing that the royal family had a very important place beside her. Meghan Markle also expressed her amazement at seeing the figure of the royal family who she thought was very incredible.

PH : ... *amazing, as has William as well, you know, fantastic support.*

And then my - my father as well, we had a couple of - no more than that ...

(Data 104) Expressive 10 – Praising 9

In #Data 104, Prince Harry's utterance performs expressive of praising. Not only Meghan praised the royal family, but also Prince Harry did. He praised his father and brother, Prince William, who always gave him support for his relationship with Meghan Markle.

d. Commissive

Commissive illocutionary is the speaker's use to commit themselves to some future action. This act which the speaker uses themselves get the purpose of their words.

- Promising

The commissive of promising is when the speaker is committed to carrying out a future course of action, called as the commissive of promising. The following data through the begging in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

PH : She's capable of she's capable of anything. And together as I said there's a hell of a lot of stuff, work that needs doing. *At the moment for us, it's going to be making sure that our relationship is always put first, but both of us have passions for wanting to make change, change for good. And you know with lots of young people running around the commonwealth, that's where we'll spend most of our time hopefully.*

(#Data 70) Commissive 1 – Promising 1

In #Data 70, Prince Harry's utterance performs commissive of promising. Prince Harry said that he had the same desire with Meghan Markle to grow to be a good person. Prince Harry also promised the public that he and Meghan Markle will spend their days by mingling with all walks of life.

e. Directive

The purpose of directive illocutionary speech act is for listeners to do something. The act can be begging, requesting, inquiring, advising and offering. In this research, the directive of advising was not found in the data.

- Begging

The directive of begging means ask someone earnestly for something. The following data through the begging in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : What do you think your mother would have thought of Meghan, or

said about Meghan?

PH : *Oh they'd be thick as thieves, without question. I think she would be over the moon, jumping up and down, you know so excited for me, but then, as I said, would have probably been best friends – best friends with Meghan. So no it's - you know it is days like – days like today when - when I really miss having her around and miss being able to share the happy news. But you know with the ring and with everything else that's going on I'm sure she's ...*

(#Data 124) Directive 32 – Begging 1

MM : *She's with us.* (#Data 125) Directive 33 – Begging 2

PH : *I'm sure she's with us yeah, you know, jumping up and down somewhere else.* (#Data 126) Directive 34 – Begging 3

In #Data124, the utterance of Prince Harry (PH) performs directive of begging. Prince Harry begs to his deceased mother, Princess Diana, to also feel the happiness he felt after choosing Meghan as his life companion. The directive of begging also applies to Meghan's utterance in #Data 125 who hoped that Princess Diana would know this news because she was always close to them. Then, The directive of begging is also followed by Prince Harry's utterance in #Data 126 by expressing his hope with confidence for his mother who has never been far away from him until now even though she is no longer alive.

- Requesting

The directive of requesting for a reason explanation of an action is a request by speaker (Searle, 2001:95). The following data through the requesting in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : *Can we start with the proposal and the actual moment of your engagement.* When did it happen? How did it happen?

(#Data 3) Directive 1 – Requesting 1

In #Data3, the interviewer's utterance performs directive of requesting. The interviewer requests to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to open the interview by talking about their proposal and engagement. The interviewer starts to ask them regarding the time and process of that moment.

- Inquiring

The directive of inquiring is consisting an asking, investigation, ask some information and others. The following data through the requesting in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : *And this is how long after you first met?*

(#Data 17) Directive 3 – Inquiring 2

In #Data 17, the interviewer's utterance performs directive of inquiring. The interviewer asks the information regarding their relationship that has been established that the public does not yet know.

- Offering

The directive of offering is when people ask an offering. The following data through the offering in ABC news interview with Meghan Markle and Prince Harry:

Int : *Okay, let's hope he adjusts well.*

(#Data 99) Directive 25 – Offering 1

In #Data 99, the interview's utterance performs directive of offering. In this context, the interviewer offered the pray to Meghan Markle so that Prince Harry would

still allow her to have a career as an actress in the entertainment world which had raised her name.

DISCUSSION

In this discussion, the researcher identified the expressive of thanking in (#Data 2) Expressive 2 – Thanking 1. Meghan Markle used illocutionary act of thanking based on the when say to “thank you” to the interviewer. Then, the researcher says the (#Data 1) Expressive 1 - Greeting 1isgreeting. That is used to give a welcoming to someone. The researcher finds (#Data 78) Expressive 5 – Praising 4, (#Data 91) Expressive 7 – Praising 6 and (Data 104) Expressive 10 – Praising 9 are praising in which Meghan Markle and Prince Harry use this type of illocutionary act with polite expression to express of praising with good statements. To sum up, the directive of begging, requesting, inquiring and offering, the commissive of promising, the expressive of thanking, greeting and praising, the declarative of naming and deciding, The representative of asserting and refusing are found in the data.

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