

## Perlocutionary Act in *Look Away* Movie Script

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### Abstract

This research discussed how a perlocutionary act is used in “Look Away” movie script. The objective of this research is to describe the functions of the perlocutionary act of the utterances of the characters in “Look Away” movie script. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method and the data source of this research is taken from the “Look away” movie script. The method of collecting data in this research is by downloading the movie and the script, reading the dialogue from the script, watching the movie and selecting and coding the data. The results show that this research uses four types of perlocutionary acts by Qiang (2013). In this research, there is a lot of data belonging to type two where the content of type two is that what the speaker said is not understood by the listener, usually causing a misunderstanding discourse. But there are also some data belonging to types one; what is the speaker said is understood by the speaker, types three; what is the speaker’s intention was fully or partially understood by the listener, however the listener did not work in that way, and types four; what is the speaker’s intention was not been understood by the listeners, however, due to the involvement of other attendants in the communication, speaker’s expected perlocutionary act came true. In this research there are also similarities between the four types of perlocutionary acts by Qiang (2013) and perlocutionary act and communication and non-linguistic sign in perlocutionary act in the book “On Perlocutionary Act” by Qiang (2013).

**Keywords:** *movie script, perlocutionary act, speech act*

### INTRODUCTION

The main function of language is as a means of interacting with humans, a tool for thinking, and channeling the meaning of belief in society. Apart from being a means of communication and interaction, language also has an important meaning as a learning method in the scope of language itself. In communication and interaction of course we speak using words and those words may have many meanings. However, each meaning of the word has its own meaning if it is associated with a certain context. To find out the speaker's meaning and sentences meaning we must use the Speech act theory. According to Septiani (2019), there are three processes of communication in speech act theory, those are the basic utterances: what we say (locutionary), what we mean when we say (illocutionary), and what we perform by saying it (perlocutionary).

However, in this study, we only examined the perlocutionary act. Perlocutionary acts can be divided into expected and unexpected categories based on the speaker's communication intention, according to Qiang (2013). The Perlocutionary act has two aspects as well. The Speaker's Intention and the Actual Effect for two or more people, a conversation is a type of face-to-face communication. It can be said that a perlocutionary act is the effect that is felt by the listeners as a result of an utterance. The perlocutionary act used words to influence the interlocutors and the effects that occur as a result of this perlocutionary act are also different. Because the perlocutionary acts have four types by Qiang (2013). Like; firstly, speakers' intention was fully understood by the listeners or others and they will work following this intention, which means that speakers' perlocutionary acts were generated. Secondly, if the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood, the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. Thirdly, the speaker's intention was fully or partially understood by the listener; however the listener did not work in that way. And finally is, the speaker's intention was not understood by the listeners, however, due to the involvement of other attendants in the communication, the speaker's expected perlocutionary act came true. These four types of perlocutionary acts are the theoretical basis for this research. Besides that, Qiang also summarizes 7 types of perlocutionary acts in his book entitled *On Perlocutionary Act* (2013) and one of which is his own type, namely four types of perlocutionary act.

We often encounter perlocutionary acts in our daily lives. There are perlocutions that are understood by the listener, not understood by the listener, understood but the listener does not want to cooperate, and some are the listener understood what the speaker said but needs help from the other listener. Besides that there are also many perlocutionary acts that can be seen in the film. One of the films that have a lot of perlocutionary acts is *Look Away* (2018). This movie script was released in 2018. The script of this movie was written by Asshaf Bernstein. This movie script contains an extraordinary theme, namely if perfection is a measure of life, then there will be no human who deserves to live, because perfection belongs only to God. *Look Away* movie script is a psychological thriller about Maria, an outcast high school student who has a living twin in the mirror.

The reason why the researcher chose the *Look Away* movie script of this research is because when the researcher was doing a preliminary study, it was found that there are elements of perlocutionary acts that need to be examined more deeply. Like one of the scenes in the *Look away* movie script, when Maria, the main character who really does not like to socialize, says that she wants to attend a school prom party for her mother. Even before, Maria refused to join the party. Her mother is very happy because Maria is not a very sociable child but strangely she wants to go to a school party. And there are many more scenes in this movie that contain elements of a perlocutionary act. Besides that, the listener's expression after the speaker said something that contained elements of the perlocutionary act in this movie is also very interesting. Like when Airam said that it was time for the truth to be revealed, Maria also agreed with Airam's words, because Maria thought that Airam would only reveal the truth which he had not dared to say so far. Airam also knows that Maria must be sad, because of the treatment that she got so far, whether it was from friends or family, but Maria is just trying to deny her sadness. So, after Maria exchanged souls with Airam the twin behind the mirror, Airam took revenge on Maria's bullies, by hurting and even killing them. In this study, their researcher will examine four types of perlocutionary acts in the *Look Away* movie script. Besides that, in previous studies, there have been those who have researched *Look away* movie script, in terms of the representation of a clinical case, which illustrates a character-focalizer having the syndrome of subjective double. However, its perlocutionary aspect has never been studied in more depth. Therefore, the researcher would like to continue his research (Çıraklı, 2019) which focuses on the use of the perlocutionary act in this movie script using the four types of perlocutionary act by Qiang (2013).

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The researcher used qualitative descriptive methods to analyze the data based on the theory of four types of perlocutionary act by Qiang (2013). The source of data in this study is the script of *Look Away* (2018) movie by Asshaf Bernstein as primary data and an audiovisual movie as secondary data. The data are collected by downloading, reading the dialogue, watching, capturing, selecting, and coding. The techniques of the data analysis are presenting, describing, interpreting, and concluding the data.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Four Types of Perlocutionary Acts

Look away is one of the movies in which there are many perlocutionary acts. Where there are various types of perlocutionary acts. In this movie, there are linguistic and non-linguistic perlocutionary acts. We can distinguish the perlocutionary act through the conversation between the characters in the movie script. The researcher presents an explanation of the four types of perlocutionary acts by Qiang (2013).

Hockey players:        **Sean... what the hell, men?**  
                              **We're in the middle...**  
                              **Let's go!**  
                              **Sean, come on, man!**  
Sean:                     *(Silent and ignore the screams of his friends).*

This utterance belongs to type two where the listener does not understand what the speaker discourse or talking about and just ignores it.

Mom (Amy)        : **So, honey, um, guess who I ran into today. Sue, George's mother... Do you remember George? You went to science camp with him. He was a smart kid.**  
Maria             : *I don't remember.*  
Mom (Amy)        : *Curious George, that's what you called him. Anyway, he remembers you very fondly from science camp. So, I was thinking that maybe...*  
Maria             : *No*  
Mom (Amy)        : *Um, Maria, you don't even know what i going to say next*  
Maria             : *Just... don't*  
Mom (Amy)        : *Fine, if you don't want to hear the rest of what... I was gonna say that's fine*  
Dad (Dan)        : **No, she does. You know your mother's trying to be helpful, right?**  
Maria             : *Yes*

This utterance belongs to type four where the speaker's intention was not understood by the listeners, however, due to the involvement of other attendants in the communication, the speaker's expected perlocutionary act came true. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria doesn't like her mother's story but still listens because of her father's intrusion.

Mom (Amy)        : **Here was my idea, just that you're here and George... is here and you both like each other... so the winter prom is coming up, you could go to it together.**  
Maria             : *I'm not going to the prom*  
Mom (Amy)        : **Why not?**  
Maria             : *Because it's stupid and I don't want any part of it.*

This utterance belongs to type three where the speaker's intention was fully or partially understood by the listener; however the listener did not work in that way. Therefore there was no expected perlocutionary act. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria was angry and refused her mother's wishes.

*Father (Dan) : **She has no friends.***  
*Mother (Amy) : She's friends with Lily.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria's mother couldn't understand why her husband would ask something so obvious.

*Lily : **So, what do you think?***  
*Maria: It's nice.*  
*Lily : Nice?*  
*Maria: Okay... it's really nice.*  
*Lily : Nice is a boy you don't wanna go out with. This is an acid green, turbo-charge 911. This is definitely not nice.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria doesn't understand the meaning of Lily's question and instead answers as she thought.

*Assistant (Naomi) : **He's just with a patient, take a seat, darling. He'll be right out.***  
*Maria : Okay*  
*Assistant (Naomi): Okay*

This utterance belongs to type one where the speakers' intention was fully understood by the listeners or others and they will work following this intention, which means that speakers' perlocutionary acts were generated. Since most of the language communication follows the cooperative principle, this is the most familiar case. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria immediately followed the assistant's directions.

*Father: : **You're here early, aren't you? Did we not say 6:00?***  
*Maria: : yeah, sorry*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria felt guilty so that Maria doesn't answer her father's question as she should.

*Father : You know, your birthday is coming up in a couple months. What would you say to get your gift... a little early this year?*

*Maria : I... I'd say yes*

*Father : swing by the office tomorrow after school.*

*Maria : Sure.*

This utterance belongs to type one where the speakers' intention was fully understood by the listeners or others and they will work following this intention, which means that speakers' perlocutionary acts were generated. Since most of the language communication follows the cooperative principle, this is the most familiar case. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria is feeling happy.

*Airam : You really believe he cares, don't you?*

*Maria : He does.*

*Airam : Oh, come on, Maria. He was embarrassed, that's all. You're just a stain on his family.*

*Maria : No you're wrong.*

This utterance belongs to type three where the speaker's intention was fully or partially understood by the listener; however the listener did not work in that way. Therefore there was no expected perlocutionary act. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria did not believe what Airam said no matter how Airam tried to persuade her.

*Lily : Now, I'm gonna let go of you, okay?*

*Maria : No, Lily, wait, don't. please.*

*Lily : We're just gonna go to the club house, it's fine. Okay?*

*Maria : No, no, no, no, no, no. don't, don't, don't.*

This utterance belongs to type three where the speaker's intention was fully or partially understood by the listener; however the listener did not work in that way. Therefore there was no expected perlocutionary act. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria is afraid to surf by herself.

*Maria : Ow! Lily, come on, help me up.*

*Lily : He's mine, you know?*

*Maria : What? Who?*

*Lily : You know what I'm talking about.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria was confused; she has not obediently understood what Lily says.

*Airam : **You wanna believe in it, don't you?***

*Maria : What?*

*Airam : That she is your friend, that she cares about you.*

*Maria : She is my friend.*

*Airam : But you're not sure of that now, are you?*

*Maria : We've been best friends since we were three.*

*Airam : I was there too, remember? I remember when she left you alone in the sand box. All alone by yourself... because she wanted to play with the other girls.*

*Maria : That never happened.*

This utterance belongs to type three where the speaker's intention was fully or partially understood by the listener, however the listener did not work in that way. Therefore there was no expected perlocutionary act. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam did not believe Airam's words and denied it.

*Mother: **So, tell me more. Did you have a fabulous time? Did you... did you dance with anyone?***

*Airam: Mom, it was everything I wished for.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam was bored because her mother asked too many questions.

*Airam : **Hey, we don't have any more of that delicious hot cocoa?***

*Naomi (secretary): You want me to fix you one for the road?*

*Airam : Hm...*

*Naomi (secretary): I'll take that as a yes.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speakers' intention was fully understood by the listeners or others and they will work following this intention, which means that speakers' perlocutionary acts were generated. Since most of the language communication follows the cooperative principle, this is the most familiar case. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Naomi immediately made Airam hot chocolate.

*Airam : **Where's daddy? Is he working late?***

*Mother* : *Hm.*  
*Airam* : *Is he working late?*  
*Mother* : *Probably, yes.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam's mother is annoyed why Airam keeps asking the question that she has answered.

*Maria* : ***What do you think you're doing?***  
*Airam* : *Having dinner with mom.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam felt Maria's question was ridiculous.

*Airam* : ***It's about time for the truth to surface, isn't it?***  
*Maria* : *I guess*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Maria gave up on whatever Airam would do.

*Detective* : ***We still have a couple for your daughter.***  
*Amy (mother)* : *Well, can it wait? I mean, she's been through so much.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam's mother was afraid because Airam must have been very shaken by the death of her friend.

*Airam* : ***Do you think I'm beautiful?***  
*Father* : *Of course, you are, get dressed.*

This utterance belongs to type two where the speaker's intention has not been obediently understood; the speaker will not make the desired behavior. Sometimes this situation is because the



listener does not understand the meaning of the speaker's discourse. The effect of the perlocutionary act in this conversation is Airam's father was shocked because of Airam's words.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings and discussion above, the researcher can conclude that this *Look Away* movie script is a movie that contains a lot of perlocutionary acts because four types of perlocutionary acts are found. But among the four types of perlocutionary acts, only type two is the most common in the movie. Where the meaning of type two is that what the speaker said is not understood by the listener. Sometimes it happens because of misunderstanding discourse. Of the nineteen data above there are ten data containing type two, four data containing type three, three data containing type one and the last one data containing type four. Means that in this movie there are perlocutionary acts that are not achieved due to misunderstandings of the listener from what the speaker said. Which of the four types of perlocutionary acts found in the movie script are based on Qiang's (2013) theory, namely; firstly, what the speaker said is understood by the listener. Second, what the speaker said is not understood by the listener, sometimes this happens because of misunderstanding discourse. Thirdly, what the speaker says is very well understood by the listener but the action is not achieved because the listener does not want to cooperate. And finally what the speaker says is not understood by the listener but with the participation of others, so that what the speaker says can be understood. Of the four types of perlocutionary act above, it is clear that the most common is type two, where there are many misunderstandings between the speaker and the listener.

Furthermore, the researcher finds that there are similarities between the four types of perlocutionary acts by Qiang (2013) and perlocutionary act and communication in the book "On Perlocutionary Act" by Qiang (2013). Where in this type there are 5 situations that need attention. And among the 5 situations, there are three situations that are almost the same as the four types of perlocutionary acts. Among the similar situations is the first, what is the speaker said is understood by the listener, the second is what is the speaker said is not understood by the listener and the last or five situation is the listener who do not understand what is the speaker said but because support from other people so that the perlocutionary act is achieved. And four types of perlocutionary acts also contain almost the same meaning. The difference is in the four types of perlocutionary act

where in type two it alludes to a misunderstanding of discourse. Apart from the slight difference in type two, types one and five are the same as situations one and five in perlocutionary act and communication.

Furthermore, the researcher finds that there are similarities between the four types of perlocutionary acts by Qiang (2013) and type non-linguistic sign in perlocutionary act in the book “On Perlocutionary Act” by Qiang (2013). Where non-linguistic sign in perlocutionary act is an action that is done without words but only with body language and in the findings above, there is one data that is similar to this type. We can see in data one, where the listener ignored orders and invited the speaker to return to the field and continue the game. It is clear from this data that the listener ignored what the speaker said without using words and only body language.

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