

## **AN ANALYSIS OF SPEECH ACT USED IN ENOLA HOLMES MOVIE**

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### **Abstract**

Miscommunication about the meaning of words in relation to the context of a situation is a common problem faced by both speakers and hearers. It was interesting in finding out about how language functions in human interaction, taking into account the context that affects communication as well as the intents behind utterances. Then, this research aims to identify the types of speech acts used; the most dominant types; the intended meanings of speech acts employed by Enola Holmes in the movie "Enola Holmes." This study adopts a descriptive qualitative approach, focusing on the utterances of the character Enola Holmes. Utilizing George Yule's theoretical framework for speech act analysis, the findings reveal four categories of speech acts: representatives, expressives, directives, and commissives. The predominant category identified is representative speech acts, accounting for 127 out of 222 instances (57%). The speech acts in the movie serve various purposes, including stating the truth, providing information, narrating life stories, refusing unwanted propositions, expressing adventure and unselfish assistance, showing friendship, making requests, indicating kinship conversing, and expressing amusement or pleasure. This study sheds light on the numerous functions and meanings that language serves for fictional characters in a movie, like Enola Holmes.

**Keywords:** Enola Holmes the Movie; Pragmatics; Speech acts

### **INTRODUCTION**

Language is an essential component of human existence. People who do not speak the language cannot participate in any activities. Since humans are social beings by nature, they always interact with others and their surroundings in a social setting throughout their lives. The human need for one's own self is inextricably linked to socialization (Maximilian, 2020; Sutyono et al., 2023). As a result, communicating effectively is essential. The community's daily communication will depend on the existence of language.

The most common communication problem that both speakers and hearers face is miscommunication about the meaning of a word in relation to the context of the situation (Susan M. Gass dan Evangeline M. Varonis, 1991). The purpose of the language can be clearly understood if the listener is aware of the context. The study of the interaction between language and its settings is the focus of discourse analysis. Paltridge (2012) defined discourse analysis examines patterns of the language across texts and considers the relationship between language and the social and cultural contexts in which it is used. Furthermore, discourse analysis enables people to more effectively convey their thoughts about the world and learn new things in a variety of languages.

The study of contextual meaning is referred to as pragmatics in this instance. When we study

pragmatics, we learn how to identify the primary speaker, whether they speak or write. L.Mey (2001) defined that the interest of pragmatics is in the process of producing language and in its producers, not only in the final product which is only focus on the language. Pragmatics is more than just about the sentences spoken or written by the researcher. On the other hand, it also takes into account when, where, how, who is involved, and why an expression is made. The study of speech acts falls under the scope of pragmatics.

Speech acts were the study of how to accomplish things using words. In most activities in daily life, individuals use words to do things like ask for help or make statements, among other things. Yule (1996) defined speech act is action performed via utterances. Speech acts are the utterances that happen and relate to an activity. Every expression that people talk about in everyday life is an example of a speech act, but they are not aware of it. It is clear that speech acts cover a wide range of languages, all sentences spoken by people are speech acts or even the word "hello" is an example of a speech act for greeting. Therefore, speech acts are used every day, every time, and anywhere in this world. Speech acts are utterances that are carried out in action by two or more persons acting as speakers and listeners. Speech acts are made up of propositional assertions and complete utterance circumstances. Speech acts are not only concerned with conversational utterances but also with the circumstance because a statement has meaning if it is related to a setting or context. As a result, when people study speech acts, they cannot distinguish between activities, circumstances, and dialogues.

Yule (1996) identified five classifications kinds of speech acts that are declaratives, representative, expressives, directives, and commissives. Declarative speech acts are those that have an impact on the world through the force of the spoken word and are carried out by a certain role. Following that, representatives indicate the truthfulness of the words in relation to the world. Directives occur when speakers tell the listener to do something. Speakers agree to perform the future act in commissive. Finally, expressive reflects the speaker's feelings through psychological states. People often employ all forms of speech acts to communicate with one another.

Conversations frequently contain speech acts. Conversations in movies may be fantastic instances of speech acts since they demonstrate complex speech acts to figure out what the main character is attempting to accomplish by saying anything. The movie featured several speaking performances by actors and actresses. There were a variety of films accessible; including cartoons, comedies, dramas, and mysteries. A mystery film is one that concentrates on the ability to resolve of a problem or the solving of a crime. It follows a detective, private investigator, or amateur sleuth as they use clues, investigation, and logical reasoning to solve a mystery. Enola Holmes is the title of one of the mystery films.

Enola Holmes is a movie adaptation of Nancy Springer's mystery novels with same title. The movie is released on September 23, 2020, in Netflix as the official platform. This movie has a PG-13 rating. Enola Holmes is a 2020 mystery film starring Millie Bobby Brown as the title character, the teenage sister of the already-famous Victorian detective Sherlock Holmes. Harry Bradbeer directed the film, which adapted Nancy Springer's Enola Holmes mystery series from a script by Jack Thorne. In the film, Enola travels to London to find her missing mother, but instead finds herself on an exciting adventure, collaborating with a runaway lord to solve a mystery that threatens her entire country.

The present study examined speech acts from the Enola Holmes movie. This study emphasizes the importance of context in interpreting speech acts, reaffirming the idea that meaning is found not only in the words themselves, but also in how, when, where, and by whom they are spoken in this movie. This study, then, provides a greater understanding of the language used by the character. It also sheds light on how miscommunication can be a thematic element in a movie and then influencing audience perception and engagement. Thorough this study, it is hoped that the readers can have deeper understanding about various types of speech acts in order to draw attention to how difficult communication may be and how many levels of meaning language can express through utterances. Moreover, it is also hoped that this study can improve

the reader viewing experience and offer a more nuanced perspective of the narrative and the character through speech acts analysis and also helps them to deepen their knowledge of contextual meaning in pragmatics.

## **METHOD**

### **Research Design**

The researcher for this research uses descriptive qualitative research to describe the various kinds of speech acts relied on by Enola Holmes, the movie's main character. Creswell (2012) defined qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. The researcher focuses on determining the various kinds of speech acts by applying George Yule's theory regarding the classification of speech acts used by Enola in the movie Enola Holmes.

### **Data Collecting Technique**

The data were collected while viewing the movie. The researcher took the following procedures to acquire data. To start the research, the researcher watched the Enola Holmes movie. This was done to understand and find any important details that would support this research especially in analyzing the utterances. The second step was making the transcription of the dialogue. This was used in helping the researcher analyzed the utterances deeply. After making the transcript then identified the dialogue spoken by actors in the movie. The identification was done by focusing on the types of speech acts used by Enola in the movie Enola Holmes. The fourth step was taking decision and writing notes about types of speech acts used by Enola in the movie Enola Holmes. Then marking speech acts based on the kinds and types of speech acts was needed to be done in order to help the researcher in analyzing and grouping the kind of speech acts. Then, the last step was tabulating and coding the kinds of speech acts based on Yule's (1996) theory of kinds of speech acts used by Enola in the movie Enola Holmes.

### **Data Analyzing Technique**

The researcher used the descriptive study to examine the data in a methodical, factual, and right method. The goal of this approach of data analysis is to assist the researcher in correctly understanding the data. The data was collected on speech act analysis in the movie Enola Holmes. Further, in the context of analyzing this movie, a descriptive study might involve documenting all the instances of specific speech acts by Enola throughout the movie and describing their context and characteristics. On the other hand, content analysis might involve coding these speech acts into categories and analyzing the frequency and context to identify patterns in how Enola uses language to achieve different communicative goals. Based on George Yule's (1996) theory, this research limited the data by analyzing data from the types of speech acts performed by the main character in the movie Enola Holmes. In order to analyze the data, there are some actions taken by the researcher. The first was counting the percentage of speech act and finding the most dominant kinds of speech acts used by Enola in the movie Enola Holmes. The second was describing the meaning based on types of speech acts. The third was reporting the analysis and the last was making conclusion of the research.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The researcher then observed that only four of the five kinds of speech acts, which are representatives, directives, commissive, and expressives, occur in the 222 data utilized by Enola as the main character in Enola Holmes' movie. The table below categorizes all types of speech acts:

**Table 1. Kinds of Speech Acts**

No	The Kinds of Speech Acts	Quantity	Percentage (%)
1.	Representatives	127	57%
2.	Expressives	17	8%
3.	Directives	68	31%
4.	Commissives	10	5%
<b>Total:</b>		<b>222</b>	<b>100%</b>

The table above displays Enola's usage of kinds of speech acts. The examination of speech acts reveals that the most dominant kinds of speech acts employed by Enola are Representatives with 47%. Directives are followed by Expressives, which have a proportion of 31% and 8%, respectively. Commissives have the lowest percentage of speech acts at 5%.

According to the research, Enola in the movie uses four different sorts of speech acts. Representatives, directives, expressives, and commissives are among them. Here are the explanations:

### **Representatives**

Huang (2014) defined representatives are those kinds of speech act that commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition, and thus carry a truth-value. According to the research, Enola relies on representatives more than the other types of speech actions in the film. The researcher discovered 119 data points that have been identified as representatives. Searle (cited in Levinson, 1983) defined there are several types of representatives which are asserting, reporting, explaining, showing something, suggesting, and refusing. The researcher discovered five various types of representatives utterances in this research, including asserting with 40 data, reporting with 14 data, explaining with 70 data, and refusing with 3 data. Here are some of the data.

- (1) *"And yet we were always together."* (Datum code S1/U6)
- (2) *"Well, I have a hat. It just makes my head itch. And I have no gloves."* (Datum code S2/U5)
- (3) *"And I am undercover, so forget I told you that piece of information."* (Datum code S8/U3)
- (4) *"Sometimes, Lord Tewkesbury, you have to dangle your legs in the water to attract the bloody sharks!"* (Datum code S21/U10)
- (5) *"No, your face is totally unmemorable!"* (Datum code S12/U3)

The form of on the data code (1) is asserting. Crystal (2008) defined asserting is a sentence which is presented by the speaker as true. Enola, the main character in this case, attempts to explain the truth about the situations that have actually happened. Enola stated in the statement that she was constantly with her mother at Ferndell Hall from birth until the age of sixteen. Meanwhile, in datum (2), Enola reported information regarding why she appeared to be a mess in Mycroft's eyes. Rundell (2005) defined reporting is to provide information about something that exists or has happened. In this case, Enola provided information to Mycroft in regard to the whereabouts of Enola's cap and gloves. Enola told her older brother that she had a hat but that wearing it made her head itch, and that she lacked gloves.

In utterance (3) and (4) showed representatives speech acts in the form of explaining. Rundell (2005) defined explaining is to tell someone something in a way that helps them understand it better. In data (3) Enola tries to explain to Tewkesbury, who inquires that she shares Sherlock's surname. Explaining is to tell somebody about something in a way that makes it easy to understand. The explanation in this datum was meant to explain the answer to Tewkesbury's question. Enola reveals that she is undercover because Sherlock has been looking for her, and she hopes that Tewkesbury would forget about her family name so that she will not be found by her

two brothers. Meanwhile, in utterance (4) Enola used the explanation form of this speech to explain to Tewkesbury why they were heading to Basilwether. Enola implies that they went to Basilwether to catch who was the mastermind who hired assassins to kill Tewkesbury. That is why Enola says "You have to dangle your legs in the water to attract the bloody sharks!" to Tewkesbury

Referring to the example (5), the speaker refuses someone's words. Rundell (2005) defined refusing is to say we will not do something that someone has asked we to do. Representatives refusing to convey do not want something that has been offered to fits with their world. When Lithorn asks Enola where Tewkesbury is, she responds with a type of refusal. According to Lithorn, Enola has identified Lithorn's face as someone who chased Enola and Tewkesbury on the train. Enola as well refused to tell Lithorn where Tewkesbury was on the grounds that Lithorn could not remember his face, or that Enola was pretending not to know Lithorn.

## Expressives

Searle (1999) defined expressive is simply to express the sincerity condition of speech act. The speaker adapts their words to the world (of feeling) by employing expressives. Leech (1983) defined these expressives acts can be in the forms of apologizing, condoling, praising, congratulating, thanking, pardoning, blaming, accusing, and the like. According to the data analysis, the researcher found 17 utterances which include expressive speech acts. These acts are in the forms of 1 in condoling, 7 in praising, 1 in congratulating, 4 in thanking, 1 in blaming, and last 3 in accusing. The following section describes some example and explanation:

- (6) "I'm sorry" (Datum code S8/U14)
- (7) "*Congratulations. You finally look like the nincompoop you were born to be*" (Datum code S24/U1)
- (8) "*Viscount Tewkesbury, you magnificent Marquess of blooming Basilwether. And you're a cleverer boy than I perhaps gave you credit for.*" (Datum code S15/U1)
- (9) "*Thank you. That was, uh... You did save me.*" (Datum code S21/U1)
- (10) "*You do know you've entirely ruined phase three of my plan?*" (Datum code S8/U1)
- (11) "*I'm just a case to you, aren't I? A curiosity. Is that why you're here, to pick my brains?*" (Datum code S19/U10)

Datum (6) showed the use of condoling. (Rundell, 2005) defined condoling is the things that we say to show sympathy when someone has just died. In the utterance, Enola expresses her condolences by saying "I'm sorry" to Tewkesbury after knowing that his father is dead. Meanwhile, in example (7) Enola express congratulated to Tewkesbury. (Rundell, 2005) defined congratulating is telling someone how happy you are for their success or accomplishments. Enola said congratulating Tewksbury on his comeback to the House of Lords. Although Enola jokes that Tewkesbury looks like a nincompoop in another way that means Tewkesbury looks was born to be Viscount and he looks so as well.

In utterance (8) may be noticed that the speaker used expressive speech acts such as praising. (Rundell, 2005) defined praising is to express strong approval or admiration for someone or something, especially in public. The above example is a compliment offered by Enola while looking for clues in the Basilwether wood's tree lodge. When Enola finds Tewkesbury's schemes exactly, she praises him, saying Tewkesbury is a cleverer youngster than she predicted. Meanwhile, in datum (9) is expressives act of thanking that Enola express to Tewkesbury. Enola says thanks to Tewkesbury for getting her to run away from Mrs. Harrison's Finishing school. (Rundell, 2005) defined to tell someone that we are grateful for something they have done or given in us.

The example (10) is the expressives act of blaming. (Rundell, 2005) defined blaming is say or thinks that someone or something is responsible for an accident, problem, or bad situation.

Enola believes Tewkesbury is to blame for the third part of her plan not going as planned. The word 'ruined' refers to the expressives act of blame. Enola's comment demonstrated that she was engaging in an expressive act of blame disguised as an inquiry. Meanwhile, data (11) showed the expressives acts of accusing express by the main character. (Rundell, 2005) defined accusing is said that someone has done something wrong. In that utterance Enola accuses Sherlock that Sherlock only wants to make her as a case and Sherlock only wants to take advantage of Enola's intelligence. Enola also feels that Sherlock is uninterested in her.

## Directives

The researcher found 68 utterances in directives acts. A type of speech act called a directive deals with trying to get someone to do something. Kreidler (2002) defined in a directive the speaker tries to influence the actions of the addressee. They make clear what the speaker means to say. Leech (1983) defined the examples are ordering, commanding, requesting, advising, and recommending. Based on the analysis, the form of directive speech acts found in this analysis are 3 commanding utterances, 14 suggesting utterances, 21 ordering utterances, and 30 requesting utterances. Here some examples:

(12) *"Get out of this carriage right now."* (Datum code S7/U2)

(13) *"You were supposed to have forgotten that name."* (Datum code S8/U26)

(14) *"She wouldn't like you in here. This is her private space."* (Datum code S3/U7)

(15) *"And what might I learn from department?"* (Datum code S19/U3)

(16) *"I want four yellow flowers, two blue, and a red one. I don't care about the breed. Any flower will do."* (Datum code S16/U2)

(17) *"See that window over there? It leads onto a roof. I need you to climb out and take off into nowhere."* (Datum code S17/U20)

In datum (12) is the directives act of commanding that was used by Enola to Tewkesbury. (Rundell, 2005) defined commanding is to officially order someone to do something, generally by someone in a position of high hierarchy. For example above, Enola commanded Tewkesbury firmly to get out of the train car they were riding in with impolite remarks because she was tired of explaining to Tewkesbury that someone was looking for her. Meanwhile data (13) has a function as suggestion. (Rundell, 2005) defined suggesting is an idea or plan that we offer for someone to consider. In that utterance Enola suggested to Tewkesbury to forget his name after Tewkesbury thanked Enola. Enola tells Tewkesbury to forget about it to keep her safe.

In utterances (14) and (15) are the form of requesting act that performed by Enola as the main character. (Rundell, 2005) defined requesting is an act of asking for something in a polite or formal way. In data (14) Enola suggested to her two older brothers, Mycroft and Sherlock that they should leave her mother's chamber by stating, "She wouldn't like you in here." This is her private area." because she was aware that her mother disliked it when someone entered her personal space. Meanwhile in utterance (15), Enola requests that Sherlock explain the answer to her query regarding what she will get from learning about attitude at Finishing School Mrs. Harrison.

In datum (16) and (17) showed the directives act of ordering that used by main character. (Rundell, 2005) defined to tell someone to do something or say that something should be done.. An order can be given by anyone to anyone. The act of ordering in datum (16) is about Enola who ordered some flowers for Tewkesbury when he disguised himself as a florist at the Convent market. Enola acts as a buyer to order flowers, Enola does this so that Tewkesbury is aware of her presence. Meanwhile, the example (17) is the order that Enola says to Tewkesbury so he can escape from Lestrade's pursuit. Enola told Tewkesbury to climb onto the roof and get as far away as possible to safety wherever that might be.

## Commissives

The speaker promises to fit the words into the world when they use commissives (through the speaker). Kreidler (2002) defined commissives are utterances in which the speaker binds himself to perform (or refrain from doing) some act at a later time. They express what the speaker wishes to express. Cutting (2002) adds that promising, threatening, refusing, pledging, offering, vowing and volunteering are some examples of the category of commissives. There are 10 utterances including the form of commissives. As a result of the research, the researcher discovered that the speakers' commissive speech acts took the form of 1 in promising, 5 in offering, and 4 in refusing. Here are some examples:

- (18) *"I will.."* (Datum code S15/U10)
- (19) *"I'll pay handsomely for good value."* (Datum code S10/U4)
- (20) *"I say! I'll pay you five pounds... to swap clothes with me. You needn't wear my dress if you prefer not to."* (Datum code S13/U17)
- (21) *"I don't want a husband!"* (Datum code S4/U7)
- (22) *"A kind offer, but one I must refuse."* (Datum code S24/U6)

In utterance (18) may be noticed that the speaker used commissives speech acts such as promising. (Rundell, 2005) defined promising is a statement in which we say that something will definitely happen, or we will definitely do something. Enola promised to Lady Basilwether who is Tewkesbury's grandma on datum (18). Enola makes promises that she will tell Tewkesbury if they have met later that Lady Basilwether cares deeply for him.

In data (19) and (20) are the types of offering act. (Rundell, 2005) defined offering is a statement in which we offer to give someone something if they want it. In example (19) is the offering act used by Enola to Miss Gregory. While looking for a lodging room, Enola asked Miss Gregory where she could get it, and Enola offered to pay a high price for a good and suitable lodging room. Meanwhile, in utterance (20) Enola offered something to gardener. Enola offers the gardener five pounds to switch clothing with her so she may disguise herself and enter Basilwether forests without raising suspicions from the host.

Examples (21) and (22) are the form of refusing act that performed by Enola as the main character. According to Rundell (2005), refusing to say that we do not want what someone has offered to us. Refusing act in commissives means the resistance that is done for some future action. In data (21), Enola refuses Mycroft words about having a husband. Enola rejected Mycroft's words saying that she had no hope of getting a husband with her current situation. Enola in another sense firmly rejects Mycroft's statement that he does not want a husband. Meanwhile, in data (22) Enola refuses Tewkesbury's invitation to stay with him. Tewkesbury does not want Enola to leave because he is afraid he want not be able to see her again. Enola refused because she wanted to live freely and become a famous detective beyond Sherlock

## CONCLUSIONS

The present study focused on speech acts from the Enola Holmes movie. This study highlights the importance of context in interpreting speech acts, reaffirming the idea that meaning is found not only in the words themselves, but also in how, when, where, and by whom they are spoken in this movie. Based on the findings and discussions in the preceding chapter, as a result of the researcher's analysis of types of speech acts in terms of a theoretical framework and study findings the researcher concludes speech acts that Enola used are four out of five kinds of speech acts appear in the 222 data used by the main character in by Enola in the Enola Holmes movie, they are representatives, expressives, directives, and commissives. Enola does not use this type of speech act declaratives in this movie.

Furthermore, the study finds the most dominant speech act used by the main character in

the Enola Holmes movie. The use of representatives is shown to be the most commonly used speech act. There are 127 utterances, accounting for about 57% of the overall amount of utterances. That is, the main character frequently provides more representatives than the other speech acts.

This film is mostly watched by teenagers; speaking shows do not use obscene language. The researcher can conclude that the speech acts in this movie are to state clearly about the truth that happened, to inform about something, to explain about life stories, to refuse something that is not our will, to express someone's first exciting adventure, to express help people selflessly, to show or express friendship, to ask someone to do something, to show kinship, to engage someone in conversation, to express pleasure, or just for fun.

It is intended that this study will provide readers with a better knowledge of numerous forms of speech actions, highlighting how difficult communication can be and how many levels of meaning language may represent through utterances. Furthermore, it is believed that this study will enrich the reader's viewing experience by providing a more nuanced viewpoint of the story and the character through speech act analysis, as well as help them develop their understanding of contextual meaning in pragmatics. For further research, examining the usage of conversational implicature in this movie, in which characters indicate meanings that go beyond the literal understanding of their words can be done. For example is investigating how the characters employ indirect language to express hidden meanings or achieve certain communicative objectives.

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