



**AN ANALYSIS OF EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS IN THE
NOVEL *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* BY CHARLES DICKENS**

THESIS

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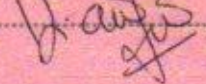
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Abstract

This study examines the speech act of expressive in the novel *A Christmas Carol*. The writer use pragmatics approach in analyzing the data. The data were taken from all of the utterances that refers to the expressive speech act. In analyzing the data the writer used some theories taken from Searle (1976) and Brown and Levinson (1987). The research used the qualitative method. In collecting the data, the writer used observation and noting technique. From the data analysis, the result shows that there are six types of expressive speech act found in the novel *A Christmas Carol*, namely expressing thanking, apologizing, congratulating, greeting, wishing and praising. In addition, the writer found the communication strategies used by the characters to express the feeling by using communication strategies, based on record in terms of positive politeness and negative politeness.

Keywords : pragmatics, expressive speech act, politeness strategies.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

People use language to give information, idea, suggestion, and opinion. However, language serves a great many functions in our lives. Giving and getting information is by no means the only one. According to Gee (in Cutting, 2014), there are important connections among saying (informing), doing (action), and being (identity). The language consists of utterance produced by speaker. The utterances in speech acts do not only produce by grammatical words but also followed by actions. It means that, if people speak or produce utterances in form of work, phrases, or sentence, it is considered by an action.

Austin (1962) states that speech act as the action performed in saying something. Speech act theory means the action performed when an utterances are produced which can be analyzed on three levels. Speech acts are produced at least three different ways: as locutionary act (meaning), as illocutionary act (force), and perlocutionary act (effect). Austin (1962:99) defines illocutionary act as performance of an act in saying something. Searle (1976) distinguishes five classes of illocutionary acts and bases on illocutionary point, the result of illocutionary point and the relationship of word and world. They are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaration.

Then, the speech act analysis begins to depart from Austin's ideas. There are different opinions from Searle and Austin. The first important aspect of

Searle's account of speech act is the rigid distinction he introduces between the content and the force of it (something which was absent from Austin's analysis). The second is that his analysis depends on an intentional or mentalist view which implies that the speaker's intentions – and their recognition – are essential to the realisation of a speech act (whereas for Austin one cannot perform an act by making an appeal to intention). Furthermore, according to Searle (1976) in Strauss and Feiz (2014) the expressive speech act is expressing the speaker's psychological or emotional state. The speech act of expressive includes the speech act of apologizing, greeting, congratulating, thanking, and wishing (Cutting, 2003).

In speech act theory, the speech act is the focus on intention because this is what the speaker intends to do by uttering a sentence. Most of people in daily conversation use speech act, including illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. Not only happen in daily conversation, but speech act also can be found in movie, short stories, talk show, drama and novels. Therefore, the writer is interested in analyzing this novel and title *A Christmas Carol* written by Charles Dickens.

This novel was written based on the experience Charles Dickens when he was in England on Christmas Day. *A Christmas Carol* was most popular and, tapping into an old tradition. It is a best seller novel promoted a renewed enthusiasm for the joys of Christmas in Britain and America. The story is about poor people when Dicken were having a trip to Manchester and witness to conditions of the manufacturing workers there. As the idea for the story took shape and the writing began in earnest, Dickens became engrossed in the book. This novel tells about a very rich and stingy person named Ebenezer Scrooge.

Then, he was advised by Marley's ghost and 3 ghost other. So that, Scrooge did not suffer the same fate as Marley punished for greed during life on earth. Sometimes the ghost came to Scrooge to advise him in order to turn into a better person. Finally, Scrooge to be a good and friendly person. So the writer chooses this novel to be analyzed because the writer found the speech act of expressive and difference utterances to express the character's felling. Look at the example of the novel as follow:

- (1) “*I am sorry*, with all my heart, to find you so resolute. We have never had any quarrel, to which I have been a party”. (P.10)

Example (1), it states the speech act of apologizing which is “*I am sorry...*”. Because a person feels he made a mistake on something and wants to apologize to express his guilt. And he used direct communication strategies by saying “*I am Sorry*”. But, there are also apologizing speech act indirect communication strategies. For example:

- (2) “*Forgive me if I am wrong*. It has been done in your name, or at least in that of your family,’ said Scrooge”. (P.73)

Beside from the example above, the writer would like to find the type of expressive speech act like thanking, wishing, congratulating, welcoming, praising and what the communication strategies that used in each the types of expressive speech act.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

In Dicken's novels there are a lot of things that can be analyzed in the novel *A Christmas Carol* written by Charles Dickens, from linguistics and

literature perspective. Linguistically, it can be analyzed from semantics (figurative language, grammatical, structure, etc.), grammatical aspects (intrinsic and extrinsic) pragmatics (speech act, maxim, and implicature), etc.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

From all of the problems that can be analyzed. The writer is interested in analyzing the speech act of expressive. Then, the writer limits on speech act of expressive using the theory Searle (1976) types is expressive are apologizing, welcoming, thanking, congratulating, praising and wishing. And also theory Brown and Levinson (1987) discussing about the communication strategies used to express the speech act of each type of speech act of expressive.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Related to the limitation of the problems the writer formulates those in the following research questions:

1. What are the types of the expressive speech acts used in the novel *A Christmas Carol*?
2. What are the communication strategies used to express those type of expressive speech act in the novel *A Christmas Carol*?

1.5 The Purpose of the Research

The Purposes of the research are:

1. To find the types of expressive speech act in the novel.
2. To find out the communication strategies used in the novel based on Brown & Levinson theory.

1.6 Significance of the Research

The result of this study gives the benefit for the linguistic study interm of language use in daily conversation used expressive speech act that people can talk use communication strategy to express their feeling. From the research it will give contribution for English student to increase the vocabulary because in this research many variation of utterances which is founded in speech act of expressive and inspire the reader to find a new great topic an also to enhance knowledge especially in the field study of speech act.