

AN ANALYSIS OF SPEECH ACT OF COMPLAINING
FOUND IN THE MOVIE *THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS*

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AN ANALYSIS OF SPEECH ACT OF COMPLAINING
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Abstract

As seen in the society, complaining often occurs if the people feel dissatisfied or disappointed with the reality that is not suitable as they want. The complaints that exist in reality can be seen in the movie. Therefore, this study aims to find out the speech act of complaining uttered in the movie. The data of this thesis were taken from the dialogues in the movie entitled *The Pursuit of Happiness*. According to Searle, J. R. (1969) there are five macro-classes of speech, they are representative, directive, expressive, commissive, declarative. Complaining is one of kinds of expressive speech act that express psychological state. In this thesis the writer only focus to analyze the types of expressive speech act interms of complaining, and the communication strategies used by the speakers in complaining. The writer used the theory stated by Searle, J. R (1975) in analyzing the types of speech act and the theory stated by Brown and Levinson (1987) in analyzing the communication strategies, and some contexts proposed by Crabtree (1991). From the data analysis, the writer found four types of speech act of complaining in terms of direct and literal, direct and non-literal, indirect and literal, and indirect and non-literal expressions.

Keywords: speech act, complaining, communication strategy.

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