

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Actions performed via utterances are generally called speech acts (Yule, 1996, p. 53). Speech act is a subdivision of pragmatics. It is an utterance that serves a function in communication. People do not only produce utterances or sentences containing grammatical structures and ordinary words but also perform actions via those utterances. It means that when the conversation occurs, the utterance and the action will combine and produce the meaning. The meaning of the utterance can be interpreted from the context by the hearer. Without the context, the hearer will be difficult to understand or interpret the meaning of the speaker's utterances. We perform speech acts in many ways such as when we make an apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or even request. In speech acts, the speaker will expect that the hearer will recognize the speaker's intention.

One type of general functions performed by speech acts that often occurs in a conversation between the speaker and the hearer is expressive. Yule (1996, p. 53) said that expressive is an utterance that states what the speaker feels. It can be for positive or negative feelings. Expressive expresses a psychological state of the speaker's feeling to the hearer such as statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, or even sorrow. An expressive utterance can be caused by the speaker does or the hearer does in a conversation, but it is about the speaker's experience. In other words, expressive utterances more concern with a feeling and behavior.

In this research, the point of interest is a reality show. A reality show is a television program in which ordinary people are continuously filmed rather than professional actors (Oxford Dictionary). One of the programs which is very interesting, entertaining, and contains education values is *Super Nanny*. *Super Nanny* is a popular reality show which originated in the United Kingdom (UK) and also aired in the United States (USA) since 2004 until 2012. Nanny Jo Frost as the professional feature of the show devotes each episode to help family's problems about the naughty and unruly children who make the parents angry and frustrated. Through instruction and observation, she shows the parents alternatively ways to discipline their children and regain order in their household.

Super Nanny is one of reality shows which reflect the situation and condition in daily life. The participants are ordinary people such as the parents and the children in the family. One episode that has more than 1 million viewers on *Youtube* is chosen. It is the episode of Minyon family. In this episode, Frank and Danielle are the parents of two unruly children named Frank Patrick and Skyler.

The dialogue below shows the example of expressive utterance found in the *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon Family*.

- Frank : Come on! Hurry up! I need all of these served foods for me.
Skyler : Yeah [helping his father]
Frank : Oh, my little helper. **Thank you, sweetheart.**

The dialogue takes place in the back yard of Minyon's house. The participants are Frank and Skyler. In the afternoon, Frank and Danielle organize a barbecue and invite their family and friends to come around. Frank asks Skyler to

help him preparing the food. Skyler then helps his father by bringing a plate for the guests. Frank immediately says “*Oh, my little helper. Thank you, sweetheart.*” to Skyler with a smile. He is happy because Skyler wants to help him.

The utterance “**Thank you, sweetheart**” is classified as a declarative form because the utterance is used to give information to the hearer. In this situation, Frank gives an appreciation to his daughter because she has helped him serving the food for the guests in the barbecue. The utterance above is used to tell Skyler that Frank is grateful for something that she has done.

Based on the context, Frank’s utterance is categorized as an expression of thanking in which it expresses positive feelings to the hearer who has done a service to the speaker. The utterance, “**Thank you, sweetheart**”, is the expression of gratitude or appreciation to Skyler who has helped Frank served the food. In this situation, Skyler’s behavior is an uncommon state in the household. Skyler usually refuses to obey her parents but here she helps his father by bringing the plate for the guests. The utterance has a function to appreciate Skyler and makes she feels meritorious in the family.

1.2 Research Questions

In this research, two main research questions are formulated. They are:

1. What are the structural forms of expressive utterance found in *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon family*?
2. What are the categories of expressive utterance found in *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon family*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions of the analysis above, some objectives are expected. They are:

1. To find out the structural forms of expressive utterance found in *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon family*.
2. To determine the categories of expressive utterance found in *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon family*.

1.4 Scope of the Study

In this research, speech acts proposed by Yule is used as the basic approach. He argued that there are five types of general functions performed by speech acts. They are declarations, representatives, commissives, directives, and expressives. While in this research, only expressive utterances are focused. The structural form and the categories of expressive utterances are analyzed. This analysis is conducted by using some theories proposed by Yule, Shopen, Ronan, and Leech. It is very important for the writer to make the limitation in the analysis to get an understanding on the problems discussed. Therefore, the writer localizes and focuses his research on the expressive one.

1.5 Method of the study

This research is a linguistics research in which the data are in the form of words and utterances. There are three steps of this research. They are collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of analysis.

The source of data in the research is taken from www.youtube.com. It is *Super Nanny* which is one of the reality TV programs about parents struggling with their children's behavior. This reality show is such the informational and educational reality show for all parents. This reality show has been nominated for National Television Award, UK (2005 & 2006) as the most popular factual program. It has also won Rose d'Or Light Entertainment Festival (2005) as best reality show and Royal Television Society, UK (2005) as best features and factual entertainment. It is very popular in more than 37 countries with millions of viewers. One episode that has more than 1 million viewers on *Youtube* is chosen. It is the episode of Minyon family. In this episode, Frank and Danielle are the parents of two unruly children named Frank Patrick and Skyler. This episode has been downloaded on July 24, 2016. The duration of this video is 42 minutes and 15 seconds.

In collecting the data, an observational method with non-participant technique is applied in this research in which the writer does not get involved in the conversation process. There are several steps in collecting the data. First, the video of *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon Family* is downloaded from *Youtube* in which *Youtube* is one of the global popular video-sharing websites on Internet. Second, the video is watched by using a laptop for several times and listened carefully in order to get a better understanding of the utterances. Third, all utterances of the video are transcribed. Fourth, the transcription has been checked by some writer's friends at English Department whether the transcription is

correct or not. Fifth, all expressive utterances are selected and classified as the data of the research by using a note-taking technique.

In analyzing the data, pragmatic identity method is applied in this research. Pragmatic identity method is a method of analyzing the data based on the context. Context is one of the factors to help the hearer understand what the speaker means. In this research, the descriptions of the analysis are conducted into three steps. First, the writer describes the context applied by Leech's theory. Second, the writer finds the structural forms of expressive utterance used by the theories of Yule & Shopen. Third, the writer also determines the categories of expressive utterance applied by Ronan's theory.

The results of the analysis are presented by using two methods. They are formal and informal methods. Formal method means that the result will be presented by using the table to provide a summary of all expressive utterances used by participants in *Super Nanny Episode of Minyon Family*. Furthermore, informal method means that verbal language will be applied in which the writer gives the explanation based on the data analysis of the research.

