

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Research

Language as a means of communication has an important role among people. Language is used everyday by everybody to communicate with others. People use it to share their arguments, informing or expressing feelings. They use language in their speech, either spoken or written. Both of them contains of utterances.

In pragmatics, the utterances are included in speech acts. This research focuses on speech acts. According to Yule (1996: 47), speech acts are the actions performed via utterance, such as apology, complain, compliment, invitation, promise, or request. In analyzing speech acts, the meaning of utterance is included because the meaning of an utterance depends on the context. Yule (1996: 3) mentions that pragmatics involves the interpretation of what people mean in a particular context and how the context influences what is said. The study of speech act is very important in knowing how to perform these acts and being able to recognize them when performed by someone.

Speech acts can be found in the magazine, script of movie, newspaper, book, journal, etc. One of them is the script writing for a movie. Movie script contains of the dialogues spoken by the characters in a movie. It is not only creating dialogue, but also indicating the actions and expressions of the characters. Therefore, the movie script has many utterances that include the types and functions of speech act.

The conversation in the movie script can be a good example of speech act to find out what the main character doing by saying something. From a movie, we can learn about life lessons. We can learn about education values, moral values, and other values from there. In this case, the writer takes the script of *Whiplash* movie as the source of data in analyzing speech act. This movie has valuable lessons everyone can take into their lives. A story tells about passion, dream, and struggle.

*Whiplash* movie is a 2014 American drama film written and directed by Damien Chazelle based on his experience in the Princeton High School Studio Band. This movie has inspiring story that tells about a first year jazz student, Andrew Neiman, enters a prestigious music school Shaffer Conservatory to fulfill his dream of becoming one of the great drummer under the guidance of an abusive instructor. *Whiplash* movie has got many awards such as Academy Awards, Golden Globe Awards, Grammy Awards, and so on.

The aspects of linguistics could be found in *Whiplash* movie script, especially speech act. Many types and functions of speech act are performed by characters at the movie. Moreover, the main character uses multi-functions speech act in his utterance. He also uses language which is easily understood by the hearer or reader. Therefore, the writer is interested in conducting a research in a paper entitled *An Analysis of Speech Act as Found in the Script of Whiplash Movie*.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problems**

Based on the background above, this research is conducted to answer the following problems as the focus of the study. They are:

1. What are the types of speech act used by the main character in the script of *Whiplash* movie?
2. What are the functions of speech act in the conversation?

### 1.3 Objective of the Research

The identification of the problems above can give description about the objectives of this research. This research is aimed:

1. To find out the types of speech act used by the main character in the script of *Whiplash* movie.
2. To explain the functions of speech act in the conversation.

### 1.4 Scope of the Research

Based on the identification of the problem above, the writer comes to the limitation of the research in order to gain the focus of the study. The analysis is limited only on the utterances that are produced by Andrew Neiman as the main character, because he has important role in this movie. It means that this movie generally tells about him.

The research focuses on the types of speech act, such as direct literal, direct non-literal, indirect literal, and indirect non-literal based on the theory from Parker (1986). It also focuses on the functions of speech act, such as, declaration, representative, expressive, directive, and commissive is based on the theory from Yule (1996). Furthermore, the writer also pays attention to the context of an utterance by using the theory from Leech (1983). The context of an utterance may be regarded as the factor that influences the use of utterances in making speech acts.

## 1.5 Methods of the Research

The source of data is taken from *Whiplash* movie script. The script consists of 103 pages downloaded from [http://www.sonyclassics.com/awards-information/whiplash\\_screenplay.pdf](http://www.sonyclassics.com/awards-information/whiplash_screenplay.pdf). This movie is written and directed by Damien Chazelle. Meanwhile, the data of the research are taken from the utterances of the main character, Andrew Neiman. This research belongs to qualitative research.

There are three stages in conducting this research, they are; collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of analysis. The process of collecting the data is done through some steps. The first step is searching the script of the movie from internet. The next step is reading the script as well as watching the movie several times. The last step is collecting all of the utterances spoken by Andrew Neiman.

The process of analyzing the data is formulated as the following steps; analyzing the context of utterance, classifying the types and also the functions of speech act. This research uses purposive sampling technique because it uses criteria to pick samples. Purposive sampling technique is a kind of selection method where the samples are taken from the data containing criteria which are needed in this research. The script of *Whiplash* movie consists of 103 pages, the criteria for sampling are; the utterances of Andrew Neiman, the utterances contain the types of speech act, and the utterances contain the functions of speech act with its indicator. For example, the function of directive speech act has some indicators; such as commanding, asking, inviting, requesting, etc. Then, these indicators are taken to represent the whole data to be analyzed.

This thesis entitled *An Analysis of Speech Act as Found in the Script of Whiplash Movie* consists of four chapters, they are; introduction, review of related literature, data analysis, and conclusion. In presenting the result of analysis, all of the utterances spoken by the main character are classified according to the types and functions of speech act. The result of analysis is also presented in the form of table. Table provides a summary of the utterances and their intentions as stated by the speakers.

