

THE EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACT IN THE LOVELY BONES MOVIE

*Speech acts,
Expressive,
Qualitative,
Praising*

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Abstract- *This study aims at finding out the analysis of the types of expressive speech acts and the most dominant expressive speech acts used by characters in literary works. Qualitative methods were used to fulfill two research objectives. The data was collected from the movie that was taken from the utterances used by the characters. It was observed, selected, and classified. The researcher took notes as a tool to classify the expressive acts of the characters in the movie. The results showed that nine kinds of expressive expressions were found in the movie, namely apologizing, blaming, congratulating, doubting, greeting, praising, regretting, thanking, and wishing. The most dominant type of expressive action used is the praising act because the character performs this action when he admires someone or an object for the listener. In addition, giving praise to others can make others more motivated; giving praise has a calming effect and makes others feel valued, and increases the listener's confidence. It is expected that the result of this study can be used as references for future research.*

Keywords: *Speech acts, Expressive, Qualitative, Praising*

INTRODUCTION

When people are communicating with each other, they transfer certain meanings through the language. A branch of linguistics studying meanings in communication is called Pragmatics. Pragmatics refers to the speaker's meaning or utterance interpretation. Levinson (1983) stated that pragmatics is the study of the ability of language users to pair sentences with the contexts in which they would be appropriate. It means that pragmatics cannot be separated from the context and principles of language usage. Then, Thomas (1995) also defines pragmatics as meaning in interaction. The interest of learning Pragmatics is we can talk about people's intended meanings such as their assumptions, their purposes or goals, and the kinds of actions that they show during communication.

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Discussing meaning in Pragmatics is closely related to Speech Act. The theory of speech acts is grounded by the English philosopher of language J. L. Austin who defines speech act to express certain attitudes when someone utters a sentence. He divides speech act into three parts; those are a locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Yule (2003) also explains that speech acts are actions that are carried out through utterances, and in English, it is generally given a more specific label, such as an apology, complaint, praise, invitation, promise, or request. In sum, Speech acts contain the meaning of utterances that are used to attract listeners to an action based on their understanding of the message. Moreover, the significant things in speech act are the message of the speaker's intention, so the listener understands the message from the speaker.

This research aims to find out certain type of speech act in a movie, namely expressive act. According to Taavitsainen and Jucker (2010) define expressive as expressing the state of mind, the attitudes, and the feelings of speakers. Searle in Huang (2007) explained that expressive is a speech act that has the function of expressing the speaker's psychological matters such as stating joy, sorrow, and likes or dislikes. The study of expressive acts is mostly related to various languages. Most of these studies discuss dialogue analysis, translation, and interpretation of movie or movie scripts. The writer applies movie as the data of the research by analyzing the utterances which are spoken by the characters in the movie. The movie is also a work of art that presents expressive speech acts as a language phenomenon. In a movie, actors use expressions to attract the attention of the audience through their dialogue. Through the actor's dialogue, we can find out the expressions and emotions that contain purpose and meaning.

Some previous studies have ever been conducted by other researchers who discussed speech acts. Mazidah (2018) determined the expressive speech act found in EFL classroom interaction. This research used a qualitative approach because the analysis is in the form of description rather than a number. Her research aims at finding the kinds and functions of expressive speech act that can be found in EFL classroom interaction. Her research finds that two kinds of speech act. They are direct and indirect speech acts. There were six functions of expressive speech act, such as apologizing, thanking, condoling, congratulating, deploring, and welcoming. The results show that kinds of

expressive speech used in EFL class interactions are direct and for the functions that most used in EFL class interactions is welcoming.

Another study on expressive speech has done by Dodhik (2013). He conducted the expressive speech act of Obama's speech at the University of Indonesia. This study was used to find the types of expressive speech acts and strategies used by Barack Obama in expressing expressive acts. The result showed that there were six types of expressive acts used by Obama in his speech, namely thanking, greeting, happiness, sadness, condolence, and wishes. There were also five strategies used by Obama in performing those acts. Those were literal direct act, non-literal direct act, literal indirect act, literal direct act + non literal direct act, and literal direct act - non literal indirect act. The type of expressive act used more often in this speech was happiness. Since, the emotion that made Obama happy with the situation of his come back to Indonesia as a President of USA, thus he showed his happiness repeatedly.

Furthermore, Tauchid and Rukmini (2016) had attempted to find out the performance of expressive speech acts as found on Wayne Rooney's Facebook. The purpose of the study was to identify the kinds of expressive speech acts performed by Wayne Rooney on his Facebook and explain how the effects of the expressive speech act performed by Wayne Rooney on the listeners. The research showed that the expressive speech act of boasting was the most dominant used by Wayne Rooney. Furthermore, each type was performed by Wayne Rooney either with direct expressive speech acts or with the addition of preparatory acts, supportive acts, as well as the combination of both of them to modify the head acts as the main messages. The other expressive acts found were speech acts of congratulating tended to cause the hearers to respond the same as what the speaker intended, expressive speech acts of complimenting, and thanking.

In this research, the writer is interested in analyzing the film "*The Lovely Bones*" directed by Peter Jackson. The film was released on April 7, 2010, based on the novel by novelist Alice Sebold published in 2002. This movie has a good quality which is proven that "*The Lovely Bones*" won nominated the best performance by a younger actor in Oscar 2010. This film is a mystery, thriller, and drama that tell the story of Jack Salmon. In addition, there is no research yet which focus on analyzing expressive speech on this movie. Hopefully, by analyzing the expressive speech act of the movie, the writer and the readers can learn to manage expression at any condition to create a harmonious social

relationship and avoid the social conflict that happen because of the fault in expressing a feeling towards to each other.

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Referring to the research problem, this research employs a qualitative research design to analyze the types of expressive acts. The qualitative type is regarded to be the most appropriate design to be used in this research as the data are in the form of words, sentences, and pictures. McMillan (2008) states the focus of the qualitative study is to know the meaning through verbal description and observation rather than through numbers. Similarly, Wray & Bloomer (2006) add that qualitative research tends to used presents description and analysis rather than the features of counting or statistical data.

The researcher used the qualitative method by Kothari to count the most dominant expressive act that the characters used in the movie. Kothari (1990, p.20) asserts that wherein the qualitative is also measured based on the existence of 34 research methods or the absence of relevant attributes. Also, this method can take different decimal points quantitatively called 'continuous variables. Therefore, this research type is employed at finding out the analysis of types of expressive speech act and the most dominant expressive speech act used by the characters in *The Lovely Bones* movie.

There are two types of data sources recently used in this study, they are primary data and secondary data. The primary data was *The Lovely Bones* movie directed by Peter Jackson. Hornby (1995, p.22) defines that a movie as a set of moving pictures to be shown on television or cinema in the form of a recorded story. To support the primary data, the writer used *The Lovely Bones* movie script as the secondary data. In the process of collecting data, here are some steps which are done: reading the script; observing the movie; analyzing the movie script; observing the notes; collecting characters utterances; analyzing the collected utterances, and interpret the data. On the next level, the theory of speech act is used to analyze the data. The steps are as follows: identifying the related data of expressive speech acts; describing the most dominant of the expressive act in the form of a table, and drawing the conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION


Findings

1. The Types of Expressive Speech Acts Used by The Characters in The Lovely Bones movie

There are nine types of expressive speech acts based on Searle's (1976) theory. The researcher found there are nine types of expressive speech acts used in this movie. There is the expressive speech act of apologizing, blaming, congratulating, doubting, greeting, praising, regretting, thanking, and wishing. A detailed discussion of each type is presented as follows.

- Expressive speech act of apologizing


Apologizing is a kind of expressive speech act where the statement expresses sorry or regret about something. When someone makes a mistake, hurts someone else's feelings, or is rude should apologize to the person concerned. The following is the data of utterances containing of apologizing expression found in *The Lovely Bones* film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 1. Susie's expression apologized</p>	<p>Apologizing</p> <p>Susie apologized to the driver on Norristown street because her car nearly hit another driver's car.</p>	<p>"sorry"</p>

In data (1) above, the researcher found the expression of apologizing used by Susie to express her apologies toward another driver in the Norristown streets. She drives so fast that she almost hit the driver who was walking in the opposite direction from her. The driver got angry with Susie and said rudely to her. Susie's utterance shows that she said "sorry" to the driver as she almost hit his car. Saying an apology is one of the ways to solve a problem when someone makes a mistake.

- Expressive speech act of blaming


Blaming means giving responsibility for a mistake or thing that is wrong. Blaming also identifies you disagree over something or reproach. Both of addresser and addressee could take two actions to hold them responsible or to find fault on someone based on the context of the situation. The following is the data of utterances containing of blaming expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 2. Susie blamed herself</p>	<p>Blaming</p> <p>Susie blamed herself because when she lived in the world it was too easy to trust the people who killed her.</p>	<p>“what I am now? The dead girl? The lost girl? The missing girl? I’m nothing! I was stupid! I was so stupid”</p>

In data (8), there is a conversation between Susie and Holly. Holly is Susie’s friend in the afterlife. The dialogue above shows that Susie blames herself. This can be seen clearly from her statement to her friend, “*What am I now? The dead girl? The lost girl? The Missing girl? I’m nothing! I was Stupid! I was so stupid*” which is considered as blame. Susie blames herself for trusting people she didn't know when she was alive. Susie easily trusts Mr. Harvey who intends to rape and kill her. Finally, in the afterlife Susie only blames herself.

- Expressive speech act of congratulating


Giving congratulations is an act in which the speaker shows concern for his audience for his achievements and success. The speaker showed great joy because he also felt joy from his listeners. The speaker of this is mostly the family members, best friends, or co-workers. The following is the data of utterances containing of congratulating expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>figure 3. Susie expressed her doubts to Ray</p>	<p>Doubting</p> <p>Susie still doubts whether Ray is from England or not because his face doesn't look like the British.</p>	<p>“are you really from England?”</p>

In data (28), there is a conversation between Len and Jack. Len is a detective who helps find Susie’s missing. Len advised Jack not to carelessly accuse Mr. Harvey without evidence. Jack appreciates Len for his suggestion. Jack’s utterances “*I Appreciate everything you’ve done. You’ve been a great friend to me.*” expressed his gratitude to Len for being such a great friend. Appreciation of someone also includes expressions of congratulation.

- Expressive speech act of doubting

This sentence of doubt is the sentence the speaker shows to express his doubts about the situation or towards someone. Doubt is used to express the worry of the speaker towards something. The following is the data of utterances containing of doubting expression found in The Lovely Bones film.


Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 4. Ray gave praising to Susie</p>	<p>Praising</p> <p>Ray was amazed to see Susie's beautiful face.</p>	<p>“you are beautiful Susie Salmon”</p>

In data (12), this dialogue occurs when Susie and Ray meet in front of the locker. Ray is a senior at Susie's school that Susie likes. Susie’s utterance shows that he said doubt statement with say “*are you really from England?*” Susie expresses her doubting

in the form of a question to Ray. Susie still doubts whether Ray is from England or not because his face doesn't look like the British.

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Greeting is an act that is used to welcome or giving recognition to someone. This act also expresses someone's feeling on respecting and receiving the friendship relation. The following is the data of utterances containing of greeting expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p data-bbox="240 1021 671 1079">Figure 5. Abigail expressed her greeting to Jack</p>	<p data-bbox="699 779 826 813">Greeting</p> <p data-bbox="699 846 1086 965">Abigail welcomed the arrival of her husband who had just returned from work.</p>	<p data-bbox="1114 779 1348 853">“how was your day?”</p>

In data (21), the researcher found the expressive greeting used Abigail to welcome her husband, Jack. Abigail said, "*how was your day?*" to welcome Jack. This shows that the function of this type of greeting expression which is to welcome someone's presence. Abigail asked her husband about how the day was going on that day. This clearly shows that Abigail welcomed her husband's arrival very well.

• Expressive speech act of praising


Praise is an act of expressing admiration for something or someone. The speaker performs this action when he admires a person or object and informs the listener of the impression. The following is the data of utterances containing praising expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 6. Picture 4.32 Abigail expressed her gratitude</p>	<p>Thanking</p> <p>Abigail thanked Mr. Harvey for giving her flowers.</p>	<p>“thanks for the flowers”</p>

In data (15), this dialogue took place in front of Susie's locker while she is talking to Ray. Previously, they talked about the story of Othello, a folk tale from Africa. Then, Ray ran out of topics to talk about until he finally stared at Susie's face for a long time. Ray was amazed to see Susie's beautiful face with beautiful blue eyes. Finally, Ray gave praise to Susie. Ray said, "*you are beautiful Susie Salmon*" Ray expressed her admiration through praising act.

- Expressive speech act of regretting


Regret implies pain caused by grief or disappointment about a mistake you have made and wanting it to be different and better. The following is the data of utterances containing of regretting expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 7. Jack appreciates Lenn for all his kindness.</p>	<p>Congratulating</p> <p>Jack appreciates Lenn for trying to help him find the missing Susie.</p>	<p>“Len, I appreciate everything you’ve done. You’ve been a great friend to me”</p>

In data (29), this dialogue happened between Susie and her friend named Holly in the afterlife. Susie’s utterance, “*there it was the moment I would never have*” indicated her regret toward herself. Susie saw her little sister in the world. Her little sister grew older while Susie remained as a child in the afterlife. Susie regrets would never feel how to grow up like her little sister.

- Expressive speech act of thanking


Thanking is an act that expresses gratefulness towards something. If an addresser performs this to someone, he or she also expresses his or her thankfulness to someone. The following is the data of utterances containing of thanking expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 8. Susie's expression of Regret</p>	<p>Regretting</p> <p>Susie feels regrett because in the afterlife she will not be able to grow up to be an adult.</p>	<p>“there it was the moment I would never have”</p>

In data (25) above, the researcher found the expression of thanking used by Abigail to express her gratitude toward Mr. Harvey. Abigail’s utterance shows that she said “*Thanks for the flower*” to Mr. Harvey because Mr. Harvey gave the flowers to Abigail.

- Expressive speech act of wishing

Wishing is an expression when the speaker wants something to be true or to happen. Wishing is a feeling or expresses a strong desire or hope for something that is not easily attainable to want something to happen or to be true even though it is unlikely or impossible and to want to do something to happen. The following is the data of utterances containing of wishing expression found in The Lovely Bones film.

Scenes	Expressive Act	Utterances
 <p>Figure 9. Grandma hope Susie will live long and happy someday</p>	<p>Wishing</p> <p>Lynn hopes that Susie will live a long life because Susie is a good child and likes helping others.</p>	<p>“you know the Buddhist say if you save someone else’s life you will live a long and happy life”</p>

In data (34), a conversation above took place at the hospital when Susie manages to get her younger brother to the hospital. While talking with her grandmother in the hospital corridor, Susie's grandmother gave her good hopes for the future. Susie's grandma said "if you save someone else's life you will live a long and happy life" to express her good wishes for Susie. Her grandmother hopes that one day Susie will live a long and healthy life.

2. The Dominant Expressive Speech Acts Used by The Characters in The Lovely Bones Movie

Table 1.
Table Showing the Most Dominant Expressive Speech Acts

No.	Expressive Acts Types	quantity
1.	Apologizing	7
2.	Blaming	6
3.	Congratulating	1
4.	Doubting	8
5.	Greeting	8
6.	Praising	20
7.	Thanking	13
8.	Regretting	10
9.	Wishing	7
Total		80

Based on the table above, there are nine kinds of expressive speech acts. There are expressive speech acts of apologizing, expressive speech acts of blaming, expressive speech acts of congratulating, expressive speech acts of doubting, expressive speech acts of greeting, expressive speech acts of praising, expressive speech acts of thanking, expressive speech acts of regretting, and expressive speech acts of wishing. The results showed that there were 80 expressive acts performed by the characters in *The Lovely Bones* movie. Based on the research results, the type most used in the film is praising type, while the type that is least done by the characters in the movie is congratulating. The result described as follow: praising appears 20 times, thanking appears 13 times, regretting appears 10 times, doubting appears 8 times, greeting appears 7 times, apologizing appears 7 times, wishing appears 7 times, blaming appears 6 times, congratulating appears 1 time.

DISCUSSION

In analyzing the data, the researcher employed the theory of expressive speech acts written by Searle 1976. Types of expressive acts consist of apologizing, blaming, doubting, praising, greeting, thanking, congratulating, regretting, and wishing.

The first point is apologizing. Searle (1976) explained that apologizing is a kind of expressive speech act where the statement expresses sorry or regret about something. The function of apologizing is a value the relationship is precious more than ego. Leech stated in Mazidah (2018), apologizing is a convivial speech acts, the goal of which coincides with the social purpose of maintaining harmony between the speaker and the hearer. The apologizing type appears seven times in the movie. The second point is blaming. Blaming has meaning as assigning responsibility for a fault or wrong thing (Searle, 1976). The characters used the expression of blame six times in the movie.

The third point is doubting, used by the speaker to express his doubts about a situation or towards someone (Searle, 1976). The characters in the film used the expressions of doubt eight times. The fourth point is praising, which has the function of expressing admiration for something or someone. According to Searle (1976) the speaker performs praising act when he admires a person or object and informs the listener of the impression. The characters in the movie used the expressions of praise twenty times. The types of praising expressive acts are used to express admiration for people, places, things. The researcher concludes praise act has functions to express happy feelings about something that catches their attention.

The fifth point is greetings, which are used to welcome or give recognition to someone's existence (Searle, 1976). In addition, Kakiuchi (2005) asserts that greetings have an important social function for the speech community. Generating appropriate greetings and responding to them is useful for maintaining and building interpersonal relationships. Besides, for language learners, greetings are significant as the key to creating contacts and communication that serve as "doors to the target culture" The meaning of greetings is necessary both in work and in-person to build good relationships. The characters in the film use this type of expression seven times. The sixth point is thanking, which is the paradigm of expressive action considered a universal form of interpersonal communication. Thanking is an expression often used in work and family in daily life. Nickel (2008) adds that thanking is an expression of something that is done

in everyone's activities. Searle (1976) asserts that thanking serves to express gratitude, appreciation, good intentions, and so on. The characters in the movie use thanked expressions thirteen times.

The seventh point is congratulating. Searle (1976) asserts that the expressive act of congratulating is defined as an expression of pleasure and sympathy to the hearer. The congratulating type shows joy because the speaker also feels the happiness that comes to the listener. We congratulate people when something good happens to them (Martinez, 2013). The writer found one time the congratulations appear in the movie. The eighth point is regretting, which means pain caused by sadness, disappointment, or disturbance to something that has been or has not been done (Searle, 1976). It can also mean feeling sad about something sad or wrong or about a mistake you made and wish it was different and better. The writer found the expressive of regretting found ten times in the movie. It can be concluded that the expression of regret used by the characters above to express the deep sadness experienced by someone because the thing you want would never come back again.

The ninth point is wishing, which is used as an expression when the speaker wants something to come true or happen (Searle, 1976, p.6). Desire is a feeling or expressing a strong desire or hope for something that is not easily achieved to want something to happen or come true even though it is impossible or impossible and wants to do something to happen (Lukman, 2016, p.4). The writer found seven expression of wishing in the movie. In short, the expressions of hope expressed by the characters in the movie have functioned to express good hopes that will happen in the future that expectations for oneself and to others.

CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis, 80 utterances of expressive speech acts used by the characters were found in *The Lovely Bones* movie. There were 7 utterances of apologizing, 6 utterances of blaming, 1 utterance of congratulating, 8 utterances of doubting, 8 utterances of greeting, 20 utterances of praising, 13 utterances of thanking, 10 utterances of regretting, 7 utterances of wishing. The most dominant expressive speech acts used by the characters found in *The Lovely Bones* film was expressive of praising.

The characters of the movie perform this action when they admire a person or object and tell the speaker about the impression. Based on the research, the writer found that giving praise to others can make others more motivated, giving praise has a calming effect and makes others more comfortable, and increases listener confidence. This research helps the writer to study various types of expressive acts. After analyzing the types of expressive acts, the writer found that expressive acts are very useful in everyday life as a means of expressing feeling, ideas, and thoughts. The further study can be conducted by employing another theory, take for an example, Norrick's (1978) from aspects of expressive speech acts, such as condoling, and deploring, and so on.

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