

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of The Research

Pragmatics is the study of meaning in communication and how the same word can have different meanings in different settings. The utterances that a speaker produces might contain a more profound sense than the actual meaning of the words themselves. Therefore, pragmatics is strongly related to the context or situation when something is being said. It is in line with Leech (1983:6) who stated that pragmatics is the study of meaning in speech situation. Yule (1996) also argued that pragmatics should consider the context of whom people are talking to, when, where, and under what circumstances. Pragmatics is concerned with several factors in its study including speech acts, presuppositions, context, adjacency pairs, deixis, and distance. It is per Stalnaker (1972), who defines the scope of pragmatics as the study of deixis, implicature, presupposition, speech acts, and aspects of discourse structures.

Speech acts are divided into locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts (Searle, 1969). Locutionary acts are acts of making meaningful utterances, while illocutionary acts are speech acts that encourage the listener to do something intended by the speaker. Meanwhile, perlocutionary acts are the effect of illocutionary acts. Searle stated that there are five types of illocutionary acts: assertive; directive; commissive; expressive, and declarative.

In literary works, speech acts are found in character dialogues and can serve as a tool for character identification and characterization. Novels, which

encompass complex plots, characters, themes, emotions, and settings, utilize speech acts to unravel the nature of each character. Sumardjo (1998) defines novels as long prose stories that vividly portray characters' traits through multiple narrative elements, including dialogues. Characterization, a pivotal intrinsic element in novels, is the author's technique of presenting characters to reveal their traits to readers. Characters in novels fall into three categories: protagonists, antagonists, and tritagonists. The protagonist, as outlined by Lutters (2006:81), is the central character responsible for critical decisions shaping the plot and influencing the story. While protagonists are often associated with goodness and virtue, they remain inseparable from imperfections and flawed personalities. This research specifically delves into Harry Potter's illocutionary speech acts to unveil his character flaws and examine how these imperfections negatively impact the plot and other characters. The urgency of this study arises from the need to comprehensively understand and analyze the complexities within Harry Potter's character, as revealed through his speech acts, in a widely recognized literary work such as *Harry Potter and The Order of the Phoenix* by J.K. Rowling (2003). Furthermore, this study helps us understand how language can be used to depict character flaws in a nuanced way.

1.1.1. Synopsis of Harry Potter and The Order of Phoenix

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J.K. Rowling (2003) follows Harry's fifth year at Hogwarts. As he is introduced to the Order of the Phoenix, a group that opposes Voldemort, tensions rise between Harry and the wizarding

community that denies Voldemort's return. At Hogwarts, Harry faces challenges from Dolores Umbridge, a new Defense Against the Dark Arts teacher who refuses to teach combat spells and openly dislikes him. False stories about Harry in the Daily Prophet also create distrust among his classmates. Thus, in this fifth book, Harry often performs Illocutionary speech acts when he insists on telling the truth, convincing others, and defending himself against injustice. However, his insistence and determination often spark conflicts, affecting the story's dynamics and other characters.

1.2. Research Question

J.K. Rowling wrote Harry Potter as the main protagonist in the story. However, as previously mentioned, even the protagonist can have a bad side. Therefore, Harry Potter's character flaws are identified through his illocutionary speech acts. The research questions are:

1. What speech acts represent Harry Potter's character flaws?
2. What is the impact of Harry Potter's character flaws on other characters and plot of the story?

1.3. Purpose of The Research

1. To explain Harry Potter's character flaws represented in his assertive, directive, and expressive illocutionary speech acts with Searle's Speech Act Theory (1969).
2. To explain the impact of Harry Potter's character flaws on the other characters and the plot of the story.

1.4. Previous Studies

In conducting this research, various previous studies have been examined, each contributing insights to characterization and speech act analysis. Faraditha et al.'s (2022) work, *An Analysis of the Main Character's Personality Development in Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix: A Descriptive Analysis on J.K Rowling's Novel*, explores the personality development of Harry Potter. The research revealed a transformation from initial traits of bad temper, insolence, and stubbornness to a later state of quiet withdrawal by the end of the story. Similarly, Dewi's (2019) analysis, *A Study of Harry's Personality Development in Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince and Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows*, delves into Harry Potter's character evolution, and resulted in the impact of external and internal events on Harry Potter's dual personalities, one marked by positive attributes and the other by negative traits. Meanwhile, Putri et al. (2019) conducted a descriptive qualitative analysis, *An Analysis of Speech Act Used in Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire Movie*, focusing on the speech acts within the movie's utterances, uncovering various locutionary acts and their impact on perlocutionary acts. *An Analysis of Speech Act in Hillary Clinton's Speech "This Madness Has to Stop"* by Gultom (2017) analyzed Hillary Clinton's speech and found that Hillary relies more on commissive acts because she promises to make the world a better place. *Speech Acts Analysis of The Main Character in Maleficent Movie Script by Jane McTee* by Violeta (2019) and *Analysis of Illocution Actions Used by Main Character in Zootopia Film Script* by Safira (2017) examine the characterization of the main characters through their

speech act. Both the author used qualitative descriptive methods and Searle's theory. Maleficent and Judy Hopps used all types of illocutions. *An Analysis of Illocutionary Act in The Film Maleficent 2* by Namira (2021) determined the types and functions in Maleficent's illocutionary acts with Miles and Huberman's data condensation technique. Assertive illocutionary acts were the most used. *Illocutionary Acts and Politeness Strategies Used by the Main Characters in "Twilight Movie,"* by Azis (2013) aims to see the purpose of using politeness strategy in speech acts in *Twilight*. The data are illocutionary acts and politeness strategies performed by the main characters to stay away from danger. *The Functions of Directive Speech Acts of Maleficent Character in Maleficent Movie* by Biatrik (2020) identifies the types of directive speech acts and language functions in Maleficent's speech with Searle's, and Jakobson's Language Function theories. Commanding act is the most spoken by Maleficent regarding to her role as the protector of the Moors. *An analysis of Maleficent's Characterization as the Main Character in the Maleficent Film by Robert Strombeng* by Asmindia et al. (2018) identify Maleficent's characterization with Objective and Meaning of Characterization theories. Maleficent is found to be a good girl, grumpy, and troublemaker.

None of the previous studies above examined illocutionary speech acts to uncover character flaws in the main protagonist. Therefore, this research focuses on analyzing the illocutionary speech acts representation of Harry Potter's character flaws in *Harry Potter and The Order of The Phoenix* and assessing its

impact on the plot and other characters. This study also highlights how language can serve as a nuanced tool to convey a character's imperfections.

1.5. Scope of The Research

This research focused on identifying Harry Potter's character flaws with pragmatics approach represented through his illocutionary speech acts in the novel *Harry Potter and The Order of the Phoenix* (2003) based on Searle's speech act theory. Its effects on the plot and other characters are further examined.

1.6. Overview of Chapters

This research is described in four chapters through the following organization:

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the research, problem statement, purposes of the research, previous studies, scope of the research, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter contains a description of the theories used, type of research, research data, population and samples, sampling techniques, methods of data collection, and data analysis.

CHAPTER III: RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter shows the result of the research by providing tables of illocutionary speech acts representation of Harry Potter's character flaws, and description of its impact on the plot and other characters.

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the conclusions of Harry Potter's character flaws and its impact.