

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

*Encanto* is a movie that revolves around the lives of tough women in a place called *Encanto*. This movie is produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios in 2021. Unlike other films, this movie centers around the life of Columbia women. However, two female characters who have a huge impact are Mirabel and Alma Madrigal. Therefore, in this study, I choose two female characters that significantly impacted this movie: Alma Madrigal and Mirabel Madrigal.

Alma is the head of the Madrigal family and the leader of the *Encanto*. She is a single mother who has had to raise three children independently since her husband died on the battlefield. She raised her children well until she had many grandchildren, one of whom is Mirabel. She also has to keep the candle that is believed to be the source of the Madrigal family's miracle. Whether the candle dies, all the gifts will lose and become a disaster for *Encanto*.

Mirabel is a girl looking for her identity with societal pressures and differences between herself and her family. Mirabel is the only descendant of Madrigal, who has no miracle. Then she is underestimated by her family and the people of Encanto. In this movie, she tries to save the gift of Madrigal and finds her miracle.

Alma and Mirabel perform various speech acts, including commissive speech acts. Alma and Mirabel produce commissive actions purposively to

reinforce their existence. This is why this study investigates commissive speech acts uttered by Alma and Mirabel Madrigal. They perform commissive speech acts to convey their dedication, ambition, commitment, and capacity to exhibit their influence on the society around them. Alma and Mirabel's commissive actions will be studied within the pragmatics framework and analyzed using Searle's speech acts theory.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

The research questions for this study are as follows:

1. What kinds of commissive speech acts used by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie?
2. What are the reasons of commissive speech acts used by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie?
3. What kinds of language feature in the commissive speech acts used by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Based on the problem formulation above, the study has two objectives.

1. To find out the types of commissive speech acts produced by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie
2. To figure out the reasons of commissive speech acts produced by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie.
3. To figure out the language feature in the commissive speech acts produced by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie

## **1.4 Previous Studies**

Commissive acts have been analyzed by many researchers thus far. Nevertheless, there has yet to be a study on *Encanto* (2021) that focuses on analyzing commissive acts. I collected

ten (10) studies supporting this study. I found five (5) commissive studies in movies, two (2) commissive acts in a debate speech, one (1) commissive act in a song, and two (2) studies that use *Encanto* movies as an object of the study. Research on commissive speech acts in movies has been conducted by (Ramadhan, 2018; Kumalasari, 2019; Devi, 2020; Desica & Ambalegin, 2021; Wulandary, 2021). All of them used Searle's theory to develop their studies.

Ramadhan (2018), Kumalasari (2019), Devi (2020), Desica and Ambalegin (2021), and Wulandary (2021) not only discussed the types of commissive acts but also the commissive acts implied in the main character of the *Transformers* movie (Ramadhan, 2018), the contribution to the semantic study (Kumalasari,2019), function of commissive acts in *Knives Out* movie (Devi, 2020), characterization in *Onward* movie (Desica & Ambalegin, 2021) and the reason of the use of commissive speech act (Wulandary, 2021). The contribution to the semantic study found in *Cinderella* movies is using the commissive act as a teaching medium and learning process (Kumalasari, 2019).

I found other commissive speech acts studies in a debate speech (Husain et al., 2020; Al-Bantany, 2013) and a song as an object of the study (Alam et al., 2019). Al-Bantany (2013) discussed the commissive acts uttered by Banten gubernatorial candidates and the politeness in speech acts. Husain et al. (2020) discussed the commissive acts uttered by Presidential candidates and the function of the commissive act for gaining consideration to voting for the candidates. However, Alam et al. (2019) analyzed commissive acts in Adele songs.

I also found two related studies that use *Encanto* Movie as an object of the studies (Kurniasih & Multasih, 2022; Hastuti et al., 2022). They chose *Encanto* movie because it tells about struggle and family values, and visual art uses sounds and images to teach or tell stories. Both of them used Searle's theory to develop their studies. Meanwhile, Kurniasih and Multasih

(2022) discussed the types of expressive acts, and Hastuti et al. (2022) analyzed the directive speech act in the *Encanto* movie.

Five studies explained the Commissive Act in a movie; two studies used *Encanto* as an object of study; two explained Commissive Act in a debate speech; and one explained Commissive Act in a song. The gap between my study and those previous studies is that no one has researched the character's commissive acts and analyzed it with the reason of commissive acts. Some previous studies only focused on commissive and illocutionary acts in utterances. Based on Searle's theory, I will focus on finding the commissive act performed by Alma and Mirabel in *Encanto* movie.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

This study aims to find out and analyze commissive speech acts performed by Alma and Mirabel in the *Encanto* movie. Searle's theory used in this study focused on seven types of commissive acts.

### **1.6 Writing Organization**

The following structure is used to organize the four chapters that describe this research:

#### CHAPTER I: Introduction

This chapter explains six sub-chapters: background of the study, research questions, objective of the study, the scope of the study, previous study, and writing organization.

#### CHAPTER II: Theoretical Framework and Research Methods

This chapter discusses J.L. Austin and Searle's (1962, 1974) theory of pragmatics, speech acts, illocutionary acts, commissive acts. Additionally explains the research type, data, population, sample, method of data collection, and method of data analysis.

#### CHAPTER III: Result and Discussion

This chapter is the main point of the research based on data analysis with the theory used. This chapter explains the study's findings while displaying tables showing the results and the reasons of the Commissive Act findings.

#### CHAPTER IV: Conclusion

This chapter summarizes the essential parts of the analysis results obtained from the research.