

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

One of the most important aspects of human life is communicating with each other. Speech as the action in verbal communication is not simply saying something. Instead, there is meaning in what is said. Communication is successful when the hearer understands the speaker's meaning. In this case, pragmatic study plays a significant role.

Yule (1996:3) defines pragmatic as the study of meaning, in which the utterances spoken by the speaker and interpreted by the hearer consider the context of speech. When people speak, they not only convey information but also perform action through the expressed words. The speech act is a part of pragmatics that concerns how language is used in utterances to provide information and carry out an action (Yule, 1996:47). According to Bach and Harnish (1979:3), Speech acts are essential for the speaker to express intentions in achieving communicative goals, because the speaker's intentions are recognized not only based on what the speaker said but also on what the speaker is to be doing.

This research aims to analyze directive speech acts uttered by Fletcher in the film "Whiplash" using Searle's theory. The film, directed by Damien Chazelle (2014), tells about the intense relationship between an ambitious young music

student, Andrew Neiman, and his strict and abusive music teacher, Terence Fletcher, who always demands him to be a perfectionist drummer. The reason to choose the character of Fletcher to be analyzed is that, as the second lead character, he becomes a teacher and conductor, so he is frequently involved in class activities. Hence directive speech acts may become the dominant aspect of his utterances when communicating with others.

Additionally, Fletcher speaks not only toward an individual but also a group of people who have diverse backgrounds, so it is also interesting to examine if there is any influence of the hearers toward the variation of directives by applying sociolinguistic theory. The decision to analyze the hearer's influence on the directive variation is because the hearers indeed influence on how speakers choose to express directives in communication in today's society. Directive variation refers to the different ways the speakers expressing requests, commands, suggestions, or other directives based on factors like audience roles, politeness, authority, familiarity, and the relationship between the speaker and the listener. Effective communication requires speakers to be attuned to their hearer's needs, preferences, and reactions, allowing them to adapt their style for better engagement and understanding.

There have been many studies that analyze directive speech acts in a movie, such as Della & Sembiring (2018), Ramayanti & Marlina (2018), Prasanti (2019), Fardani & Nirmala (2021), and Yardha & Ambalegin (2022). However, their studies only identify the directive speech act using Searle's theory without

further analysis. Besides, the studies of the speaker's style according to the hearers also have been conducted, such as by Fauziyah (2018), Adi & Azmi (2018), and Sari & Ariyanti (2019). Using Holmes's theory, their studies show that social factors of the hearers influence the speaker's speech style, address terms, and slang expression, but none of these studies focuses on the directive speech acts.

In addition, recent studies also show that there are few researchers interested in analyzing the film "Whiplash", such as Silvana (2016), who analyzes personality structure using psychoanalysis; Prasadana, et al. (2019), who analyze the type of speech act applied Searle's theory; and Aji, et al. (2022), who analyze teacher's roles by applying Harmer's theory. However, none of the current studies mentioned above analyzes the directive speech acts, and the influence of hearers in the "Whiplash" movie.

1.2 Research Questions

According to the background of the study, research questions appear as the following:

- a. What are the types of directive speech acts performed by Fletcher in "Whiplash"?
- b. What are the influences of the number of hearers and the hierarchical relationship between Fletcher and the hearers toward the directive variations by Fletcher in "Whiplash"?

1.3 Scope of the Study

This research focuses on the use of directive speech acts by Fletcher towards all characters. Directive speech acts are categorized based on the type of directives, and the relationship between the structural forms and their functions.

1.4 Writing Organization

The following organizations elaborate on four chapters presented in this study.

CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the background of the study, research questions, the scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II : LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter consists of two sections: literature review which provides the directive speech act by Searle (1969, 1979), Yule (1996), audience design by Bell (2014), hearers and speech acts by Carl & Carlson (1982), and social dimensions by Holmes (2013); and methodology which provide data, population, sample, sampling technique, method of collecting and analyzing data.

CHAPTER III : RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains two sections to answer the research question: identification of directive speech acts, and the influence of hearers.

CHAPTER IV : CONCLUSION

This chapter provides the conclusion according to the result and discussion.