

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Authors have a specific message or information that they aim to communicate to their readers. In a movie, the communication of ideas and emotions is often achieved through the dialogue spoken by a character. When it comes to comprehending a movie, the dialogue spoken by the characters undoubtedly holds significant weight. It is certainly an important point that must be considered when analyzing the dialogue of characters in a work of fiction. The audience can recognize the characterization of the characters through their utterances, which will assist them in grasping the plot, conflict, moral message, and other factors in the movie. It could imply that characterization is an important aspect of a literary work that can be examined through spoken words. Abrams and Harpham (2009:42) defined a character as a person(s) who are shown in a literary work and whom the reader perceives as having particular moral characteristics, intellectual, and tendencies as stated in speech and what is done in an action taken by a character. The utterance delivered by the character is an important unit that must be considered while examining the characterization utilizing words. This point pertains to the spoken words and expressions utilized by said characters. The audience is able to recognize the portrayal of the characters, which can aid in their understanding of the

movie. In order for readers to comprehend the various components in a literary work, such as the storyline, conflict, moral lesson, and other factors, it is necessary for them to have a thorough understanding of the plot. It can be posited that the portrayal of characters is an essential aspect in literary work. In analyzing the characterization using words, utterance delivered by its character is an important unit that must be considered to reveal the character's traits.

As previously mentioned, characterization can be examined through utterances performed by a character. Speech acts can be used as a device to analyze characterization by observing dialogues between the speaker and the receiver and interpreting the meaning of an utterance that speakers want to convey. According to Yule (2010:133), speech acts are actions performed by a speaker with an utterance. Speech acts describe some actions such as requesting, commanding, questioning, or informing. Austin (1962:8), expresses the same idea that someone performs actions when they speak, whether physical or mental actions. Furthermore, Searle (1979) categorized speech acts into five types of illocutionary acts based on their function. Assertives, directives, expressives, commissives, and declarations are all included in the category.

Since the birth of literary works, especially drama and movie, literary works and human life can no longer be separated. Reading, viewing, and analyzing literature is a popular pastime in today's society. Analyzing characters in literary works has long been a part of literary work analysis, in the form of character analysis many important

aspects can be revealed, including the message the author wanted to convey through the literary work.

Regarding the phenomena, I chose *The Clique* (2008) movie as the object of study because the movie mainly discusses upper-class and lower-class people with Massie Block as the main character. She is the "Queen Bee", or alpha of her popular clique of friends, The Pretty Committee. Massie will do whatever she has to stay popular, even if it means making other people feel bad. Massie has various utterances she conveys in her dialogue, there are so many utterances by Massie Block that represent a kind of directive speech act that could unfold her characterization. Her characterization makes the writer interested in choosing the movie. By revealing the characterization of Massie Block in *The Clique* (2008) movie, it will be simpler to get a better understanding of her characterization in the movie. I can comprehend Massie Block's characterization through the way she speaks. This study attempts to reveal the characterization of Massie Block in *The Clique* (2008) movie by analyzing the utterances performed by Massie Block using a study of directive speech acts because characterization can be analyzed through the way a character speaks.

1.2 Research Problems

To know the characterization of Massie Block in *The Clique* (2008) movie, I have three research questions are as follows:

1. What are types of directive speech acts found in Massie Block's utterances in *The Clique* (2008) movie?

2. How is the characterization of Massie Block as the main character in *The Clique* (2008) movie based on the types of directive speech acts performed by Massie Block?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Following the research questions above, the objectives of this study are:

1. To identify the types of directive speech acts performed by Massie Block in the movie entitled *The Clique* (2008).
2. To describe the characterization reflected by Massie Block based on the types of directive speech acts in *The Clique* (2008) movie.

1.4 Previous Studies

Several previous studies conducted on speech act analysis to analyze characterization in a movie were reviewed in comparison to this thesis in order to improve comprehension of the chosen topic and demonstrate the novelty of the thesis.

I found nine previous journals that discussed speech acts. Yudo (2016), in a study entitled “A Study of Speech Acts: Revealing James Brown’s Personality Based on the Most Dominant Type of Illocutionary Acts that Appears within His Dialogues in Get on Up Movie” has proposed speech analysis to analyze and interpret James Brown’s personality as the character in the Get on Up movie through the most dominant types of illocutionary acts that appear in this movie. The results show that James Brown is portrayed as a person who has high authority, self-disciplines, and acts dutifully.

Febi (2018) analyzed the characterization of the main character of I, Frankenstein movie using speech acts under a study entitled “The Pragma-Stylistic Analysis of Speech Acts as Device of the Characterization of the Traits of the Main Character as Found in I, Frankenstein Movie”. The result showed that the expressives speech act is the most dominant type of speech act that occurs in the movie which unfolds the characterization of Adam as the main character in the movie. In a detailed analysis, the writer concluded that Adam has a strong personality.

Snaineh (2020) conducted a study entitled “Speech Act Analysis of the Narrator and Tyler Durden in the Film Fight Club” to identify several characteristics of the Narrator and his alter ego named Tyler Durden through speech acts uttered by them as found in the film Fight Club. After identifying and analyzing the speech acts, the result showed that the two characters have different characteristics which can be represented through their utterances.

Sari (2017) conducted a study entitled “Mr. Keating’s Directives Speech Act in the Movie Dead Poet Society: A Pragmatics Study” that analyzed the directives speech acts produced by Mr. Keating in Dead Poet Society movie and obtain the realization of the directives speech act in the form of the perlocutionary act in order to present Mr. Keating’s characterization of being a good teacher. The results showed that Mr. Keating is considered as a good teacher because he treats his students well by asking requests and using polite words through his utterances 6 that contain directives speech acts.

Besides reviewing previous studies that proposed speech acts analysis to reveal characterization in a movie, I also found several previous studies related to the chosen topic which conduct a study of directive speech acts. Kurniadi, Malikatul, and Sutopo (2015) conducted a study of directive speech act analysis in the “Legend of Hercules” movie. The aim of this study is to analyze the function of the directive speech act, to classify the form of the directive speech act, and to describe the intention of the directive speech act from all characters in the movie. In this study, the most dominant type of directive speech act is interrogative sentences. There are 16 Interrogative utterances, 10 imperative utterances, and 7 utterances. The results found 9 commanding, 19 requesting, 3 suggesting, and 2 prohibiting.

Nurhayati (2017) conducted a study of directive speech act analysis in the “Kungfu Panda 3” movie. The research analyzed the types of directive speech acts in “Kungfu Panda 3” movie. The writer found a total of 54 command utterances, 11 request utterances, 9 suggestion utterances, and 8 warning utterances. Command act is the most frequent type.

Tesaindra (2017) conducted a study of directive illocutionary act in the movie entitled “The Help”. This study aims to identify on the classification of the directive illocutionary acts from the dialogues in the movie. The results of the analysis shows there are 5 types of directive illocutionary acts found, there are request, command, prohibit, warn, and pray.

Fitria (2019) conducted a study of directive speech analysis found in the “Koi Mil Gaya” movie. The analysis in “Koi Mil Gaya” movie shows a directive speech act

that contains command, request, and suggestion. There are 165 utterances in command. There are 20 utterances in suggestion. And last, there are 11 utterances in request. Command type is the most dominant found.

Della and Sembiring (2018) conducted research to identify the speech acts from the “Sleeping Beauty” movie. In the study, Della and Sembiring (2018) found 111 utterances of directives used in this movie. There are command, question, permission, prohibition, and request. The command type was the most dominant.

Furthermore, I found one previous study that discusses the movie. Sartini (2011) conducted a study of Marxist Criticism about social discrimination in “The Clique” movie (2008). This study aims to analyze the structural elements in the movie and to analyze women's emancipation in the movie based on the feminist approach. Based on the structural analysis, the movie delivers a moral message that human beings are more than their economic status, and based on the Marxist analysis, the movie reflects that the upper class and the lower class are equal. Despite analyzing the same movie entitled “The Clique” (2008) directed by Michael Lembeck, this present study differs from the object and topic of the study because it analyzes the characterization of Massie Block using a study of directive speech acts.

Considering the previous studies that have been reviewed, I choose to analyze the characterization of Massie Block in *The Clique* (2008) movie through a study of directive speech acts proposed by Searle (1979) because the present study attempts to reveal the characterization of Massie Block depicted in the movie by analyzing the utterances delivered by the character through an analysis of directive speech act. After

reviewing ten previous studies, I did not discover any research whose title is similar to the present study. Even though a study of speech acts is widely used, none of the previous studies analyze the characterization of Massie Block as a main character in *The Clique* (2008) movie directed by Michael Lembeck. These points proposed the gap between the previous studies and this research proposal which can reveal the novelty that this study offers.

1.5 Scope of the Study

This study focuses on analyzing utterances performed by Massie Block using several types of directive speech acts proposed by Searle (1979) that are found in her utterances. To reveal the characterization of Massie Block as portrayed in *The Clique* (2008) movie, the context that is depicted in each scene is important to interpret what the speaker intended to say through her utterances.

1.6 Writing Organization

I divide this thesis into four chapters to deliver clear explanations about the research of questions in writing organization are as follows:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

The introduction chapter contains background of the study, research question, objectives of the study, previous study, the scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER 2 : THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter presents the theoretical framework and the research method. The theoretical framework covers the theory of characterization, speech act, pragmatics, directive speech act, types of directive speech act, and context of utterances. The research method covers the type of research data, data, data source, population, the method of collecting data, and the method of analyzing data.

CHAPTER 3 : RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the findings and discussions about the types of directive acts performed by Massie Block and the portrayal of Massie Block's characterization based on several types of directive acts performed by her. The first part presents an analysis of several types of directive acts conveyed by Massie Block. The second part presents an analysis of Massie Block's characterization based on the types of directive acts performed by Massie Block.

CHAPTER 4 : CONCLUSION

The last chapter contains a summary of the entire research based on the analysis of the results.