

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The field of linguistics is very interesting to study, especially through a branch called pragmatics. Pragmatics focuses on how the situation affects the meaning of what someone says (Yule, 1996). One of the theories of pragmatics is speech act theory, which was first introduced by Austin (1962) and further developed by Searle (1969). Speech act theory explains that speech not only serves to convey information, but can also perform an action. Speech acts can be divided into several types, and one of them is commissive speech acts. Commissive speech acts are when the speaker commits to doing something in the future, like promising, guaranteeing, and offering (Searle, 1969). Commissive speech acts can be found in various literary works, such as movies, where the main character's dialogue shows a commitment or intention. One example of a movie that uses commissive speech acts is *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie.

Purple Hearts (2022) is a romantic drama movie directed by Elizabeth Allen Rosenbaum and adapted from the novel by Tess Wakefield. The movie was released on July 29, 2022. The movie tells the story of the two main characters, Luke Morrow and Cassie Salazar. Luke is an American Marine who was born into a military family. He previously struggled with drug addiction and owed money to a drug dealer. On the other hand, Cassie is a songwriter raised by a single mother. To support herself, she took various jobs as a vocalist in her band, a piano teacher, and a bartender. She also has serious problems, such as difficulty getting money to treat

her diabetes. Due to their individual struggles, they both agreed to get married for the marriage allowance and health insurance. Luke got a marriage allowance to pay off his debt to a drug dealer, while Cassie got health insurance to treat her diabetes.

The movie *Purple Hearts* (2022) was chosen because it employs various types of commissive speech acts delivered by Luke and Cassie, as the two main characters. Luke and Cassie use various types of commissive speech acts because they convey a commitment in different situations, such as promise, guarantee, refuse, threat, offer, and vow. Therefore, this study focuses on analyzing the types and functions of commissive speech acts produced by Luke and Cassie, using Searle and Vanderveken's (1985) theory in the movie *Purple Hearts* (2022).

1.2 Research Questions

The research questions for this study are as follows:

1. What are the types of commissive speech acts used by Luke and Cassie in *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie?
2. What are the functions of commissive speech acts used by Luke and Cassie in *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the study has two objectives.

1. To find out the types of commissive speech acts used by Luke and Cassie in *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie.
2. To examine the functions of commissive speech acts produced by Luke and Cassie in *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie.

1.4 Previous Study

The analysis of commissive speech acts has been studied by multiple researchers in recent years, which has significantly helped the author in writing this thesis. Ten previous studies were identified to assist in analyzing commissive speech acts. These studies discuss commissive speech acts in various research objects, including seven in movies, two on campaign speeches, and one on song lyrics. The seven previous studies analyzing commissive speech acts in movies were conducted by Devi and Degaf (2021), Desica and Ambalegin (2021), Caniago and Afriana (2022), Nugraheni and Sari (2022), Ditriwan, Ediwan, and Netra (2023), Farwati, Sofeny, and Supriyatno (2023), and Baihaqi, Widyantari, and Refai (2025). These studies share a similar focus, which is analyzing the types of commissive speech acts in movies. Specifically, they examine promises, guarantees, threats, refusals, and offers. In their analyses of the movies, all of them used Searle's theory of commissive speech acts.

Additionally, two studies were identified on commissive speech acts in campaign speeches. These include a study on the Indonesian presidential debate by Husain, Hamamah, and Nurhayani (2020) and a study on Donald Trump's campaign speeches by Gea and Johan (2020), both focusing on the use of speech acts in political contexts. Both studies analyzed the types of commissive speech acts, with promises being the most frequently used type. Furthermore, these studies not only examined the types of commissive speech acts but also explored their pragmatic functions in convincing voters. In addition, one study analyzing commissive speech acts in song lyrics was identified. Setyawati, Tusino, and Dewi (2024) analyzed the kinds of commissive speech acts in the song "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran. The study

found that the most common kinds of commissive speech acts used were promising, which expressed feelings of love and commitment in the song.

It can be concluded that all previous studies used Searle's theory as the theoretical framework for analyzing types and functions of commissive speech acts. However, there are still gaps in the literature review because no study has specifically analyzed the types and functions of commissive speech acts in the movie *Purple Hearts* (2022). The main differences are on the object of study and the data found in previous studies.

1.5 Scope of the Study

This study focuses on the dialogue between Luke Morrow and Cassie Salazar with all of the characters in the movie. The writer specifically discusses the types and functions of commissive speech acts produced by Luke and Cassie in the movie *Purple Hearts* (2022). This study does not include other speech act types or analyze dialogue from supporting characters, as its focus is on the utterances used by Luke and Cassie in *Purple Hearts* (2022) movie.

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, previous study, scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter discusses the theory of IFIDs, felicity conditions, speech acts, and commissive speech acts. Additionally, explain the research method, types of research, data and data source, population and sample, method of collecting data, and method of analysing data.

CHAPTER III: RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter is the main point of the study based on data analysis with the theory employed. In this chapter, the study's discussions are explained, and tables showing the findings and the results for the commissive speech acts findings are presented.

CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION

This chapter provides a summary of the important findings from the examination of the research findings.