

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will discuss about The Background of the Study, Statements of the Problems, Purposes of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation, and The Definition of the Key Terms.

1. 1 The Background of the Study

Language is a vehicle of communication where by one person conveys messages to another for range of different purposes, e. g informing, ordering, persuading, and reassuring (Leech, 1981: 27). This definition shows that, language is not only made and use by people's society but also becomes important because people use it to communicate with others. In other words, the function of language is to make a communication and to deliver information each other. So, language is really needed by people as a means of communication in their life.

The study of relationship between language and context in which is used, or is the analysis of language in use emphasizing on the social context (Brown and Yule, 1983: 1). The discourse analysis has come to be used with a wide range of methodology developed primarily for textual study. One of the parts of discourse analysis is speech act. Speech act is concerned with what people say through the utterance.

The reason for concentrating on study of speech acts is simply this: all linguistic communication involves linguistics acts. The unit of linguistics communication is not, as has generally been supposed, the symbol, word or sentence, or even the token of the symbol, word or sentence in the performance of the speech act. To take the token as a message is to take it as a produced or issued token. More precisely, the production or issuance

of a sentence token under certain condition is a speech act (Searle, 1969: 16).

So, it can be said that through speech acts (words/ phrases/ sentences / utterances) that someone says, we able to understand what is he or she wants us to do exactly without asking or giving straight order to us. In another words, speech act is containing a symbol or possible meaning of each sentence. Speech acts is our statements to ask someone to do something depend on the context from different speakers, hearers, places and occasions.

There are three related acts based on Austin: locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act. This part is added in order to get an understanding meaning about speech acts, and whether the proposed analysis can show anything about what, in general, can come about by speech acting. Locutionary act, illocutionary act and perlocutionary act becomes important part to analyze a sentence or utterance has speech act or not. Related to fine analyze of speech act, there are five general functions of illocutionary forces based on Searle and Vandervaken (1985: 37-62, 179-216), and the essential points are assertives, commissives, directives, expressives, and declaratives.

There are three reasons why does this thesis are taken, the first reason is Dra. Catharini Septi Ngudi Lestari, M.Pd as my lecturer, had inspiring me to write about analyzing speech acts in short story and how the steps are using to analyze short story in simple way and easy to understand. The Second reason, *The Killers* is one of Hemingway's most anthologized short stories because it is representative of Hemingway's style. *The Killers* includes the meaninglessness of human life, masculinism, the inevitability of death, using short sentences, slang, and

understatement. It contains lots of speech acts in the dialogues. *The Killers* is adapted for the screen and movie, and available at most video stores and many libraries. The third reason, Ernest Hemingway is one of the most influential American writers of the twentieth century. His influence extends not only to novelists and short story writers but also to journalists, playwrights, critics, and filmmakers. Besides that, Hemingway wins the Nobel Prize in literature in 1954.

Analyzing speech act is needed because people sometimes don't get the point of the intended meaning when the speaker is saying an utterance. This paper intends to analyze speech acts in some utterances in *The Killers*. Here, the study focused to analyze an utterance. The objects of the research are some utterances in this short story. The conversation of *The Killers* made design in order to get many participants.

Analyzing a short story in terms of speech acts are still difficult to find. Such research offers a good input to linguistic study as well as literary study. Thus this research will be useful in terms of linguistic study as well as literary study. Based on that I have read, there are two researchers that analyze speech acts in short story. Maria Sihombing (1994) *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway, using speech acts theory. But her analysis is only to find the form of locution, illocution, and perlocution in the short story. Similarly, Agus Subiakto (2001) "*The Hills Like White Elephants*" by Ernest Hemingway, using speech acts theory. His research is only to find the meaning of speech acts in the short story's sentence. Thus, in this paper not only to analyze the form of speech acts, the possible meanings, and classified into five general functions of illocutionary

acts in the short story, but also to classify the use of speech act used by the characters in *The Killers* short story by Ernest Hemingway.

1. 2 Statements of the Problems

Based on the background of the study, the writer wants to find the answer of the problems. In this analyze is for finding the answer of the question below:

1.2.1 What are the kinds of speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*?

1.2.2 What is the possible meaning of speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*?

1.2.3 How are speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*?

1. 3 The Purposes of the Study

Based on the problems above, the purpose of the study could be stated as follows:

1.3.1 Analyzing the kinds of speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*.

1.3.2 Finding the possible meaning of speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*.

1.3.3 Classifying the use of speech acts used by the characters in Hemingway's short story *The Killers*.

1. 4 Significance of the Study

On the bases of the background of the study and the objectives of the study above, this study will be useful in two terms. First, this study can be a reference for those who are interested in the study of sociolinguistics, especially about speech acts. Second, this study can be a reference for those who are interested in short stories further.

1. 5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is discourse analysis. In order to get total understanding dealing with the topic, the study is limited to discuss the speech acts from the conversations in *The Killers*.

1. 6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to get a better understanding and to avoid misinterpretation, several definitions of key terms are presented as follow:

1.6.1 Speech act is the production or issuance of a sentence token under certain condition (Searle, 1969: 16).

1.6.2 Locutionary acts is roughly equivalent to uttering a certain sentence with a certain sense and reference, which again is roughly equivalent to 'meaning' in the traditional sense (Austin, 1962: 108).

1.6.3 Illocutionary acts such as informing, ordering, warning, undertaking, &c., i.e. utterances which have a certain (conventional) force (Austin, 1962: 108).

1.6.4 Perlocutionary acts : what we bring about or achieve by saying something, such as convincing, persuading, deterring, and even, say, surprising or misleading (Austin, 1962: 108).