CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This research is a study of illocutionary acts focusing on Rose's utterances in *Titanic*. This chapter presents background of the research, statements of the problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation, definition of key terms, and organization of the research.

1.1 Background of the Research

People cannot separate communication with their daily life. They deliver their intention through language. It can be a speaking or writing. Language becomes an important part of doing communication because it expresses human thought. According to Trudgill (2000:1), language is not just a means of communication related to the weather or any other subjects but it is important for people's lives to create and maintain relationship with other people. So, it can be concluded that language is used to show people's feeling and share information.

Utterance is the main part of language. It may be said that people are talking about how to produce utterance. Not only producing utterance, we have to be aware with the message behind the utterance itself. Something bad might happen if the listener cannot understand the message behind the utterance. For example, when a friend says "Put it there" and the other friend does not understand, so he/she can misplace it. From that example, it can cause a misunderstanding.

Pragmatics and Speech Acts are theories which concern about the meaning behind the utterance. According to Yule (1996:1), pragmatics is a study of meaning

from the language which is communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by a listener or reader. He states that the advantage of studying language via pragmatics is that people can talk about people's intended meanings, their assumptions, their purposes or goals, and the kinds of actions that they perform when they speak. Speech acts is one of the theory derived from pragmatics. Firstly, it was proposed by John Austin (1962). Searle is one of experts who developed the theory of speech acts. Austin and Searle argue that language is used to 'do things' in the utterance (Paltridge, 2006: 55).

The speech acts which is firstly proposed by Austin is divided into three categories. They are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Firstly, the locutionary act refers to the literal meaning of the actual words. Next, the illocutionary act refers to the speaker's intention in uttering the words. The third is the perlocutionary act, it refers to the effect of the utterance which is shown on the thoughts or actions of the other person (Paltridge, 2006:55). So, it can be concluded that when people utter something, the utterance includes the locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Thus, it is very interesting to understand the speech acts of people's utterance.

People can consider film as the reflection of social life. It explores people's interaction among others through their conversations. *Titanic* as the popular movie in the world may be the appropriate object for this study. *Titanic* is a 1997 American romantic film. A story about the sinking of the RMS Titanic, it was starred by Leonardo DiCaprio as Jack and Kate Winslet as Rose as members of different social classes who fall in love aboard the ship during the journey to America.

This study focuses on Rose's conversation with Jack and Cal. Both men characters influence the language used by Rose. While with Jack, Rose finds some freedoms and happiness that cannot be found in her high society. In the other side, Rose finds some burdens with Cal. She has to act like a high class lady with all manners which she does not like and feel comfortable. This study concerns about the illocutionary acts of Rose. Through illocutionary acts, we can see what kind of action they want to produce and the intended meaning. It also examines the type of illocutionary acts and the reasons of occurrence of the illocutionary acts. Then, this research also shows the intended meaning of Rose's illocutionary acts. As far as the researcher's knowledge, the study about the illocutionary acts of Rose related to her happiness and sadness has not been done yet.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

From the background of the research, the researcher creates statements of the problem as follows:

1. What are the illocutionary acts of Rose's utterances in *Titanic* movie?
2. What are the intended meaning of Rose's utterances?
3. How does Rose use the illocutionary acts?
4. Why does Rose use the illocutionary acts?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

Based on the problem statements, the objectives of the research are:

1. to identify the illocutionary acts used in Rose's utterances
2. to describe the intended meaning of Rose's utterances

3. to describe the way Rose uses the illocutionary acts

4. to explain the reasons why Rose uses the illocutionary acts

1.4 Significance of the Research

This research has theoretical and practical benefits. In theoretical sides, it is hoped that this research can explain the usage of speech act theory under pragmatics field. Meanwhile, in practical side, it is expected to give explanation of illocutionary acts used by Rose in *Titanic*. By doing this research, the writer expects that the result of the research can give additional reference for other students to understand more about speech acts and illocutionary acts for future researchers. Moreover, the writer hopes that this study will encourage other future researchers to do the research in speech acts using other sources as the data.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scopes of this research are pragmatics. This study is limited on the illocutionary acts used by Rose DeWitt Bukater in movie *Titanic* and the types of illocutionary acts used in movie *Titanic*. The data of this study using 10 conversations taken from *Titanic*. The conversations are only taken between Rose and Jack and also between Rose and Cal. The utterances are only the utterances which show Rose's happiness and sadness.

1.6 Key Terms

The key terms are explained as follows:

Pragmatics : The study of how people can get the meaning through communication (Yule, 1996:1)

Speech Acts : Actions performs via utterances (Yule, 1996:47)

Illocutionary acts : Speaker's intention in uttering the words. (Paltridge, 2006:55)

Intended meaning : The meaning of speaker's utterance or text that they really want to say

Utterance : A term used in linguistics and phonetics to refer to a stretch of speech that has no assumptions have been made in terms of linguistics (Crystal, 2008:505)

1.7 Organization of the Research

This study consists of five chapters. Chapter one presents the introduction of the research. The next chapter includes the review of the related literature that helps the reader to understand this study well. In chapter two, there are review of related theories and also previous study that is used as an inspiration to do this research. The review of related theories include pragmatics, speech acts, locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, perlocutionary acts, speech acts' classification, context of situation, and also psychology. Chapter three explains the research method. Chapter four is an analysis which becomes the result of this research. The last is chapter five which explains the conclusion and suggestion of this research