

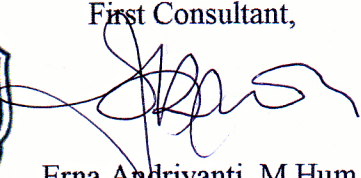
**A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF SPEECH ACT OF COMMANDS BY THE
MAIN CHARACTER IN THE FILM *ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE***

A THESIS SUMMARY

**Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Attainment of
a *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Language and Literature**



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A. INTRODUCTION

In English, there are some specific names for speech act; they are apology, complaint, invitation, promise or request and command. The different kind of speech act applies to the speaker's communicative intention in producing an utterance. The speaker normally expects that the hearer will understand his or her intention. The circumstances around the speaker and the hearer are usually the factor that helps the hearer to know the meaningful utterance of the speaker. One of the speech acts used to convey speaker's thoughts, feelings, intentions and desires to others is known as commands (Yule: 1996).

Commands are used when the speaker wants the hearer to do something directly or indirectly for the sake of the speaker. In conducting indirect commands, the speaker cannot just command the hearer, but he or she has to expect positive result from the hearers in the form of compliance. That is why the speaker has to consider several factors; such as when the situation is, where the conversation happens, and to whom he or she speaks too. By considering those factors the speaker will be able to maintain his or her social relationship with the hearer (Mey, 1993: 164).

This film is chosen as the object of the study because it is about a woman who becomes a queen of England, which is an unusual phenomenon, when a woman becomes the leader of a country. Moreover in this film, Elizabeth is shown as tough, powerful, smart, and married to her country, so it is possible for her to employ commands in order to ask her staff to do her desire. As the representation of the topic of the research, *Elizabeth: the Golden Age* has many dialogues in the form of utterances which can be analyzed on the aspects of speech acts, especially commands. Most of the characters in this film deliver some utterances indicating commands. They utter words, phrases, clauses, or sentences by doing some different actions to show certain speech acts. These phenomena lead the researcher to conduct a research entitled: "A Pragmatic Analysis of Speech Act of Commands by the Main Character in Film *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*". In this research, the

researcher focuses on what types of commands are employed, what forms of commands are used, and how the character expresses the commands.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW AND RESEARCH METHOD

1. Literature Review

a. Pragmatics

Leech (1983:6) states that pragmatics is the study of meaning which is related to the speech situations. Further he explains that pragmatics can be seen as a way to solve problems which can arise, both from the perspective of a speaker and a hearer. For example from the speaker's point of view, the problem is the planning about how to produce an utterance. On the other hand, from the hearer's point of view, the problem is related to the interpretation, which forces the hearer to be able to interpret the possible reason that makes the speaker saying the utterance.

b. Speech Acts

People do not only produce utterances which contain grammatical structure and words when they speak, but also perform action through those utterances. Utterances that perform an action is generally called as speech act (Yule, 1996:47). Similarly, Austin (in Tsui, 1994:4) states that speech act is an act refers to the action that is performed in making an utterance. Based on those opinions above, it can be concluded that speech act is the act performed by a speaker in uttering a sentence. The functions of the speech act itself is to state the speaker's intention to the hearer.

c. Commands

A command is something that should be done by the hearer. A command can be interpreted only if the participants are actually in a commanding situation. The duty or obligation to carry out a command does not proceed only from status of the speaker, but it may proceed from the physical circumstances in which the command has been uttered. There are two types of commands; they are direct commands and indirect commands. According to Holmes, there are several forms of commands. They are base form of verb, imperative + modifier and let + first

person pronoun for the direct commands, while the forms which are indirect commands are you + imperatives, embedded agent, verb ellipsis, and hints.

d. Politeness

As one of the expressions of illocutionary acts which is about the power of the speaker's utterance, a command has a chance to damage the hearer's face or even the speaker's own face; such acts are known as Face Threatening Act or FTAs. Therefore, a speaker needs to use certain strategies for accomplishing FTA in order to reduce the risk of damaging hearer's face. Brown and Levinson distinguish strategies of polite behavior to perform FTA in commands; they are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record.

2. Research Method

This research was a qualitative research in which content analysis was used to interpret and analyze the data. The data of this research were utterances containing speech act of requests produced by the main character in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*. The data were supported by the context in which the utterances were spoken. The key instrument of this research was the researcher herself and the secondary instruments were data cards and data sheets. The trustworthiness of the data was achieved through triangulation, i.e. by theories and by researchers.

C. FINDINGS

The findings of this research reveal three important points. First, there are two types of commands which occur in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*. They are direct commands and indirect commands. Based on the finding on the types of commands, it is shown that direct commands are dominant. It means that Elizabeth as the queen wants to show her authority as the leader of the empire. When she delivers an utterance in a direct type, it makes the hearer understand clearly what she wants to do.

Second, there are seven forms of commands applied by the main character in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*. First is the forms that include in direct commands, they are base form of verb, imperatives + modifier, and let + first person pronoun.

Second are the forms that include in indirect commands, such as you + imperatives, embedded agent, verb ellipsis, and hints. Based on the occurrence of the data finding, base form of verb is the highest percentage of the forms of commands in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*. It happens since it is the most common form and the clearest one which is used by people to command someone to do something.

Third, there are four politeness strategies employed in expressing commands. Those strategies are bald on record strategy, positive politeness strategy, negative politeness strategy, and off-record strategy. In the application of each strategy, the findings show that bald on record strategy is the most strategy applied by *Elizabeth: the golden Age*'s main character. It means that Elizabeth as the main character in commanding her people does not think about who they are and what the response of the hearers is.

D. CONCLUSIONS

1. There are two types of command employed by the main character in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*.
2. There are seven forms of commands applied by the main character in *Elizabeth: the Golden Age*.
3. There are four politeness strategies employed in expressing commands.

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