

THE UNDERSTANDING OF UTTERANCE ABOUT ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *REUNION IN DEATH* NOVEL

A THESIS

Submitted to English Education Department of *Tarbiyah* Faculty of *Syekh Nurjati Cirebon* State Institute for Islamic Studies in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Islamic Scholar Degree in English Education



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ABSTRACT

NASIRI : THE UNDERSTANDING OF UTTERANCE ABOUT ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *REUNION IN DEATH* NOVEL

Utterances are identified or interpreted in context. It is an expression certain words. An expression that expressing intention is the theory of speech act. Illocutionary act is speech act that related to the meaning of utterance which is conveyed by speaker to the listener. In this research the writer understanding of utterance about illocutionary acts found in “Reunion in Death” novel.

The aims of the research is to know what types and functions can be found in the novel and to know how does the listener translates the speaker’s idea in the dialog of the novel. In other word, the purposes of this research is deal with how to determine the real meaning of the utterances by classify all utterance into categories of illocutionary types and functions.

This research uses descriptive qualitative method which used to analyze the data in this research. In this research, the researcher observes and uses a document that is one of techniques in data collection’s types. The researcher identifying and classifying the data through reading the novel. Then, the data are presented descriptively to describes types and function of illocutionary acts and explains data analysis used by using theory of J. R. Searle.

In *Reunion in Death* novel the researcher found there are four types of illocutionary acts such as (1) assertive; *she know something*, (2) directive; *can I ask you something about Stibbs’ case?*, (3) commissive; *I won’t let you down*, (4) expressive; *I’m sorry. I never even caught sight of her*. This research found four functions of illocutionary acts such as competitive; for instance asking and ordering, convivial; thanking and excusing, conflictive; threatening, and collaborative; reporting, instructing and asserting. Then, the researcher found the real meaning of utterances that is found from the listener reactions to the speaker’s idea or speaker’s means and wants.

Last but not least, the researcher suggested; (1) this research will give the benefits to the readers who are interested in this field to obtain deeper understanding in speech act: illocutionary acts analysis in the novel. (2) for teachers, it can be used as additional materials in teaching speech acts in general and illocutionary acts in particular (3) for the researcher herself give the deep knowledge about speech act especially about illocutionary act. (4) the findings of this study will become useful reference for further researchers in doing the same kind of study. (5) hopefully, for the next researcher who interest to study about illocutionary act in the novel use another theory of illocutionary act so that different results might be found.



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RATIFICATION

This thesis which is entitled "THE UNDERSTANDING OF UTTERANCE ABOUT ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *REUNION IN DEATH NOVEL*". Written by Nasiri with the student's main number 59430779 has been examined on August 22th, 2013 and has been accepted by the examiners.

It has been recognized as one of the requirements for the degree of Islamic Scholar in English Education Department of *Tarbiyah* Faculty of *Syekh Nurjati* State Institute for Islamic Studies *Cirebon*.

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PREFACE

All praises be to Allah, the God of all creatures and universe. The most gracious and the most merciful because of His Mercy and blessing, the researcher has finally been able to finish writing this thesis. May invocation and safety always be given to the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), his family, his followers up to the end of the world.

This thesis entitled in “**THE UNDERSTANDING OF UTTERANCE ABOUT ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *REUNION IN DEATH NOVEL***”. It is presented to fulfill one of the requirements for the Islamic Scholar Faculty of *Tarbiyah*, English Study program of *Syekh Nurjati* State Institute for Islamic Studies (*IAIN*) Cirebon.

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This thesis is still far from being perfect and there are many mistakes and errors in it would become my responsibility.

The researcher hopes this thesis will be some valuables to the readers, especially for the researcher and for the students of English Department of *Tarbiyah Faculty of IAIN Syekh Nurjati Cirebon*.

Cirebon, Agustus 2013

The writer



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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Problem

Illocutionary act is very interesting research subject. Illocutionary act is commonly known as the act of doing something is describe as the utterance which are performed with the intention of producing a further effect. This is the focus attention in the speech act theory.

Searle said “In any speech situation there is a speaker, a hearer and a speech act being performed by the speaker. The speaker and the hearer share a mutual knowledge of those facts together with a mutual knowledge of the rules of performing the various kinds of speech acts.” (1979 : 167)

So an act when interaction happens is importance in the effort of establishing and maintaining the represent of message or something in communication conveyed and realized. It can viewed by the point of illocution act in which coresponding to the speaker’s attention that the utterance is count as certain kind of act.

Other important thing to knowing by us that is the understanding of language based on the meaning, because by understanding of language we can understood about the meaning of communication message. Arthur (2003: 93) said:



“To understanding language are framed in terms of abstract principles (e.g., rules of syntax), abstract categories (e.g., nouns and verbs), and abstract amodal and arbitrary representational units (e.g., nodes in semantic memory). Emphasizing the abstract facilitates the formalization and simulation of psycholinguistic theories, but leaves little room for biology. This is at odds with the facts that language behaviors depend on a functioning body for the perception of speech and orthographic symbols, the production and comprehension of gestures, and other linguistic activities.”

Therefore, the researcher also analyze the understanding about act of illocutionary in the dialogues of “Reunion in Death” novel.

The concept of speech act was first introduced by John Austin (1962). He theorized that discourse is composed not only word or sentence but also speech acts. Each speech act can be analyzed into three parts: - Locutionary act is the act of saying something, - Illocutionary act is the act of doing something, - Perlocutionary act is the act of affecting someone. Searle (in Rahmah 2009) strengthened this point by stating, “ it is not the symbol or word or sentence which is the production in the performance of speech act that constitutes the basic unit of linguistics communication”.



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Griffiths (2006 : 148) states that speech act not only in speaking, but also can be done in writing. It is means that illocutionary acts can be expressed through oral or written language, or in other words, performing illocutionary acts can be done by uttering or inscribing to express meanings. Then, it can be concluded that sometimes someone uses word not only to say things but also he/she uses it to do things. It means that when someone says something, it has some action behind it.

In this research, the writer really wants to know about the illocutionary act that involved in that novel. In that novel involves so many utterances of the illocutionary acts as a study that concern in pragmatics. So, those are the reason why the writer is interested in observing illocutionary act in that novel.

The researcher chose the novel “Reunion in Death” as source data. Reunion in Deaath novel is interesting novel to be observed because of some reasons. First, it is one of the popular and bestselling novel in New York until now. Second, this novel has many utterance which is contained illocutionary acts. Third, this novel tell about the charer and love of taft detective police women. In the past her life full of malthreatment and torture of her stepfather. She finally freed herself from the clutches of her abusive father many years ago.



Several studies on illocutionary acts have been done previously. For example, Rahmah (2009) examined illocutionary acts in sign language in a Taiwanese movie and she found all kinds of illocutionary act based on Searle's theory.

Puspasari (2012) investigated Illocutionary Acts and Perlocutionary Act analysis of the Sorcerer's apprentice movie script. She analyzed the interlocutors respond to the illocutionary acts of the speaker based on Searle's theory about the taxonomy or classification illocutionary act.

Since the object of the research is novel, the focus of data collection is descriptive qualitative. A qualitative method to analyze the data because the data analysis does not use statistical procedure. The descriptive approach is implemented because the data analysis is presented descriptively. In this research the researcher analyze the types and the function of illocutionary act in the novel "*Reunion In Death*" by JD. Robb and find out how listener translates the speaker's idea in that novel. It also includes the participants of the dialogue and relationship between the participants.

There are many utterance that contained illocutionary act found in the novel "*Reunion In Death*". This novel also has leadership values that good for the audience, after the work is done, the rest is sweet and no sweat without sweat. The novel is inspired by love and career story about Eve Dallas who is a police woman. Unlike the other novel in which focus is on entertainment, this novel has many values for the audience that are important to become successful either in character or love.



The focus of the research is what are the types and functions of illocutionary act that contained in the novel and how the listener translates the speaker's idea in the novel. Therefore the researcher is interested to carry out an analysis of illocutionary act. However, this research deal with how determine the real meaning of utterance by classify all of those utterance into categories types and functions.

B. The Identification of the Problem

The identification of the problem is required to give the clarification about the study which is will be investigated. Then, the researcher arranges the identification of the problem referred to the background of the problem above, those are:

1. The Field of the Research

The field of the research is sociolinguistics.

2. The Kinds of the Problem

This research entitled “THE UNDERSTANDING OF UTTERANCE ABOUT ILLOCUTIONARY ACT IN *REUNION IN DEATH* NOVEL”.

This research focuses on the types and function of illocutionary act and the listener translates the speakers' idea in the novel *Reunion In Death* by J.D. Robb, the field of research is sociolinguistics.



From the title of the research and background of problem in which have explained, the researcher finds out and lists several problem to be identified in this study, they are:

- 1) What types of illocutionary acts can be found *in the novel "Reunion In Death"* by J.D. Robb?
- 2) What functions of illocutionary acts can be found *in the novel "Reunion In Death"* by J.D. Robb?
- 3) How the classify all utterances into categories of illocutionary acts' types and functions?
- 4) How determine the real meaning of utterances that convey by the speaker in the novel *"Reunion In Death"* by J.D. Robb?

3. The Main Problem

The main problem in which will be investigated and analyzed in this research is all the dialogues in the novel *"Reunion In Death"* that contain illocutionary act and its type and function.

C. The Limitation of the Problem

The researcher focuses on the observation and analysis of illocutionary act in the dialogue of *"Reunion In Death"* novel. The sources data of the research are all the dialogue that contain illocutionary act in this novel and also the translates of listener in speaker's say of the novel *"Reunion In Death"*.



D. The Questions of the Research

Based on the background of the problem that have described, therefore the question of the problem are as follow :

1. What types of illocution acts can be found in the novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb?
2. What functions of illocution acts can be found in the novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb?
3. How does the listener translates the speaker’s idea in thae novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb?

E. The Aims of the Research

The aim of the research is the purpose of study that will obtain regarding the questions of the research. The purpose of the research are:

1. To know the types of illocution acts can be found in the novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb.
2. To know the types of illocution acts can be found in the novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb
3. To know the listener translates the speaker’s utterances idea in the novel “*Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb.



F. The Use of the Research

There are two kinds of usefulness in this research, that is theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the finding of this research will enrich the theory of sociolinguistics especially in studying about illocutionary act. Practically, for English students, the result of this research can help them to be beneficial reference in conducting the research that similar field. Then, for the researcher, the result of this research are be able to know the types and functions of illocution acts. At least it can give some information about how the listener translates the speaker's idea in the novel “ *Reunion In Death*” by J.D. Robb.



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