

The Illocutionary Acts Analysis of Will Salas' Utterances from in Time Film

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini difokuskan untuk menganalisis ucapan yang dihasilkan oleh tokoh utama dalam film *In Time*, yaitu Will Salas. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis-jenis tindak ilokusi apa sajakah yang dihasilkan oleh Will Salas sebagai tokoh utama dalam film *In Time*, dengan menggunakan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Searle (1979) yang mengklasifikasikan tindak ilokusi menjadi lima kategori, yaitu asertif, direktif, ekspresif, komisif dan deklarasi. Metode observasi digunakan dalam pengumpulan data pada penelitian ini yang disesuaikan dengan langkah-langkah, yaitu mengamati, mencatat, dan mengklasifikasi. Jenis tindak ilokusi yang ditemukan dari tuturan yang diucapkan oleh tokoh utama dianalisis menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan beberapa langkah berikut; mengidentifikasi, mendeskripsikan, menganalisis menggunakan teori Searle tentang tindak ilokusi. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah Will Salas menghasilkan 271 ujaran dan semua jenis tindak ilokusi terdapat pada ucapan tokoh utama film *In Time*. Jenis tindak ilokusi yang paling banyak ditemukan adalah tindak asertif dan jenis tindak ilokusi yang paling sedikit ditemukan adalah tindak deklarasi.

ABSTRACT

This study focused on analyzing utterances produced by the main character of *In Time* film, which is Will Salas. The aim of this study is to find out the types of illocutionary acts produced by Will Salas as the main character of *In Time* film, using the theory that proposed by Searle (1979) which classified illocutionary into five categories, namely assertives, directives, expressives, commissives and declarations. In collecting the data in this study, observation methods were adopted through several steps, namely watching, note-taking, and classifying. The types of illocutionary acts found from the utterances uttered by the main character were analysed using descriptive qualitative method with these several steps, i.e; identifying, describing, analysing using Searle's theory about illocutionary acts. The result of this study is that Will Salas produced 271 utterances and all types of illocutionary acts found in the utterances of the main character from *In Time* film. The most dominant types of illocutionary acts found were assertives acts and the least types of illocutionary acts found were declarations acts.

1. Introduction

In verbal communication, there are some studies about language, one of them is pragmatic. Yule (1996:3) stated that pragmatic is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by the speaker and interpreted by the listener. According to Huang (2007:2), speech acts are one of several central topics of inquiry in pragmatics. Putri and Skolastika (2022) stated that speech acts not only can be used to talk but also can be used to perform an action. Speech acts can be defined as utterances that can generate an action. Based on the theory about speech acts proposed by Austin (1962), language is not only used to inform or describe things, but it is often used to perform acts. Austin (1962) also defined speech acts into three categories, and one of them is illocutionary acts. Illocutionary acts are speech acts that contain the power to perform an action by saying something (Tarigan, 2009: 35).

Searle (1979) classified illocutionary acts into five basic categories. Those are assertive, expressive, directives, declarations, and commissive. Based on Searle's explanation about illocutionary acts, assertives acts is an act where what is being said by the speaker is the truth or is the case. This type of illocutionary has many functions such as stating, reminding, etc. An expressive act is where the speaker expresses their psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content, the function such as thanking, greeting, etc. The directives act is where the speaker attempts to get the hearer to do something through their utterances, such as asking, telling, etc. Declarations acts are acts where the speaker could bring immediate changes using their utterances, such as resigning, appointing, etc. the last type of illocutionary act by Searle's theory is commissives. Commissives acts are acts where the speaker commits himself or herself to do some future action. The function of these last illocutionary types is to promising, offering, etc.

In Time is an American science fiction action film written, directed and produced by Andrew Niccol and released on October 20, 2011. This is a film about humans that live with a countdown clock ticking on their left hand as the sign of their life. When the clock reaches zero, they are dead. Time has replaced money as the main currency. Rich people who have much time in their hands will live forever, while the rest of them beg, borrow, or steal enough hours to make it through in just a day.

In addition, this topic was already being discussed by many other researchers and some of them were used as references in this study. The first related study is *"Illocutionary Acts in Jack Ma's Inspiring Speech in His Graduation at The University of Hongkong,"* written by Hariati, Pulungan, and Husein in 2020. This study aimed to find the types of illocutionary acts to describe each type's intended forces and find out the relation of context to Jack Ma's Inspiring Speech. The result of this study was that there were seven types of illocutionary acts found those were 58 (62 %) assertive, 11 (12 %) expressive, 3 (3 %) directive, 11 (12 %) commissive, 4 (4 %) assertive expressive and 7 (7 %) assertive directive. The second related study is *"The Illocutionary Acts in The Novel ", And The Mountains Echoed"* By Khaled Hosseini" Ratnasari and Edel wrote this article in 2017. This study focused on finding the types of illocutionary acts and the context of situations that influence the utterances in the novel entitled *And The Mountains Echoed*. The result of this study was that all the illocutionary acts found in the novel were 10 Assertives, 12 Directives, 6 Commissives, 13 Expressives and 1 Declarations of appointing.

The third article, "*Illocutionary Acts in President Rodrigo Duterte's Speech*," was written by Wardana, Roy, and Arika in 2019. This article focused on identifying the types of illocutionary acts produced by the President of The Republic of The Philippines. As the result of this study, there were only four types of illocutionary acts found in the speech, and those were 86 assertive, 57 directives, 18 expressive, and 21 commissives. The following article is "*The analysis of illocutionary acts of judges' comments in America's next top model and Asia's next top model competitions: A cross-cultural pragmatic study*" written by Putri, Sartini, and Fajri in 2020. This study aimed to determine the illocutionary acts produced by the judges of America's next top model and Asia's next top model competitions. This study's result was that four illocutionary acts were found in the show: Assertive, Directive, Expressive, and Commissive. The last related study is from an article entitled "*The Analysis of Illocutionary Acts Used by Sherly Annavita in Indonesia Lawyers Club*", written by Maulidiyah, Hidayat, Alek and Defianty in 2021. This article aimed to discover the types of illocutionary acts produced by Sherly Annavita in the Indonesia Lawyers Club (ILC) show. The results of this study were 9 assertive illocutionary speech acts, 3 directive illocutionary acts, and 4 expressive illocutionary speech acts, and also found 6 purposes of the illocutionary acts performed by Sherly Annavita.

Based on the related studies above, it can be seen that many other researchers had discussed the topic of illocutionary acts. Most of the related studies used illocutionary acts to analyze some speech, novels and reality shows. In contrast, this study differs from the five related studies because this study used a movie entitled *In Time* as the data source.

This study focused on analyzing the main character of *In Time film* to find out the types and why Will Salas produced the kinds of illocutionary acts. Illocutionary acts were chosen as the main discussion in this study because analyzing the intended meaning of someone's utterance is interesting. In addition, illocutionary acts can also help us avoid ambiguity or misunderstanding in communication because this topic is always related to the speaker's objective. Also, it is fascinating to study this topic because we can find illocutionary acts easily in our daily conversation and even in some literary works such as novels, short stories and films. Film was chosen as the data source because film is like a reflection of real life. This study focused on Will Salas' utterances since his utterances consist of many kinds of illocutionary acts.

2. Method

The data in this study were taken from the utterances uttered by the main character Will Salas, played by Justin Timberlake from *In Time film* by Andrew Niccol. In collecting the data in this study, the observation method was used through the following steps; (1) watching *In Time* film repeatedly to identify the utterance produced by the main character. (2) did note-taking to write down the illocutionary acts used by the main character, and (3) classified the types of illocutionary acts based on the theory used in this study. The types of illocutionary acts found in the film were analyzed using the descriptive qualitative method and the theory about illocutionary acts proposed by Searle (1979), which classified illocutionary acts into five basic categories; assertive, expressive, directives, declaration, and commissive. First, this theory was used to identify the data found in the film. After collecting the data, it continued with describing and analyzing the types of illocutionary acts and why they were produced by the main character of *In Time* film, Will Salas. The next step was identifying the most dominant

types of illocutionary acts used by Will Salas and then summarising the analysis to draw a conclusion from it. For the finding, this study used formal and informal methods.

3. Finding and Discussion

After analyzing the data, it was found that Will Salas, as the main character, produced 271 utterances. In his utterances, he performed all the types of illocutionary acts: assertives, directives, commissives, expressives and declarative. The most dominant types of illocutionary acts found in his utterances were assertives. On the other hand, only one declarative act was found in the main character's utterances, so it made this type of illocutionary acts become the minor type of illocutionary acts performed by the main character. The amount of data about the types of illocutionary acts are presented in Table 1:

Tabel 1. The types of illocutionary acts uttered by Will Salas

	The Types of Illocutionary Acts	Quantity	Percentage
1	Assertives	150	55,3%
2	Directives	97	36%
3	Commissives	12	4,4%
4	Expressives	11	4%
5	Declaration	1	0,3%
	Total	271	100%

Based on Table 1, it can be concluded that the types of illocutionary acts that were performed by the main character of *In Time* film, which is Will Salas showed that assertives acts were the most dominant illocutionary acts, uttered 150 times or (55,3%), and then followed by directives acts that were produced for 97 (36%) times at the second place. On the other hand, for commissives the main character used it 12 times or (4, 4%), expressives uttered for 11 times (4%), and the declaration act was only performed once or (0, 3%) by the main character.

According to Searle's (1979) theory about illocutionary acts, there are five classifications of illocutionary acts and those classifications were all found in Will Salas utterances (assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations). The following analysis is the analysis of the chosen data from the utterances of each category of illocutionary acts found:

3.1. Assertives

According to Searle's (1979) theory about assertive acts, utterances can be defined as an assertive act when what the speaker said is the truth or what they believe to be the case.

Data 1: 00:01:08 → 00:01:37 (narration at the beginning of the film)

Will Salas : "I don't have time. I don't have time to worry about how it happened. It is what it is. ***We're genetically engineered to stop aging at 25. The trouble is, we live only one more year, unless we can get more time. Time is now the currency.*** We earn it and spend it. The rich can live forever."

The utterances above were monologues spoken at the film's beginning as the narration. The utterances above were uttered by the main character of *In Time* film to introduce the situation to the audience.

Based on the utterance above, the literal meaning of the utterance *“We’re genetically engineered to stop aging at 25. The trouble is, we live only one more year, unless we can get more time. Time is now the currency.”* Was just Will Salas stating that humans stop aging at the age of 25 and time has replaced money as the main currency in the film. However, the real intention of the monologue spoken by Will Salas was to inform the audience or to introduce the audience to what was going to happen in the film. So, the utterance above can be said as an **assertive act, informing**.

Data 2: 00:33:29 → 00:33:40 (at the casino in New Greenwich area)

Philippe Weis : *“That was some risk.”*
Will Salas : ***“It wasn’t a risk.”***
“No offense. I knew I was going to win.”

The utterance above took place when the main character played poker with Philippe Weis, who is known as the wealthiest man alive in the film. Because time replaced money as the main currency, they both use their time to bet. When Will Salas arrived at New Greenwich, he saw a casino and decided to gamble at the casino. The main characters join a table where Philippe Weis plays, and then Will Salas and the wealthiest man alive decide to play poker together. Unfortunately, Philippe Weis raised the bet and made Will Salas bet almost all of his time, leaving him only ten seconds to live. However, Will Salas win the game with a straight card defeating Philippe’s three-of-a-kind card.

Based on the utterance above, the utterance *“It wasn’t a risk.”* was one of direct speech. In direct speech, the intention of the utterance can be seen directly, and for that reason, the utterance *“It wasn’t a risk.”* produced by Will Salas was to deny the assumption said to the main character by Philippe Weis. So, the utterance above can be defined as one of **the assertives acts, denying**.

3.2. Directive

According to Searle (1979), directive acts are an act when the speaker attempts to make their interlocutor do something through their utterances.

Data 3: 00:03:56 → 00:04:17 (on the street in Dayton area)

Mya : *“Will! You got a minute?”*
Will Salas : *“What are you talking about, Mya? You have a whole year.”*
Mya : *“Not a year I can use yet. Come on, Will. I’ve got bills to pay.”*
Will Salas : ***“Here, take five minutes. Get out of here.”***

The utterances above happened when the main character went on his way to a factory in Dayton to work. On the way to the factory, he stopped after a little girl named Mya called him to ask the main character to give her just a little of his time so she could buy food. In the film, the time that people got on their left hands when they were born only can they use after turning 25,

so before that, they need to depend on a device that can save time to buy something.

Based on the utterances *"Here, take five minutes."* its literal meaning is that Will Salas command Mya to take his time, or he uses his authority to make the hearer do something. This utterance is direct speech. Nevertheless, the real intention of the utterance was to permit Mya to take Will Salas' time because Mya was asking for it, and Will Salas gave the little girl permission to take five minutes of his time so she could buy something from it. So, based on the analysis this utterance can be defined as **directive acts of permitting**.

Data 4: 01:07:04 → 01:07:20 (on the street in Ghetto area)

Carrera : *"Are you insane?"*
Will Salas : *"You can do a lot in a day. **Those are pretty.**"*
Will Salas : *"I owe you these."*
Sylvia Weis : *"You shouldn't have."*

The utterance above happened after the main character and Sylvia Weis stole the timekeeper's car. When Will Salas tries to make a deal with Sylvia's father, the timekeeper thwarts Will Salas' plan and almost captures him. However, Will Salas and Sylvia Weis have escaped from the timekeeper after stealing the timekeeper's car. On their run they realized that they did not have enough time to run away from the timekeeper. Due to that reason, Will Salas have the idea to pretend as the timekeeper and stopped a taxi to rob a citizen named Carrera to gain more time.

Based on its literal meaning, the utterance *"Those are pretty"* means the main character complementing the earrings that the woman named Carrera wears. This utterance was defined as one of indirect speech acts because the commanding action by Will Salas performed indirectly. However, the real intention of the statement produced by Will Salas above was to order the citizen called Carrera to give her earrings to Will Salas. So, because the real purpose of the utterance was ordering, the statement above is classified as **directives acts, ordering**.

3.3. Commissives

Searle (1979) stated that commissives acts are an act where the speaker commits himself or herself to do some future action. The utterances could be in the form of promises and that makes this kind of illocutionary act already reveals the speaker's intention in their utterances.

Data 5: 00:03:09 → 00:03:18 (at Will Salas' house at Dayton area)

Rachel Salas : *"Meet me at the bus stop tomorrow. After I pay off the loan, I won't have long."*
Will Salas : *"**I'll be there.**"*
Rachel Salas : *"Will... I just wouldn't know what to do if I lost you."*

The dialogues above took place at the main character's house. It happened between the main character with his mother in the kitchen. When the conversations were spoken was his mother's birthday, and to celebrate that, the main character bought a bottle of wine. But because his mother had to work that day, she could not celebrate it. However, Will's mother promises to celebrate her birthday the next day and told Will Salas to wait for her at the bus stop.

Based on the explanation above about commissive acts, we can see that the utterance *"I'll be there."* produced by Will Salas to his mother were in the form of direct speech; the intention can be seen directly and was used to promise his mother that Will Salas would be where his mother told him to be, which was the bus stop. So, this utterance can be defined as one of **the commissives acts of promising**.

Data 6: 00:53:11 → 00:53:33 (at jewelry shop in Ghetto area)

Sylvia Weis : *"Here! (throwing the diamond earrings)"*
 Jeweler : *"I'll give you two days for them."*
 Sylvia Weis : *"They're diamonds."*
 Jeweler : *"You can take the 48 hours, or you can be a pretty corpse."*
 Will Salas : *"We'll take it"*

The dialogues above took place at a jewellery shop. On his run from the timekeeper with Sylvia Weis, Will Salas and his friend have a car accident, and they both faint. After they woke up, they realized someone had stolen their time and only left 5 minutes on their hands. In order to survive, they decided to go to a jewellery shop to sell Sylvia's earrings to gain more time.

Based on the utterance *"We'll take it"* produced by the main character, this utterance is one of direct speech and the literal meaning of the utterance above was that the speaker tried to commit something or promised to commit something to the hearer. However, the actual intention of the utterance was to accept the price that the jeweler offered to Will Salas because he had no other choice. So, for that reason, this utterance can be considered **the commissives acts** because the utterance made the speaker did something which is **accepting**.

3.4. Expressives

According to Searle (1979) expressives acts are an act where the speaker expresses their feeling through an existing state.

Data 7: 00:03:18 → 00:03:41 (at Will Salas' house in Dayton area)

Will Salas : *"I'm late."*
 Rachel Salas : *"Let me give you 30 minutes so you can have a decent lunch."*
 Will Salas : *"I Love you. **Happy birthday, Mom.**"*

The dialogues above happened between the main character with his mother in their house or, more specifically, in the kitchen before they went to work.

Based on the utterance "*I Love you. **Happy birthday, Mom.***" this utterance can be defined as direct speech. In direct speech, we can easily find the speaker's intention. Just like the utterances above, the intention was to express his happiness for his mother's birthday by congratulating his mother. So, this utterance can be defined as one of **the expressives acts of congratulating**.

Data 8: 00:45:03 → 00:45:59 (at Philip Weis' house in New Greenwich area)

Timekeeper : "*Stop him!*"
Will Salas : "*Move! Get out of the way!*"
 "*Put it down or I'll blow her head off*"
 "**Thanks.**"
Sylvia Weis : "*You're going to kill us! Please just let me out!*"

The dialogues above happened at Philippe Weis' house. When Will Salas was at Philippe Weis' home, some timekeeper tried to capture him because he was the only suspect in Henry Hamilton's death. He tried to explain the truth about Henry's death, but the timekeeper would not listen to him. To escape, Will Salas take one hostage, which is Philippe's daughter. On his way out, a guard hired by Philippe to protect his daughter tried to stop him.

Based on the utterance "*Thanks.*" this utterance was also defined as direct speech. That is why the real intention of the utterance can be clearly seen, which is to thank the guard for following Will Salas' order. So, the utterance "*Thanks.*" can be classified as **the expressive act of thanking**.

3.5. Declarations

According to Searle's theory, this kind of illocutionary type is an act where what the speaker states could change the hearer's situation or bring immediate change to the hearer's world.

Data 9: 01:05:11 → 01:05:18 (on the street in Ghetto area)

Will Salas : "*They're going to think you're with me.*"
Sylvia Weis : "*Yes. This is a mess.*"
Will Salas : "**Welcome to my world**"

The dialogues above happened after Sylvia Weis shot the timekeeper. Will Salas made a deal with Philippe in exchange for his daughter's safety. In Dayton, where the deal would be done, the timekeeper interfered and almost captured the main character. To save Will Salas, Sylvia Weis, who has already fallen in love with the main character, shot the timekeeper to save him. In this film, the timekeeper is like the police in real life.

The utterance "*welcome to my world*" was produced by Will Salas, the main character of *In Time* film, to declare to his friend Sylvia Weis that she now lives the same life as Will Salas. The literal meaning of the utterance above means that Will Salas greet his friend Sylvia Weis. However, the actual intention of the utterance above was to declare to Sylvia Weis that

she cannot have her past life. So, the utterance produced by the film's main character can be classified as **the declaration act of declaring**.

4. Conclusion

This study analyzed the types of illocutionary acts based on the theory by Searle (1979) that classified the illocutionary acts into five types; those are assertive, expressive, directives, declaration, and commissives. In this study, all the illocutionary acts were found from the utterances produced by the main character of In Time film, Will Salas. There are 271 utterances produced; those are assertives acts uttered 150 times (55.3%), directives acts were produced 97 times or (36%), commissives acts used 12 times or (4, 4%), expressives acts uttered 11 times or (4%), and declaration only performed once or (0, 3%). Therefore, the most dominant illocutionary act used by Will Salas in the film was assertives acts because it was produced the most by the main character. In addition, illocutionary acts were analyzed to interpret the intention of Will Salas in his utterances, and the function of illocutionary acts found such as informing, denying, permitting, promising, accepting, congratulating, declaring, etc.

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