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# The Ilocutionary Act of Joe Biden's Speech Between Rusia and Ukraine

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This study discusses about the Illocutionary Act of Joe Biden Speech War between Rusia and Ukraine. The purposed of this study were to explain the types of illocutionary applied by Joe Biden in his speech. This study used a pragmatic approach from Leech (1989), Illocutionary Act from Searle (1999), and Leech (1993). The method used qualitative descriptive method to analyzed the data, the researcher used vidio and the script to collect the data, source of data was take from Joe Biden speech video. The findings of this study showed that (1) Joe Biden used five kinds of illocutionary act, they are Declarative, Directive, Expressive, Representative, and Commisive. Then, (2) there four function of illocutionary Act used by Joe Biden speech war, they are, Competitive, Collaborative, Convivial, and Conflictive.

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#### Introduction

Language is an essential part of human life, claims Wardhaugh (2009). Language is a tool that individuals use to communicate with one another and build relationships. Transferring ideas from one person to another is what it means to communicate. People's interactions and activities would become stale if they lacked a means of communication. Wardhaugh (2009:1). (2009:1).

People need a decent language for communication, which is a component of language. As a result, language is crucial for us as a means of communication with other

people because every country and region speaks a different tongue. Even though men and women may use the same language and discuss the same topics, their language styles differ because each person has a unique dialect that canchange depending on the social context, suchas the implied recipient, topic, time, and place.

According to Sinha (2005), The scientific study of language is known as linguistics. There are two types of language: linguistics and literature, however the researcher for this study only used linguistics because it was relevant to the topic. Lyons claims "that linguists commonly define linguistics as the academic study of language. According to Saussure, language is just a set of signs". He defined linguistics as the study of language and the ways in which human speech manifests itself. Linguistics has many kinds, such as semantics, phonology, syntax, morphology, and pragmatics.

Language is studied in the linguistic field of pragmatics. The study of meaning as it is delivered by a speaker or writer and perceived by a listener or reader is the focus of pragmatics, according to Yule (1996) (1996:04). The study of pragmatics looks at how objects outside of language affect meaning. The branch of linguistics known as pragmatics examines how language functions as a tool for communication between speaker and listener as well as a language that serves as a reference for extralingual objects. A subfield of linguistics called pragmatics explores extralinguistics and conversational phenomena.

Austin defined a speech act as an act that is performed when someone speaks. The speaking acts are further divided into locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts. Illocutionary was the topic of choice for this study's inquiry. Illocutionary acts must be carried out "deliberately," according to Searle (1983), as referenced in Wardaugh (1986:287). Illocutionary refers to a speaker's behavior directed at the audience in order to make the audience aware of the speaker's intention.

Searle (1999) categorized the illocutionary act into five groups. The first category is representational, followed by asservative in second place, commissive in third, expressive in fourth, and declaratory in last place. The president of the United States gave this speech, Joe Biden, in a virtual meeting with the G-7 leaders at the White House. This speech tells about the conflict that is being discussed by the world, namely the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, here, he denounces Russia's activities toward Ukraine and appeals to everyone to stand by and support it.

The researcher chose this topic because usually the students only know about speech acts but did not know about specific parts of the actsuch as locutionary, perlocutionary, and especially illocutionary act. As a result, the researcher wants to learn more about illocutionary acts whose primary goal is to help listeners understand what is being said. additionally, the speaker's goal. Then the reason researcher chose Joe Biden's speech about Russia and Ukraine, the first because currently the Russia and Ukraine conflict is one of the conflicts being discussed by the world, secondly, because Joe Biden is the most influential president in the world, and he is superpower president United State, as president he talks about the war between Russia and Ukraine, he sent a message that he supports Ukraine and rejected an invasion from Russia. Then the researcher also has not found any previous research on illocutionary in Joe Bidden's speech.

#### **Literature Review**

According to (Portner, 2006). Semantics and pragmatics are the two primary areas of linguistics that focus on meaning. The primary focus of semantics is the literal or true meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. In contrast, pragmatics places more emphasis on language use and how it relates to various contexts. The goal of pragmatics is to demonstrate how factors other than language affect both literal and figurative meaning in language-based communication.

According to Mey (2001), Pragmatics is interested in how language is created and the people who create it, not just the language itself. Pragmatics doesn't just concentrate on the words that the speaker or writer uses or thesentences that they produce. It also considers who is involved, when, when, how, and why an utterance is made. "Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker and understood by a listener," according to Yule (1996, p. 3). The study of meaning that is communicated by a speaker (or writer) and understood by a listener is called pragmatics (or reader). To put it another way, pragmatic analysis focuses more on the meaning of the speaker's utterances than it does on the meaning of individual words or sentences.

In other opinions "Pragmatics is the study of how senders and addressees, in acts of communication, rely on context to elaborate on literal meaning," claims Griffiths (2006:132). According to Cutting (2008), pragmatics and discourse analysis examine how language interacts with contextual background elements that examine context, text, and function. Pragmatics focuses on what is implicitin a statement and how to interpret it in

different settings. They are more focused on the force of what is said than on its meaning, or what is conveyed through the delivery and style of an utterance.

Pragmatics, as defined by Levinson (1983: 5), is the study of language usage. According to him, it examines how language and context interact, which is crucial to understanding a language. Understanding the meaning of the words used and the grammatical relationships between them is not sufficient to comprehend a sentence. People must draw conclusions.

People must draw conclusions from the utterancesthat relate them to mutual assumptions or previous statements (Levinson, 1983: 21)

# A. Speech acts

Additionally, there are three different categories under which speech acts can be categorized: locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. Discussing the fundamentals of speech or creating effective language statements are both examples of articulatory acts. Illocutionary acts examine commonplace utterances while keeping a variety of uses in mind. Perlocutionary refers to a speech act that is judged by the results of it.

A speech act, in JL Austin's definition, is a performance that takes place when someone speaks. The speaking acts are further divided into locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts. Nunan offers yet another definition (1993). Speech acts are things that humans do using words, such as expressing regret, giving advice, expressing agreement, and issuing warnings.

# A. Types of speech act

## 1. Locutionary act

The process of utilizing words with a specific vocabulary, specific grammar, and specific more or less definite sense and reference is known as locutionary, according to Austin in Bach (2008, p. 4). The word form expressed by Cutting (2002, p. 16) is another point of view. And according to Kissine (2013, p. 6), there are two categories of locutionary acts: those that serve as a means of disseminating knowledge about the world and those that serve as a means of presenting a state of affairs.

### 2. llocutionary Act

Illocation is an action taken by the speaker aimed at the audience so that the audience is able to understand what the speaker's purpose is. For example I say "I am so starving" in order to make people understand that I need to eat, so what Ido is called an illocutionary

act. According to J.L Austin Illocutionary act is called by The Act of Doing anything is referred to as an illocutionary act. In so far as speech event accurately seen as something other than the performance of an act of saying something. Is it also employed for doing something in addition to informing something.

According to James H.R. Hurford's alternative theory, a speaker's illocutionary act determines the meaning of an utterance when examined in the context of a traditional system of social interaction. Illocutionary acts are acts that are internal to the locutionary act, in the sense that, if the contextual circumstances are right, after the locutionary act has been performed, so has the illocutionary act, according to Cruse (2000:332). In contrast, Umar (2011) argues that a speech can also be used to accomplish a task. A speech might serve to deliver information or to inform an audience. When this occurs, an illocutionary speech act is created

### 2.1 Types of illocutionary acts

The illocutionary type of speech acts, such as asserting, requesting, promising, and apologizing, for which we have familiar verbs, may be used to conveniently classify them. The type of attitude the speaker displays may help to discern between these several types. According to Searle (1999), all acts fall into five main types:

### a. Declaratives

Declaratives is an act that changes the world through their words or sentences immediately. Additionally, speech acts are those kinds of speech acts that, via their utterances, transform the world, according to Yule(1996,p. 53). Speech act verbs include "declare," "announce," "approve," "appoint," "bless," "curse," "name," "call," "define nominate," "establish," and "authorize." Declaratives are a type of illocutionary act that have the power to alter the world by the words they make. Declarative speech acts, according to Searle in Yule, have the power to alter the course of history through their use. The word "change" used here might refer to any circumstance. A person's position may change, or they may acquire ownership of something.

### b. Representatives

Speech acts that state or communicate what the speaker believes to be true or false are known as representatives. It demonstrates the significance of the utterance's truth condition. Examples of this type include asserting, implying, bragging, moaning, claiming, and reporting.

The flatness of the earth is one example. (a) The day was warm and sunny. The speaker who portrays the world as they believe it to be is shown in all of the aforementioned cases. The speaker in example (a) declares that the flat earth is the real one. In example (b), the speaker refers to his or her belief—which may or may not be accurate—that the day is warm and sunny as his or her opinion. When employing a representation, the speaker modifies his or her world.

# c. Expressives

Describe your feelings, including any psychological expressions, pain, pleasure, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. Mey (2001, p. 121) claims that this speech act, as the phrase implies, communicates a speaker's inner condition; the expression is therefore basically subjective and speaks nothing about the outside world. Additionally, according to Yule (1996, p. 53), expressive speech acts are those in which the speaker expresses how they are feeling. Speech that is expressive expresses the speaker's feelings. It can be used to express statements of pleasure, pain, preferences, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. They are about the speaker's experience and might be triggered by either the speaker or the hearer. Examples of this type include expressing gratitude, congrating, pardoning, blaming, praising, condolling.

The examples are (a) I'm really sorry! and (b) Congratulations!. Both of the speakers in the example (a) and (b) show their psychological states. Speaker (a) expresses his/herpsychological state of pardoning and speaker (b) expresses his/her psychological state of congratulating. The speaker makes words fit the world (of feeling) by uttering an expressive.

#### d. Directives

Directives the speaker uses to request something from another person, including requesting, ordering, inviting, advising, and begging. Mey(2001, p. 120) claims that these speech acts represent an effort on the part of the speaker to persuade the hearer to do something or to "guide" them towards a particular objective (of the speaker, mostly). Additionally, Yule (1996, p. 54) argues that directive speech actions are those that speakers useto persuade another person to do something. They convey the speaker's desires. They consist of pleas, commands, orders, and suggestions.

Directives are speech acts used by speakers to persuade listeners to do something. When the speaker asks the listener to take certain acts or to bring out certain conditions or circumstances, it is referred to as a condition. This instruction may impose obligations on the hearer. Ordering, commanding, requesting, counseling, and recommending are instances of this type.

#### e. Commissives

Commisive used by the speaker to carry out a subsequent action. Examples include pledging, planning, swearing, betting, and opposing. Committive speech acts are those speech acts that speakers employ to commit to some future behaviors, according to Yule (1996, p. 54). They convey what the speaker means. They are expressed through vows, threats, denials, and promises. Commitives, as defined by Searle (1979, p. 14), are illocutionary acts that aim to bind the speaker (again, to variable degrees) to a specific future course of action.

#### Method

To conduct this study, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research. Since the main objective of the study was to present the results in written form, the researcher chose this strategy. What are the various kinds of illocutionary acts used by Joe Biden in his talks and what are their purposes is another study problem that is utilized to describe the data.

Every qualitative method has different forms according to the object of the research. The contexts of data was took in Joe biden speech video. The data for this study will take from Joe Biden speech video's. The researcher used the news and video on screen. The data of the research have some speech among speaker and audiens which is containen illocutionary. The researcher watched the video and read the transcript from https://youtu.be/VfJSqVetS9s in youtube with 22 minutes and 36 second duration, in a meeting of the National Security Council followed by a virtual meeting with G-7 leaders on Thursday 24 february 2022 at white house.

In qualitative research, the researcher employed some materials that were related to or supported the study problem, as well as described and analyzed the data that was discovered from the script of the video Joe Biden Speech War between Russia and Ukraine. According to Miles and Huberman (1994) that documents could be public records, textbook, letters, films, tapes, diaries, themes, reports and so on. An effort to get the data and fact, in this research, the researcher took the data from the video that consists

of script and picture in the video. For the realization of the technique, the researcher used qualitative descriptive.

There are several steps to collected the data as follows:

- 1. Researcher chose and download video and the text of the Joe Biden speech War between Russia and Ukraine on youtube.
- 2. Researcher watched the video of Joe Bidens Speech War between Russia and Ukraine repeatedly.
- 3. Read and underlined the script to get clauses that countain Illocutionary act.

### **Finding and Discussion**

# a. Finding

In the findings of this research based on five types of illocutionary acts of Joe Biden's Speech War, they are Declarative, Directive, Expressive, Representative, and Commisive

### **b.** Discussion

# Types of Illocutionary Act of Joe Biden's Speech War

#### 1. Declarative

Declaratives is an act that changes the world through their words or sentences immediately. Additionally, speech acts are those kinds of speech acts that, via their utterances, transform the world, according to Yule(1996, p. 53). Speech act verbs include "declare," "announce," "approve," appoint," "bless," "curse," "name," "call," "define nominate," "establish," and "authorize." The example below shows two instances of declarative act that were discovered by the researcher.

### **Context:**

At the White house Joe Biden explain to audience in his statement, he had cut off russia's banking assets and blocked 4 major Russia bank. Because as a form of rejection of Russian military aggression against Ukraine

"we've cut off russia's largest bank a bank that holds more than one third of russia's banking assets by itself cut it off from the U.S financial system and today we're also blocking four more major banks"

## **Analysis:**

Based on statement of Joe Biden. This expression is included in the declarative, because in his press conference at minutes 4.10 - 4.13, he spoke "we've cut off russia's largest bank a bank that holds more than one third of russia's banking assets by itself cut it off from the U.S financial system and today we're also blocking four more major banks". Russia's presence in the United States as a form of rejection of Russian military aggression against Ukraine, so it can fulfill declaratives act because Joe Biden spoke about declaring and making an announcements.

# 2. Representative

Representative speech is defined as expressing or communicating what the speaker feels to be true or incorrect. It serves as proof that the utterance's truth condition is significant. This category includes, among others, stating, hinting, boasting, complaining, claiming, and reporting.

### **Context:**

At a press conference at the White House, in front of an audience. Joe Biden gave his opinion on the conflict between Russia and Ukraine at 1.48 - 1.57 minutes he stated that he had shared declassified evidence about Russia's plans and cyber attacks.

"then came the air raids followed by tanks and troops rolling in we've been transparent with the world we've shared declassified evidence about russia's plans and cyber attacks."

## **Analysis:**

The President of the United States Joe Biden, in his press conference which took place at the White House, stated that he had shared information about the Russian plans and cyber attacks with all present, it can be seen at minutes 1.48 - 1.57. So, in this context, Joe Biden is telling the truth. So, this speech is included in representative because it says about something that is true.

## 3. Expressive

Include any psychological terms, such as pain, pleasure, dislikes, joy, or sorrow, in your description of your sentiments. According to Mey (2001, p. 121) this speech act reveals a speaker's inner condition, as the word indicates; as a result, the expression is essentially subjective and says nothing about the outside world. Additionally, expressive

speech acts, according to Yule (1996, p. 53), are those in which the speaker conveys their feelings. Expressive speech conveys the speaker's emotions.

### **Context:**

At a press conference at the White House, in front of an audience, at 22.09 minutes at the end of his press conference on the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, Joe Biden thanked all the audience who attended the press conference.

"Okay thank you all very much"

# **Analysis:**

Based on Joe Biden statement above, he said thank you as a closing after delivering his press conference about Russia and Ukraine in front of the audience, and thank you. So that, statement of Joe Biden can fulfill the expressive act because the expressive is psychological expressions like pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy or sorrow, and Joe Bidden spoke pleasure to audience.

### 4. Directive

Directives the speaker uses to request something from another person, including requesting, ordering, inviting, advising, and begging. Mey (2001, p. 120) claims that these speech acts represent an effort on the part of the speaker to persuade the hearer to do something or to "guide" them towards a particular objective (of the speaker, mostly).

# **Context:**

At a press conference at the White House, in front of an audience, at 7.06-7.13 minutes in his press conference on the Russian and Ukraine conflict, Joe Biden stated that he was ordered thousands of additional forces to Germany and Poland.

"which say an attack on one as attack on all over the past few weeks I ordered thousands of additional forces to Germany and Poland as part of our."

# **Analysis:**

Based on statement of Joe Bidden's above, he spoke clearly that he was ordered thousands of additional forces to germany and poland, it is mean that he ask to forces of germany and poland to help them and being part of them. So that, statement of Joe Bidden can fulfil directive act because he spoke to ask and ordered for help.

#### 5. Commisive

The instruction is used by the speaker to carry out a future action. Promises, plans, cursing, bets, and opposition are a few examples. According to Yule, those speech acts that speakers use to commit to certain future behaviors are known as "Commissive speech acts" (1996, p. 54). They communicate the speaker's meaning.

#### Context:

At a press conference at the White House, in front of an audience. at 2.24 -2.32 minutes in his press conference on the russia and ukraine conflict Joe Biden stated that he had purposely designed these sanctions to maximize the long-term"

"this is going to impose severe cost on the russia economy both immediately and over time we have purposely designed these sanctions to maximize the long-term"

# **Analysis:**

Based on the statement of the United States president Joe Bidden above, in his press conference in front of the audience, at minutes 2.24 - 2.32 he spoke clearly about his plans that he had planned to face this war. He informs the audience about his plans and goals. So, Joe Biden's statement can fully fall into the type of illocutionary act that is commissive because he explains his plan.

### 3. Conclusion

There were five types of illocutionary act in Joe Bidden speech consist of: Commissive for six data, Representative for seven data, Expressive for one data, Directive for one data, and Declarative for three data. In conclusion, researcher found Representative mostly dominant used in Joe Bidden speech because this speech discusses the treatment of Russia to Ukraine and what forms of protest were carried out by Joe Biden to Russia and Joe Biden revealed and stated a lot of information that was done by America now against Russia.

In conclusion, the findings of this study indicated that Joe Bidden used the most dominant representative in his speech because he conveys a lot of information about what America has done to Russia as a result of the Russia and Ukraine conflict itself. used in this research.

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