

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language plays very important role as a means of communication. Human being can express most of their thoughts, feeling and knowledge to others with language in their daily life. As a means of communication, language is always found in every aspect of human life to relate, to interact, and to cooperate with others. It has a power to influence over people and their behavior. As a matter of fact, language constructs symbol systems from everyday experience. It is difficult to bring back these symbols and present them as objective real actions in everyday life. Therefore, it needs more interpretation to understand the language intensions.

Language is used in the form of utterances and functions. The most important function of language in social life is to communicate. Communication is a process by which information is exchanged between individual through a common system of symbols, signs, or behaviors (Chaer and Agustin, 2004:17). There have been found three components in every communication process; there are: 1) participants (at least two persons or group), 2) topic (what is talking about), 3) means of communication (form of symbol, sign, etc).

In communication, we make use of sentences, precisely, utterances and the way someone makes use of these utterances is called speaking. As a communication

event, conversation is a series of speaking activities that is called speech acts (Tarigan, 1986:33).

Speech act is one of the aspects in pragmatic field. It is the study of the meaning and the function of an utterance. According to Austin in Levinson (1983:236) there are three kinds of acts; that is, locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Furthermore, Searle in Levinson (1995:240) says that there are five basic kinds of illocutionary act. They are: representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations.

In this research, the researcher only focuses on the illocutionary acts. It is not easy to identify the illocutionary act in utterance, but there are some verbs to mark them. Some of the verbs are: *report, declare, ask, recommend, thank, suggest, confess, congratulate, promise, insist, etc* (Leech in Rustono, 1996:38) and their attempts to perform illocutionary acts are part of what they mean and intend to get hearers to understand in the context of their utterances.

In this research the researcher observes the use of directive illocutionary acts. Directive illocutionary acts are attempted by the speaker to get the addressee to do something. Directive illocutionary act helps the addresser try to change the situation. In other words, directives use language to try to get someone to do things as in demanding, commanding, requesting, advising, suggesting, etc.

The researcher is interested in analyzing the novel "Of Mice and Men" written by John Steinbeck as she has found that there are many illocutionary acts in it.

Therefore, in this research she attempts to analyze further the illocutionary acts, especially directive illocutionary acts found in the novel "Of Mice and Men".

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems in this research can be stated as follows:

1. What directive illocutionary acts are found in the "Of Mice and Men" novel?
2. What are the meanings of directive illocutionary acts found in the "Of Mice and Men" novel?

1.3 Scope of the Study

In this research, the researcher wants to analyze further the directive speech acts found in Lennie's utterances in the "Of Mice and Men" novel. Directive illocutionary acts are attempted by the speaker to get the addressee to do something. In other words, directives use a language to try to get someone to do things as in demanding, commanding, requesting, advising, suggesting, etc.

The scope of this research can be stated as follows:

1. The forms of directive illocutionary acts found in Lennie's utterances in the "Of Mice and Men" novel.
2. The meanings of directive illocutionary acts found in Lennie's utterances in the "Of Mice and Men" novel.

1.4 Objective of the Study

The objectives of this research can be stated as follows:

1. To describe the forms of directive illocutionary acts found in Lennie's utterances in the "Of Mice and Men" novel.
2. To describe the meanings of directive illocutionary acts found in Lennie's utterances in the "Of Mice and Men" novel.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The result of the study is expected to give the following benefits:

1. to facilitate the readers in understanding the novel
2. to become a basis or reference for students especially English Department Students of Dian Nuswantoro University to discover the application of directive speech acts used in the novel, and
3. to give additional knowledge to people who are interested in learning pragmatics or literature, especially about the use of directive speech acts.

1.6 Thesis Organization

This thesis is developed into five chapters and the outline of the thesis is as follows:

Chapter I discusses an introduction, which contains the background of the study, statement of the problem, scope of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, and thesis organization.

Chapter II contains review literature which discusses general theories of pragmatics, speech act theory, directive illocutionary acts, IFID theory, illocutionary force, novel and speech act in the novel.

Chapter III contains research method which explains research design, unit of analysis, source of data, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis.

Chapter IV contains the data analysis which explains the result of the research.

Chapter V consists of the conclusions and suggestions of the study.