The Use of Speech Act in the Football Interview

by Jose Mourinho : A Contrastive Study

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by:
AGUS ANGGORO PUTRO
C11. 2010.01143

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Student Name: Agus Anggoro Putro

Student ID Number: C11.2010.01143

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Adviser

[Signature]

Sunardi, S.S., M.Pd.
ABSTRACT

This study aims at investigating the types of speech act that occur in two football match interviews and analyzing the possible meaning in the utterances of interview. The researcher used a descriptive qualitative method to find out the types of speech act and the possible meanings that occur. The data of this research are the utterances taken from two different interviews: the winning match interview and the losing match interview. The result shows there are 28 utterances, which are mostly found in the losing match interview with 17 types of speech act, while in winning match interview, there are 11 type of speech act. The types of speech act utterances in the interview of the losing match are more various than the interview of the winning match. It seems that Jose Mourinho more carefully answers the questions of the reporter. He does not want to get more punishment with his speaking or comment about the decision of the referee in the match against Aston Villa. On the other hand, in the losing match interview, there are representative act, directive act, and expressive act. The most dominant of speech act from those interviews is representative act, which has reached 16 total number utterances. It shows that Jose Mourinho speaks more about anything that he believes because he wants to express his feelings in the interview.

Keywords: Contrastive study, Jose Mourinho, press conference, speech acts, utterances.

INTRODUCTION

Language plays an important role in our daily life. Because of that, every country has at least one language as a national language that is used by people who live in the country. Language has so many kinds in the world when we try to count how many languages that are still used by people to create communication. The world has hundred thousands languages. Every country usually has more than one local language to communicate beside the national language.

According to Oxford Advanced Learning Dictionary, language is a sound and word systems used by human to express their thoughts and feelings. Language can also be understood as an interplay of sound and meaning. From sound that we produce, there is a meaning inside in order to be understood by the hearer.

Producing language means that we try to create sentence and to share our ideas. To share our ideas and get the comment, we have to communicate with others. So, when we communicate to each other, we have communication.

Communication is the act or process of using words, sounds, signs, or behaviors to give, to take or to exchange information or to express our ideas, thoughts, feelings, etc., to someone else. Communication is used to create and develop the relationship with someone else. In order to establish the relationship, we use language to
interact with others. Both of language and communication are also relate with grammatical, sentence and utterance. Those particular parts are needed in study of pragmatics.

Communication also needs minimum two people to create interaction. They are speaker and hearer. From this act, we can know the information that we do not know from someone that we invite to make conversation. By having communication, we know the meaning of speaker or what speaker wants. Communication is also needed in news media. One of those communications happens in interview.

An interview is defined as a formal meeting in which one or more persons question, consult or evaluate another person. Interviews can be formal or informal, structured or unstructured. The interviewer should prepare a list of questions to ask the interviewee. Likewise, the interviewee should consider the questions that may be asked and prepare potential answers. They can be conducted one-to-one or in groups, face to face, direct or indirect. We should plan our interview topics in advance, even for informal unstructured interviews. Interviews should be recorded, so that we aren't relying on our memory or hastily written notes to recall what was said. Ideally, these recordings will be transcribed, so that we have the text of the conversation available to us for analysis. Interviews are a very common research tool in the social sciences, and as such, attract a great deal of commentary and discussion. There are some kind interviews that we can find around us such as job interview, sport interview, politic interview, and so on.

Contrastive study means that showing the difference between two things when they are compared, such as a contrastive analysis between American and British English. This thesis shows the comparison of Jose Mourinho utterances between the winner and loser in several matches.

Pragmatics studies the context within which an interaction occurs as well as the intention of the language user. Pragmatics also explores how listeners and readers can make inferences about what is said or written in order to arrive at an interpretation of users intended meaning. This can be cleared in this following quotation:

Pragmatics studies how people comprehend and produce a communicative act or speech act in a concrete speech situation which is usually a conversation. It distinguishes two intents or meanings in each utterance or communicative act of verbal communication. One is the informative intent or the sentence meaning, and the other the communicative intent or speaker meaning (Leech, 1983: 73).

The idea of pragmatics is the study of aspects of language that requires reference to the users of the language then lead to a very natural, further restriction of the term in analytical philosophy. The philosophical interest in these terms, especially logical, is simply that they account for the potential failure of generally valid schemes of reasoning.

The term pragmatics is applied not only to branch of inquiry (as in the contrast between pragmatics and semantics) but also to feature of the object language (or language under investigation). We know that pragmatics is study about language that we choose in daily communication with others. The affects of language which we choose in social interaction are also warned. However, the important part affects our social interactions such as politeness and formality, both explicit and implicit linguistic features.
When we say something to someone else, at the same time we also do something dealing with the arrangement for our utterances. What we act when we use utterances in everyday communication are known as speech act.

According to Austin (1962:18). Speech act is a minimal functional unit in human communication. Speech act theory attempts to explain how speakers use language to accomplish intended actions and how hearers infer intended meaning from what is said. Speech act theory by Austin also looks from felicity condition. Felicity condition is the condition which must be fulfilled for a speech act to be satisfactorily performed or realized. There must be a generally accepted procedure for successfully carrying out the speech act, the procedure must be carried out correctly and completely and the last is the person must (in most circumstances) have the required thoughts, feelings and intensions for the speech act to be felicitous.

Austin (1962:27) on the other hand, tried to describe the total speech act in the total speech situation and warned against oversimplifying complexities of meaning, in particular, by reducing meaning to descriptive meaning:

It has come to be seen that many specially perplexing words embedded in apparently descriptive statements do not serve to indicate some specially odd additional feature in the reality reported, but to indicate (not to report) the circumstances in which the statement is made or reservations to which it is subject or the way in which it is to be taken and the like. To overlook these possibilities in the way once common is called the descriptive fallacy.

Discussing about speech acts, we should remember that the one of the aims of studying literature is to provide the learners about the meaning in utterances or sentences. The researcher chose the interview entitled The Use of Speech Act In The Football Interview by Jose Mourinho: A Contrastive Study because it contains speech acts utterances that can be analyzed in his conversation. Therefore, this topic is important to be analyzed to give understanding for the reader about speech act and comparison between two different interviews. There are many examples in the use of speech acts found in the conversation in the interview. Thus, in this thesis, the researcher analyzed the use of speech act found in the interview. The aim of this study is analyzing the differences of interview when Jose Mourinho uses the speech act. Furthermore, this research also discusses the interpretations which may arise in every utterance in the interviews.

METHOD

This study used descriptive qualitative research. It is used to describe characteristics of population or phenomenon being studied. This research often has the aim of description and researcher may follow up with examination of why the observations exist and what the implications of the findings are. The data were taken from the interviews as the main source then these were analyzed by using some resources such as books, articles, journals, etc to support the study.

The unit of analysis was in form of utterances. By analyzing the coach utterances in the act in interview by Jose Mourinho as a Coach of Chelsea Football Club, the use of speech acts can be explored.

The data of this research are spoken data. The researcher collected the data from spoken to be written or script of act in interview by Jose Mourinho as the Coach of Chelsea Football Club taken from www.youtube.com
In this conference there is one speaker who is analyzed, that is Jose Mourinho as the Coach of Chelsea Football Club. The researcher tries to analyze the results of the match between winning match interview and losing match interview. Then the researcher tried to compare both of them.

The data of this study was collected by finding the research data from the internet (www.youtube.com), then choosing the data that can be analyzed by using speech acts theory. The last is downloading the interview videos which are used for the data.

The researchers analyzed the data through some steps. First, downloading the interviews video. Second, Listening the speaker utterances. Third, writing the transcript. Fourth, Classifying to the each part of speech acts. The last is comparing the particular things inside of the interviews to find the differences which can be concluded from the data.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

The following is the finding collected from the utterances of Jose Mourinho in the interview football match, which has been arranged and analyzed based on Searle’s theory of speech acts. This research analyzes the two interviews in the different kinds, which one of the interviews is the winning match interview and the other is the losing match interview.

Based on the kinds of speech act contained in the utterances of Jose Mourinho in the interview football match, the result of analysis can be concluded in the table below:

**Table 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Kinds of Speech Act</th>
<th>Winning the match</th>
<th>Losing the match</th>
<th>Total Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Directive</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Expressive</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Commisive</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the table of total data found in the interviews, it can be identified that there are 28 data or utterances containing speech acts. Among five kinds of speech act, representative act is the most commonly used by the characters in this interview, with 16 utterances. The second is commisive act that is used 5 times. The third commonly used is expressive act; it is used in 3 utterances. The most rarely used is directive act. It appears only 3 utterances. Declaration act was not found in the data.

Based on the first table of total speech acts used by Jose Mourinho in the winning match interview against Manchester City, it can be identified that there are 11 data or utterances containing representative speech acts.
Representatives are mostly used by Jose Mourinho, there are 7 utterances appear. He used representatives because they commit honestly about the truth and they can state the utterance based on the fact happened. Expressive are mostly appear in this interview, there are 3 utterances. Commisive has 1 utterance. The others type of speech act such as directive and declaration were not found in the data.

**Representative**

Representative speech act or assertive speech acts is utterances which commit the speaker to the truth of a particular proposition. Representative speech act uses language to tell people how things are, as in concluding, telling, asserting, stating, informing, sure, and guessing.

The analysis below is examples of representative speech act used by Jose Mourinho in the winning match of interview. Jose Mourinho used representative such as stating, informing, telling, sure, and describing about something.

**Excerpt 1**

**Turn 1-2**

Reporter : Jose, you told us, you wanna do before the game did it go exactly to plan?

Jose : I think we played fantastic against the fantastic team to play the way we..we did (cough) sorry.I think is a magic for the voice..and this process of a building a team and prepare the team to be favorites..to be one of favorites next..next season… I think this is a very important.. very important step and..the best team in the premier league, we beat team twice in the premier league and especially today.

From the excerpt above, Jose Mourinho uses representative act because he was telling about process of a building a team and prepare his team to be favorites in the next season, when their team beat one of best team in the premier league. Jose Mourinho uses representative act because he was trying to explain what the reporter never know all things go in that match. He was telling the reporter that his team trying to play really well in that match and he was informing that he had been already beat one of teams in the premier league that day.

**Expressive**

The main point of expressive that is a certain psychological state expressed. It is express the speaker’s inner state toward a certain thing. It is in which have no direction of fit; in which the proposition ascribes a property or act to the speaker or the hearer. In other word expressive uses language to express the feelings and attitudes as in apologizing, thanking, welcoming.

**Excerpt 8**

**Turn 1-2**

Reporter : Jose, you told us, you wanna do before the game did it go exactly to plan?
Jose: We were fantastic I think.

From the excerpt above, Jose Mourinho used expressive act because he expressed his happiness about the team performance in that match against Manchester City.

Commisive

Excerpt 11

Turn 9-10

Reporter: It was fabulous style that the only thing I don’t care quite understand is, why you are not saying “Right, we can go win the league now. Now we’ve done this.”

Jose: I’m sorry but I can’t I can’t do that.

From the excerpt above, Jose Mourinho uses commissive act because he can not follow what the reporter suggest to be optimistic that his team is still has a chance to win the league in that season.

Directive

Excerpt 21

Turn 9-10

Reporter: Well, there were many incidents in the game as well as the red cards. I mean in the first half. Did you feel that Villa were fortunate to remain with 11 men.

Jose: “Can you speak with me five seconds?”

From the excerpt above, it refers Jose Mourinho used directive act because he asked the question to referee directly about the decision of referee gave a red card to him.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the utterances found in the two interviews by Jose Mourinho, the researcher can draw some conclusions. The result of this study showed that there are the total number reached 35 utterances in the two interviews by Jose Mourinho which consist of representative acts, expressive acts, and directive acts. In the winning match interview, there are representative act and expressive act. Beside of that, in the losing act interview, there are representative act, directive act, and expressive act. The most dominant from those interviews is representative act, which has reached 16 total number utterances.

In every utterance in the conversations among the reporter and Jose Mourinho, the researcher found several expressions that are reflected to the use of speech act, as stated by Searle, they are representative, directive, and expressive speech acts.

José Mourinho used five kinds of speech act, they are representative, directive, expressive and commissive speech acts. José Mourinho used representative act because they gave statement and informed based on the match
happens. Jose Mourinho used directive act because he attempted to ask the referee about the decision especially used “question”. Jose Mourinho used expressive act because he expressed disappointed, happy, and amazing about the decision by the referee. Jose Mourinho used commissive act because he refused something in that match. In the last Jose Mourinho did not use declaration act because in this interview Jose Mourinho did not declare words to make something changed.

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