

## SPEECH ACTS IN EMILY IN PARIS SEASON 1 EPISODE 1

Chintia Handayani<sup>1</sup>, Meriska Yosiana<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fakultas Sastra dan Budaya / Jurusan Sastra Inggris, [chintiahandayani@staff.gunadarma.ac.id](mailto:chintiahandayani@staff.gunadarma.ac.id), Universitas Gunadarma

<sup>2</sup> Fakultas Sastra dan Budaya / Jurusan Sastra Inggris, [yosiana@staff.gunadarma.ac.id](mailto:yosiana@staff.gunadarma.ac.id), Universitas Gunadarma

### ABSTRACT

This research examined about speech acts in the movie. Speech acts are the most widely examined object in language pragmatics. The most essential thing in speech act is the message that the speaker wants to be delivered. This research is aimed to analyse the speech acts in *Emily in Paris, season 1: episodes 1* used the theory from Searle. This research used qualitative method in collecting the data. The result of the research shows that there are 50 data of speech act used in *Emily in Paris, Season 1: Episodes 1*. They are 21 data of Assertive, 7 data of Directive, 10 data of Commissive, 10 data of Expressive, and 2 data of Declarative. The findings show that the Assertive data are the most dominant used in this movie.

**Kata kunci:** *Speech act, Emily in Paris, Movie, pragmatics*

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini mengkaji tentang speech acts (tindak tutur) dalam film. Speech acts merupakan objek yang paling banyak diteliti dalam pragmatik bahasa. Hal terpenting dalam suatu speech acts adalah pesan yang ingin disampaikan oleh penutur. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis speech acts dalam *Emily in Paris, season 1: episode 1* menggunakan teori dari Searle. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dalam pengumpulan data. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 50 data speech acts yang digunakan dalam *Emily in Paris, Season 1: Episodes 1*. Yaitu 21 data Asertif, 7 data Direktif, 10 data Komisif, 10 data Ekspresif, dan 2 data data Deklaratif. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa data Asertif merupakan data yang paling dominan digunakan dalam film ini.

**Kata Kunci:** *speech acts (tindak tutur), Emily in Paris, Film, Pragmatik*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the most important things in human life. It is used to communicate to the others in their daily life. Language has an important role so language can be separated in human life, it can be spoken or written. By language we as a human can express the feeling, idea and also thought to each other. That is why language takes significant things because they can enlarge what they want to say or express.

By language, people can do communication with the other people or with the interlocutors. As cited by Naufaldi, Fitriati, and Suwandi (2022), communication based on Celce Murcia et al (1995) belongs to a process of delivering and receiving messages that authorize the speakers to convey their intention or ideas interlocutors. However, in delivering and receiving the meaning, it is not only about what is spoken and heard, but some aspects have to be considered, such as verbal and non-verbal communication that both interlocutors use in a conversation. An utterance can have different meaning regarding to the context and the way the utterance is uttered. For example, "I'm good", can express the speaker's gratefulness if the utterance is uttered with high intonation. Meanwhile, it can express the speaker's sadness if the utterance is uttered with low intonation. By the examples, speaking is not only about what is spoken, but also about how it is spoken.

According to Garvin, P.L (1974), linguistics is "the science of language". This is not an adequate definition for a number of reasons. First of all, it is not clear what linguists mean when they use the term "science". Secondly, the term "language" can be used in a number of different ways and again it is not clear

in what way linguists are using the term. Finally, it is quite evident that linguistics is in fact not the only science of language, since fields such as sociology, psychology, or anthropology, not to mention speech communication, as well as other disciplines, also deal with language. It is thus necessary to define the term “science of language” a little more precisely in order to show in what way it relates to the field of linguistics.

As cited by *Gabriel Kasper from University of Hawaii*, Manoa, speech acts are the most widely examined object in interlanguage pragmatics, where they have been studied from a wide array of theoretical perspectives and research methodologies. In Searle’s (1969) speech act theory, illocutionary acts, the core objects of his theory are defined as a category of speaker’s intentions expressed by means of linguistic resources. Performing speech acts is thus theorized as a means end relationship where speakers convey their propositional and illocutionary goals by means of linguistic expressions. Significantly, for most classes of speech acts, the actual uptake by the hearer, or perlocutionary effect, is not encompassed by reflexive intention and the achievement of an illocutionary point.

Pragmatics is commonly defined as the study of particular kinds of meaning, such as speaker meaning, contextual meaning (Yule 1996), such as “speaker meaning”, “contextual meaning”. (Yule, 1996, p.3), “meaning in use” and meaning in context” (Thomas, 1995, p.1) while the notion of meaning itself remains unexplicated. Blimes (1986) distinguishes four approaches to a theory of meaning: meaning as speaker’s intention, convention, use, and response, where the first two notions of meaning combine in the commonsense understanding of meaning.

According to Blimes (1986, p.108) as cited in Bardovi, et.al., the intentional theory has it verbal expressions serve a vehicles for what the speaker intends, what he “really means”. In the conventional theory, words have meanings that are laid down by convention. In the use theory, the meaning of expressions is the response that it elicits. The commonsense notion of meaning combines the conventional and intentional approaches to meaning.

As cited from Sari (2020) using pragmatics, it will study includes: how the people can interpret and use of utterance in the real world (according to the meaning of speaker), how the structure of sentences from the speaker and the hearer, and how the speaker and the hearer use and understand the speech acts. The speech act is about a person’s skill in communication and having a goal to transfer the messages to the listeners (Budiasih et al, 2016:42). It means that using speech act the people will study how they can understand the speaker’s meaning from what they are telling or saying. In understanding the language, it is not only from the interlocutors (speaker and listener) but also from the stories, conversation books, novels, movies, series, songs, magazines, poems, and so on.

There are so many ways to study speech acts, one of them is from movies and TV series. It is interesting to be learned because the meaning of the context is different from what people’s object. Most people like watching movies and TV series, but most of them sometimes do not understand about the form and the functions of language which used in the movie. Moreover, from a movie and TV series, we can study other topics when we watch such as about the moral value, the culture, the acting of the actor and actress, and about the literary elements in the movie. In the movie, such as like comedy romance sometimes have misunderstanding or multi meaning in hearing or listening what the actor says.

According to Abu,J.U. (2023), TV Series is a collection of shows produced or adapted for television broadcast with a common series title, typically connected by theme or another factor. TV series typically air once a week at a designated time slot, but they can also air more or less frequently. Typically, TV series are made to be open-ended and do not have a set number of episodes. The shows in a fiction series often feature the same characters and fundamental themes. A TV series is a serialized form of storytelling that is typically shown on TV. In TV series, each episode builds upon the previous one, creating a continuous narrative. This is in contrast to traditional TV programming, which consists of stand-alone episodes which are not connected to each other. TV series are usually divided into seasons. Each season consist of several episodes, between 10-24 episodes, that air in a specific order. Some TV series are ongoing and do not follow a traditional season format, while others are limited series that tell a self-contained story within specific number of episodes.

One of the most famous TV Series with the genre comedy romance is *Emily in Paris*. *Emily in Paris* is an American – French romantic comedy drama TV series created by Darren Star for Netflix which was released October 2, 2020. The rating of this series is 6.8 based on IMDb website (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8962124/>). The series stars Lily Collins as aspiring marketing executive Emily Cooper, an American who moves to Paris to provide an American point of view to French marketing firm. In Paris, Emily tries to overcome challenges in her work, love life, and friendships. Cultural clash as

she adjusts to the challenges of life in Paris while juggling her career, new friendship, and active love life. Besides Lily Collins stars as Emily Cooper in Season 1, there are Philippine Leroy-Beaulieu as Sylvie, Emily's tough and bitter boss at Savoir in Paris, Ashley Park as Mindy Chen, Emily's first friend in Paris, an American nanny of Chinese Korean descent and aspiring singer, and the heiress to a Shanghai business magnate from whom she is estranged. Lucas Bravo as Gabriel, Emily's attractive downstairs neighbor, the head chef at Chex Lavaux. Samuel Arnold as Julien, Emily's trendy and theatrical co-worker who forms a comic duo with Luc. Bruno Gouery as Luc, Emily's quirky co-worker, who forms a comic duo with Julien.

The story of *Emily in Paris Season 1, episodes 1* talked about Emily Cooper's boss Madeline prepares to transition from Chicago-based pharmaceutical marketing firm, the Gilbert Group, to a French fashion firm, Savoir, when she discovers she is pregnant. The Gilbert Group offers the job to Emily, who accepts, leaving her boyfriend back in Chicago. Emily moves to Paris although she does not and cannot speak French. She changes her Instagram handle from @emilycooper to @emilyinparis and starts documenting her time in Paris. Emily begins her first day of work much to the chagrin of her new co-workers, who reveal that she was only hired because of a business deal. She introduced the French, who seem reluctant about her and her American methods, to American social media strategies. Emily accidentally tries to enter the wrong apartment and meets her neighbor named Gabriel. As Emily became accustomed to life in Paris, she makes countless faux-pas and her colleagues nickname her as "la plouc" or "the hick". After that, Emily meets Mindy Chen in the park, a nanny from Shanghai, and become her friends. Next, Emily and her boyfriend in Chicago try to have cybersex and the connection fails when she plugs in her vibrator and accidentally short-circuits the block's power. In the last minute of the first episode, Emily and her boyfriend in Chicago ended and broke up.

In watching TV series, sometimes people have misunderstanding or many meanings in hearing or listening what the actor and actress said. Yet, people who have problem with many meanings, they still like to watch the series. Moreover, many people love to watch *Emily in Paris* because the genre is comedy romance and the setting of this series is very colorful, it is eye-catching to be watched, beside that we as the audience can see how attractive Emily is when she wears her dress. Studying from the background of the research, the objective of this research is to find out the types of speech act used in *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1*.

## 2. THEORETICAL REVIEW

### Speech Acts Theory

Cited by Azhari et al (2018) speech acts are connected to speakers' performance in the way they say something. Austin's seminal work (1962) in his book "How to do something with words" has a far-reaching contribution to the theory of speech acts. Austin's speech theory is grounded on his earlier notion about performative and constative distinctions. It led him to claim that such constative and performative distinctions stand to the dimension of language uses in terms of locutionary and illocutionary acts as the basis for the general theory within the total of speech acts.

Austin's speech act categories have important influence on the development of speech act theory. However, his categories seem to have several weaknesses. Searle (1979) stated that are some weaknesses of Austin categories of speech acts: all verbs listed are illocutionary verbs, direction of fit, and there are also overlaps within the same category. Based on Austin's weakness classification, Searle offers and has an alternative classification of illocutionary acts grounded on three main criteria. They are illocutionary point, direction of fit, and sincerity condition expressed. In this research, the researchers use theory from Searle (1979). As Searle (1979) stated there are five kinds of illocutionary acts:

#### 1. Assertive

The point of assertive is to commit the speaker to the truth of what she/he says. Its direction of fit is words to worlds or downgrade direction. The psychological state expressed is belief. For Searle, assertive can be assessed in terms of true-false since it contains speakers' belief in performing that type. This type includes statement and claims. he also asserts that assertive type can be tested through a literal character in the sense of true false dimension. Examples: We watched a movie yesterday.

#### 2. Directive

The illocutionary point of directive is speakers' attempt to get hearer to perform something. Its direction of fit is the world to words or upgrade direction. In this statement, what the hearer perform is based on the speaker's want or desire. The speaker makes an attempt to get the subject

to do something by expressing his/her wish. For Searle, some verbs that can be used for performing directives such as request, asked, and order. Examples: Bring me some hot water.

**3. Commissive**

The point or purpose of performing commissive is to commit the speaker to the future actions. Its direction of fit is same as directives that is the world to a word or upward direction. It means the successful performance of serious commissive is the speaker fulfils his/her promise and offers. Examples: I promise, I will complete the work by tomorrow.

**4. Expressive**

The illocutionary point of expressive is to express the psychological state included in its sincerity condition as to the state of affairs, which is indicated in the propositional content. Expressions have no direction of fit. In other words, the speakers' utterance has nothing to do with matching words to the world or otherwise. The psychological states expressed vary according to propositional attitude expressed in the propositional content. Some verbs for expressive are apologies, thank, congratulate, and welcome. Example: I am sorry for my disrespectful behavior.

**5. Declarative**

Searle argues that the success of its performance is subject to the change status of affairs as declared in propositional contents, although Searle did not point out the illocutionary point of performing declarative. This feature makes declarative special in terms of the successful performance. In this regard, there is assertive declarative in which the speaker asserts in advance according to the truth of reality. Then such an utterance brings about the change. In another world, there is a match between words and world. The speaker brings about a change in the world via words like baptizing, declaring, abdicating. Example: I now pronounce you husband and wife.

**3. RESEARCH METHOD**

This research, the researchers used qualitative research to analyze speech acts in *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1*. According to Hammersley (2012) in his book “*What is qualitative research?*”, qualitative research is a research strategy that usually emphasizes words rather than quantification in the collection and analysis of data. (Bryman 2008a: 366). Ideally, in trying to understand what qualitative research is, we are looking for a set of features that are shared by all examples of it, and that are not found together in other kinds of research. None of definitions we have discussed is successful in these terms. While that provided by Alan Bryman captures something important, the main feature it identifies, is, in effect, a negative one – the absence of quantification. After all, the presence of words in data collection and analysis is not distinctive to qualitative research: words are central to questionnaires, a common source of quantitative data; and there are generally more words than numbers in the analysis sections of quantitative research reports.

In qualitative research, it is about how the information gets to the hearer or listeners in interpreting the meaning of language. The gaining of data used some steps, namely: first, searching the TV Series; second, watching the series and writing the utterance from *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1*; third, analyzing and classifying the utterance into speech act categories; fourth, resulting to the analysis into the data. The researchers find out the types of speech acts based on Searle Theory in *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1*.

**4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION  
THE RESULT OF THE RESEARCH**

From the data analysis, the researchers find out there are 50 data of speech acts about the classification of types of speech acts based on Searle theory (1979) used in the dialogues from TV series of *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1* with the duration 30 minutes. They are assertive is 21 data; directive is 7 data; commissive is 10 data; expressive is 10 data; and declarative is 2 data.

Tabel 1. List of Data

No.	SPEECH OF ACTS	AMOUNT OF DATA
1.	Assertive	21

2.	Directive	7
3.	Commissive	10
4.	Expressive	10
5.	Declaratives	2
	<b>Total Data</b>	<b>50 data</b>

The most frequently used types of speech acts in Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1 is assertives. The second one is commissive and expressive. The third one is directives. And the last one is declaratives.

### THE DISCUSSION

Based on the findings above, the researchers found 5 speech acts which appeared in Emily in Paris season 1 Episode 1 series. The data below are the types of speech act. The researchers divided the sentence by the type of speech act by Searle (1979).

#### Assertive

The point of assertive is to commit the speaker to the truth of what she/he says. Its direction of fit is words to worlds or downgrade direction. The psychological state expressed is belief. Assertive can be assessed in terms of true-false since it contains speakers' belief in performing that type. This type includes statement and claims

#### Datum 1

*"Look at their president. He's young, he's hot. He married his school teacher"*.

#### Analysis:

From the dialogue, this type of assertive according to Searle theory (1979) is about statements. Because it is stated that their president is young, hot, and it is stated that he married his school teacher.

#### Datum 2

*"She went to the doctor this afternoon"*

#### Analysis:

From the dialogue, this type of assertive according to Searle theory (1979) is also statement. Because it is stated from the dialogue that she went to the doctor this afternoon.

#### Datum 3

*"Yes, I am here to prove that a master's in French does not go to waste."*

#### Analysis:

From the dialogue, this type of assertive according to Searle theory (1979) is claim. Because it is claimed that there is a word 'prove', which means the speaker proves that she is a master's in French.

#### Datum 4

*"Cigarettes cause diabetes and cancer"*

#### Analysis:

From the dialogue, this type of assertive according to Searle theory (1979) is claim. Because it is claimed by Emily that cigarettes caused diabetes and cancer.

#### Directive

When the speaker makes a request to the hearer to do something or bring about some states of affair by using some verbs that can be used for performing directives such as request, command, asked, and order.

#### Datum 1

*"May I introduce Emily, the American girl who's coming to work with us?"*

#### Analysis:

From the dialogue above, this type of directive according to Searle theory (1979) is request. Because it is claimed that someone wants to introduce Emily.

#### Datum 2

*"Give me your phone"*

#### Analysis:

As seen in the dialogue above, when the speaker said *"Give me your phone"*. It indicates as a giving command to the hearer, and the hearer is following what the speaker said.

### **Commissive**

The point or purpose of performing commissive is to commit the speaker to the future actions. It means the successful performance of serious commissive is the speaker fulfils his/her promise and offers.

#### **Datum 1**

*"Would you like to have a coffee or ...?"*

#### **Analysis:**

From the sentence above in the movie, it can be seen that the speaker offers something to the hearer such as coffee or something.

#### **Datum 2**

*"I see you tomorrow, Emily."*

#### **Analysis:**

From the sentence above in the movie, it can be seen that the speaker is showing his intention and promise to Emily to see her tomorrow.

### **Expressive**

The illocutionary point of expressive is to express the psychological state included in its sincerity condition as to the state of affairs, which is indicated in the propositional content.

#### **Datum 1**

*"First, let me apologize for speaking English."*

#### **Analysis:**

From the sentence above, it showed expressive is apology. It can be seen from the utterance above when the speaker said apologize because she was speaking English.

#### **Datum 2**

*"I ... I just want to say I am sorry for this."*

#### **Analysis:**

From the sentence above, it showed expressive is apology. It can be seen from the utterance above when the speaker said sorry for something.

### **Declarative**

Searle argues that the success of its performance is subject to the change status of affairs as declared in propositional contents, although Searle did not point out the illocutionary point of performing declarative.

#### **Datum 1**

*"Madeline's pregnant. But now that she's pregnant, she's decided she's not gonna take the job in Paris."*

#### **Analysis:**

Based on the conversations above, declarative which uses is declared. It can be seen when the utterance of the speaker is declaring about something such as information of Madeline's pregnant.

#### **Datum 2**

*"You've got all of Paris at your feet."*

#### **Analysis:**

Based on the conversations above, declarative which uses is declared. It can be seen when the utterance of the speaker is declaring about something such as information of proud in the conversation above.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

In this research, the researchers concluded that the most frequently speech act categories based on Searle theory (1979) in *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1* is assertive, it is 21 data. It can be seen that there are so many statements and claims in the dialogue in *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episodes 1*. Beside that in *Episodes 1*, the story of *Emily in Paris, Season 1* is highly recommended to be watched, because it is fun and entertaining, and the audience will love to see the way of the style of Emily. Also, the picturing of place in this episode 1 is made us want to go to Paris. Also, by watching *Emily in Paris, Season 1, Episode 1* we as an audience can learn about the difference between culture of American and French. The

researchers suggest to the future researchers who will apply speech act in their research, by this research can find and investigate the different data such as movie, songs, novels, daily conversation, and so on. And the researchers hope that other researchers can make some more progress of this research about speech acts according to the other theories which can be applied and can wider the topic of speech acts.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Abu, J. U. (2023, May 9). *Differences between a film and a TV series*.
- [2] Azhari, A. S., Priono, P., & Nuriadi, N. (2018). Speech acts of classroom interaction. *International journal of linguistics, literature and culture*, 4(2), 24-45.
- [3] Bardovi-Harlig, K., Felix-Brasdefer, J. C., & Omar, A. S. (Eds.). (2006). *Pragmatics & Language Learning, Volume 11* (Vol. 11). Natl Foreign Lg Resource Ctr.
- [4] Garvin, P. L. (1974). *What Is Linguistics?*.
- [5] Hammersley, M. (2012). *What is qualitative research?* (p. 144). Bloomsbury Academic.
- [6] Naufaldi, R., Fitriati, S. W., & Suwandi, S. (2022). The Relation of Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication to Produce Meaning in the Movie. *English Education Journal*, 12(3), 364-372.
- [7] Sari, I. F. (2020). THE SPEECH ACT OF CARTOON MOVIE: SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS'THE MOVIE. *Linguists: Journal of Linguistics and Language Teaching*, 6(1), 126-132.
- [8] Searle, J. R., Kiefer, F., & Bierwisch, M. (Eds.). (1980). *Speech act theory and pragmatics* (Vol. 10). Dordrecht: D. Reidel.
- [9] Tutuarima, Z., Nuraeningsih, N., & Rusiana, R. (2018). An analysis of speech act used in London Has Fallen movie. *Vision: journal for language and foreign language learning*, 7(2), 122.
- [10] <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt8962124/>
- [11] *Emily in Paris Season 1 Episode 1* from Netflix