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Expressive Speech Acts Analysis of Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie 2019*

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to find how the types and functions of expressive speech acts represented in Jesse's speech in the film *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie* affect Jesse's utterances in the film. This research used the descriptive qualitative method, in which the data came from utterances in the form of characters' utterances in the film. Based on the analysis, the researchers identified six types of expressive speech acts. These types include thanking, apologizing, deploring, complimenting, complaining, and welcoming. Additionally, the researchers discovered eight functions of expressive speech acts, namely showing gratitude, appreciation, regret, heartfelt emotion, praise, empathy, dissatisfaction, and acceptance. In this study, each type of expressive speech act is connected to a specific function, emphasizing the importance of that function in expressing the speaker's intention. Therefore, some data in this study may reflect more than one function, as the speaker intends to convey a message that serves multiple purposes, as each utterance can carry meanings beyond its literal interpretation. The results of the analysis show that the expressive utterances used by the character affect the character's actions towards the situation and affect the meaning of the character's purposes in using language

Keywords: Expressive speech acts, El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie, Descriptive Qualitative Method

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan bagaimana jenis dan fungsi tindak tutur ekspresif yang terdapat pada tuturan Jesse dalam film *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif karena data berasal dari ujaran yang berupa kata-kata percakapan karakter dalam film. Berdasarkan analisis, peneliti mengidentifikasi total enam jenis tindak tutur ekspresif dari sembilan jenis yang diteliti. Jenis-jenis tersebut antara lain berterima kasih, meminta maaf, meratapi, memuji, mengeluh, dan menyambut. Selain itu, peneliti menemukan delapan fungsi tindak tutur ekspresif dari total sepuluh fungsi yang diteliti. Fungsi-fungsi tersebut adalah menunjukkan rasa terima kasih, penghargaan, penyesalan, emosi yang tulus, pujian, empati, ketidakpuasan, dan penerimaan. Dalam penelitian ini, setiap jenis tindak tutur ekspresif dihubungkan dengan fungsi tertentu, yang menekankan pentingnya fungsi tersebut dalam mengekspresikan maksud penutur. Oleh karena itu, beberapa data dalam penelitian ini dapat mencerminkan lebih dari satu fungsi, karena pembicara memiliki maksud untuk menyampaikan pesan yang memiliki banyak makna, karena setiap ujaran dapat memiliki makna yang lebih dari sekadar penafsiran harfiahnya. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa ujaran ekspresif yang digunakan oleh karakter mempengaruhi tindakan karakter terhadap situasi dan mempengaruhi makna dari tujuan karakter tersebut.

Kata kunci: Tindak Tutur Ekspresif, Film *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*, Metode Deskriptif Kualitatif

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A. INTRODUCTION

According to Ngasini et al (2021), individuals communicate their thoughts in different ways. People can communicate with others by using language to express particular ideas, thoughts, and emotions. From a pragmatic view, the relationship between language meanings and context is very connected. Yule (1996) defines pragmatics as the study of the meaning of a speaker's words within the context of social communication interaction. The role of pragmatics in our social interaction is very important to study because pragmatics can help us build our communication skills better and understand the meaning of words that someone says to us when we have a conversation.

One of the pragmatic theories is the speech act, which can be used in analysing language. According to Austin (1962), a speech act is an action that expresses an utterance from the speaker to the listener for particular goals. In this research, the film became the object of the analysis because it combines language, visual, and auditory elements. For the object, the researchers focused on the main character, Jesse Pinkman, in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019)*. This film depicts Jesse's life after trying to escape from the old sins he has committed with his criminal companion. As a result, Jesse's actions and personality desire improvement. Because of this, Jesse becomes a sensitive and expressive individual who is ideal for analysis utilizing the expressive speech acts theory proposed by John Searle.

Using the theory proposed by John Searle and Daniel Vanderveken (1985), the objective of this research is to analyze the expressive speech acts performed by Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019).* Then the researchers also investigate the functions of the expressive speech acts found in the analysis based on the representation of Searle's theory of expressive speech acts.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter examines the concept of expressive speech acts as defined by Earle and Vanderveken, analyzing their types and functions to establish a theoretical framework for understanding how speakers communicate psychological states and attitudes.

1. Expressive Speech Acts

According to Searle (1979), expressive speech acts are types of illocutionary acts that convey a psychological state or attitude towards a statement expressing a complete thought or idea. In this research, the researchers used Searle and Vanderveken's theory to find out expressive speech acts and their functions.

a. Types of Expressive Speech Acts

1) Thanking

The concept of thanking as an expressive speech act is to convey the speaker's feelings of gratitude for the situation that happened to the speaker or a beneficial action by the listener, aiming to acknowledge a favor rather than change the external world. It's often used in social interactions to strengthen the relationship, express politeness, and maintain harmony. The

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contexts of this type include everyday or formal conversations where gratitude or appreciation functions become the main reason to utter it.

2) Apologizing

The concept of apologizing as an expressive speech act refers to the act of expressing guilt for a situation or event, the speaker acknowledging the mistakes and taking responsibility, and showing a commitment to making amends. Apologizing is used in a personal context to fix relationships and restore trust. Apologizing is important for building and maintaining strong relationships and for resolving some conflicts.

3) Congratulating

The concept of congratulatory type is a way to show someone how happy you are to someone without having to ask for anything.

4) Condoling

The concept of the condoling type is an expression of sympathy for bad or unfortunate events.

5) Deploring

The concept of the deploring type is a way of expressing heart feelings, strong regret, disappointment, sadness, and other negative emotions that the speaker feels. Deploring is used in social issues or personal relationship contexts. By deploring something, individuals can express their moral values.

6) Boasting

The concept of boasting types is a way of expressing pride with the presupposition that the thing one boasts about is good for the speaker (and therefore will be admired or envied by the hearer).

7) Complimenting

The concept of the complimenting type is a way for the speaker to express admiration for the listener by acknowledging a positive action or performance to boost their confidence, and also can create a positive situation. Complimenting used in various contexts, including personal relationships to strengthen the relationship with the listener, and social interactions to show appreciation and kindness.

8) Complaining

The concept of the complaining type is an action to express frustration with something, such as an uncomfortable situation that the speaker feels.

9) Welcoming

The concept of the Welcoming type in expressive speech acts involves a greeting to someone upon their arrival. This can happen in formal events, social hospitality, and personal interactions. Such acts help create a positive situation, show respect, and make others feel valued.

b. The Functions of Expressive Speech Acts

1) Gratitude

Showing gratitude is a feeling of the internal sense of thankfulness that often comes from appreciating life's good aspects or other people's kindness.

2) Appreciation

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Showing appreciation is an action of the external expression of gratitude; it involves appreciating the good things or contributions of others and can take the form of words or actions that express thanks.

3) Regret

Showing regret is an expression to convey the expression of being guilty of what the speaker has done in the past, wishing they had chosen differently.

4) Heartfelt Emotion

Showing heartfelt emotion is the intense, emotional reactions that result from experiences and relationships.

5) Pride

Showing pride is the type of functional act that conveys the speaker's emotional state and psychological condition, particularly feelings of self-worth and satisfaction derived from personal achievements or qualities.

6) Praise

Praise is expressing admiration or respect for the accomplishments of someone else.

7) Sympathy

Showing sympathy means showing compassion and understanding toward someone who is experiencing difficulties, loss, or trouble.

8) Empathy

Showing empathy is sharing and comprehending another person's feelings on a deep stage, creating a connection that goes beyond sympathy, with try to entails putting oneself in another person's life and experiencing their emotions

9) Dissatisfaction

Showing dissatisfaction or unhappiness with a situation, an action, or a result, is the act of showing dissatisfaction.

10) Acceptance

Acceptance means acknowledging and welcoming someone, something, or an idea without protest or rejection.

C. METHOD

The researchers used the character in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019)* as an object to analyze with a qualitative method. The objective of the qualitative method in this research is to identify and interpret social interactions based on the film characters' dialogue in cinematic conversations. According to Creswell (2009), the qualitative method seeks to understand phenomena without quantifying them. This approach emphasizes gaining insights into individual experiences, perceptions, and behaviors.

The data source was El *Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019)*, and the data were derived from the main character Jesse's self-emotions and dialogues, encompassing words, phrases, and sentences produced by the character, which constitute the central emphasis of this research. theory. The film is available for viewing on Netflix and has a runtime of 2 hours and 2 minutes.

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The researchers served as the research instrument. The researchers' duties as data collectors were complex, as they also served as planners, implementers, analysts, and reporters of the research findings.

For the next part, this research had two steps to collect data. First step, the researcherswatched the film *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019)* repeatedly on Netflix and focused on the subtitles to obtain utterance samples of expressive speech acts from the main character's words, or that capture the relevant scenes to be analyzed. They also used film transcripts as a secondary data collection to help the research. The final step was conducted by writing down the words, phrases, and sentences that represented the types of expressive illocutionary speech acts based on the analysis using John Searle and Daniel Vanderveken's (1985) theory.

This research eventually followed through three steps for analyzing the data, by employing a qualitative approach. First, the research classified the data based on the characters' dialogue, using Searle and Vanderveken's (1985) theory of expressive speech acts. Second step, the researchers analyzed and described the types and functions of the findings. In the last step, the researchers wrote down the results based on the analysis theory.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the findings and discussion of expressive speech acts that is represented in Jesse's speech in the film *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie.*

1) Findings

The findings consist of the results of the types and the functions of expressive speech acts performed by Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie (2019).* The results are achieved according to Searle and Vanderveken's (1985) theory. There are many expressive types of data found in Jesse's utterances in the film that affect the use of different functions in conveying the meaning of his utterances to someone or himself in the film. Here are examples of data types along with their functions explained below.

a) Thanking

Data 1 / (13:20)

Old Joe : "Where's the victim? (Car)"
Jesse : "Uh, it's in the back.
"Look, thank you so much for doing this, Joe."
"About the money, if we can maybe…"
Old Joe : "It's on the house."
"Good kid, least I can do."

In the conversation above between Jesse and Joe, Jesse used the expressive speech act type of thanking in the form of the word "*Thank you so much for doing this, Joe*", to express his thanks to Joe for helping him to get rid of the stolen car, even though Jesse expected that Joe already knew what happened through the Television news about him.

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The expressive speech act function that Jesse used here first was the function of gratitude because Jesse expected help from Joe. The second was appreciation because Jesse appreciated Joe's contribution, who wanted to come to help him.

b) Apologizing

Data 2 / (01:11:35)

Jesse : "You got the rules, alright? **I get that, and I apologize, seriously**."

In the conversation scene above, Jesse used the expressive speech act type of apologizing. Jesse admitted that he was wrong and sorry for his actions at the beginning, which did not follow the rules of the process, with the form of speech "*You got the rules, alright? I get that, and I apologize, seriously*." as an expression of his apology and regret.

With the explanation of Jesse's speech above, in all three sentences, Jesse used the function of expressive speech acts of showing regret, dissatisfaction, and empathy. For the function of showing regret, Jesse expresses his regret for what he did to Ed last time. The form of regret function here is a form of function that occurs for someone who has done bad actions before, which usually results in the regret function being something unpleasant experienced by the speaker in the form of negative feelings of regret towards himself or others. For the function of showing dissatisfaction, Jesse expresses his unhappiness and disappointment because Ed rejected her offer, and also to herself because Jesse chose to skip the first pick-up. Also, for the first utterance in the sentence *"You got the rules, alright? I get that, and I apologize, seriously."* Jesse uses the function of showing empathy towards Ed. Jesse intends to position himself as Ed, trying to understand Ed's perspectives if he were Ed at that time, and thinking that Jesse's actions at the first pick-up were wrong because they did not go according to the agreed-upon rules.

c) Deploring

Data 3 (01:43:41)

(Jesse is on a call with Jane at the hotel).

Jesse : **"Of course I miss you…"**
"Yeah? Well… Do you miss me?
"I dunno… Are you, um… How are you gonna convince me?"

Jesse expressed his heartfelt feelings with the word, *"Of course, I miss you"* as a form of missing his girlfriend, Jane. The words above were the form of words used to express deploring by Jesse. In contrast to the type of deploring typically used to express negative emotions, in this scene Jesse expresses his feelings towards positive speech.

In the utterances above, Jesse used the form the function of showing heartfelt emotion to Jane, as Jane must be responsible for the feelings that Jesse gave her, either in the form of words towards Jesse's feelings or the actions that Jane would do next. In addition, the function of heartfelt emotion here is more of a positive emotion that Jesse feels toward his romantic feelings for Jane.

d) Complimenting

Data 4 / (01:21:33)

(Jesse is on a call with his parents in Jesse's Neighborhood).

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Jesse : "Do you remember where we used to have those picnics all those years ago"
"By the little lake? That one with all the ducks?"
Father : "Yeah?"
Jesse : "Do you think you guys could come get me, maybe?"
Father : "We're on our way"
Jesse : "Hey, and uh… It's probably too late to say this"
"I don't know if it'll mean much to you… **But you did your best**."
"And whatever happens with me, it's on me, okay? Nobody else."

When Jesse called his parents, Jesse expressed his compliment to his parents with the words "*I don't know if it'll mean much to you... But you did your best*." With the intention that whatever his parents had done for Jesse so far was the best thing for Jesse, Jesse realized that everything his parents did for him was a form of parental love for their children.

In Jesse's compliment speech to his parents, Jesse used the functions of showing appreciation and praise. The two functions illustrated the connection between the expressive type of complimenting and the functions of appreciation and praise.

e) Complaining
Data 5 / (01:17:12)
(Jesse and Ed, at Ed's store).
Ed : "I would appreciate it very much if you sent someone immediately.
(Then Ed closes the phone on the 911 call)
Jesse : **"You are so full of crap."**
"You didn't call anybody just now!"
"You fake it. (Shouting at Ed)"

Arriving at the conversation scene above was the scene where Ed tried to call 911 to get Jesse to leave his place. At first, Jesse wanted to leave but did not, and thought that Ed was just pretending to call 911. Jesse expressed his complaint by saying, "*You are so full of crap*" with the intention that Ed just lied to him so that he would leave the store immediately.

In Jesse's complaining utterances above, Jesse used the function of showing dissatisfaction, seen from Jesse's body language when approaches Ed with an angry look on his face, and also because he was not happy with Ed, who he believed was pretending to call 911.

f) Welcoming
Data 6 / (01:20:25)
(Jesse is on a call with his parents in Jesse's Neighborhood).
(The house phone ringing)
Mother : "Hello"
Jesse : **"Hey Mom"**
Mother : "Jesse… It's Jesse!"
Father : "G…Gimme… Give me the phone! Jesse! Is that you?"

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Jesse : **"Hey Dad, yeah, it's me."**
"How are the both of you doing?"
Father : "We've been better."

In the scene of the conversation between Jesse and his parents over the phone above, Jesse expressed his sense of welcome and greeting to his parents warmly by saying the words "*Hey Mom*" and "*Hey Dad*" as a form of conveying the beginning of his conversation.

The two words above were used by Jesse to convey the function of showing acceptance for acknowledging him and wanting to continue the conversation, and the function of showing appreciation because Jesse appreciated his parents for picking up the phone and also wanting to talk to him.

2) Discussion

In this research, the researchers found a total of 9 types of Jesse utterances in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*. They were thanking, apologizing, deploring, complimenting, complaining, and welcoming, which became the type of complaining that was frequently used in the film because many things were not in line with Jesse's wishes. Regarding the other 3 types, such as congratulating, condoling, and boasting, the researchers could not find any of Jesse's utterances showing the above types used in the film.

Besides, the researchers also found that a total of 8 types of functions of expressive speech acts have been found from a total of 10 types that Jesse used in his utterances in the film. They were showing gratitude, appreciation, regret, heartfelt emotion, praise, empathy, dissatisfaction, and acceptance, which is the dissatisfaction type. This became the type of function that Jesse frequently used in the film because the complaining type was closely related to the dissatisfaction function, because of the feeling of being displeased with a situation. The researcher did not identify any of Jesse's utterances in the film that reflected the other two functions, such as pride and sympathy

Then, since this study analyzed Jesse's character in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie 2019* using Searle and Vanderveken's (1985) theory of expressive speech acts, it drew on previous studies for comparative insights. The analysis finds similarities with earlier previous studies that also explored emotional expression and used descriptive qualitative methods as a method of analysis, which helped the researchers to seek insight into how to use the theory of the expressive speech acts to analyze the object of the analysis, as the references to completing this research, but differs in using a more recent version of the theory.

Additionally, this study, along with all previous studies, has differences in the theoretical approach in analyzing the data, which examines not only the types of expressions but also their functions to better understand the speaker's intentions. The analysis focuses on film, unlike previous studies that examined artist interviews and social media. Results indicated that Jesse dominantly employs complaint-type and dissatisfaction type of function, because reflecting his strong goals and his guilt as a reason behind his strong determination to seek a new, better life in Alaska. In contrast, previous studies highlighted different expressive types. The first thesis is by Ngasini et al, (2021), the researchers conducted the type of congratulations in Ellen's interview with Billie Eilish, as the most dominant data was found in the analysis because Ellen

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expressed his appreciation towards Billie Eilish because of her new album. Then, in a thesis by Tauchid, A., & Rukmini, D. (2016), the researchers found that the boasting type Wayne Rooney used became the most dominant data found in the analysis because Rooney mostly responded to his comments with pride. The last previous study was conducted by Anggraeni et al, (2021), the researchers found that the wish type became the most dominant data found in the analysis because Ridwan Kamil was hoping for a quick resolution to the COVID-19 pandemic.

D. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the types and the functions of expressive speech acts performed by Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*, the researchers found 6 types of expressive speech acts performed by Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*, namely thanking, apologizing, deploring, complimenting, complaining, and welcoming. Then, the researchers also found 8 types of functions of expressive speech acts performed by Jesse in *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*, namely showing gratitude, appreciation, regret, heartfelt emotion, praise, empathy, dissatisfaction, and acceptance. From the researchers' perspective, the impact of these expressive speech acts on Jesse's character development in the film was significant for the storyline. Many events contributed to Jesse's feelings of disappointment regarding his situation, which drove him to search for a new life with a new identity.

For other researchers who are interested in researching this film as an object and using expressive speech acts as a theory, the researcher suggests analyzing all the characters that appear in the film, because from the researcher's perspective, if using other characters as additional objects can strengthen Jesse's expressive speech acts and statements in conveying his form of expression towards the situation.

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