

## Illocutionary Acts in Declarative Mood: A Functional Grammar Approach

Dini Sri Istiningdias<sup>1</sup>, Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna<sup>2</sup>, Lia Maulia Indrayani<sup>3</sup>

English Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities

Universitas Padjadjaran

Jl. Raya Bandung-Sumedang Km. 21

Jatinangor-Sumedang, Indonesia

**Abstract:** *This research focuses on two main points: (1) What kinds of illocutionary acts roles can be identified in Declarative Mood ?; (2) What the most kinds of illocutionary acts can be used in Declarative Mood ?. The method applied in this research is descriptive qualitative method. This research employs Functional Grammar Approach (FGA). The result of this research shows that (1) Based on the roles of illocutionary acts, making a statement or giving information can be identified as Direct Illocutionary Acts in Declarative Mood and giving direction such as getting someone to do something or stop doing something, giving advice, and giving warning, and also giving exclamation such as expressing emotion can be identified as Indirect Illocutionary Acts in Declarative Mood; (2) Based on the kinds of illocutionary acts and roles, mostly Direct Illocutionary Acts can be used in Declarative Mood.*

**Key words:** *illocutionary acts, declarative mood, functional grammar*

### Introduction

Language is a tool for human to express feelings or experiences and to share ideas with other people in daily life. In other words, people can understand one another purposes by exchanging messages. Messages (feelings, experiences, and ideas) are expressed in either spoken or written forms of language in many ways. Both spoken or written forms of language are also related into grammar.

There are many ways of describing the grammar of a language. According to Halliday (1985), grammar is semantic (meaning) and functional (how the language is used). Halliday's model looks at the clause as representing simultaneously three different types of meaning. They are Experiential, Interpersonal, and Textual. Interpersonal meaning is expressed by both the Mood of the clause (e.g. whether the clause is a statement, a question, or a request) and by the speech roles of speaker and hearer, which normally alternate between participants in a conversation.

The term 'mood of clause' plays an important role in our daily activities and communication, especially when we talk or write some messages. People actually do something through speaking or writing in various circumstances. Unfortunately, not all people realize how meaning built up with words and other linguistics forms such as the various kind of mood and illocutionary act (speaker's intent) in the system of communication. In other words, people do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words but also perform actions via those utterances. The main purpose of this research is to observe the existence of interpersonal

meaning, where speaker or writer exchange their illocutionary act (intent / messages) through indirect illocutionary act.

This approach sees language first as a system of communication and analysis grammar to discover how it organized to allow the speakers and writers to make exchange meanings. The focus is on appropriateness of a form for a particular communicative purpose in a particular context rather than an insisting on a clear distinction between grammatical and ungrammatical forms.

The exchange meaning phenomenon could be seen in the utterances which are created by the characters in Disney's films then published as quotes in social media online. Social media quotes are a great source of content to share messages with all people in the world. People like to share quotes then they can be short, snappy, and straight to the point. After a quick research on the various of social media, the writer found *Disney Words in Twitter* which collected the utterances from the characters in Disney's films. From this website, the writer noticed that a lot of characters exchange their illocutionary act (intent / message) in declarative mood.

According to the reasons which have been described, the writer decides that the research entitled **"Illocutionary Act in Declarative Mood: A Functional Grammar Approach"** is worth doing.

## Review of Literature

### An Overview of Functional Grammar

Functional Grammar Approache sees the forms of grammatical structures and their relationship to one another, rather than with their meanings or their uses in different contexts. This approach is concerned not only with the structures but also with how those structures construct meaning. Gerot & Wignell (1994: 6) stated that *functional grammars start with the question, 'How are the meanings of this text realised?'*

According to Halliday (1985), language is a 'system of meanings'. Halliday also sees that grammar is semantic (meaning) and functional (how the language is used). Based on this opinion, we know that the grammar becomes a study of how meaning built up with words and other linguistics forms such as tone and emphasis. When people use languages, their language acts are the expression of meaning.

### Interpersonal Function

Deterding and Poedjosoedarmo (2001: 106) also add that Interpersonal meaning is expressed by both the Mood of the clause (e.g. whether the clause is a statement, a question, or a request) and by the speech roles of speaker and hearer, which normally alternate between participants in a conversation.

### Mood

Therefore, speaking about intention, Halliday (1985: 44-49) relates it to the mood. He stated that *"Mood is the element that realizes the selection of mood in the clause"*. Since Halliday looks mood as a functional grammar, mood has a certain structure. Gerot and Wignell (1995: 25) mention that *"The Mood elements consist of two parts: the subject, which is a nominal group*

*and the finite element, which is part of the verbal group*". This view indicates that there are two elements that produce mood: the subject, whose function is typically carried out by a nominal group, and the finite, which is taken from verbal operators. Mood carries the interpersonal functions of the clause and consists of subject and finite. The subject is realized by a nominal group in which the speaker gives responsibility for the validity of the clause, while the finite is realized by the first of the verbal group. The rest of the verbal group is the predicator, which forms part of the residue.

### **Declarative Mood**

Declarative Mood has structure can be describe as *subject + finite*. Deterding & Poedjosoedarmo (2001: 144) says Declarative has some functions as to make a statement or give information. Then, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004: 111) support the theory above, "*The Subject and the Finite can be identified through the Mood tag; for statements, the relationship is Subject + Finite. This is called Declarative Mood.*" According to Gerot and Wignell (1995: 38), "*In the declarative mood, the order contains a subject that can be followed by finite.*"

### **Illocutionary Acts**

Illocutionary act is the action performed by the speaker in producing a given utterance which connected with the speaker's intentions, e.g. stating, questioning, promising, requesting, giving commands, threatening, and many others. Basically, the illocutionary act indicates how the whole utterance is to be taken in the conversation. For instance, they're encoded within sentence mood: interrogatives express questions; declaratives express assertions; and imperative express requests. There is a kind of relationship made by structure and intention of speech acts called direct and indirect speech acts or direct and indirect illocutionary acts.

### **Direct Illocutionary Acts**

Some writers on functional grammar use terms like Direct Illocution or Direct Speech Act to refer to clause in which the mood of the clause matches the speaker's intent in this way. Some examples of clauses in which they match with speaker intent are given below:

Table Clause Types in Terms of Mood

Mood of Clause	Illocutionary Act (objective of speaker)	Example
Declarative	Making a statement (giving information)	Studying grammar is very interesting.
Interrogative (yes-no)	Finding out if something is true	Is studying grammar interesting ?
Interrogative (Wh-)	Eliciting an item of information	What is interesting ?
Imperative	Giving a directive (getting someone to do something or stop doing something))	Study grammar!
Exclamative	Expressing an exclamation	How interesting grammar is !

Searle, as cited in Cutting (2002: 19) states that direct speech acts are used by the speaker to communicate the literal meaning that the word conventionally express; there is a direct relationship between the three structural forms (declarative, interrogative, imperative) and the three general communicative functions (statement, question, command). For example:

- a) Declarative is used as statement: You wear a seat belt.
- b) Interrogative is used as question: Do you wear a seat belt ?
- c) Imperative is used as command: Wear a seat belt!

### Indirect Illocutionary Acts

Mood and speaker's intent do not always match. Clauses in which mood and speaker intent do not match are sometimes called Indirect Illocutionary Acts, they are given below:

- a. Could you help me with this?  
Mood: Yes-No Interrogative  
Intent of speakers: to give a directive – get someone to do something
- b. It's quite chilly in here.  
(Said by someone sitting far from the aircon controls to someone sitting next to them.)  
Mood: declarative  
Intent of speakers: to give a directive – get someone to do something
- c. This is a lovely garden!  
Mood: declarative  
Intent of speaker: to express an exclamation

Furthermore, an indirect speech acts are used to communicate a same meaning as literal meaning, but also means something more as well; the structure and the function are not directly related. Thus, the speaker uses declarative as command, imperative as statement, interrogative as command, etc. For example, when there is a storm and the window is open, so someone says to his friend "can you close the window?" That interrogative sentence is not just a question whether the hearer can open the window or not, but it is also a command for the hearer to close the windows. Thus, in that case, interrogative sentence is used for commanding.

### Methodology

The method applied in this research is qualitative method. It means that the research is descriptive. This research is done as theories one phenomenon about the existence of interpersonal meaning, where speaker or writer exchange their intents (messages) through illocutionary acts in declarative mood. By analyzing the data based on theories Functional Grammar Approach.

## Findings

The data are analyzed based on Functional Grammar. The data taken from *Disney Words* published in *Twitter*. The writer has collected 45 data analyzed based on two major classifications: Direct Illocutionary Acts and Indirect Illocutionary Acts. The data consist 35 clauses which are related to Direct Illocutionary Act in Declarative Mood and ten clauses which are related to Indirect Illocutionary Act in Declarative Mood.

### Direct Illocutionary Acts in Declarative Mood

We will know this clause classified as Declarative mood with the characteristic of the structure. The structure consist of *subject + finite*. Haliday uses *finite* to refer to the first auxiliary in the verb phrase, the part of the verb phrase that carries tense. The part of a sentence that is not involved in determining mood structure is called *residue*. Deterding & Poedjosoedarmo (2001: 144) says Declarative Mood has some functions as to make a statement or give information. In terms the functions of the various moods, we have Direct Illocutionary Acts that refer to clause in which mood of the clause matches with the speaker's intent.

In this part, the writer has collected 35 Declarative Mood data. The writer took three data to be analyzed and to be described below:

- (1) *The problem is your attitude about the problem.*

#### Analysis:

The problem	is	your attitude about the problem.
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *The problem* as *subject*, *is* as *finite*, and *your attitude about the problem* as *residue*. So, this clause has a Declarative Mood that shows Direct Illocutionary Act by making a statement or giving information about *The problem*.

- (2) *All stories have an ending.*

#### Analysis:

All stories	have	an ending
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *All stories* as *subject*, *have* as *finite*, and *an ending* as *residue*. So, this clause has a Declarative Mood that shows Direct Illocutionary Act by making a statement or giving information about *All stories*.

(3) *Ideas come from curiosity.*

**Analysis:**

Ideas	come	from curiosity
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *Ideas* as *subject*, *come* as *finite*, and *from curiosity* as *residue*. So, this clause has a Declarative Mood that shows Direct Illocutionary Act by making a statement or giving information about *Ideas*.

### Indirect Illocutionary Acts in Declarative Mood

Declarative Mood has structure can be describe as *subject + finite*. Haliday uses *finite* to refer to the first auxiliary in the verb phrase, the part of the verb phrase that carries tense. The part of a sentence that is not involved in determining mood structure is called *residue*. Deterding & Poedjosoedarmo (2001: 144) says Declarative has some functions as to make a statement or give information. In this case, the writer see Declarative has another functions as to give a directive (to get someone to do something or stop doing something), to give a warning, or give an advice, and expressing emotion. In terms of the functions of the various moods, when Mood and Speaker's Intent do not always match each other then called Indirect Illocutionary Acts.

In this analysis, there are ten data. The writer collected nine data about Declarative as Direction which Mood show Indirect Illocutionary Act by giving a directive and one data about Declarative as Exclamation which Mood show Indirect Illocutionary Act by expressing emotion. The data will be analyze and describe below:

### Declarative Mood as Direction

The writer collected nine data about Declarative as Direction which Mood show Indirect Illocutionary Act by giving a directive, an advice, or a warning. The writer just analyzed and described three data below:

(4) *It is time to listen to your heart.*

**Analysis:**

It	is	time to listen to your heart.
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *It* as *subject*, *is* as *finite*, and *time to listen to your heart* as *residue*. The *subject* and *finite* above indicates that it is in the declarative

mood. However, rather than giving information, the speaker of quotes is demanding goods and services. The participant who must perform the goods *It* which is refer to *time*, and *listen to your heart* is the service which must be performed. So, this clause is in declarative mood that shows Indirect Illocutionary Act by giving a directive (getting someone to do something) as *listen to your heart*.

(5) *It's important to have someone who loves you.*

#### Analysis:

It	is	important to have someone who loves you
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *It* as *subject*, *is* as *finite*, and *important to have someone who loves you* as *residue*. The *subject* and *finite* above indicates that it is in the declarative mood. However, rather than giving information, the speaker of quotes is demanding goods and services. The participant who must perform the goods *It* which is refer to *important*, and *to have someone* is the service which must be performed. So, this clause is in declarative mood that shows Indirect Illocutionary Act by giving an advice as *important to have someone who loves you*.

(6) *It's about staying focused on your goals.*

#### Analysis:

It	is	about staying focused on your goals
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *It* as *subject*, *is* as *finite*, and *about staying focused on your goals* as *residue*. The *subject* and *finite* above indicates that it is in the declarative mood. However, rather than giving information, the speaker of quotes is demanding goods and services. The participant who must perform the goods *It* which is refer to *goals*, and *staying focused on your goals* is the service which must be performed. So, this clause has a Declarative Mood that shows Indirect Illocutionary Act by giving a warning as *staying focused on your goals*.

### Declarative Mood as Exclamation

The writer collected one data about Declarative as Exclamation which Mood show Indirect Illocutionary Act by exclaim or express emotion. The writer just analyzed and described the data below:

(7) *It's such an amazing thing to be loved for who you are.*

#### Analysis:

It	is	such an amazing thing to be loved for who you are
Subject	Finite	Residue
Mood		

According to the result of analysis, the writer found *It* as *subject*, *is* as *finite*, and *such an amazing thing to be loved for who you are* as *residue*. The *subject* and *finite* above indicates that it is in the declarative mood. However, rather than giving information, the speaker of quotes is demanding goods and services. The participant who must perform the goods *It* which is refer to *an amazing thing*, and *to be loved for who you are* is the service which must be performed. So, this clause is in declarative mood that shows Indirect Illocutionary Act by expressing emotion as *an amazing thing*.

#### Conclusion

After the writer analyzed the data, the writer found the results related to Illocutionary Act in Declarative Mood, as follows:

1. There are two kinds of Illocutionary Act can be found in Declarative Mood which have different roles. Direct Illocutionary Act can be seen by making a statement or giving information in 35 clauses. Indirect Illocutionary Act can be seen by giving a directive (getting someone to do something, giving advice, and giving warning) and also expressing emotion in 10 clauses.
2. The writer conclude that almost clause of Declarative Moods have the appropriateness with Illocutionary Acts which refer to Direct Illocutionary Act.

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