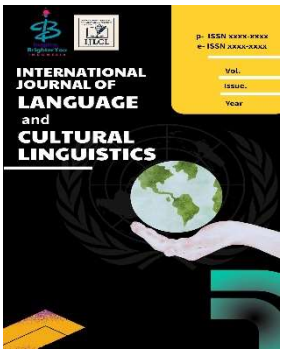
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Speech Act Analysis In Moana Movie : A Semantic Study On Perlocutionary Acts In Character Dialogues

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Abstract:
This study aims to investigate the use of perlocutionary acts in the dialogues of the animated movie Moana (2016) by analyzing how certain utterances affect the listener's emotions, thoughts, or actions. The phenomenon explored focuses on the influence of language in shaping character relationships and driving the plot. Using a qualitative descriptive design, this research collected data from character dialogues in Moana, with special attention to the interactions among the main characters such as Moana, Maui, Tamatoa, Te Fiti, and Gramma Tala. The dialogues were transcribed and analyzed semantically to identify utterances that contain perlocutionary force specifically how speech leads to psychological or behavioral responses. The findings reveal a variety of perlocutionary acts, including persuading, warning, calming, encouraging, and frightening. These acts often caused meaningful reactions in the recipient characters, which in turn influenced the direction of the storyline. For instance, Gramma Tala's encouraging words to Moana serve not only as emotional support but also motivate Moana to pursue her calling, demonstrating a powerful perlocutionary effect. In conclusion, the study highlights that perlocutionary acts are not merely linguistic expressions, but essential tools for developing emotional dynamics and character transformation in a narrative. Through semantic analysis, this research emphasizes the importance of understanding how language functions beyond literal meaning, especially in fictional media like films. The results are expected to contribute to future linguistic studies, particularly in analyzing speech acts in popular culture and their impact on audience perception.

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INTRODUCTION

Semantic linguistics focuses on the study of meaning in language, not only from a lexical perspective but also in terms of how meaning is interpreted within specific social and situational contexts. Semantics examines both the denotative and implicit meanings of words, as well as the relationships among meanings and how these influence communication between speakers (Yule, 2010). One significant branch of semantic study is Speech Act Theory, which explores how language is used to perform actions. This theory was first introduced by J.L.

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Austin in his influential work How to Do Things with Words (1962) and was later developed by John Searle.

According to Austin (1962), when individuals produce utterances, they are not merely conveying information but also performing actions. He distinguished three types of speech acts: the locutionary act (the act of saying something), the illocutionary act (the speaker's intention behind the utterance), and the perlocutionary act (the effect the utterance has on the listener, such as persuading, scaring, convincing, or motivating them to act).

Searle (1969) expanded Austin's theory by categorizing illocutionary acts into five types: representatives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations. However, the present study focuses specifically on perlocutionary acts, as they highlight how utterances in film dialogues serve not only as narrative tools but also as mechanisms for influencing the emotions and behaviors of other characters.

The film Moana was selected for this study due to several significant reasons. First, Moana has achieved immense global popularity, reaching a wide audience across various age groups and cultural backgrounds (Howard & Clements, 2016). Second, the film carries strong moral values, such as courage, identity, and perseverance, which are conveyed through the interactions between the characters. These moral values are reflected in dialogues that are emotionally rich and deeply meaningful. For instance, the conversations between Moana and Maui not only reveal their evolving partnership but also involve efforts to understand and support one another, impacting both characters emotionally and behaviorally (Smith, 2017). Third, the dialogues in Moana are highly expressive and often serve to influence the actions of other characters, as seen in the interactions between Moana, who follows her calling to the ocean, and Maui, who struggles to reclaim his sense of purpose. These interactions clearly demonstrate how language can be used to influence the feelings and actions of other characters, making Moana an ideal example for studying perlocutionary acts in the context of film.

This study aims to analyze the forms and effects of perlocutionary acts that emerge in character dialogues in the film Moana. The research problem is framed as: How do the forms and effects of perlocutionary acts manifest in character dialogues in the film Moana? The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the types of perlocutionary acts and their effects on other characters through the dialogues in Moana, using a semantic approach within the framework of speech act theory.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Speech Act Theory, as introduced by Austin (1962) and later developed by Searle (1969), provides a comprehensive framework for understanding how language functions in communication. Austin's foundational work in How to Do Things with Words (1962) posited that language is not merely used to convey information but to perform actions. He identified three primary components of speech acts: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. These elements help explain how an utterance can simultaneously convey meaning, fulfill a communicative function, and affect the listener.

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1. Locutionary Acts: A locutionary act refers to the physical act of producing a sound or utterance, which can be broken down into three parts: phonetic act (the actual sounds produced), phatic act (the formation of words), and rhetic act (the meaning of those words). It addresses the form of the utterance and its literal meaning.
2. Illocutionary Acts: Illocutionary acts refer to the intention behind the utterance, or what the speaker is doing with their words. For example, when someone says, “Can you pass the salt?”, they are not just asking about the ability of the listener but are making a request. The illocutionary act concerns the function of the utterance, such as questioning, requesting, commanding, or promising.
3. Perlocutionary Acts: Perlocutionary acts concern the effects or consequences of an utterance on the listener. They focus on how an utterance influences the listener's thoughts, emotions, or actions. For instance, if someone says something to make another person feel guilty, the perlocutionary effect is the emotional response of guilt that the listener experiences. Perlocutionary acts are thus primarily concerned with the listener’s reaction to the speaker's words, which can range from agreement, anger, happiness, or even confusion (Searle, 1969).

Focus on Perlocutionary Acts. The perlocutionary act is particularly important in analyzing how films and dialogues in media can influence the viewer or characters in a profound manner. Perlocutionary acts differ from locutionary and illocutionary acts in that they are not about the utterance itself or the speaker’s intention, but about its impact on the recipient. In film, perlocutionary acts are often used to show how one character's words can emotionally or psychologically affect another character, driving narrative development and character evolution. For example, in Moana, Maui’s refusal to help Moana on her quest may evoke feelings of frustration, determination, or confusion in Moana, demonstrating the perlocutionary impact of Maui’s words (Smith, 2017).

The semantic analysis of utterances in the context of perlocutionary acts is essential for understanding the layered meanings in dialogues. The perlocutionary effect is not always immediately observable and may require a more in-depth interpretation of the dialogue in relation to the character's emotional and behavioral responses. The semantics of the utterances, therefore, go beyond the literal interpretation of words, encompassing the subtle shifts in meaning that arise from the listener’s emotional reactions (Levinson, 1983). By examining these shifts, one can understand how the characters’ language choices affect the plot, relationships, and emotional dynamics in the film.

METHOD

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach, which aims to describe and analyze the phenomenon of perlocutionary acts contained in the dialogue of the film Moana (2016). This research does not aim to test hypotheses or measure variables, but rather to understand and explain how the statements made by the characters in the film can affect other characters emotionally and psychologically. This approach focuses on interpreting the meaning and

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impact of speech in the context of communication between characters in the film, as well as how these perlocutionary acts contribute to the development of the plot and characters.

The main data source in this research is the dialogue spoken by the main character in the film Moana (2016). The characters that will be analyzed include Moana, Maui, Tamatoa, Te Fiti, and Gramma Tala. The selection of these dialogues is based on the relevance and influence of these utterances on other characters in the film, which leads to perlocutionary effects, both in the form of emotional responses and real actions from the characters who hear them. The selected dialogue also reflects complex interactions between characters, which can show various nuances in verbal communication.

Data collection techniques used in this research include:

- Note-Taking: Researchers note down important dialogues that are considered to have the potential to analyze perlocutionary acts. These notes were taken during the process of watching the film to capture key moments that show the impact of communication on the characters.
- Transcription: Following the viewing of the film and observing the conversations, the researcher will record any pertinent dialogue in writing to aid in further examination. This recorded dialogue will encompass all interactions among the characters chosen for study.
- Observation: Researchers will examine how characters interact in the movie, paying attention to their facial expressions, body language, and various non-verbal responses that aid in understanding the impacts of perlocutionary actions.

After data collection is complete, the analysis techniques used include:

- Statement Identification: The investigator will pinpoint each conversation spoken by the principal characters that pertains to perlocutionary actions. The primary emphasis is on how the remarks might influence the emotions or behaviors of the other characters.
- Perlocutionary Classification: Statements that have been recognized will be organized according to the influence or consequences they impose on other characters, including shifts in emotions (for instance, guilt, sorrow, perplexity), alterations in perspective, or different responses that can be classified as perlocutionary effects.
- Interpretation of Semantic Meaning: Subsequently, the investigator will examine the meaning behind each analyzed statement, considering the social, emotional, and psychological backdrop present in the film. The objective is to comprehend how the significance of remarks in the context of perlocutionary actions can affect the film's characters and how this connects to the themes portrayed in the movie Moana (2016), including identity, courage, and cultural belonging.

This approach aims to help the research give a better understanding of how the conversation in the movie Moana (2016) shares important information, affects how the characters feel and act, and how these factors contribute to the story's growth.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the analysis of 30 utterances in the movie Moana (2016), several types of perlocutionary acts were identified. The utterances were analyzed according to the effects they produced on the hearers. The findings show that the characters use language not only to communicate information but also to influence feelings, attitudes, decisions, and actions.

The analysis found thirteen types of perlocutionary acts, namely encouraging, motivating, convincing, persuading, warning, reassuring, directing, inspiring, influencing, blaming, attracting attention, emotionally affecting, and impressing. These types appear throughout the movie and contribute to the development of the storyline and the characterization of the main characters.

Among the 30 data analyzed, encouraging and motivating are the most frequently occurring perlocutionary acts. These acts are mainly produced by Tala and Moana. For example, Tala's utterance "The ocean chose you" encourages Moana to believe in herself and accept her destiny. The utterance influences Moana's attitude and motivates her to undertake her journey across the ocean.

Another example can be seen in Moana's utterance "Don't give up." This utterance motivates Maui when he begins to lose confidence in himself. The effect of the utterance is that Maui becomes determined to continue helping Moana restore the Heart of Te Fiti. Therefore, the utterance functions as a motivating perlocutionary act because it changes the hearer's attitude and behavior.

Warning is also found in the movie. Chief Tui's utterance "Stay away from the reef" functions as a warning because it aims to protect Moana from danger. The effect is that Moana becomes aware of the risks beyond the island, although she later decides to follow her own path.

In addition, reassuring acts appear when Tala says "There is nowhere you could go that I won't be with you." This utterance comforts Moana and reduces her fear. The effect is that Moana feels supported and gains confidence to continue her mission.

Persuading acts can be seen when Moana tells Maui "You will board my boat." Through this utterance, Moana attempts to influence Maui's decision and encourage him to cooperate. As a result, Maui gradually becomes involved in her journey.

The findings indicate that perlocutionary acts play an important role in the movie because they help build relationships between characters and support the themes of courage, identity, leadership, responsibility, and perseverance. The effects of the utterances often lead the hearers to change their feelings, beliefs, or actions, which subsequently drive the story forward.

Table 1. couraging and motivating are the dominant perlocutionary acts

No	Time	Dialogue	Semantic Explanation	Perlocutionary Act	Expanded Explanation (Short)
1	00:02:15	Come on, Moana.	Tala invites Moana to follow her.	Encouraging	Moana becomes interested and follows Tala.

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2	00:03:05	The ocean chose you.	Tala tells Moana she has a destiny.	Convincing	Moana begins to believe she is special.
3	00:05:22	Stay away from the reef.	Tui warns Moana of danger.	Warning	Moana becomes cautious.
4	00:06:10	There is nowhere you could go that I won't be with you.	Tala reassures Moana.	Reassuring	Moana feels comforted.
5	00:12:41	I want to see what's at the horizon.	Moana expresses her dream.	Influencing	Others understand her ambition.
6	00:15:08	You are the next great chief.	Tui reminds Moana of her duty.	Motivating	Moana reflects on her responsibility.
7	00:21:32	You must find Maui.	Tala gives Moana a mission.	Directing	Moana starts her journey.
8	00:29:17	Maui, shapeshifter, demigod of the wind and sea.	Moana introduces Maui.	Attracting Attention	Maui pays attention to Moana.
9	00:31:44	I am Moana of Motunui.	Moana introduces herself.	Convincing	Others recognize her determination.
10	00:36:25	You will board my boat.	Moana insists Maui help her.	Persuading	Maui reluctantly cooperates.
11	00:38:10	I'm not leaving without the heart.	Moana refuses to quit.	Convincing	Maui realizes her determination.
12	00:40:55	You have stolen the heart.	Moana accuses Maui.	Blaming	Maui feels challenged.
13	00:43:12	The ocean is my friend.	Moana defends herself.	Convincing	Maui begins to respect her.
14	00:47:20	We're going together.	Moana insists on teamwork.	Persuading	Maui continues traveling with her.
t15	00:50:08	You can do this.	Moana encourages Maui.	Encouraging	Maui gains confidence.
16	00:54:35	I am self-taught.	Maui boasts about himself.	Impressing	Moana becomes amazed.
17	00:57:18	Get up.	Moana urges Maui.	Directing	Maui continues the mission.
18	00:01:22	Don't give up.	Moana motivates Maui.	Encouraging	Maui becomes more determined.
19	01:05:40	You are not your hook.	Moana comforts Maui.	Reassuring	Maui regains self-confidence.
20	01:09:12	The people need you.	Moana reminds Maui of responsibility.	Motivating	Maui feels responsible.
21	01:12:08	I can't do this.	Moana expresses doubt.	Emotionally Affecting	Maui realizes her fear.
22	01:14:55	Sometimes our strengths lie beneath the surface.	Tala inspires Moana.	Inspiring	Moana regains confidence.
23	01:18:30	I am Moana!	Moana declares her identity.	Convincing	She becomes more confident.
24	01:21:42	I know who I am.	Moana realizes her purpose.	Inspiring	She feels empowered.
25	01:24:15	This is not who you are.	Moana speaks to Te Kā.	Persuading	Te Kā becomes calmer.
26	01:26:40	Let her come to me.	Moana asks others to step aside.	Directing	Others allow Moana to proceed.

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27	01:28:55	I have crossed the horizon.	Moana reflects on her journey.	Inspiring	Others admire her achievement.
28	01:31:05	The heart belongs to you.	Moana returns Te Fiti's heart.	Reassuring	Te Fiti is restored.
29	01:33:40	We were voyagers.	Moana reminds her people of their heritage.	Inspiring	The villagers feel proud.
30	01:36:10	We will voyage again.	Moana encourages her people.	Motivating	The villagers are excited to sail again.

Based on the table above, encouraging and motivating are the dominant perlocutionary acts, each occurring five times. This result reflects the main message of the movie, which emphasizes personal growth, courage, and self-confidence.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of 30 utterances in the movie Moana (2016), it can be concluded that various types of perlocutionary acts are used by the characters to influence the thoughts, emotions, and actions of others. The study found thirteen types of perlocutionary acts, including encouraging, motivating, convincing, persuading, warning, reassuring, directing, inspiring, influencing, blaming, attracting attention, emotionally affecting, and impressing.

The dominant perlocutionary acts found in the movie are encouraging and motivating. These acts are frequently used because the story focuses on Moana's journey of self-discovery and leadership. Through encouraging and motivating utterances, the characters support one another in overcoming challenges and achieving their goals.

Furthermore, the findings demonstrate that perlocutionary acts contribute significantly to character development and plot progression. The utterances analyzed in this study affect the hearers by changing their attitudes, strengthening their confidence, creating awareness, and inspiring action. Therefore, language in Moana functions not only as a means of communication but also as a powerful tool for influencing behavior and emotions.

In conclusion, the use of perlocutionary acts in Moana highlights the importance of language in shaping interpersonal relationships and supporting the central themes of courage, responsibility, identity, and perseverance. The findings of this study are expected to provide useful insights for future research in pragmatics, semantics, and speech act analysis in literary and cinematic works.

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