Directive Speech Act used in WA (WhatsApp) Messenger in Academic Discourse

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ABSTRACT: This research studies about directive speech act in WhatsApp (WA) messengers. The objectives of the research is to describe the type of directive speech act. This research is descriptive qualitative research. The subject of this research is the chat online via WhatsApp. The data were analyzed by qualitative descriptive technique which resulted in descriptive, data descriptive in the form of sentence or word contained in WA messengers. The way of data collection is done by reading technique and technique of note. In this research, the researcher used documentation as the instrument. The results of the research show that, first, the types of directive speech acts were command, request, permission, reminding, suggestion and question. Second, the types of directive speech acts that most frequently used were command type.

KEYWORDS: Command, Directive speech act, Pragmatics, Request, Whatsapp.

INTRODUCTION

Linguistics is the study of the nature of language and communication. It is concerned with both the study of specific languages and the search for general properties shared by all languages or large groups of languages. When we communicate, we actually require a partner or a listener to understand and respond to what we are saying. However, in some cases of communication, speakers were unable to convey their messages to people from a different cultural background. As a result, there will be some misunderstanding between the hearers and speakers in a conversation, and the message will not be easily delivered to the hearers as it is. Learning about pragmatics, which deals with meaning in relation to its social context, is one way to avoid this type of misunderstanding.

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that concerns with meaning in use. According to Yule (1996: 3), pragmatics is the study of the relationship between linguistic forms and their use. According to Levinson (1993), pragmatics is the study of meaning in context, particularly the meaning spoken by speakers. So, based on the two perspectives presented above, pragmatics related to how a person communicates or performs a speech function are referred to as speech acts. One of the pragmatic fields is speech acts. It depicts human activity in a language, and pragmatics is the study of how people act through their speech.

Speech acts are classified into three types, according to Austin in Yule (1996: 48). The first is the locutionary act (the act of saying something), which is the act of expressing the literal meaning of the words, or in other words, the locutionary act is only the textual meaning spoken by the speaker. The second type of illocutionary act (the act of doing something) can be defined as the purpose or contextual meaning of an utterance. The third type of perlocutionary (the act of affecting someone) is the act of producing an effect in the hearer through the utterance.

Searle in Trosborg (1995: 14) proposed that there are five classifications of illocutionary act, they are; representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative. Each type has different context and meaning. In this research, the researcher limited the research only focus on directive speech act.

Direction is an important category in speech acts because it is used to persuade someone else to do something (paradigm cases: requesting, questioning, command, orders, suggesting, etc.). The directive speech act is commonly used in message transmission via WA. Furthermore, we must understand their conversational goals. To avoid misunderstandings, it is necessary to understand the meaning of the conversation. As a result, the researcher focuses on directive speech acts in WA in academic discourse in this study. There are three reasons why this study about directive speech act is still freshly conducted. First, a directive speech act is a type of speech act that is frequently used by speakers in everyday conversation. The second reason is that directive indicates a strong relationship between the speaker and the hearer. The next reason is that directive speech acts are used in communication to get or give attention from the speaker. Several researchers have used pragmatic theory in the context of speech acts, particularly directive speech.

METHOD

This research used a descriptive qualitative method. According to Endraswara (2011: 5) descriptive qualitative method is the method in research that is described in words form of picture, if necessary, not the numerals. The researcher used the qualitative method because the purpose of this study is to the described the types of speech act especially directive speech act which are found in WA messengers. The object of his research was all utterances representing directive speech act found in WA messages among lectures and researcher. Descriptive qualitative analysis is used to determine the types of directive speech acts found in WhatsApp messengers. The data came from five different speech events with lecturers and researcher. The researcher texted five lecturers at English Department of Universitas Lampung, and the texts were recorded.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Object	Utterances	Directive Speech Acts Types
Mr. C	It's late.	Reminding
Mr. C	Yes, qualitative, interview, observation	Commanding
Mr. C	Come on	Commanding
Mam. AN	It's softcopy	Requesting
Mam AN	Please, send the proposal again via email…	Commanding
Mr. PR	Can you tell me where you got the bachelor's degree?	Questioning
Mr. PR	Well, I am afraid you need to decide on something more TEFL as your master's thesis.	Suggesting
Mr. M	Make sure that literature review includes how and why….	Suggesting
Mr. B	It seems that you have no discussion	Reminding
Researcher/student	Assalamualaikum, Prof. Can I meet you today?	Requesting
Researcher/student	Mam, forgive me. I can't attend for pragmatics class today. Because I am still in Bogor…	Permission
Researcher/student	Is it a softcopy or print out?	Questioning

According to Searle, Directive speech acts are the utterances which are attempts by the speaker to get the addressee to do something (Levinson, 1983) The verbs that relate the category are 'ordering', 'commanding', ' requesting', 'advising', 'inviting', 'admonishing', 'suggesting', ' reminding', 'urging', 'warning', 'reproving', and 'prohibiting'.

From the table above the directive speech act contained in the utterance is commanding (see appendix). The commanding act is the most common in English magister lecturer and student communication. It almost always appears when the lecturer gives a command to her students. The lecturer who uses commanding utterances delivered the most data of directive speech acts. When giving instructions to students, the lecturer almost always uses commanding utterances, and some lecturers frequently use suggesting to give advice when assigning tasks to students. For the student, requesting, questioning, and permission utterances use in the messengers. The student choose that utterances in the form of politeness attitude when the students ask to the lecturer or the other students. There is no evidence that students choose commanding, urging, or admonishing when speaking with others, particularly lecturers. It implies that English magister students can choose when and to whom they speak in the appropriate utterance.

This finding was supported by Oktoberia's research (2007). During her research, she discovered that the dominant type of directive speech acts used in the Sleeping Beauty movie as a fantasy and adventure movie was command type. This result was consistent with previous research, which found that the command type was the most prevalent type of directive speech act used in the film. It was also demonstrated in Nugroho's research (2011). During his research, he discovered that directive represents the speaker's power and dominance. According to the table in this study, the command type was more dominant than the other types in directive speech acts.

CONCLUSION

According to Searle, Directive speech acts are the utterances which are attempts by the speaker to get the addressee to do something (Levinson, 1983). Lecturer was used more frequently commanding. It is higher proportion in directive speech acts that appeared
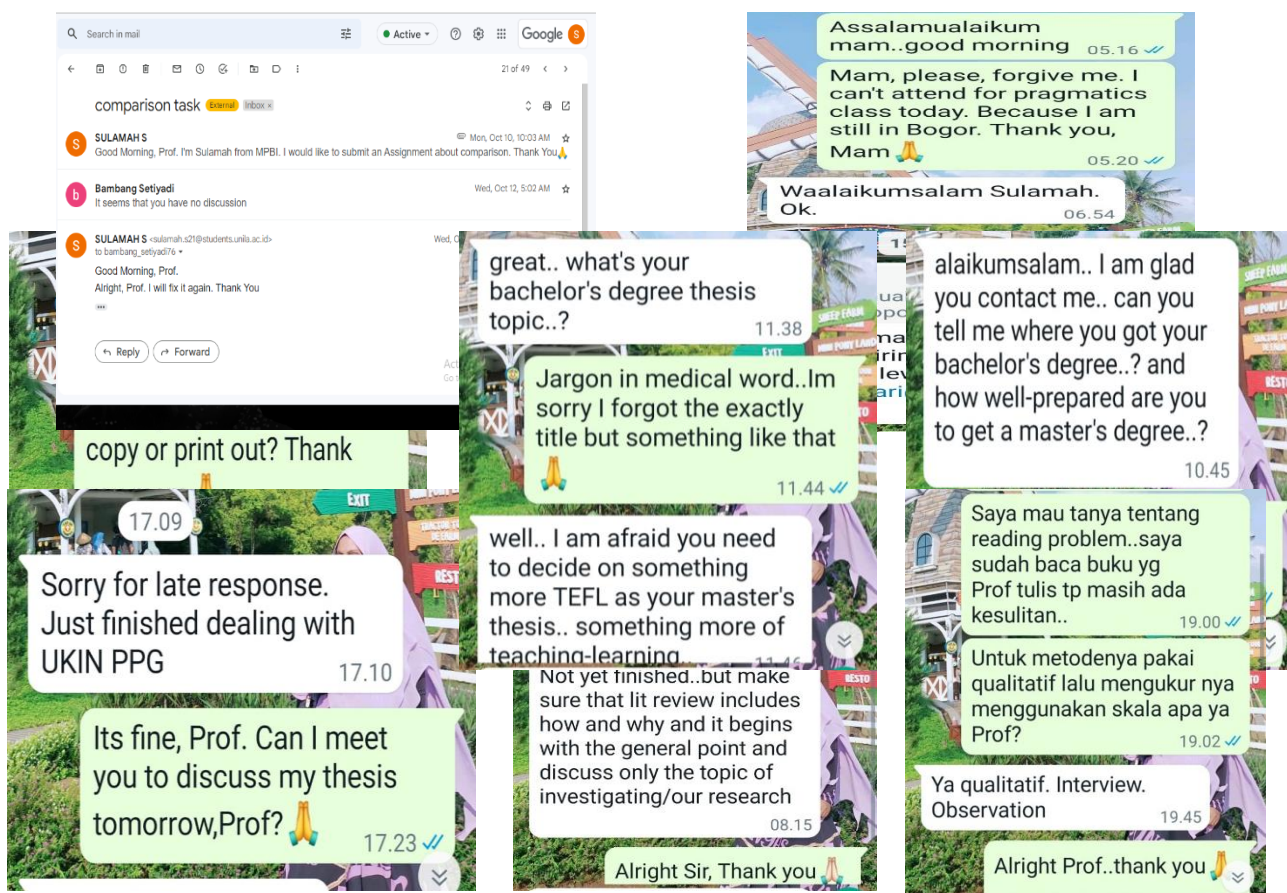
communication in WA messengers. The second, Suggestion was the alternative way in applying directives acts in the WA messengers between lecturer and student. Most of English lecturer applied commanding as strategy in the communication and there were not commanding utterances that delivered by the students.

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APPENDIX