# UNDERSTANDING SPEECH ACTS ACCORDING TO BETTY J. BIRNER THROUGH CORPSE BRIDE MOVIE EMILY'S DIALOGUE

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This research aims to examine Emily's dialogue in Corpse Bride movie (2005), focusing on pragmatic speech acts, locution acts, illocution acts, and perlocution acts according to Betty J. Birner (2012). This analysis aims to find out what types of speech acts are dominant and the meaning of each dialogue used by Emily in Corpse Bride 2005. The result of this research shows that most of Emily's dialogues consist of 28 data on locution, 13 data on illocution, and 12 data on perlocution. Each type of speech act gives a different meaning and purpose. The results of this study were taken from the script of a character named Emily in the Corpse Bride movie (2005).

Keywords: Pragmatics, Betty J. Birner, Speech Act, Corpse Bride 2005

#### INTRODUCTION

Comparing pragmatics to semantics—the study of literal meaning apart from context—one may characterize pragmatics as the study of language use in context (Birner, 2012). Humans communicate with signs, and pragmatics is a field of study that has focused on signs. Pragmatic refers to the word's train that is determined by looking at its symbol. In pragmatic analysis, the speech act is being examined. A speech act is a phrase used to carry out a specific action, like asking for something, giving someone an instruction, or promising something. Betty J. Birner distinguishes between three categories of speech acts: Acts about locution, illocution, and perlocution. According to Birner locutionary act is the fundamental act of generating an utterance, such as a query or a statement. The act of speaking with a specific meaning in mind, regardless of whether that meaning is meant to carry out a specific illocutionary deed or have a specific perlocutionary outcome. An illocutionary act is an action carried out by uttering a phrase, such as a request, an instruction, or a pledge. It is an utterance's intended consequence, and the speaker performs it in the hopes that the listener will understand what is intended. A perlocutionary act is an act that has the purpose of influencing the listener, usually by convincing them to do or feel a certain way, is the outcome of a speech, although the speaker may not have intended it.

However, there are other kinds of speech acts. Representatives, for example, convey a state of concern through statements, claims, hypotheses, descriptions, and recommendations. Representatives can typically be classified as true or untrue. The second is a talker's commitment to a course of action through threats, pledges, promises, and other such actions. The third category consists of instructions designed to elicit a response from the recipient, such as commands, requests, challenges, invites, entreaties, and dares. Fourth, there are statements made regarding the circumstances surrounding the events they designate, such as blessings, hirings, firings, baptisms, arrests, marriages, and mistrial declarations. The fifth category is Expressions, which include greetings, excuses, congrats, condolences, and expressions of gratitude. Expressions reveal the speaker's

mental condition or style. The final category is verdicts, which include ranking, evaluating, appraising, and condoning (Finegan, 2011).

There are previous research on this topic, Speech Act Analysis Of "Frozen" The Movie Script, Adinda Srimulya Rahayu, Trisnendri Syahruzal, Irma Savitri Sadikin, 2019, this research explains the speech acts in the script of Anna's character in Frozen (2013) using qualitative method, the author analyses the types of speech acts such as representatives, commissives, directives, declarations, expressive, verdictives using Finegan's theory (2011), this research concludes there are 37 representatives, 3 commissives, 32 directives, and 10 expressive. Speech Act Analysis of the Main Character In Maleficent Movie Script, Rani Violeta. 2019, this research explains what type of speech act is most dominantly used by Maleficent the main character in Maleficent films (2014). in the research, the author uses the qualitative method and then explains illocutionary speech acts using John R. Searle's theory. An Analysis of Expressive Speech Acts Used in Crazy Rich Asian Movie, Risa Dewi Rahmawati. 2021, this research studies expressive speech acts in Crazy Rich Asian movie, in this research the writer analyses the type of expressive speech acts found in Crazy Rich Asian movie, then explains the speaking model used in Crazy Rich Asian movie using the theory of Searle (1985) and Hymes (1974). The conclusion in this research there are twelve expressives speech acts mentioned by Searle, apologize, thank, condole, congratulate, complain, lament, protest, deplore, boast, compliment, greet, and welcome.

Corpse Bride (2005) is a movie that tells two people named Victor Van Dort and Victoria Everglot who are engaged in a Victorian village in the late 1800s. The Everglots need the money or they will have to live on the streets, while the Van Dorts want to be well-known in the community. However, Victor heads into the woods to rehearse his vows after the wedding rehearsal goes south. As soon as he makes the necessary corrections, he marries Emily, the corpse bride. There is a wealthy newcomer who might replace Victor while Victoria waits on the other side. Which of the two brides and one husband will Victor choose? Emily is a reanimated corpse who claims to be the young Victor Van Dort's bride after they meet in the woods. She was also a gifted and affluent lady in her past. Just before she was freed and could finally enter Heaven, she was killed by her ex-fiance, Lord Barkis Bittern, and indirectly killed him.

### **METHODS**

Since this research involves examining words and word form by mentioning sentences and their various speech acts, the writers' method of analysis for the speech acts in Emily's dialogue in Corpse Bride movie script is a qualitative research design. According to Merriam (1966) in Creswell (1997:145), qualitative research is descriptive since the researcher is interested in the meaning, process, and comprehension that are conveyed through language or figures. Perry (2005), referenced in Dewi, Hernawan, and Apsari (2019), states that the verbal explanation of the data in qualitative research is what makes it unique. The processes employed in this study are data collection, data analysis, and findings presentation. The data was taken from the Corpse Bride movie script Emily's Dialogue. Emily's character is played by Helena Bonham Carter, next, using Birner's proposed classification of speech acts in the Corpse Bride (2005) movie script, the writers examined their findings.

Data collection is carried out with the following steps:

- 1) The writer read and wrote one by one of Emily's dialogue in Corpse Bride movie script.
- 2) Take note of the dialogue that contains speech acts (locutionary, illocutionary, perlocutionary).

Analysis of the research data follows the following procedure:

- 1) Choose dialogues that contain speech acts (locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary).
- 2) Identify types of speech acts by reading carefully.
- 3) Classify the type of speech acts from the data source.
- 4) Find the meaning of speech acts.
- 5) Conclude.

#### **RESULTS**

The data is shown in the table below based on the script that has been seen:

Speech Act	Sentences
Locutionary Act	28
Illocutionary Act	13
Perlocutionary Act	12

**Table 1.** Speech act results in Corpse Bride script Emily's dialogue.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Based on the findings, the writers found 3 speech act types in Corpse Bride movie script Emily's dialogue. The sentence sample captures all of the speech act data categories. The categories of speech acts are listed below. According to Betty J. Birner, the author separated the sentence based on the kind of speech act (2012).

### 1) Locutionary Act

Locutionary act is the basic act of producing an utterance, such as making a statement or asking a question. It is the act of uttering words with a certain meaning.

"I do."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement, meaning that Emily agrees with Victor Van Dort after he is practicing a vow for Victoria Everglot and accidentally raises Emily from her grave.

"Are you alright?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort who just woke up from fainting.

"I'm sure she'll get over it. There are lots of living people up there."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement about Victoria Everglot that she will find someone new to marry.

"I spent so long in the darkness. I'd almost forgotten how beautiful the moonlight is!" As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement, meaning that she is too long inside her grave and she wishes that someone will bring her back to life.

"He's my husband. He gave me this ring!"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement, meaning that she tells everyone that Victor Van Dort is her husband now by giving her the ring.

"I think we were meant to find each other."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement, meaning that she and Victor Van Dort are meant for each other even though they're living in a different world.

"This Victoria. Did you love her?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question if Victor Van Dort is in love with Victoria Everglot the woman to whom he should be married.

"Do you think she would have approved of me?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort if his mother will accept her to be his wife.

"Where are they?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort about where are his parents.

"They're still alive?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort if his parents are still alive or not.

"It's real. Everything's real except us. You and I are just phantoms."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that she and Victor Van Dort are not real because Emily is dead and Victor is still alive.

"Which house is yours?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort where is his house when they finally arrive in the land of the living.

"I did so want to make a good impression! I couldn't wait, darling."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that she can't wait for too long when Victor goes to his house first, which is Victoria's house.

"Darling, who is this?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victor Van Dort who is the woman he is talking to, it's Victoria Everglot.

"She's the other woman."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Victor Van Dort that Victoria is the other woman and Emily is his wife.

"I thought this was all going so well."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that she thought her relationship with Victor Van Dort was going so well.

"You should have thought about that before you asked me to marry you."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Victor Van Dort that he should think about their different world before he asks her to marry him.

"I can't compete with that woman. She has everything he wants."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement while talking to Maggot that she remains outclassed by Victoria Everglot.

"He thinks I'm a monster."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that Victor Van Dort thinks she is a monster because she is dead.

"You can't force him to like me."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Maggot that she can't force Victor Van Dort to like Emily.

"Well, it was a very quick ceremony."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement about the ceremony of her wedding and Victor Van Dort.

"We'll never get up there without him knowing."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Elder Gutknecht that they can't go to the land of the living without Victor's knowing.

"I've been waiting my whole life, and my whole after-life for this!"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Elder Gutknecht that she is desperately waiting for this marriage.

"It's beautiful."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Black Widow that the wedding at the land of the living will be beautiful and something that Emily dreamt of.

"We're just about to get married again."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement to Victor Van Dort that they are going to get married again but in a proper way.

"This is wrong."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that her marriage with Victor is wrong because he is supposed to marry Victoria Everglot, not Emily.

"I love you, Victor, but you're not mine."

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that has a certain meaning, Emily is making a statement that she is in love with Victor but she realizes that Victor is never been hers, and she realizes that if she married to Victor that means she stole someone's husband.

"Where did you get that ring?"

As Birner (2012) said the locutionary act is an act that can conclude by asking a question, Emily is asking a question to Victoria about the wedding ring she wears because it looks similar to the ring she wore before she died.

#### 2) Illocutionary Act

Illocutionary act is when a speaker utters a sentence. The speaker intends to convey a certain message while making a request, making an offer, giving an order, dictating, or grumbling. (Putri, S. A., & Juanda, J. 2021). It is an utterance's intended consequence, and the speaker performs it in the hopes that the listener will understand what is intended.

"You may kiss the bride!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order to Victor Van Dort to kiss the bride/Emily after he says the vow.

"I can't wait for you to meet everyone!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily indirectly gives an order to Victor Van Dort to meet everyone there because he just arrives at that place.

"We need to go up. Upstairs? To visit the land of living."

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order, meaning that she and Victor Van Dort should go out (upstairs) to the place where people are still alive (the land of living) where Victor Van Dort came from.

"Please, leave him alone. He's only just arrived."

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is making a request, meaning that she doesn't want anyone to approach Victor Van Dort because he just arrived there.

"Let's go find them!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order, meaning that she wants Victor Van Dort to take her to his parents.

"Please, Elder Gutknecht, surely there must be something you can do?"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is requesting Elder Gutknecht so he can transfer Emily and Victor to the land of the living to see Victor's parents and house.

"But surely there's some way to fix this? Please help me!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is requesting Elder Gutknecht to help her so she and Victor can marry.

"I'll say them right now!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is promising Elder Gutknecht that she will say the ceremony by saying the vows completely at the land of the living.

"We're going up there. And we're going up now!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order to Elder Gutknecht that they should go to the land of the living right now so she can says the vows completely at the land of the living.

"Grab what you can and follow me. We're moving this party."

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order to the people to follow her to the land of the living to attend her and Victor's wedding ceremony.

"With this hand I will lift your sorrows. Your cup will never empty."

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is making a promise by saying a vow while she and Victor Van Dort marry.

"With this candle, I will light your way in darkness."

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is making a promise by saying a vow while she and Victor Van Dort marry.

"The ring has my name on it. Check the inscription!"

As Birner (2012) said the illocutionary act is performed by the speaker with the expectation that the listener will recognize the intended effect, Emily is giving an order to Victoria Everglot to check the ring she wears which is the ring that Emily wore with Barkis before she dies. Barkis is Emily's ex-fiancee who killed her after they got married.

#### 3) Perlocutionary Act

Perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener in a certain way, such as persuading them to do something or making them feel a certain way. It is the outcome of a speech, and the speaker may not have meant for it to happen.

"You were wonderful. So passionate. It was everything I dreamed of."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is affecting Victor Van Dort by complimenting him and saying that he is what she's dreaming of.

## "No, really. It's true."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is convincing Victor Van Dort that they've just got married then she holds his hand over the candle on the table.

### "By making a vow! Which you did!"

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is convincing Victor Van Dort that he made the vow to her and now they're husband and wife.

"Haven't you ever felt like you weren't alone, even when you were? Or saw something out of the corner of your eye and turned and it wasn't there?"

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is affecting Victor Van Dort by saying that she is always watching him before they meet, so Victor can feel that they belong together.

# "I also have a little wedding gift for you."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is affecting Victor Van Dort by giving him a little wedding gift which is his dead dog.

# "I knew you'd be happy to see him."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is affecting Victor Van Dort by saying that she is happy that Victor can see his dead dog again.

### "What a cutie."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is complimenting Victor's dog that it's cute and the dog feels happy when hears it.

### "I'm so glad you thought of this."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is affecting Victor Van Dort by saying that she is glad that he gives a great idea to Elder Gutknecht that they need to visit the land of the living.

# "Perfect!"

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily shows that she agrees with Victor's idea that Victor goes first to his house and Emily waits for him.

#### "You lied to me!"

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily shows that she is mad at Victor Van Dort because he went to Victoria's house while he said to Emily he was going to his parents.

#### "You're married to me!"

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily is convincing Victor Van Dort that they are married so Victor can remember that Emily is his wife now.

"Pardon my enthusiasm."

As Birner (2012) said the perlocutionary act is the act of affecting the listener by making them feel a certain way, Emily hopes that Victor Van Dort will get used to her enthusiasm about they will get married properly.

### **CONCLUSION**

Pragmatics refers to the word's train that is determined by looking at its symbol. In pragmatic analysis, the speech act is being examined. According to Betty J. Birner, a speech act is a phrase used to carry out a specific action, like asking for something, giving someone an instruction, or promising something. There are 3 types of speech acts, locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. From the table shown, it can be seen that the type of speech act that is widely used in the script of Corpse Bride Emily's dialogue is locutionary act with as many as 28 sentences, second, there is illocutionary act with as many as 13 sentences, and the least there is perlocutionary act as many as 12 sentences. This shows that Emily's character is more likely to make a statement and ask a question due to the character's nature of not liking something that is not clear.

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