

# KINDS AND FUNCTION OF DIRECTIVE ACTS IN YOUTUBE CHANNEL JAMES CORDEN "SPILL YOUR GUTS" TALKSHOW

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## **Abstract**

The aimed of this research is to find out the kind of directive acts in James Corden's talk show on YouTube channel entitled "Spill Your Guts" and the function of those directives acts that employed by the speaker. This research was categorized as descriptive qualitative research. The data sources of this research were from a talk show on James Corden's YouTube channel which entitled "Spill Your Guts". The data of this research was taken from the language used in conversation "Spill Your Guts". Researchers used the data script to analyze. The findings of the research show that there are three types of Directives acts, they are command, request, and suggestion. There were 21 data that classified as command, 6 data classified as request and 8 data classified as suggestion. It can be shows that command is the most used directive acts employed by the speaker of this talk show. The reason why speaker employs directive acts in this talk show cannot be separated from the context of situations. The function of the directives performed by the speaker can be divided into four namely when the speaker wants to show his/her care about the hearer, wants to direct/instruct the hearer, wants to show his/her authority and also the speaker wants to warn the hearer.

**Keywords:** directive acts, pragmatic, talk show

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Speech act is used to in our daily life, people use speech act for interaction with people every day. People are used to speak or ask for information, state something, or even give an order to someone. Speech acts are spoken actions that resolve something, such as greetings, offends, praises, admit, apology, and so on. For example, the word 'Sorry' is to perform an apology, for the complete sentence is 'I'm sorry to disturb your private time'. Thus, it can be said that speech act is very important in human daily life for communication.

Before people speak to someone, people need a language to act the speech.

Human daily life cannot be separated from language or language use. Language is a tool of communication that has a function to express and ask an idea to each other in daily life. According to Yule (1996), when people using language to express themselves, they do not only produce speech that contains grammatical structure and words, they also perform an action. For example, when he or she says "would you be able to stop by in a moment?", in this case, he or she makes a request although the sentence is in the form of question. Accordingly, from the context before, we call it speech act.

Austin (1975) stated that speech act has three acts, which is locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. The three types of speech act can be used to analyze in a speech or human speech in communication. Meanwhile, this research focused on one of types from illocutionary act. Illocutionary act has five types based on Searle (1985), which is assertive, commissive, directive, declarative, and expressive. On the other hand, based on Kreidler (1998), directive acts have three types that can be recognized; command, request, and suggestion.

This research took a talk show from James Corden's YouTube channel 'The Late Late show with James Corden' entitled "Spill Your Guts". This talk show is very interesting to be analyzed. Because it is one of the best and popular in all ages. James Corden's has 24.7M subscribers. Meanwhile, in every episode of Spill Your Guts, there are two people who are famous that would take turns asking personal questions and being given a choice: answer honestly or eat whatever food is in front of them, including hot dog juice, blood jelly, and scorpions. During the show, it will bring you laugh.

In a talk show it will have interesting conversations, during the conversation between one and another in a talk show, it has some relevance studies of speech act, mostly illocutionary act. In this Spill Your Guts talk show, it has some utterances that related to the directive act. Let's see an example of directive act from the dialogue of Spill Your Guts: Harry Styles & Kendall Jenner show.

*Harry Styles: Let's take a look at the food we have on the table*

In the situation, Harry commanded to cameraman to take closely to the food on the table. Based on the utterances, it was one kind of directive act which is

command. The utterances said by Harry, it was an opening in the show, the show just started it, it has an utterance that related to the speech act include directive act of illocutionary. That is why the researchers of this research chose directive act to be analyzed in this research.

Sembiring & Ambalegin (2019) in their research entitled Illocutionary Acts on Aladdin Movie 2019 attempted to find out the types and the function of context of illocutionary act on Aladdin movie. The research classified as descriptive-qualitative research. Researchers analyze 30 utterances which contained illocutionary acts. The data were classified into five; directives, assertive, declarative, commissive, and expressive). Researchers found that from 30 illocutionary acts, directives were the most frequent types of illocutionary act because the main characters mostly expressed their utterances in direct way such as by ordering, requesting, asking and commanding. Meanwhile, the research didn't find declarative type in the data. Researchers also find the functions of types of illocutionary acts were directive (ask, command, order, request, beg, plead, pray, entreat, invite, permit, and advise), assertive (description ,a claim ,a statement of fact , a report ,and a conclusion), declaratives (forbidding, classifying, forgiving), commissive (committing, promising, offering, threatening, refusing,), expressive (apologizing, thanking, congratulating, condoling, deploring, and welcoming). This research also inspired from Anto (2018) about illocutionary speech act as found in the play of Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*.

The cases above led researchers to examine the directive acts in a TV talk show James Corden "Spill Your Guts" which researchers found in their YouTube Channel. The research took TV talk show as a source of data because

it is widely known, it can be seen from their subscriber which already have millions. The research only focused in directive acts so that. It escorted the researcher's interest in conducting an analysis of the journal entitled **Directive Acts in James Corden "Spill Your Guts" Talk show: Pragmatics Approach.**

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Based on Kreidler (1998) theory, directive acts have three types that can be recognized; command, request, and suggestion. Command is only effective if the speaker has a level of control over the recipient's action. Command can be produced with varying degrees of simplicity. Command is used in the imperative form. Imperative always start with verbs. For instance, "Clean your room". Meanwhile, request is an expression of what the speaker wants the other person to aim for or do. Request does not take control of the speaker over the intended person. Request can be used by all age speakers. A request sentence always starts with modal verbs; can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, and would. Furthermore, a request always forms in yes/no question. The last one is suggestion; suggestion is an utterance that we make to someone to give our opinions as to what they should or should not. Suggestion is used to give someone suggestion for probability. Suggestion is the form of a spoken expression with the aim of conveying advice or input to others, with the hope that the person is willing to do the advice or input. Most of the expression that usually use for giving suggestion; I think..., what about..., what if..., you should..., and etc. For instance, "I think the correct answer is A".

There are two studies that previously done by researchers which have similar topic as this research. The first re-

search is analyzed by (Zulaiha, 2015) entitled Directive Acts Used by The Main Characters in The Movie Script "Around the World in 80 Days" by Frank Coraci," 2015. The research aimed to find out the types of directive acts and investigate the intended meaning of utterances of directive acts uttered by the main character in the movie script "Around the World in 80 Days" by Frank Coraci. The method that the researcher used in this research was descriptive qualitative. Accordingly, the research result showed that it has four types of directives act in the movie script "Around the World in 80 Days"; (1) Ordering, (2) Requesting, (3) Advising, (4) Suggesting. There are found 18 data of ordering, 11 data of requesting, 2 data of advising, and 2 data of suggesting.

Other research has been done by Handayani (2015) also conducted the same topic. The research entitled An Analysis of Directive Speech Acts Used by English Teachers at SMA N 13 Padang 2014/2015 Academic Year. The aim of the research is to find out how teachers use the Directive Speech Acts in the learning process in class. On the other hand, the research also aimed to find out what is the function of directive speech acts usage in the learning process. The method that the researcher used in this research was descriptive qualitative. This research found that there are 6 types of directive speech acts used by teachers in the learning process, namely bald imperative (command), requestive (embedded imperative), question, requirement (hint directive), permissive, and need statement. Furthermore, the researcher also found the functions of the Directive Speech Acts used by the teacher in the learning process are for asking students to do something, knowing students understanding, inviting students to keep paying attention to the lesson, watching students during the learning process, ex-

cuse me, requesting, giving advice. The command that is mostly done by the teacher is command (bald imperative).

### 3. RESEARCH METHOD

Descriptive qualitative approach is applied in this research. Creswell (2014) stated that qualitative research is kind of research that depend on data analysis which is defined occasion utilizing words, phrases, and sentences in a text that can be deciphered and perceived to get idea about certain interesting phenomena. Object of this research is directive acts. This research is related to the pragmatic theory. Researchers used Kreidler (1998) theory; types of directive acts. The research data was taken using the observation method. This observation method is a way of collecting data by observing the data. Researchers made an observation in having data by watching the talk show, listening to the utterance that the speakers spoke, written into transcript, and analyzing sentences that contain directive acts. This research is non-participatory technique in analyzing data.

### 4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result and discussion discussed the final research based on the theory used. As the researchers mentioned in literature review chapter, researchers employ Kreidler (1998) directive acts. He stated that directive acts divided into three types that can be recognized as command, request, and suggestion. There are 35 data found that contains directive speech act utterances which being used in 4 episodes of Spill your Guts talk show with several guests which are Harry Styles & Kendal Jenner, Justin Bieber, The Jonas Brothers and Kendall Jenner.

#### 4.1 Result

The result of analysis kinds and function can be seen as the table below:

Table 1. Data Findings of Functions of Directive Speech Acts

No.	Function of Directive Speech Acts	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Command	21	60%
2	Request	6	17.2%
3	Suggestion	8	22.8%
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 4.2 Discussion

##### a. The kinds of directive acts employed by the speaker in the selected episode of Talk Show *Spill Your Gut*

The kinds of directive acts employed by the main characters in the selected episode of Talk Show *Spill Your Gut* can be identified based on the classification of Directive Acts by Kreidler (1998) that divided into three types namely command, request, and suggestion.

##### Command

The term command can be divided into two, they are; the speaker who commands has the right and duty on command or the other one is the recipient of command has the responsibility and or obligation to carry out the command. Command can also in the form of order, instruction, obligate or force. In this research, researchers found 21 data classified as command it makes command directive acts as the act that mostly used by the participants of the talk show.

Data 1:

*Harry Style: I'll ask the first question. The producers have not shown as these ahead of time. I'll choose the food you have to eat, if you don't want to answer the question.*

The situation of the utterance is Harry Style explained how the game

works to Kendal Jenner his interlocutors. Both of them is a guest in James Corden's Show. The utterance can be categorized as a command in a directive act because there is an intention in which the speaker wants the hearer to do something regarding its utterance. It is shown that Harry said an utterance so that Kendal can obey the rule of what they will be playing. It is also a cue from Harry that after he explained the instruction, the game will begin. The utterance is classified as command because it is in imperative form.

Data 2:

*Harry Style: choose something for me that I have to eat.*

The next data of command utterance also take place in the same episode of the talk show. The speaker is Harry Style, he commands his interlocutor which is Kendal Jenner to choose him something that he has to eat if Harry can't answer the question. It is classified as command because it is using verb in the beginning of the sentences. People using command using verb in the beginning of the sentence because it is clear that the subject is the hearer or *you*.

### Request

Request is asked or being asked. A request provides the addressee the options of complying or not complying and does not assume that the speaker could force the addressee to do it. In addition, a request is defined that the requester does not hold a dominant position over the hearer (Trosborg, 1995). In this research, the researchers found 6 data classified as request. It makes request directive acts as the act that least used by the participants of the talk show.

Data 3:

*James Corden: can we bring a milk for Joe, please*

After Joe can't answer the question asked by James Corden, Joe have to eat something nasty which is three chili pepper smoothies that surprisingly good for others but too spicy for Joe. Because of that, James Corden as the host asked production team if Joe can get a milk. In uttering a request, the speaker can employ interrogative form or declarative form. Interrogative form is signified by employing modality "Shall", "will", "Can/could", etc. This utterance is classified as a request because the speaker employs modality verb "can" It means the speaker wants the action of the hearer.

Data 4:

*Kendal Jenner: You have one of the best bands in late night, each of them is so talented. If you have to fire one of them which one do you choose?*

The data above is the interrogatives form spoken by Kendal Jenner to James Corden. From the structure of the sentence, it is a form of the question. A directive speech act is commonly referred to as an imperative/command,interrogative/request, and declarative. A request is commonly referred to as a 'request' and a directive such as what is commonly referred to as an 'order' does share an important characteristic: they both prospect a non-verbal action from the speaker.

### Suggestion

The suggestive function in directive speech uses different words to show what the speaker means. In this research, the researchers found 8 data classified as suggestion. It makes suggest directive acts as the act that second act that mostly used by the participants

of the talk show. The next example is the suggestive function of directive speech, as follows:

Data 5:

*James Corden: Now the trick is to smell it before you eat it. It really is, now adjust your pallet have a smell.*

The utterance above is being said when Kevin has to eat bull penis which is a nasty food that they need to eat as a punishment if he isn't answering the question asked by James Corden as the host of the show. It is said by James Corden as a joke to enrage him to eat the food rather than answering the question. The suggestive function is shown in a phrase "Now the trick is". Even though the suggestive utterance is not shown in a modal verb such as 'should' or 'ought to', but according to the context of situation it can be seen that the utterance is a suggestive directive speech act. Usually, *should* is used to give advice, recommendation or suggestion. It shows that usage of *should* indicating the right thing to do or the correct thing. The utterance of the speaker above belongs to suggestion because it attempts to make the hearer perform an action which will make benefit for the hearer itself.

Data 6:

James Corden : If you had to buy a nick Jonas album or a DNCE album, which one would you buy?

Kevin : Do you want us to stay together?

James Corden : Well you don't have to answer, you could always tuck into these delicious little beetles

Kevin : I actually feel like I can answer it.

Nick : Wow, careful

The utterance *wow, careful* is being said when Kevin have to answer some risky question asked by James Corden. Nick as a team member give Kevin suggestion or warning that he should be careful on answering that question because it involves the team member's feeling. The utterance above seems like a command act because Nick use verb as the way to ordered Nick and there is no word that indicating suggestive act like *should* or *ought to*. But we can see from the context that it is belong to Suggestion in form of Warning. The speaker believes that it will be dangerous for the addressee if he continuing answer the risky question.

#### **b. The function of directive acts employed by the speaker in the selected episode of Talk Show Spill Your Gut**

After knowing the kinds directive act that used by the characters in the talk show, the researchers tried to explore the function of directive speech that produce by the characters. Peccei (1999) stated that directives act purposes on making addresser do something for the speaker's demand. It involves commanding, ordering, requesting, suggesting, threatening, etc. Researchers analyzed about the function of each characteristic of directive speech act that produced by the speaker. The first type of directive speech act is command. The function of command directive speech act can be divided into three for this data, they are: instruct, command, and required. Speaker use command directive speech act for the way they give instruction, in this research the instruction is necessary because it can lead the overall game in the talk show itself. The next type is request. There are some characters that is produced request speech act. The function of utterances that included on request

characteristic is to clarify what speaker wants from the hearer, whether to do something or demand a thing in the form of question. Last but not least characteristic is suggestion that has function to advises the hearer to do something. The function of the suggestion directive acts is to make the hearer consider on what the speaker suggested.

## 5. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data based on the problem statements. Researchers concluded the kinds of directive act are employed by the participant of the show. Command becomes a speech that commonly used by the participant. Suggestion is a second most used types by the participants. Request becomes a directive speech acts that less used by the participant of the talk show. There are 21 data belonging to command act, 6 data belong to request act, and suggestion have 8 data. Accordingly, the function of directive acts purposes on making addresser do something for the speaker's demand (Peccei, 1999).

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