

An Analysis of Indirect Speech Act in The Eternals Movie

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Abstract

Language is a tool for communication. To help beginners understand English, they should use media to learn. Films are an excellent choice to analyze educational values. Speech acts are important for individuals who want to speak in specific situations. When a speech act occurs, it has meaning and purpose. Those who perform speech acts do more than just make sounds; they turn those sounds into actions. This study examines the use of indirect speech acts in the conversations of characters in the film Eternals. The goal is to identify the forms and functions of these indirect speech acts and understand the underlying meanings behind the utterances based on the situational context. The study uses a qualitative descriptive method, collecting data from scripts and dialogues. The researcher found 10 examples of indirect speech acts in the film, with two forms: interrogative and declarative. There are also 2 values/morals from the film, such as 1. not making mistakes intentionally, and 2. always having the right to choose. These can be applied by readers in daily activities. The study concludes that indirect speech acts come in different forms and meanings. Situational context and social status are crucial in using indirect speech acts. Therefore, the study also offers recommendations for future research, such as conducting a deeper analysis of how educational values in films can be applied in everyday life and expanding the scope to identify more indirect speech acts in various social contexts. These recommendations can help future researchers better understand the interaction between language and social context and enhance the understanding of pragmatics in communication..

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INTRODUCTION

One field of study that deals with language is linguistic. Linguistics has various subfields, including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The study of language sounds is known as phonology, and the study of word forms is known as morphology. While the study of words' exact meanings is known as semantics, the study of word combinations in phrases and sentences is known as syntax. Pragmatics is the study of language use and how societal conditions affect how people use language (Mey, 1993). It implies that a person's language choice is influenced by the social environment in which they reside. However, a speaker's meaning cannot be understood if their message is not conveyed to the listener.

Pragmatics is defined differently from other subfields. While semantic analysis examines the relationships between words and things, pragmatic analysis examines language activities and the context. In the realm of pragmatics, elements such as context, deixis, presupposition, implicature, and speech acts are meticulously examined. Among these, speech acts emerge as a pivotal focus, embodying a core aspect of pragmatic inquiry within the scope of this research.

Speech acts are crucial for individuals who desire to speak on their own in a particular circumstance. When a speech act occurs, it has a meaning and an objective. People who do speech

acts don't just make sounds; they also perform it into actions (Yule, 1996). It indicates that when people speak, they not only speak but also act via those words, such as when they apologize or make a pledge, that speech acts can be classified as locutionary, illocutionary, or perlocutionary. Therefore, each type of speech act has a different meanings, including locutionary acts (doingsssomethings before sayingsomething), illocutionary acts (doingsssomething while sayingsomething), and perlocutionary acts (activity after thesutterance) (Austin.J.L, 1962).

Illocutionary act is one of the more complex and divided sorts of speech act; in order to identify the illocutionary act of an utterance, one must have sufficient understanding of that act. According to Searle that there are five basic types of illocutionary can perform in speaking. They are expressive, declarative, directive, and representative. Representative language focuses on what the speaker believes to be true or false, directive language is concerned with what the speaker wants the listener or someone else to do, commissive language is concerned with the speaker's commitment to future action, expressive language is concerned with how the speaker feels, and declarative language is concerned with actions that change immediately.

As posited by Searle, an indirect speech act arises when there exists an indirect relationship between the structure and function (form) of an utterance. This indirectness emerges due to a divergence between the locutionary act, what is explicitly stated, and the illocutionary act, which conveys the intended meaning or purpose. In such cases, the speaker's utterance carries a meaning or intention that deviates from the literal expression, often because the structure or form of the statement does not directly align with its illocutionary force (Akhmad, 2019). In a speech act, the speaker may articulate a sentence that carries a different underlying content or intention. Such indirect speech acts are typically produced through imperative, declarative, and interrogative sentences, where the form of the sentence does not directly reflect its intended communicative function.

When a speaker uses indirect communication, their intention is to be understood rather than to obtain an answer when they ask a question. For instance, when someone asks, "Can you pass the salt? ", they are actually asking for the salt to be passed. In other words, an implicit message is present in an indirect speaking act. Utterances occur both in real life and in fictional dialogues between movie characters. The words spoken throughout the film are spoken either directly or indirectly.

Based on the research background described above, this study will concentrate on applying Searle's theory to analyze the form and function of indirect speech acts in a dialogue The Eternals movie. In conducting this research, the researcher requires access to previous studies that focus on the same topic of indirect speech acts.

First, research in " Direct and Indirect Illocutionary Acts Found in 'The Alchemist' Novel by Paulo Coelho" by Aminatus Puspita Aggraini English Departement Faculty of Letters Udayana University (Anggraini, 1995). This research aims to identify and examine direct and indirect illocutionary acts within Paulo Coelho's novel The Alchemist, focusing on their functional aspects. Additionally, it seeks to analyze how the context of the situation affects the hearer's responses to both direct and indirect illocutionary acts.

Second, research in " An Analysis of Direct and Indirect Speech Acts Performed by main character in the movie ' Revenant 'script". In this research, the objective of the analysis was to investigate the types and functions of speech acts, determining whether they are direct or indirect, within the script of the film titled The Revenant (Zahrida, 2018). The analysis uncovered that the main characters in the film utilize both direct and indirect speech acts. Notably, direct speech acts emerged as the most frequently employed, appearing 13 times, whereas indirect speech acts were used 9 times. This distribution underscores a clear preference for direct communication in the script, while indirect speech acts serve a complementary role.

This study distinguishes itself from previous studies. This study will focus on the analysis of indirect speech acts in *The Eternals*. We analyze speech acts in film dialogues using qualitative methods, speech act approaches, and data collection techniques. This study aims to find the form and function of utterances that use indirect speech acts in the film *The Eternals* and to determine the true intention of the speaker. The following is research problem : What are the forms and function of indirect speech act uttered by the characters of *Eternals* movie ?, and what moral values can be derived from *The Eternals* movie?.

METHOD

A common definition of research technique is a way of thinking and planning to carry out the research and reach the research aim. This essay's author uses qualitative research to analyze an indirect speech scene from *The Eternals*' script. The results of qualitative research are descriptive, but instead of calculated to provide the data (Donald, n.d.). The study design belongs to the qualitative method since the researcher collects and analyzes data that is expressed in spoken form. When gathering and analyzing the data, the researcher employed a qualitative research methodology. The purpose of qualitative research is to fully comprehend an individual and their past through the collection of descriptive data from subjects whose behavior can be seen in written or vocal form (Creswell, 2018).

The primary instrument for this research is the film itself. In this context, the researcher meticulously examined the transcribed data to ensure a thorough analysis (Anwar, 2022). Subsequently, the researcher analyzed the types of indirect speech acts using data sheets. The primary data source for this research was the film *The Eternals*. Next, the researcher categorized these speech acts, focusing specifically on indirect speech acts.

The data in this study were analyzed using qualitative methods. The process began by identifying and transcribing speech acts from the film into text. Next, the researcher categorized the speech acts, with a special focus on indirect speech acts. Then the examination of the forms declarative, imperative, and interrogative, and the functions of the indirect speech acts. And explaining how different functions can be realized as indirect speech acts. Then, determining the true intent of the utterance. Finally, the researcher extracted the values and insights that can be learned from the film *The Eternals*. What can motivate readers in everyday matters, such as not making mistakes on purpose and having the freedom to choose, can be applied by readers in their daily activities.

RESULT

In this study, the writer utilized dialogues from the film *Eternals*, identifying ten data samples from the conversations depicted in the movie. These conversations were organized into a data table, which included details on the character dialogues, sentence forms, and functions. All ten samples were categorized as indirect speech acts. Most of the indirect speech acts found in the film are interrogative (9 examples) and declarative (1 example) sentences. The functions of these sentences are either to provide information (statements) or to make requests. There are 4 examples used as statements and 6 as requests.

The next step is to focus on the research derived from the sample data collection. This study employs a qualitative method to gather data that effectively represents all relevant information. In this study, ten data samples were selected from the movie *Eternals*. The selected data represent the initial samples and exemplify the most illustrative indirect speech acts, according to Searle's theory. The following is an example from my research:

Table 1 Research Data

No.	Data	Form of indirect	Function of indirect
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		speech act	speech act
1.	Ajak: It is time. Sersi: It's beautiful, isn't it? Ikaris: I'm Ikaris. Sersi: I'm Sersi	question	Statement
2.	Ikaris : Did you talk with Arishem ? Sersi : yes, He said, " it's almost time." Sprite : Can you try talking to him again ? Sersi : I don't know how.	question	Request

1. " **It's beautiful , isn't it?** It 's not for question, but Sersi states to Ikaris. Although this is an interrogative form, it serves a different function. It's not a question to answer. Because, if viewed from the action after the sentence "It 's beautiful , isn't it?" Ikaris did not answer the sentence yes or no, but Ikaris there introduced himself to Sersi. What this Sersi said was just a word of statement or expression after Sersi saw the beautiful earth.
2. Ikaris : Did you talk with Arishem? Sersi : Yes. He said, " It 's almost time." **Sprite : Can you try talking to him again?** Sersi : I don't know how. **Can you try talking to him again?** It's not for question. This interrogative structure has but one different function. It's a request for Sersi to communicate again with Arishem. Before Sprite came, Sersi was communicating with Arishem. After that, Sprite came, and Sersi regained consciousness and conveyed Arishem's message to Sprite and Ikaris: Arishem said, "It's almost time". Here Sprite requests Sersi to communicate again with Arishem to ask what Arishem meant.

DISCUSSION

Based on the findings, the utterances revealed a discrepancy between the sentence form and their intended function. Context was crucial for distinguishing indirect speech acts from direct ones. An indirect speech act occurs when the intended meaning differs from the apparent form on the surface (Tiara et al., 1983). According to Searle (1979), an indirect speech act involves conveying a meaning that diverges from the literal surface interpretation. In such cases, the form and function of the utterance are not straightforwardly aligned; rather, the intended illocutionary act is expressed indirectly through the execution of an alternative communicative act. Cutting (2002) characterizes an indirect speech act as one that is conveyed through the performance of another act, incorporating an underlying pragmatic meaning. The speaker typically anticipates that the hearer will recognize the intended communicative purpose. This recognition is often facilitated by the context and circumstances surrounding the utterance, with both speaker and hearer contributing to the interpretive process (Fitria, 2019). Thus, when a speaker engages in an indirect speech act, it can be challenging to discern its nature without information about the surrounding circumstances. Understanding the context of the utterance is essential, as it significantly impacts the intended meaning and interpretation of the speech act.

According to Searle's theory of speech acts, when a speaker utters a sentence with an underlying different content, the utterance can take one of three structural forms: imperative, declarative, or interrogative. These forms are used to produce indirect speech acts, which generally serve three primary functions: making a statement, posing a question, or issuing a command or request (Yule, 1996).

Additionally, indirect speech acts are present in the film Eternals. The analysis of character dialogues revealed 10 instances of indirect speech acts. These acts manifest in various forms, including words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. Specifically, the research identified two forms of

indirect speech acts in the film: interrogative and declarative. Furthermore, two types of functions were observed: statements and requests. It is evident that the film *Eternals* features various forms and functions of indirect speech acts. The forms identified in the film are primarily interrogative and declarative sentences. First, there are 9 examples of interrogative utterances. Second, there is 1 example of a declarative utterance. Regarding the function of indirect speech act sentences, there are statements and requests. There are 4 examples used as statements and 6 as requests. From these data, it is apparent that in the film *Eternals*, indirect speech acts most frequently take the form of interrogatives, with requests being the most common function. The author determined the results of this study by examining the situations and conditions in which the sentences were spoken and the context that followed.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data and reviewing the results from the previous chapter, the writer has reached the final chapter. In this concluding chapter, the writer synthesizes the findings from the analysis of indirect speech acts uttered by characters in the film *Eternals*. The primary aim of this study was to identify the forms, declarative, imperative, and interrogative, and the functions of indirect speech acts. Based on the analysis results, the writer identified 10 instances of indirect speech acts, including both declarative and interrogative forms. Each form serves distinct functions, such as making statements and issuing requests.

The writer notes that understanding the context of the situation, including the participants and their social status, is crucial for determining the form and function of utterances. This research aimed to identify indirect speech acts and the underlying meanings behind utterances by taking the context of occurrence into account. Indirect speech acts were recognized by analyzing the discrepancy between the sentence form and its function, as this mismatch influences the utterance's meaning. Factors such as the participants, the setting, the topic of conversation, and the function of the utterance were considered. The context of the situation is essential in pragmatic studies. For example, when Sersi says the earth is beautiful in the film script, the sentence "It's beautiful, isn't it?" is in the form of a question. However, if we examine the context, Sersi is simply expressing her admiration for the beautiful earth, meaning the function of the sentence is actually a statement. Another example from daily activities might be a sentence like "Can you close the window?", which is in the form of a question. However, considering the context of strong winds outside, the sentence's meaning is actually a request. Understanding pragmatics helps us better interpret the true intentions behind people's words, enhancing communication and reducing misunderstandings in various social contexts.

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