CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Human beings cannot be separated with communication in their daily activities. When they want to communicate each other, people use language as a medium for their communication. Therefore, language plays a significant role as a main tool that used to transmit message, or to express what the people thought. In many cases, people usually use the language to organize or to order the listener. So, language is an inseparable thing in human lives. Austin was convinced that we do not just use language to say things (make statements), but also to do things (perform actions) (Mey 2009 p.1009).

While doing a conversation, the speaker should make an understandable purpose for the listener. Moreover, the speaker must be sure to avoiding misinterpretation in their communication to make the listener doing something based on the speaker's aim. The study of interpretation itself can be found in the pragmatics study, as stated by Mey (2009 p.744) Pragmatics is concerned with meaning in the context of language use. The advantage of studying language via pragmatics is that one can talk about people's intended meanings, their assumption, their purpose or goals, and the kinds of action (for example, request) that they are performing when they speak (Yule 1996: 4). In addition, pragmatics is the study of the speaker meaning by the utterances.

One of the main studies in pragmatics is concern about how the listener can understand what are the speaker's meaning from the utterances. In certain conditions, the speaker's speech is actually need to be understood by the listener which expected can be performed by future action from the listener. One of significant approach to the functional classification of speech is based on speech acts.

Yule (1996 p.47) defines speech acts as an action performed via utteraces. Speech acts does not investigate how the speaker organize the suitable words but also having more meaning behind the word utterances. J.R. Searle in his development of work by J.L. Austin, establish speech acts into six terms. He clarified the speaker words have a primary meaning and aim and also to clearly convey the message to the listener. The primary concept of speech acts is that various functions can be implemented by means of language.

According on Paltridge (2006 p.55) classified speech acts into three. They are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. In other hand, based on Searle's development of speech acts (Mey 2009 p.1004), he classified the types of speech acts into five types. The first is representatives. It is kind kind of speech acts that commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition and thus carry a truth value. The second is directives. It is kind of speech acts that represent attempts by the speaker to get the addressee to do something. The third is commissives. It is kind of speech acts that commit the speaker to some future course of

action. The fourth is expressives. It is kind of speech acts that express a psychological attitude or state of the speaker such as joy, sorrow, and likes/dislikes. The fifth is declarations (or declaratives). It is kind of speech acts that effect immediate changes in some current state of affairs. From the explanation above, directive speech acts is kind of speech acts that used by people in their daily activities in many aspects, it used to make the listener to do some future action based on speaker utterances. Yule (1996 p.54) also defines directives as speech acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something.

The usage of directive speech acts in society can persuade the listener to do what are the speaker's say. As stated by Mey (2009 p.1017) directives express the speaker's wish that the hearer do such a thing and are uttered with the presumption that the hearer is under some obligation to carry out the action in question (status and roles within an office or an institution determine the right to utter the directive in question). While directive is uttered by the speaker, the listener has a freedom to respond the speaker utterances. So, the listener's response can be accepted or rejected.

The listener's response toward the speaker utterances can be accepted or rejected. Basically, the first part that contains a request or an offer is typically made in the expectation that the second part will be acceptance. An acceptance is structurally more likely than a refusal, this structural likelihood is called preference (Yule 1996 p.78). Moreover,

preference structure divides into two part, they are preferred and dispreferred social acts. The preferred is the structuraly expected next act and the dispreferred is the structurally unexpected next act (Yule 1996 p.79).

There are several studies that have discussed about speech acts in various objects, such as analyzing Movie (Kristanti, 2013), and Traditional song (Winarti, et al. (2015). Those researchers are examined the directive speech acts in different method and problem. The case of directive speech acts above is not only happened in real life, but also in literature such as movies. Here, the writer wants to continues the study but in different theory and object. One of movies that show many directive speech acts is The Maze Runner (2014) Movie.

The Maze Runner (2014) Movie is a story which is begun with the male teenager wakes up in the underground elevator without remember anything except his name is Thomas. When he is awake, Gally greet him with a group of male teenagers in a wide field surrounding by grass and high stone walls which call a glade. Those group of teenagers had been lived in the glade almost three years with Alby as the leader, because Alby is the first glader who send in the glade. The gladers think if the maze which surrounding them is the one way to them to run out. So, they make a group of runner and Minho as the leader of the runner to learns the maze structure to designed the escape route of the maze. The next coming of the new gladers in the underground elevator is a girl, Teresa. She is

come with a note in her hand "she's the last one ever" when she is awake in the elevator. Day by day, Thomas realizes if he and the other gladers are not trapped in the glade, but there are some reasons why he and the gladers are send in the glade. Unconsciously, Thomas remembers of his past before he trapped in the glade. He flashback on his past and Teresa, both are working in the organization called W.C.K.D, an organization who created the maze and send the gladers to the maze.

In some cases, Thomas uses directive speech acts to direct the member behavior to follow his deed to run out. Although his friends Gally and few other are refuse his suggestion to go from the glade with the gladers, but Thomas always fighting to invite the other gladers to follow him. In the end, Thomas, Teresa, Minho, and several gladers are planned to free from the glade, they are going to the maze to find an escape, but Gally and few others are refuse to leave the glade.

Based on the explanation above, there are some significant considerations why the writer concerned to analyze the directive speech acts in The Maze Runner (2014) Film. For the first reason why the writer choose a movie as the subject of this study, because movie sometimes adapted the problem from human daily activities as represent and reflection the human's life. That's why, society can inspire and influence some movies. The second reason is because directive speech acts are the speech which frequently used to get the greatest attention from listener to do something in communication. The last reason why the writer choose

Thomas as the subject of this study because Thomas is the major character who gives some contribution for his friends to run out from the glade, and also he uses some types of directive speech acts frequently. Furthermore, directive is the significant speech in Thomas communication which performed frequently in this film to organize the gladers group to escape from the maze.

Overall, the writer interested to analyze the directive speech acts in her study entitled *Directive Speech Acts Performed By The Main Character "Thomas" and The Character's Responses In The Maze Runner (2014) Movie*. In this study, the writer analyzes the types of directive speech acts performed by Thomas in The Maze Runner (2014) Movie.

1.2 Research Problem

This study is conducted to answer the problems formulated in the following questions:

1. What are the types of directive acts performed by the main character "Thomas" in The Maze Runner (2014) Film?

2. What are the types of preference structure that used by the characters toward Thomas's directive speech acts in The Maze Runner (2014) Film?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the problems above, the objectives of the study are aimed to:

1. To describe the types of directive speech acts performed by the main character "Thomas" in The Maze Runner (2014) Film.

2. To describe the preference structure from the character toward the directive speech acts uttered by Thomas in The Maze Runner (2014) Film.

1.4 Significance of The Research

The present study is purposed for giving both theoritical and practical contributions. Theoritically, this study can be useful to give some contribution in linguistics field especially in pragmatics, also give the better understanding to the readers about speech acts particularly in directive speech acts. The writer expected the findings, especially the use of directive speech acts and to find out the responses of the character toward Thomas's directive speech acts in "The Maze Runner (2014) Movie" will be useful as reference for the readers who interested in this topic and and to organize the further research.

Practically, thw writer expected this study can give the readers of The Maze Runner (2014) Movie for better understanding with directive speech acts. Moreover, this study can help the reader know about the

usage of directive speech acts in society, thus can match the listener action with the speaker utterances. The writer also hopes the results of this study can easily practice by people while conducting a conversation which consist of directive speech acts.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is conducted to describe the directive speech acts uttered by "Thomas". The data is taken form the movie script of The Maze Runner (2014) Movie by Wes Ball which based on James Dashner's 2009 novel of the same name as the object. Then, the subject of the study is Thomas as the main character. The writer applies Searle illocutionary acts of directive speech acts actually in the types of directive speech acts cited by Mey for analyzing the directive speech acts performed by Thomas. Then, analyzing the types of preference structure of listener toward Thomas directive speech acts are actually investigated by using the preference structure by Yule. The limitation is intended to make the writer only focus in directive speech acts by the main character and the types of preference structure.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid many misunderstanding in delivery of the terms would be better if the researcher explain the meaning of term that they used. Some terms will be defined as follows:

a. Pragmatics: is a concerned with the study of meaning as a communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) (Yule 1996 p.3).

b. Speech Acts: is an action performed via utteraces (Yule 1996 p.47).

c. Directive Acts: are attempts by the speaker to get the hearer to do something. They express what the speaker wants; typical representatives are commands, orders, request, suggestion (Mey 2009; 1013).

d. The Maze Runner (2014) Film: is a 2014 American dystopian science fiction action thriller film directed by Wes Ball, in his directorial debut, based on James Dashner's 2009 novel of the same name (Wikipedia).