CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer describes what this study about. She gives a brief explanation about her study. There are six parts in this chapter, background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and the last one is definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a capacity that distinguishes human beings from other creatures. All the attitudes and behaviors which characterize human beings, language is quite possibly the most important. It is formed by a wide range of contextual factors, including social and physical circumstances, identities, attitudes, abilities, and beliefs of participants, and relations holding between participants (Traugott & Pratt, 1980: 226).

Wardhaugh (1977) assumed that language functions to communicate general attitudes toward life. Language allows people to say things to each other and express their communicative needs. Language is a communication tool that is used by people in everyday life. Sometimes, somebody knows someone's behavior or attitude from language. It means that communication is the way to interact people by using language itself, and how does someone interact people; make it run well with good communication (Wardhaugh, 1977: 7).

Communication has important role in daily life. Communication is defined as a process by which people give or extend meanings in an attempt to create shared understanding. Thus, people can cooperate with each other when they communicate just as they do in any activities. Communication is usually defined as conversation, namely for sending and receiving message. If the message cannot be received, it means that communication does not work well. In order to make communication run well, the hearer should know the speaker's mean.

This is related to what is called speech act. Austin (1962) defined speech acts as the action performed in saying something. Speech act theory can be analyzed on the three different levels. These are, locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act. Locutionary act is the content of the utterance itself, while the illocutionary act is the meaning intended by the speaker, and perlocutionary act is the interpretation of the message by the listener. Locutionary act is roughly equivalent to uttering a certain sentence with a certain sense and reference, which again is roughly equivalent to "meaning" in traditional sense. Secondly, illocutionary act such as informing, ordering, warning, and undertaking. Thirdly, perlocutionary acts achieve by saying something, such as convicting, persuading, deterring, surprising, or misleading (Austin, 1962: 108).

Searle & Vanderveken (1985) stated the minimal units of human communication are speech acts of a type called illocutionary acts. Some examples of these are statements, questions, commands, promises, and apologies (Searle & Vanderveken, 1985: 1). Illocutionary act is the function of the word, the specific purpose that the speakers have in mind. The most important study of the three kinds of speech act is illocutionary acts. It is because the illocutionary act becomes the basic of analysis.

Searle (1979) introduced five classes of the illocutionary acts, they are: assertives, directives, commissives, expressive, and declaratives (Searle, 1979: 12). Speech act theory treats an utterance as an act performed by a speaker in a context with respect to an addressee. Performing a speech act involve performing;

- (1) A locutionary act, the act of producing a recognizable grammatical utterance in the language.
- (2) Illocutionary act, the attempt to accomplish some communicative purpose. Promising, warning, greeting, reminding, informing, and commanding are all distinct illocutionary acts (Traugott & Pratt, 1980: 229).

Locutionary form is complete and whole within the linguistic utterance; illocutionary force is a combination of language and social practice. Illocution is to locution as speech acts are to speech. Each formulation distinguishes what words say as words from what they do as a component of human interaction. Speech-act theory brings illocution to the fore by situating language within the relationships lived by its users (Petrey, 1990: 13).

A speaker's communicative competence includes not just knowledge of what illocutionary acts can be performed in the language, but also how, when, and by whom they can be performed. Illocutionary acts can often be differentiated from each other in terms of their appropriateness conditions. When a speaker performs a speech act, the hearer is normally entitled to infer that the speaker believes all the appropriateness conditions on that speech act are met; the speaker normally presupposes that the hearer also takes this for granted.

Many kinds of media can be used as a means of communication. One of them is a novel which contains written conversation. Novel is a book length story in prose, which the author attempts to make the sense, namely while people read they experience actual life. Novels can be broadly characterized as long narratives in prose dealing chiefly with contemporary life. Novels tell stories, which are typically defined as a series of events described in a sequence. Although it is fiction, most of the ideas come near of society and, like the other literary work; it has social value inside.

People could get many things from reading novel, not only having fun and relaxing, but also investigating many aspects from a novel, such as: psychological aspect, pragmatics aspects, grammar aspect, sociolinguistics aspect, and others. Every author has a different way of presenting the story inside. Talks about "novel", it is very closely related to communication. It is because there are many utterances in some different characters. One character presents any utterances to another character. This is the same term with the conversation. In some conversations, the writer can reveal that Searle's theory of illocutionary act can be used to analyze the conversations. One of the example of novel is *Rage of Angels*. This novel written by Sidney Sheldon. It was published in 1981. The story inside often happen in the daily life. The novel revolves around young attorney Jennifer Parker, she is a woman who struggles to facilitate started her career as a lawyer. Many obstacles and setbacks along the accompanying when she completed a case of her client. As the story progresses, the protagonist is romantically torn between a famous politician, who helps her rise again. She also has a faithful friend for her circumstances. Despite being a young lawyer, she has a friend and a love story, life is not perfect as Jennifer's hope, it is because she also has a problem, especially in the field of law.

Everyone has a different way in saying something, for instance, the main character from this novel called Jennifer Parker. In this novel, there are some utterances uttered by Jennifer. From the utterances, the writer interests to describe the illocutionary acts and the context of situation. For example:

Jennifer:	We need a list of all the accident cases their trucks have
	been involved in for the past five years.
Ken Bailey:	That's going to take a while
Jennifer:	<u>Use LEXIS</u>

Based on the context, Jennifer wants accurate news from her client. She needs a list of all the accident cases for the past five years. Then, she suggests her co-worker, Ken Bailey to use Lexis, a national legal computer. The writer describes the illocutionary acts in Jennifer's utterance is assertives that she attempts to tell the truthfully of the utterance. In the other words, assertives illocutionary acts commit the speaker tells something being the case. Jennifer suggests Ken Bailey to use Lexis as the national legal computer; in order she gets the accurate news about all of accident cases happened with her client for the past five years. It is clear that the utterance is suggesting.

From the conversations inside the novel, the writer wants to discuss about speech act especially in illocutionary act used by the main female character, Jennifer. The writer chooses this novel as the subject of the research because the conversation of the main female character represents the daily conversation. In each conversation contains each type of illocutionary acts. Therefore, the writer wants to analyze the conversation and then classify each utterances to the types of illocutionary act appeared in *Rage of Angels* novel.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

- 1. What types of illocutionary acts are used by Jennifer in Sidney Sheldon's *Rage of Angels*?
- In what context of situation the illocutionary acts is used by Jennifer in Sidney Sheldon's *Rage of Angels*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

- To describe the types of illocutionary acts are used by Jennifer in Sidney Sheldon's *Rage of Angels*.
- 2. To explain the context of situation of illocutionary acts used by Jennifer in Sidney Sheldon's *Rage of Angels*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

In this study, the writer expects this result is able to contribute to students in English Department especially in linguistics material. Particularly in the field of pragmatics and it can be used as an example of linguistics analysis especially on illocutionary acts. Besides, the writer hopes this research can provide an additional knowledge about illocutionary act through pragmatics analysis. The writer also hopes this study can be used as one of the references for further researchers who are interested in studying illocutionary acts.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is pragmatics concerning with language used in the utterances especially for interaction between speaker and hearer. The limitation of this research is the analysis of illocutionary acts used by Jennifer. The writer just analyzes the most significant illocutionary acts happen in the conversation. In other words, the writer focuses on analyzing some unique utterances based on her interpretation. She discusses the utterances which are uttered only by Jennifer as the main female character in *Rage of Angels*, a novel by Sidney Sheldon.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding about this study, the writer provides definition of some terms. They are explained as follows:

- 1. Pragmatics is the study of the relation between language and context.
- Speech Act is the action performed in saying something (Austin, 1962: 108).
- 3. Illocutionary Act is the function of the word, the specific purpose that the speakers have in mind.

- 4. Context is the set of circumstances or facts that surround a particular event, situation, and others.
- 5. Jennifer Parker is the main female character in *Rage of Angels*. She is portrayed as a strong woman to face the world, especially in experiencing the business of law.
- 6. *Rage of Angels* is a novel that tells about a struggle of young female lawyer in defending her career through any temptations. It was published on 1981 which the reality inside were taken from the context social at that time.
- Sidney Sheldon is the author of *Rage of Angels* novel. He wrote some best seller novels and, one of them is *Rage of Angels*.