

**“COMMANDING ACTS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN
CAPTAIN PHILLIP MOVIE”**

THESIS



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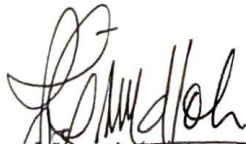
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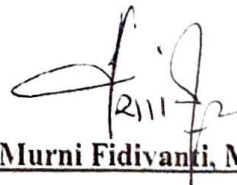
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Penulis

(LATIFAH ADY I.)

what people mean by their utterances than the words in those utterances. As the speaker, we should pay attention to whom we talk to, when, where and beneath what circumstances.

Pragmatics is a little bit different from semantics. Semantics is the study literally about what a word means, while pragmatics is the study about what the mean by words. We cannot solve problems related to the speaker's communicated meaning. So, that is why we need to study pragmatics because by studying this field we can learn about meaning on a deeper level rather than on semantics.

When people produce utterances, they also act. Actions that show in the form of utterance is called Speech acts. In delivering a speech there are three processes, they are what the speaker says (locutionary), what speaker means when they are saying (illocutionary) and what speaker performs when they are saying it (perlocutionary).

According to Austin (1962, p. 121), locutionary acts are acts of speaking, such as uttering certain sounds or making certain marks. The second is illocutionary acts, He states this is an act which is done in speaking. As he said, a speaker expects that a hearer will understand the speaker's intention. The last is perlocutionary acts, which is the result or the actual actions as the product of the illocutionary act.

Yule (1996, p. 53) classifies speech acts into five kinds; *Declaration* is a kind of speech acts to declare, to sentence or anything which makes a world change by a word. For example *A judge: I now sentence you along a year into a prison.* The second one is *representatives*, which is a kind of speech act which is the speaker believes to be a problem or not. For example, statements of facts, conclusions, and

descriptions. The next is expressive, *expressive* is based on what the speaker feels. It can an expression in the form of a statement of likes, dislikes, pains, pleasures, and joys. Then, *directive acts*, mean a speech acts that make a hearer does something. The example of directives are commands, orders, requests, and suggestions. The last kind is *commissive*, the speaker uses it to commit them to some future actions. In this case, is dependent on the speaker.

From the brief explanation above, this recent study is focused on speech acts especially commanding acts. As Yule (1996, p. 54) command is one of the speech acts used to bear the speaker's thoughts, feelings, intentions, and desires to others. In this study, the writer chooses a commanding act to analyze. Command as the one of linguistic function that forces or asks the hearer to do what she/he wants. So, this recent study is trying to analyze the speech act in specific.

In giving commands, the speaker sometimes uses the command directly or indirectly. In conducting indirect commands, the speaker does not just command the hearer, but she or he also has to expect a positive result of the hearer. Therefore, the speaker should pay attention to several factors, those are; when and where the situation is performed and to whom she or he speaks.

When the speaker engages commands, it may sound abusive to the hearer. So, commands can threat someone's face. Thus, the speaker should use some strategies to apply the commands which will not make the hearer confuses. It will be different giving commands to those who have a higher position or not. Thus, the speaker may employ politeness to reduce the offense.

A command is a kind of act that is interesting to be analyzed. The commanding act is an action that often occurs in our conversation among people. Command itself is used as a rule to show what is done by words and how we interpret utterances as actions. Hence, all of the utterances especially utterances on command need some expressions.

The writer here uses a movie as her source of data. She chooses a movie as the main data because it is one kind of literary works. A movie contains many conversations that can be analyzed by the writer. So, it can help her to get the data and analyze it easily, especially in command. The writer chooses *Captain Phillips* movie as her source of data because it contains many commanding strategies used by Phillip and Muse as the main characters of this movie. From this movie, we can get more knowledge about leadership and exactly the different ways of each leader in using command.

Paul Greengrass is the director of the *Captain Phillips* movie in 2013. His movie was starring Tom Hanks and Barkhad Abdi as main characters. This movie is adapted by the true story of the 2009 *Maersk Alabama* hijacking, an incident along which merchant mariner Captain Richard Phillips was taken hostage by pirates in the Guardafuul Channel led by Abduwali Muse.

This movie is interesting to analyze since it has received six Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture, Best Adapted Screenplay and Best Supporting Actor for Abdi. The writer would like to analyze the kinds of commanding strategies used by Tom Hanks as *Richard Phillips* (Alabama's commanding officer) and Barkhad Abdi as *Abduwali Muse* (the Somali pirate

captain). Furthermore, in this movie, the writer can find many commanding acts which are applied by the characters.

In conducting this research, the writer used some previous studies related to this research to help her to develop her research. Here, the writer put two kinds of research concerning command speech acts. The first, research from Siti Zulaikha entitled *A Study of Strategies in Giving Commands Applies by Prospero As the Main Character in the Tempest Drama*. In this research, she analyzed kinds of command acts used by Prospero. In conducting the research, the writer used a descriptive qualitative method. The result of this research was there are two kinds of commands, direct and indirect command. However, this research is limited to analyzing kinds of command acts. So, this research can be developed further.

While, the second study is a thesis of Yeni Apriliyanti from UIN Sunan Gunung Djati. She analyzed about the context of command acts used in *Nawal El-Shadawi's novel Woman at Point Zero*. The results of this research shown that there is a relation of the utterance with the meaning that wants to convey through. But, this research is also limited on the relation between context and meaning of the command acts.

Related with that, this recent study tries to develop the gap from the previous studies above by analyzed not only kinds of command acts. But, it is also analyzing the way to convey commanding acts in the movie of *Captain Phillips*. This research is descriptive qualitative research because the data found are in the form of utterances. The writer conducts this research entitled "*Commanding Acts used by*

Richard Phillips arrives at the port and finds that the ship crews have not secured every deck and that none of them are taking their jobs seriously. They set sail and wary of any pirate activity, the captain orders practice drills. The crews are sloppy and the ship has few defensive water canon. The pirates have a larger boat that they use to find their prey.

Then, the pirate succeeds to attach a ladder on an exposed part of the deck. The crews of Alabama try to stop them with a shot, but it does not work. The chief of navigations and Captain Phillips are exposed on the deck when the pirates seize control. The pirates force Phillips to give them a ship-wide tour so they can find the hidden crew.

In the end, U.S.Navy ship intercepts the lifeboat and demands that the pirates surrender the American citizen that they have. A Navy seal ambassador comes over to the lifeboat where Phillips is there. He checks Phillips' conditions and asks his return. The pirates threat to shoot Phillips, so the ambassador leaves but before he does, Phillips gives him his seat number. By knowing the seat number, the navy can employ a tactical strike on the ship and shoot all of the pirates then rescue Captain Phillips.

2.6 Previous Studies

The writer uses two previous studies related to the study of commanding speech acts to develop her thesis. First is the study which was conducted by Siti Zulaikha from State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. In conducting the study, the writer used the descriptive qualitative method which aimed to discuss command speech acts by analyzing kinds of command acts found in *The Tempest*

drama. She limited the analysis by focusing on Prospero as the main character. The writer then analyzed the conversation which contains the command speech acts.

As a result, the writer found two types of commanding act uttered by Prospero in *The Tempest* drama. The mostly used is direct command. The result also showed that the function of the most dominant types is to show the authority of the main character.

The second is the study which was conducted by Yeni Apriliyanti from UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. In this study, the writers analyzed command speech acts in Nawal El-Sadawi's novel *Woman at Point Zero*. In conducting her research, the writers used the descriptive qualitative method, based on combination theory developed by Yule (1996) and Austin (1962).

The objectives of this study were to find what are context of command speech acts in Nawal's novel at Point Zero and what are the effect of this command for the hearer in Nawal's novel at Point Zero. The result showed 50 data about commanding speech act. There were totally 17 command speech acts in Nawal's novel at Point Zero. Then, the result of this study is related to the relation of the utterance and with the meaning that wants to convey through that utterance.

The difference between the research from Siti Zulaikha with this recent study was the objective of the study. In Zulaikha, the researcher analyzis kind of commanding acts and the function of that commands in the *Tempest Drama*. While, this recent study analyzis types of commands act used by the main characters in the *Captain Phillips* movie and the strategies that the main characters used when they expressed the command acts.

This recent study also has several differences from the research who analyzed by Yeni Aprilyanti. In Yeni's research, she analyzes the context of command speech acts and the effects of that command in Nawal's novel at Point Zero. Here, this recent study with Yeni's study is different in objectives of the study. The recent study is more specific in analyzing the command speech acts. But, in Yeni's study is just analyzing the context of command without she gave detail information about what kind of the command acts found in her research.

Moreover, this recent study is difference from two other studies. This study is focusing on analyze the kind of commanding acts used by the main characters in *Captain Phillips* movie. So, the writer only gets the data from the main characters of that movie. Contrast with two studies in explanation above, the writer also combines the theory about politeness strategy to analyze the strategy used by the main characters when they deliver their commands.

It can be concluded that, this recent study tries to analyze the command speech acts more specific rather than others research. Then, this recent study focuses on analyze only the main characters of the movie. Thus, the data of this research is specific.

data in this movie used bald on-record strategies. Whereas applied on direct command.

Moreover, from the total number of 22 data, there are 18 data Bald On-record, 1 data Bald Off-record, 1 data Negative politeness and 2 data Positive politeness strategies. Thus the command strategies mostly applied bald on-record and positive politeness strategy.

From the findings above, there are two points discussed in this section. The first, there are two kinds of commanding acts used by the main characters of Captain Phillips movie. They are direct command and indirect command. Here, there are two main characters, Phillips and Muse who both as the leader of their own job. Captain Phillips as the commander of Alabam ship wants to show the authority as the commander of ship. While Muse also shows that he has the power when he was a leader of the Somalian pirates.

The second, there are four politeness strategies used by Phillips and Muse as the main characters in Captain Phillips movie. Those four strategies are bald on-record, positive politeness, bald off-record, and negative politeness strategies. In the application of each strategies, the findings show that bald on record is the strategy that used by the main characters in this movie. It means Phillips and Muse as the leader command their crew without paying attention to their face threatening act, it because of they was in the same situation, in the same direction and the main characters do it clearly.

In applying bald on record, Captain Phillips always used it when he gave the direction and instruction to running the ship. The instruction includes the speed, vessel direction, and so on. For example *Give me five degrees! I want to max revs.* Those kind of Phillips instruction when he is running the ship. This command happens and can understood by the same job with Phillips, that is the crew. While in Muse, as the leader of the Somalian pirates. The command used by Muse mostly pushed the crew to obey it.

The next strategy is positive politeness. In this movie only Captain Phillips who used the strategy of positive politeness. Almost all of Captain Phillips' command, he always said in the low tone and did not force or threatening his crew. Contrast with Phillips, Muse never uses a positive politeness strategy in expressing the command. The third, the way of applying negative politeness strategies in this movie shows that Muse did not care with his addresser. The last strategy is bald off record. Muse uses this strategies when he against Najee. He wants to show their position and power as the leader.

Moreover, there are different focuses in my research among other researches done before. In my research, the writer focuses on the use of command and the strategies to express command acts. Then the writer found two kinds of command acts used by Richard Phillips and Abdulwali Muse and four types of politeness strategy. Furthermore, different from the previous research, I use *Captain Phillips* movie as the data and I analyze the strategy when they express command acts.

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