

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the basis of this research. It consists of Background of the Research, Statement of Research Problems, Objectives of the Research, Significance of Research, Scope and Limitation of Research, Definition of Key Terms.

### **A. Background of The Study**

Linguistics has many branches including phonetics, sociolinguistics, and the others. At top of all of that, there is a branch of linguistic that used so much. This branch of linguistic is called pragmatics that concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by hearer. Further, Yule (1996: 3) states that pragmatics is the study of speaker's meaning. Specifically, pragmatics is concerned with the use of language and what the speaker and hearer utter in communication. It is more complicated than the other branches because it has the contextual meaning between the speaker and hearer. When the message from the speaker is not delivered to the hearer, the meaning that the speaker intended can not be understood.

Here, the pragmatics branch which analyzed is Speech Act. According to Yule (2000: 47), speech act itself is action that are carried out through language or an action performed via utterances. It means that

the utterances do not only contain the grammatical structures and words, but also an action. In short, speech act means the acts done in the process of speaking. Speech act theory was proposed by two languages philosopher named John Austin and John Searle.

Therefore, it is fully important to the speaker and hearer to know how to use appropriate and proper utterance while he/she is talking with other. In addition, it also important to know how to interpret and understand what is meant by what is said. However, the strategies used in order to make the utterance clear and understandable are important as well, because as we know, it will be different when someone talk with his lecturer and friend.

Then, as for complaint, Trosborg (1995: 311) defines it as “an illocutionary act in which the speaker (the complainer) expresses his/her disapproval and negative feeling towards the state of affairs described in the proposition and for which he/she holds the hearer (the complaine) responsible, either directly or indirectly”. According to Searle’s (1976) typology, complaint belongs to the category of expressive speech acts, expressing the speaker’s approval as well as disapproval of the behavior which the complaine has already done or failed to do.

In order to analyze the research deeper, the researcher also use politeness strategy as the strategy used. Politeness is other branch from pragmatics aside Speech Act. It can be defined as the means employed to show awareness for another person’s face (Yule, 1996: 60). A face, in

other hand, is the public self-image of a person. To accomplish this politeness, a proper strategy is needed, and so we call it politeness strategy.

Conducting this research, the researcher chooses a movie entitled *Alice Through The Looking Glass (2016)* as the subject of the research. The researcher chooses this subject because the movie is interesting in terms of storyline, graphics and concept. Thus, this movie teaches us something important about time, which not all of us like. Time is not money, time is a blessing. Moreover, the researcher likes Alice-like movies and how the characters there express their feelings through expressions and utterances. Furthermore, this movie is a new movie produced in 2016 and there is seldom research about this movie. Then again, before this movie is produced, there is a live action movie in 1998 with the same title featuring Kate Beckinsale as Alice. The reasons why the researcher used the recent movie had been written above.

Then, it comes to a discussion why the researcher analyzes the native speaker as the research subject rather than the characters in the movie. As we know, in speaking class, there is still a small amount of variations in delivering complaints. With analyzing the native speakers, the variations can be broadened away, thus, native speakers are good examples in speaking class.

Later, the researcher chooses complaining acts to analyze because there is still a small amount of research in this field. Let us see another kind of

expressives act such as apology; the research about it already so many. As far as we know, complaining can have different meanings based on what objective we want to achieve, who is our addressee, and many other reasons. Based on the explanations above, the researcher here is interested to analyze the strategy of complaining act that spoken by the native speakers in *Alice Through The Looking Glass* movie (2016) movie.

## **B. Research Questions**

From the background of the study above, the researcher formulate the research questions that will be studied in this research, that are:

1. How are the complaining acts formally realized among the native speakers across various context in the movie?
2. What politeness strategies are used by native speakers conveying complaining acts in the movie?

## **C. Purpose of The Study**

With the research of questions that stated above, here are the purpose of this research:

1. To know the complaining acts are formally realized among the native speakers across various context in the movie
2. To know politeness strategies are used by native speakers conveying complaining acts in the movie.

## **D. Significance of The Study**

From the existence of this research, it is expected to contribute theoretical and practical benefits:

### **1. Theoretical**

Theoretically, this research is hoped to contribute to:

- a. Linguistics students, especially for them who study pragmatics.

The researcher hope that this research can help the students to find new ideas and motivations in developing another researches in speech act. Also, the research is hoped to be a reference and comparison for the next researches.

- b. Researchers, to give and present enough informations about related topic. It'd be hoped that the research can be the refference for the researcher.

### **2. Practical**

Practically, this research is hoped to contribute for:

- a. The first step in introducing linguistics to people, especially for them who still do not understand about speech act and politeness materials.
- b. The development of the language knowledge in society.

## **E. Scope and Limitation of The Study**

The scope of this study is complaining acts found in Alice Through The Looking Glass movie that said by the native speakers. Also, the

researcher will analyze the politeness strategy used in the complaining acts found. The researcher focuses on analyzing the dialogues and scripts in the movie.

## **F. Definition of Key Terms**

In order to give clear definitions and guidance for the readers to understand the whole study, the key terms are given here.

### **1. Speech Act**

Speech act is action that are carried out through language or an action performed via utterances. (Yule, 2000)

### **2. Illocutionary Act**

Illocutionary act is the act that found in an utterances or the act behind the utterances spoken by the speakers. It can be either the act of making statements, promising, agreeing, disagreeing, naming, announcing, and many others. (Chojimah, 2015)

### **3. Expressives Act**

Expressive act deals with expressions that speaker made based on his psychological status, such as welcoming, congratulating, thanking, apologizing, complaining, and the others. (Chojimah, 2015)

### **4. Complaint**

Complaint is defined as “an illocutionary act in which the speaker (the complainer) expresses his/her disapproval and negative feeling towards the state of affairs described in the proposition and for which

he/she holds the hearer (the complaine) responsible, either directly or indirectly”. (Trosborg, 1995)

5. Head Acts

The nucleus of the speech acts. That the part of the sequence which might serve to realize the act independently of other elements. (Blum-Kulka,et al,1989)

6. Politeness strategy

Politeness strategy is speech act that express concern for others and minimize threats to someone face (self-esteem) in particular social context. There are two kinds of politeness strategy; positive politeness strategy and negative politenes strategy. (Brown & Levinson, 1987)

7. Alice Through The Looking Glass Movie (2016)

A movie directed by James Bobin and the script of the movie is written by Linda Woolverton in 2016 as an adaption from Lewis Caroll novel with the same title.