

COMMISSIVE SPEECH ACTS IN THE NOVEL DILAN: DIA ADALAH DILANKU 1990 AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INDONESIAN LANGUAGE LEARNING IN VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (SMK)

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Abstract

This study was conducted to describe the various types of commissive speech acts found in Pidi Baiq's novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990*, and to relate the findings to Indonesian language teaching at the vocational high school (SMK) level. A commissive speech act is a form of utterance that binds the speaker to carrying out an action in the future, such as promising, offering, threatening, swearing, refusing, or volunteering. This study applies a qualitative approach through descriptive methods and a sociopragmatic perspective. The data were drawn from the utterances of the characters in the novel and were collected through observation and note-taking techniques. Data analysis proceeded through four stages: data provision, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The findings show 36 instances of commissive speech acts, consisting of promising (12 data), offering (12 data), threatening (2 data), swearing (1 datum), refusing (2 data), and volunteering (7 data). Among these six types, promising and offering appear most frequently in the characters' utterances in the novel. These findings are relevant to Indonesian language teaching in Grade X of SMK, particularly for basic competency 3.11 on analyzing the structure and linguistic features of negotiation texts, given that commissive speech acts are closely related to the adjacency pairs of requesting, offering, proposing, and asking/confirming found in negotiation texts.

Keywords: commissive speech acts, *Dilan* novel, sociopragmatics, Indonesian language learning, negotiation text.

INTRODUCTION

Language is an arbitrary sound system used by a community to create, interact, and express its identity (Chaer, 2004). As a means of communication, language is used by speakers to convey thoughts, feelings, and intentions to interlocutors so that a message can be properly understood. The study of language use within real communicative contexts is known as pragmatics, the branch of linguistics that examines the meaning of utterances based on the relationship between speaker, interlocutor, and speech situation (Searle, 1969).

One important area of study within pragmatics is speech acts, namely forms of behavior carried out through utterances within a particular communicative context (Searle, 1979). Searle (1979) divides speech acts into five categories, one of which is commissive speech acts, that is, utterances that express the speaker's willingness or commitment to do something in the future, such as promising, offering, threatening, swearing, refusing, and volunteering.

As a work of literary fiction, a novel presents dialogue between characters that represents the socio-cultural conditions of its speakers. The novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* by Pidi Baiq was selected as the data source because it contains dialogues rich in adolescent language styles and depicts various forms of commissive speech acts in everyday contexts. Previous studies on commissive speech acts have largely focused on the political domain, buying-and-selling transactions, and drama performances (Habiburrahman et al., 2020; Wahyuni et al., 2021; Setyawan et al., 2023), whereas studies focusing on the novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* remain scarce.

This research is also motivated by the need for contextual teaching materials in Indonesian language learning at the SMK level, particularly regarding negotiation text material, which includes the adjacency pairs of requesting, making offers, expressing ideas, and asking or confirming, concepts that align with commissive speech acts. Based on this background, this study addresses two research questions: (1) what types of commissive speech acts appear in Pidi Baiq's novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku* 1990, and (2) what implications do these findings have for Indonesian language teaching in SMK. In line with these questions, this study aims to describe the variety of commissive speech acts in the novel and to explain their implications for Indonesian language learning in SMK.

METHODOLOGY

This study employs a qualitative design using descriptive techniques. This approach was chosen in order to describe and examine in depth the linguistic phenomena present in the research data through a systematically organized presentation of words and language (Moleong, 1989; Sugiyono, 2017).

The data for this study were drawn from the utterances produced by characters in Pidi Baiq's novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku* 1990. The data took the form of excerpts of utterances containing elements of commissive speech acts. Data were collected through the observation technique, that is, reading the novel repeatedly to understand the context of the dialogue between characters, and the note-taking technique, that is, recording utterances identified as commissive speech acts.

Data analysis using qualitative descriptive techniques followed the stages proposed by Mahsun (2017), comprising: (1) data provision, namely collecting characters' utterances containing commissive speech acts; (2) data reduction, namely grouping the data according to the type of commissive speech act; (3) data display, namely presenting the data in descriptive form accompanied by quoted utterances and analysis based on Searle's (1979) theory of commissive speech acts; and (4) drawing conclusions based on the results of the analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the analysis of the characters' utterances in Pidi Baiq's novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku* 1990, 36 instances of commissive speech acts were found, covering six types: promising, offering, threatening, swearing, refusing, and volunteering. The details are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Recapitulation of the types and number of commissive speech act data.

No.	Type of Commissive Speech Act	Number of Data	Percentage
1	Promising	12	33.3%
2	Offering	12	33.3%
3	Threatening	2	5.6%
4	Swearing	1	2.8%
5	Refusing	2	5.6%
6	Volunteering	7	19.4%
	Total	36	100%

Promising and offering are the most frequently used types among the characters in the novel, while swearing has the fewest instances. The following section discusses each category of commissive speech act along with example data.

Commissive Speech Act of Promising

This is an utterance that expresses the speaker's promise to do something, thereby binding the speaker to that action. The following data is Dilan's utterance to Milea.

"If I don't come because I'm afraid of your father, I'm a coward." "So I'm coming." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 53)

This utterance is classified as a commissive speech act of promising because the speaker affirms his commitment to still meeting Milea despite the risk of being reprimanded by her father. This commitment is then realized through the follow-up utterance "So, I'm coming," which shows that the speaker truly fulfills what he had committed to.

"Alright, I'll try to be happy. God willing." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 39)

Milea's utterance is likewise classified as a commissive speech act of promising, since the phrase "will try" indicates the speaker's willingness and intention to act in the future, namely, making an effort to feel happy about Beni's arrival. In total, 12 instances of commissive speech acts of promising were found in the novel.

Commissive Speech Act of Offering

A commissive speech act of offering is an utterance delivered by the speaker to the interlocutor as a consideration or as a form of offered assistance.

"I'll get a chair, okay." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 115)

Milea's utterance is classified as a commissive speech act of offering because the speaker expresses her willingness to perform an action that benefits the interlocutor, namely getting a chair for Dilan.

"If you want to read, Kang Adi will bring you a book later. There are plenty at home." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 171)

Kang Adi's utterance shows his willingness to do something in the future, namely bringing a book for Milea. In total, 12 instances of commissive speech acts of offering were found in the novel.

Commissive Speech Act of Threatening

This is an utterance delivered by the speaker so that the interlocutor acts in accordance with what is stated in the utterance.

"If the principal slaps him, I'll burn this school down! Let alone just Anhar." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 330)

Dilan's utterance is classified as a commissive speech act of threatening because the speaker affirms his willingness to carry out a harmful act in the future should a particular condition occur. Two instances of commissive speech acts of threatening were found in this novel.

Commissive Speech Act of Swearing

This is an utterance that functions to affirm to the interlocutor that what is being stated by the speaker is true.

"Today in Bandung, on 22 December 1990, Dilan & Milea have, with deep feeling, officially become a couple. Matters concerning growth and affection between them will be carried on for as long as forever." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 342)

Through this statement, Dilan affirms a strong and sincere commitment to his relationship with Milea, and the utterance is therefore classified as a commissive speech act of swearing. This type has only one instance found in the study.

Commissive Speech Act of Refusing

This is an utterance that expresses the speaker's unwillingness to comply with a request, invitation, or offer from the interlocutor.

"Shall we go to Dago?" "No." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 250)

Dilan's utterance shows an attitude of refusal toward Milea's invitation, thereby binding himself not to carry out the proposed action. Two instances of commissive speech acts of refusing were found in the novel.

Commissive Speech Act of Volunteering

This is a form of utterance that shows the speaker's willingness to carry out an action on their own initiative, without being driven by pressure or a request from the interlocutor.

"Let me pay, Bi Eem." (Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990, p. 338)

Dilan's utterance above shows his willingness to perform an action in the future, namely settling the payment for food that had already been purchased, and this was done on his own accord without prompting from anyone. In this novel, 7 instances classified as commissive speech acts of volunteering were recorded.

Implications for Indonesian Language Learning in SMK

The results of the commissive speech act analysis of the novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* are relevant to the process of Indonesian language learning in Grade X SMK during the even semester, particularly for basic competency 3.11, which covers the analysis of content, structure or orientation, proposal, offer, agreement, and closing, as well as the linguistic features of negotiation texts. This relevance arises because negotiation texts essentially consist of a series of utterances in the form of requests, offers, proposals, and confirmations, which are substantially aligned with the various forms of commissive speech acts.

This learning can be implemented through three stages. The first stage is planning, namely developing material for identifying types of commissive utterances in the novel so that students can understand and analyze utterances related to negotiation texts. The second stage is implementation, namely applying instruction through a deep-learning approach using a problem-based learning (PBL) model, so that students can examine authentic communication issues while connecting new knowledge with their existing experience (meaningful learning). The third stage is evaluation, namely measuring students' understanding through questions related to negotiation texts. In this way, the novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* can serve as authentic and contextual teaching material that helps students properly understand the application of commissive speech acts, such as promises, offers, and agreements, within the context of negotiation in the world of work.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the research findings and discussion presented above, it can be concluded that Pidi Baiq's novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* contains 36 instances of commissive speech acts, consisting of promising (12 data), offering (12 data), threatening (2 data), swearing (1 datum), refusing (2 data), and volunteering (7 data). Promising and offering are the most dominant types used by the characters in the novel.

The findings of this study have implications for Indonesian language learning in Grade X SMK during the even semester, particularly for basic competency 3.11 on analyzing the structure and linguistic features of negotiation texts. The novel *Dilan: Dia Adalah Dilanku 1990* can be used as a contextual learning resource that fosters students' creativity in examining the structure and linguistic aspects of negotiation texts, while also enhancing their understanding of the various forms of commissive speech acts in everyday life.

For teachers of Indonesian, the findings of this study can serve as a reference for developing more contextual teaching materials on negotiation texts. For future researchers, this study is expected to serve as a reference for examining commissive speech acts in other literary works using more varied approaches.

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