

SPEECH ACTS IN INDONESIA INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH

Siti Rahma Ritonga

Department of English Applied Linguistics, State University of Medan
Medan, Indonesia

Corresponding author: ritongasitirahma86@gmail.com

Abstract

This study is concerned with the use of speech acts in Indonesia Independence Day Speech. The objective of this study were to describe the types of speech acts of President's speech in 72nd Indonesia Independence Day 2017 , the most dominant types of speech act, and to described the reason why the most dominant types of speech acts used by him. This study was conducted by qualitative anylisis method. The source of data in this study was Jokowi's speech in 72nd Indonesia Independence Day 2017, while the data were taken from his utterances in script of speech. The findings of this study showed that all types of speech acts, namely representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative The representative speech acts was the most dominantly used in his speech. The reasons of Jokowi used the representative speech acts were he could deliver the information about government's achievements in 2017 and the goals in the next year.

Keywords: speech acts, Independence Day, speech

Introduction

The celebration of Independence Day is of great significance to the people and history of Indonesia. It is a huge event for the people of Indonesia marking the declaration of Indonesia as free nation from the foreign rule.

Preparations for the Independence Day begin way in advance before festivities begin. There are decorations hung all throughout the city with the President's palace buildings decorated in red and white. Groups of people arrange for community service activities where residential areas are cleaned up. Neighborhood associations coordinate special activities for the children and even request for sponsorship for prizes for the children. The people are required to hoist flags on their residence for a certain period of time. The president then addresses the nation on the eve of Independence Day.

President Joko Widodo is slated to deliver annual speeches at the Parliament building ahead of the 72nd Indonesia's Independence Day on 16 august.

The language used by president is different in every Independence Day. He has his own way in delivering his speech. He has strategies to make the audiences interesting

with his speech. Speech that he convey are often associated with the social, culture , education, economic, etc. He must have a good language to make the audiences easier to understand what he means.

One of theories that can support language user to understand about what they mean is speech act. Speech act is a technical term in linguistics and the philosophy of language. Speech act is a process in which a person uses an utterance to perform an act such as stating fact, stating an opinion, confirming or denying something, making a prediction or a request, asking a question, issuing order, giving a permission, giving a piece of advice, making an offer, making a promise, thinking somebody or condolling somebody (Josiah and Johnson, 2012).

Based on the phenomena, the researcher presumes that there are some acts performed by Jokowi in speech. Hence, the present study would like to find out act performed in his political speech by using Pragmatic approach. To uncover it, the researcher analyzed it by using Speech Act Theory. In this study, the researcher would like to analyze the types of speech acts used by Jokowi, to find out the dominant speech act and the reason why the most dominant types of speech acts used by him.

Literature Review

Branch of linguistics that investigates about speech act of language used in communication is called Pragmatics. Pragmatic is a study of how contenxt affect the meaning of linguistic expression. Pragmatic studies how people comprehend and produce a communicative act or speech act in a concrete speech situation which is usually a conversation. It distinguishes two intents or meanings in each utterance or communicative act or verbal communication. One is the informative intent or the sentence meaning, and the other the communicative intent or speaker meaning (Leech, 1983).

(Cook, 2003) add the pragmatics is concerned with the speaker's intent to do with their words and what it is which makes this intention clear. Cook underline that in pragmatics, it involves with words and intentions. A speaker expressed word to tell his/her intention to hearers. Therefore, pragmatics is the study of the speaker meaning intention.

Discussing Speech act also deals with the discussion of pragmatics, because speech acts is an important field in pragmatic study. Speech acts are actions performed through words. While using the language, people do not only produce an isolated series of sentences, but also perform an action. In other words, by using the language they either do something. Thanking, requesting, and promising are some of them (Marquez, 2000).

Speech act is an action performed via utterances and speech act is concern with the speaker's communicative intention in producing an utterance. It is defined by the purpose for which the speakers use the language, for example to make a request, to apologize, and to report. (Yule, 1996: 54), based on the statement, the study of

speaker's intentions and what the speakers mean when they use the particular linguistics in context.

There are three kinds of speech act performed by a speaker in uttering a sentence (Austin: 1962). The first is a locutionary act, the performance of an utterance: the actual utterance and its ostensible meaning, comprising phonetic, phatic and rhetic acts corresponding to the verbal, syntactic and semantic aspects of any meaningful utterance; the second is an illocutionary act: the semantic 'illocutionary force' of the utterance, thus its real, intended meaning and in certain cases a further the third is perlocutionary act: its actual effect, such as persuading, convincing, scaring, enlightening, inspiring, or otherwise getting someone to do or realize something, whether intended or not. It means it is important to consider some ways in which the meaning of sentence in terms of what the speaker of those sentences intends to convey is interpreted. In other words speech is closely related to the intention of the speaker.

In line with the different types of speech acts performed by speaker in deliberating a communication, Searle developed five basic types of speech acts as followed (Searle, 2000):

- a. Representatives, the basic assertion is made by speaker, which contain a truth-value on the proposition. If someone says, "I see that the earth is flat", an assertion has been made, although it is false. A representative can be uttered in form of asserting, claiming, stating, informing, conveying, concluding, affirming, reporting, believing, describing and predicting. For example: "She is telling to fire you."
- b. Directives, the utterances made in an attempt by the speaker to get the hearer to do something for him. These directives may be expressed in different forms, such as question form or in command form like "would you mind approving my proposal?" or "approve my proposal?". Other forms of directives are requesting, ordering, demanding, warning, permitting, dismissing, excusing, forbidding, instructing, suggesting, advising, begging and urging. For example: "The class dismissed, you may have a rest!"
- c. Commissives, it is such actions commit the speaker to some future event or action. These also express what the speaker intends to do, such as promising, offering, refusing, vowing, threatening, swearing etc. For example: "I promise to pay you after this." In using commissives, the speaker is making an understood contract with the hearer that will be carried out.
- d. Expressives, these speech acts express psychological states within the speaker and tell how the speaker feels. For example thanking, condoling, congratulating and apologizing-are used to express a psychological state (gratitude for thanks, sympathy for condolences, pleasure for congratulations, and regret for apologies) about a presupposed proposition. The proposition concerns with something done by the addressee in the case of thanks and congratulations (to the advantage of the utterance for thanks, to the credit of the addressee for congratulations), a death in the case of condolences, a wrong deed by the speaker in the case of apologies.
- e. Declaratives

These are statement made by authority which causes immediate action from the utterances. These are only effective when stated by the appropriate authority. For example, "I hereby pronounce you man and wife. "In turn officially causes the couple to be wed, and can take effect only if said by priest or someone who carries authority to wed individuals, such as declarative or war, seconding motions, adjuring a meeting, firing, naming, nominating, divorcing, and etc.

Research Method

This study applied qualitative content analysis method. The source of data in this study was Jokowi's speech. while the data were taken from his utterances in script of speeches in 72nd Indonesia Independence Day 2017. Firstly, the researcher take the scripts of the speech from internet. After getting the scripts, the researcher will categorized every utterances that contain speech act features. The next step is analyzing types speech act based on the Searlea's speech act features, found the most dominant types of speech act, and described the reason why the most dominant types of speech acts used by him.

Discussion

Based on Searle theory in proposing five basic types of speech acts that use to express someone's communicative intent purpose in speaking, namely: representatives, directives, commissives, expressive, and declaratives. The researcher will present, analyze, and explain the data taken from Indonesia Independence Day speech. The researcher will utilize those Searle's five categories of speech acts for analyzing each utterance. After reading and focusing the data, the researcher found the types of speech acts that occurred that used in Jokowi's speech. The occurrences of representatives act in Jokowi acts is one hundred and sixteen times (116) in from the entire speech. Then, the directives act is in the second top occurred thirty times (30). The Expressive act occurred twelve times (12). Commissive act occurred thirteen (13). The fewest acts that occurred in his speech is declarations acts that occurred once (1) in the entire speech. The following table shows the number of speech act found in Jokowi's speech based on Searle's theory.

Table 1. The number of speech acts found in 72nd Indonesia Independence Day speech

No	Types of speech acts	Jokowi's speech	Percentage (%)
1	Representatives	116	67,44
2	Directives	30	17,44
3	Expressives	12	6,98
4	Commissives	13	7,56
5	Declaratives	1	0,58
	Total	172	100

From the table above, the researcher found that the representatives act is the most dominant used by Jokowi. He used representatives acts one hundred and sixteen times (116). There are some representatives act occurred in Jokowi speech, such as informing, describing, and stating, asserting, and reporting. The reasons of Jokowi used the representative speech acts were he could deliver the information about the government's achievements in 2017 and the goals in the next year.

Conclusions

After analyzing the data in Indonesia Independence Day speech by Jokowi, some conclusions are drawn as the following:

- a) All types of speech acts, namely representative, directive, commissive, expressive and declarative were used by Jokowi.
- b) The most dominant type of speech acts deployed by Jokowi was representative in the form of informing, stating, describing, asserting and reporting.
- c) The reasons of Jokowi used the representative speech acts was he could deliver the information about the information about the government's achievements in 2017 and the goals in the next year.

References

- Austin, J. L. (1962). *How to do things with words*. London: Oxford University Press.
- Cook, G. (2003), *Applied Linguistics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Josiah, U, E & Jhonson, SE. 2012, *Pragmatic Analysis of President Goodluck Jonathan's and Presiden Barac Obama's Inaugural Adresses*. International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Vol. 2 No. 1, PP 261-278
- Leech, G. (1983). *Principles of Pragmatics*. London: Longman.
- Marquez, R. R. (2000). *Linguistic Politeness in Britain and Uruguay; A Contrastive study of Request and Apologies*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Saerle, J. R. (2000). *Soz Edimieri, (R. Levent Aysever Trans)*. Ankara: Ayral Yagmevi
- Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.