The Power of Professional Entertainer's Speech Act

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Abstract

There are many kinds of acts associated with the speaker's utterance that involving a speaker, a hearer and an utterance. It can be in making statements, asking questions, issuing commands, giving reports, greeting, and warning. This study focused on an entertainer's speech act, he is Tukul Arwana, a famous entertainer in Bukan Empat Mata program. The study analyzed the type of speech act used by him when he becomes a host of a tv talk show program. The data was analyzed by five speech acts, namely; assertive, directive, commisives, expressive, declarative. The findings showed that types of speech acts used by Tukul's dominantly indicated as directive types of speech. He has the intention of eliciting some sort of action on the part of the hearer: order, command, request, beg, advise, warn, recommend, and ask

Key words: power, entertainer, speech act

I. Introduction

When someone speaks, his/her words do not have meaning in himself. S/he is very much affected by the situation, the speaker and the listener. Thus words alone do not have a simple fixed meaning.

Meaning making processes are sensitive to context and the meaning of an utterance may be completely different in different contexts, for example, the sentence "Your hair is so long?" could be an expression of several speech acts with different meanings, depending on the context. It could be an indirect command "have your hair cut", an insult or a compliment, or just a neutral statement.

In spoken language the tone of voice and the intonation often make the intended meanings and illocutions explicit and help in the interpretation, but extra-linguistic cues are lost in the written mode, and we have to rely on other means of interpretation. In some genres, like fiction, narrators' comments are sometimes present and make the intended meanings explicit.

Meanings are negotiated, and we can make inferences by examining utterances in their context, taking various factors into account. In speech act studies we look at social action through fragments: instances of an activity type.