



Directive speech act of character T'challa in Black Panther movie

Larasati Aldila¹, Yeni Noryatin¹, Elsan Arvian¹

¹STBA JIA, Jawa Barat, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

Background: This research studies about directive speech acts made by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther movie.

Purpose: The aims of this study are to explicate the applications of the directive speech act, to explain the types of directive speech act of the utterances that used, and to find out the most frequent types of directive speech act of the utterances that used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther movie.

Design and methods: To achieve the aims of the study, the writer uses Kreidler's theory in analyzing the data. This study is a qualitative research by employing descriptive method which the writer interprets of utterances that contain the types of directive speech acts in this movie.

Results: The result of study showed that 39 utterances of directive of speech acts were successfully identified that made by the main character T'Challa. In this study, the writer found that the main character T'Challa in this movie uses all the types of directive speech act, such as, command, request, and suggestion. There are command 26 data or 66,6%, request 8 data or 20,5%, and suggestion 5 data or 12,9%. So it can be concluded that the dominant directive is command, because this movie contained many command of the main character T'Challa as the king in the movie who has highest authority and also has a degree of control the other characters. Command is to give the strong order, request to ask the hearer to do or refrain from doing something, and suggestion is to give the opinion to the hearer.

Keywords: pragmatic, speech acts, directive speech act

Introduction

Misunderstanding can occur in exchanging information between the speaker and the hearer. This thing can occur because of different interpretation. For example, when the speaker and the hearer are in the room which have a lot of window, then the speaker says "Close the window!" and the hearer closes the nearest window with him or her. In fact, the speaker wants the hearer to close the biggest window in the room. This misinterpretation happens because the speaker do not tell the hearer which window that need to be close. In addition, sometimes the speaker does not use the appropriate words to convey the idea and language itself has broader meaning than the literal meaning of language.

It is important for knowing what the speaker intend to say for understanding. As in certain conditions, the speaker's utterance is actually need to be understood by the listener which expected can be performed by future action from the listener. One of significant approach to the functional classification of speech is based on speech acts.

When the speaker produces utterance, the speaker has the specific meaning and at the same time doing an act, it is called speech act. Speech act is defined as the action performed via utterance by the speaker Yule (2020, p. 157). In every occasion, speech act that produced action by performing some utterance, consists of three elements indeed. There are three basic levels of acts perform in speech; locution, illocution, and perlocution act. Locution act is the production of a meaningful linguistic expression, illocution act is the action intended to be

CONTACT Larasati Aldila ✉ larasatald@gmail.com

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performed by a speaker in uttering a linguistic expression, and perlocution act is the bringing about of consequences or effects on the audience through the uttering of a linguistic expression.

Speech act can be used in daily life in doing things such as, declarative, representative, expressive, commissive, and directive. Declaratives are those kinds of speech acts that change the world via their utterance, representatives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not, expressives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker feels, commissives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to commit themselves to some future action, and directives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something.

One of the types that many people use in daily activities is directive speech act. According to Yule, directive speech act is when the speaker intends the hearer to do something, that means the hearer does what the speaker wants (1996, p. 54). Based on Kreidler (1998, pp. 189-191), directive speech are command, request, and suggestion. Command is one of the directive speech act that effective only if the speaker has some degree of control over the actions of the hearer, request is an expression of what the speaker wants the addressee to do or refrain from doing something, meanwhile suggestion are the speaker's utterances to give opinions about what the addressee should or should not do.

The example of speech act in Black Panther Movie when in Nigeria between T'Challa and Nakia who was disguise her self for investigation mission about human trafficking in Nigeria. The situation at the time, Nakia suprised with T'Challa appearence in front of her because it has been a long time since Nakia saw him for the last time. T'Challa came to Nakia to tell her about his father death and asking Nakia to come to his coronation day tomorrow.

Nakia: "Why you're here? You just ruined my mission"

T'Challa: "My father is dead, Nakia. I will be crowned King tomorrow. *And I wish for you to be there.*"

In this utterance, T'Challa as the speaker and Nakia as the hearer. T'Challa wanted Nakia to come to the coronation day tomorrow. It is indicated by the word **wish**. The word indicates that the speaker wants the hearer to do or refrain from doing something. The utterance "And I wish you to be there" is an utterance that made by T'Challa to ask the hearer, Nakia, to do something. So that means this utterance include in the directive speech act as a requesting. In conversation, directive is often used by speaker but they say in different way.

The speaker has to concern about situation and context to make the hearer do as they want. Situation in conversation can be seen in some aspects, such as who is the hearer, what things speaker wants to say, and the timing of conversation. To make the hearer understand what the speaker say, it is necessarily for the hearer to interpret what the speaker intend to say using particular context.

Context is background knowledge assumed to be shared by speaker and hearer and which contributes to hearer's interpretation of what speaker means by given utterance. Without context, the hearer will find difficulty interpreting the meaning of the speaker's utterance. The hearer may be confused or misunderstand the speaker's intention. Contextual meaning is one of the study in pragmatics. (Yule, 1996, p. 3)

Pragmatics refers to meaning construction in specific interactional context, it is also cite to the study of meaning in use or meaning in interaction (Mullany & Stockwell, 2010, p. 10). Pragmatics examines how speaker and hearer affect the ways in which language is used to perform various function and intention. Pragmatics concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). Without pragmatics, there is often no understanding of what communication actually means.

Communication is a way to express our mind, feelings, ideas, and emotions. Communication is understood as exchange information tool that at least done by two individuals through verbal or non-verbal symbol, oral, and written visuals. The system of communication which relies on the verbal or non-verbal codes, used in transferring information, is called language.

Language is the system of sounds and words used by humans to express their thought and feeling. Language has a significant role in society, it has a role as medium between the speaker and the hearer in exchange ideas between each other. So, human and language are two components which cannot be separated.

Previously, there are several studies that have discussed about speech acts and pragmatics of language use in various objects, such as analyzed comic (Febri Arga, 2014) and novel (Sheilla Dyah Noviandani, 2016). Those researchers are examined the directive speech acts in different method and problem. The writer wants to continues the study but in different theory and object. The case of directive speech acts is not only happened in real life, but also in literature such as movies.

Movie is defined as a motion picture considered especially as a source of entertainment or as an art form. Movie consists of visual communication (moving images or pictures) together with verbal communication (auditory). In the movie, verbal communication that are spoken by the character can be analyzed as a study of speech acts because in the utterance may be contains certain meaning. The writer will analyze and elaborate focus on directive speech act classification used by the main character of movie in the interaction of the dialogue in the action drama movie.

Based on the background above, this research is guided to the following major question: (a) How is the application of the directive speech act that used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther Movie? (b) What are the types of directive speech act that used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther Movie? (c) What is the most frequent types of directive speech act that used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther Movie?

This research focus on the word to be analyzed in directive speech act types such as command, request, and suggestion used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther Movie. The writer tries to find the types of directive speech act, the theories which are used: 1. Kreidler (1998) 2. G. Yule (1996) 3. Leech (1993). By classifying and analyzing those direct speech acts, we can understand the sentence kinds: command, request, and suggestion.

Method

The method of this research is qualitative research that took content analysis as one of the types of qualitative in order to understand the directive speech acts phenomenon of the main character. In 2016, Taylor and Bogdan said that qualitative methodology refers to research that produces descriptive data from people's own written or spoken words and also observable behavior. (p. 4) The writer used qualitative research method because the researcher is concerned to analyze T'Challa utterances which consist of directives in the form of words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and not as dealing with numbers. Furthermore, Litosseliti (2010, p. 52) states that qualitative research is concerned with structure and pattern and how something is.

According to Creswell, qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning of individual or group ascribed to a social or human problem. (2014, p. 4). Moreover, the qualitative research is defined as a research of which the data in the form of written or oral words that is descriptively analyzed.

The data were obtained from the research's observation toward Black Panther Movie by Marvel Cinematic Universe. The first step was watching the "Black Panther" movie for

several times in order to understand the whole story. After that, the writer was finding the transcript of the “Black Panther” movie from the internet. Before analyzing the data, the writer comparing the transcript taken from the internet with dialogues of the movie focusing on the main character of the movie, character T’Challa. The writer was underlining the main character dialogues in the movie into the form of dialogue list.

The next step, the writer was identifying the listed of main character dialogues that contain directives speech act as the data of the research and gives description the situation in each concept. At the end, the data that have been listed are the data for the analysis.

Then the writer would able to identify the speech act that used by the main character T’Challa based on Kreidler’s theory. First, the writer analyzed the performative verb that used in the utterances. When the performative verb that used in the utterances found, the writer analyzed the context of the utterances such how, when, and who involved in the utterances occurred in the movie based Hymes’s theory of context. The writer applied Kreidler’s theory to analyze the data. Based on the performative verb found and the context of the utterances, the writer identified and classified the utterances into Kreidler’s theory, such as, command, request, and suggestion.

Findings & Discussion

Findings

According to the data analyses which have been analyzed above, the writer found 39 utterances of directive speech act of character T’Challa in Black Panther movie. In the data, there are found all the types of directive speech acts which based on Kreidler’s theory. The interpretation of the data is formed in the following table shown below.

Table 1 Findings

Types of Directive Speech Acts	Frequency of Utterances	Percentage
Command	26	66,6%
Request	8	20,5%
Suggestion	5	12,9%

After finding out the intention of the directive speech acts of character T’Challa in Black Panther by classifying the type of directive speech acts which is based on Kreidler, it needs to discuss about the data found. From the data on the table above, it shows that in the directive speech acts of command appear 26 times or 66,6%. In the directive speech acts of request presents 8 times or 20,5%, while in the directive speech acts of suggestion presents 5 times or 12,9%

The Summary Plot of Black Panther Movie

A voice from a young boy asks to tell him a story. The adults voice tells the story of “Vibranium.” A gigantic meteorite with the toughest metal: vibranium, crashed in the region of the sources of the Nile river, "millions" of years ago and it affected the plants. Later, in the age of humans, five tribes in the land named Wakanda battled for control of that vibranium until a spirit led a certain warrior to find and eat a "heart-shaped herb" affected by the metal. He gained superhuman abilities, and became the first "Black Panther". Four of the five tribes submit to his power but one tribe wants freedom. The Wakandans use the vibranium to develop highly-advanced technology. They see the horrors of the other nations

and isolated themselves from the rest of the world. They hid and pretended that they are not industrially developed like a third world country.

In Oakland, California, Prince N'Jobu (Sterling K. Brown) vows to share Wakanda's technology with people of African descent around the world in order to help them conquer their oppressors. N'Jobu enlists black-market arms dealer Ulysses Klaue to infiltrate Wakanda and remove a cache of vibranium.

In 1992, King T'Chaka learns of his brother's actions. He confronts N'Jobu, who becomes angry and threatens to kill T'Chaka's loyal friend, Zuri (Forest Whitaker). T'Chaka reluctantly kills N'Jobu to save Zuri, and abandons N'Jobu's son Erik in order to prevent the Wakandan people from learning the truth.

In the present day, following T'Chaka's death at the hands of Helmut Zemo, disguised as a masked James Barnes, his son T'Challa returns to Wakanda to assume the throne. After working with Okoye, the leader of the all-female fighting force the Dora Milaje, to extract his ex-lover Nakia from an undercover assignment in Nigeria's Sambisa Forest, he reunites with his mother Queen Ramonda and younger sister Princess Shuri, the nation's current technological genius. At his kingship ceremony he is challenged for the crown by M'Baku, the leader of the fifth tribe, the mountain-dwelling Jabari. The two engage in ritual combat, with T'Challa emerging victorious and becoming the new King. He lets M'Baku live.

In London, a gang led by Klaue and including an ex-U.S. black ops soldier, Erik Stevens a/k/a/ "Killmonger," steals an ancient Wakandan vibranium ax from a museum. When the tribal elders receive word that Klaue has resurfaced in South Korea, T'Challa's friend W'Kabi, who lost his parents as a result of the dealer's actions, urges the young monarch to bring him to justice. T'Challa, Okoye, and Nakia plan to intercept Klaue at an underground casino in Busan, where he will be selling the ax to an unknown buyer. The plan, however, goes wrong when T'Challa discovers the buyer is CIA agent Everett Ross and Klaue suspects the deal is a setup.

The deal subsequently goes sour, and a car chase ensues that culminates in Klaue's apprehension. While in CIA custody, however, Klaue is rescued by Killmonger. Ross is seriously injured saving Nakia in the attack, and rather than pursue Klaue, T'Challa takes Ross to Wakanda where his sister Shuri uses the nation's advanced technology to save Ross' life.

Killmonger kills Klaue and takes his body to Wakanda as a token, revealing his identity as N'Jobu's son to the tribal elders and challenging T'Challa for the throne. Killmonger triumphs in ritual combat and hurls the defeated T'Challa over a waterfall. After ingesting the heart-shaped herb to gain the powers of the Black Panther, Killmonger enacts his father's plan, preparing shipments of Wakandan weapons to be distributed to Wakandan operatives around the world. Nakia, Shuri, Ross, and T'Challa's mother Ramonda flee to seek the aid of the Jabari and learn M'Baku's men have found and are caring for the comatose T'Challa.

Healed by a heart-shaped herb brought by Nakia, T'Challa returns to Wakanda and to renew his combat with Killmonger for the throne, which was never officially concluded since T'Challa never died or conceded. When Killmonger refuses to cooperate, his claim to the throne is immediately invalidated and Okoye and the Dora Milaje turn against him. However, Killmonger who is now wearing a suit of Black Panther armor of his own resists with force along with the Border Tribe. While Shuri, Nakia, and Jabari battle W'Kabi, Ross, piloting a remote jet with Shuri's guidance, shoots down the planes carrying the weapons before they can leave the country. The battle goes poorly for T'Challa's side until M'Baku and the Jabari arrive to support him, thus turning the tide. T'Challa and Killmonger's battle carries them into the heart of the vibranium mine, where sonic disrupted used in the transport of the metal incapacitate their vibranium armor. While Killmonger's body is briefly exposed,

T'Challa stabs his cousin. He takes Killmonger to see the sunset of Wakanda and offers to heal him. But Killmonger states that he knows he will then be imprisoned and would rather die a free man. He pulls the dagger out of his chest and dies.

With that victory, T'Challa is officially restored to the throne, with M'Baku granted a seat in the national tribal council to represent his tribe in recognition of his loyalty. Rejecting the isolationism of past Wakandan kings, T'Challa establishes an embassy in the United States to be run by Nakia and Shuri. In a mid-credits scene, T'Challa appears before the United Nations to reveal Wakanda's true nature to the world. In a post-credits scene, Shuri continues to help Bucky Barnes with his recuperation.

Types of Directive Speech Act

Directive is used when the speaker wants the hearer to do things for him or her. According to Yule (1996, p. 54), directive speech act are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to get someone else to do something. This speech is uttered by the speaker in order to make the listener to do some action by the speaker utterances. They express what the speaker wants. It means the hearer does what the speaker wants.

Directive, here, known as a direction which performed in imperative (usually) to change the hopefully things to be happened as the speaker's wishes. Meanwhile, the definition of directive speech act also stated by Leech in syntactically way. Leech (1993) state that directive speech act occurred in construction S, verb and O to Y. Where S and O as subject and object or it is known as the speaker and the hearer. Then verb indicates as speech act-verb such as order or request. Y here as the infinitive clause which performed such as ask, beg, bid, command, demand, forbid, and recommend.

Searle in Brinton (2010) stated directive speech act is an attempt by Sp (speaker) to get H (hearer) to do something (p. 342) In addition, Kreidler explained directives are those in which the speaker tries to get the addressee to perform some act or refrain from performing an act (1998, p. 189). Thus, a directive utterance has the pronoun 'you' as actor, whether that word is actually present in the utterance or not.

Searle in Mey (2009, p. 1004) divided directive speech acts into five types include advice, commands, orders, questions, and requests. In addition, Yule stated in his book (1996, pp. 53-54) that there are at least four forms of directive speech acts such as, command, order, request, and suggestion. Meanwhile, Kreidler stated in his book, directive speech act are command, request, and suggestion that can be positive or negative

The three types of directive speech act proposed by Kreidler are further explained below:

Command

According to Kreidler (1998, p. 190), command is effective only if the speaker has some degree of control over the actions of the hearer. The function of command is to direct a person or people with the right to be obeyed, to do something what speaker wants. Eggins (2004, p. 18) states that command (imperative) in grammatical systems is realized by the omission of the subject and finite (verb) elements, leaving only the predicator.

In addition, Thomas (2013, p. 96) explained Searle did not show how to distinguish command and order. Searle in Thomas (2013, p. 96) stated order and command have the additional preparatory rule that speaker must be in a position of authority over hearer. Furthermore, in both, the authority relationship infects the essential condition because the utterance counts as an attempt to get hearer to do action in virtue of the authority of speaker over hearer.

Based the explanation above, the writer concluded command and order have the same meaning.

T'Challa: Stay.

Nakia: I came to support you, and to honor your father. But I can't stay.
It's just found my calling out there. I've seen too many in need just
to turn a blind eye. I can't be happy here knowing that there's
people out there who have nothing. (00:33:38)

In the dialogue above, the utterance “**Stay**” has structure as imperative form with function as command sentence. Direct relationship between the structure and function of the utterance called as direct speech act. Hence, the utterance “**Stay**” categorized as direct speech act.

Based on the context, this dialogue happened between T'Challa and Nakia in the sunny day. The setting for this dialogue is in the middle of city. There also pedestrians of Wakandans and Wakanda's warrior that guard the king in the same scene

Through the utterance “**Stay**”, T'Challa uses directive speech act. According to that utterance, it can be assumed as directive speech acts of command. Command (imperative) in grammatical systems is realized by the omission of the subject and finite (verb) elements, leaving only the predicator. T'Challa asked Nakia to stay in Wakanda and not come back to her mission at Nigeria. It is indicated by the word **Stay**. This word indicates that the speaker wants the hearer to do or refrain from doing something. In this utterance, T'Challa as the speaker who have authority as the king and degree control towards Nakia as the hearer. The directive utterance “**Stay.**” implies command.

Finally, the utterance “**Stay**” is an utterance that made by T'Challa who have authority giving command, to the hearer, Nakia, for doing something. According the structure of speech act and classification of directive speech act above, the utterance “**Stay**” classified as directive speech act as command.

Request

According to Kreidler (1998, p. 190), request is an expression of what the speaker wants the addressee to do or refrain from doing something. A request does not assume the speaker's control over the person addressed. The function of request is to ask people to do something what speaker wants in polite ways.

T'Challa: Give him to us. We can save him. (01:00:00)

In the dialogue above, the utterance “**Give him to us**” has structure as imperative form with function as a request sentence. Direct relationship between the structure and function of the utterance called as direct speech act. Hence, the utterance “**Give him to us**” categorized as direct speech act.

This dialogue happened between T'Challa and agent Ross's subordinates. The setting for this dialogue is at the building in Korea. There also agent Ross, Nakia, and Okoye in the same scene. This scene happened in the day.

After T'Challa put in the Kimoyo bead into agent Ross's wound, T'Challa had an idea to bring agent Ross to Wakanda. T'Challa knew that the technology of Wakanda would able to help agent Ross. T'Challa asked agent Ross's subordinates to let him bring agent Ross by saying “**Give him to us. We can save him.**”

Through the utterance “**Give him to us**”, T'Challa uses directive speech act. According to that utterance, it can be assumed as directive speech acts of request. The speaker wants the addressee to do or refrain from doing something without assume the speaker's control over the person addressed. T'Challa asked agent Ross's subordinates to let him bring agent Ross to Wakanda so T'Challa would able to help agent Ross. It is indicated by the word **Give**. This word indicates that the speaker asks people to do something what speaker wants in polite ways. In this utterance, T'Challa as the speaker who have no authority and degree

control towards agent Ross's subordinates as the hearer. The directive utterance "**Give** him to us" implies request.

Finally, the utterance "**Give** him to us." is an utterance that made by T'Challa asking a request without authority, to the hearer, agent Ross's subordinates, for doing something. According the structure of speech act and classification of directive speech act above, the utterance "**Give** him to us" classified as directive speech act as request.

Suggestion

According to Kreidler (1998, p. 191), suggestion are the speaker's utterances to give opinions about what the addressee should or should not do. The function of suggestion is to give his or her opinion to the hearer on how that orders should be having acts.

Based on the three types of directive speech act mentioned above, the present study prefers to use the types of directive speech act proposed by Charles W. Kreidler in 1998. The types of directive speech act proposed by Charles W. Kreidler seems appropriate with the characteristic of this study. This theory provides exhaustive explanation about the types of directive speech act in the utterance.

Nakia: Wakanda is strong enough to help others and protect ourselves at the same time.

T'Challa: **If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen.

Nakia: I would make a great queen because I am so stubborn. (00:34:28)

In the dialogue above, the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen." has structure as declarative with function as statement sentence. However, the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" also functions as a suggestion. The utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" has two different functions, first function as a statement and second function as a suggestion. Indirect relationship between structure and functions of the utterance called as indirect speech act. Hence, the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" categorized as indirect speech act.

Based on the context, the setting for this dialogue is in the middle of city. This dialogue happened between T'Challa and Nakia. There also pedestrians of Wakandans and Wakanda's warrior that guard the king in the same scene. This scene happened in the sunny day.

Through the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen", T'Challa uses directive speech act. According to that utterance, it can be assumed as directive speech acts of suggestion but in indirect speech act. In this utterance, T'Challa does not directly suggest the hearer to stop being stubborn, but T'Challa used declarative form. T'Challa have opinion about Nakia that Nakia might be able to be a good queen as long as Nakia not being a stubborn in deciding something. Suggestion is the speaker's utterances to give opinions about what the addressee should or should not do. The speaker gives his opinion to the hearer on how that orders should be having acts the speaker wants the hearer to do or refrain from doing something. In this utterance, T'Challa as the speaker and Nakia as the hearer. The directive utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" implies suggestion.

Finally, the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" is an utterance that made by T'Challa giving his opinion, to the hearer, Nakia, in doing something. According the structure of speech act and classification of directive speech act above, the utterance "**If you were not so stubborn**, you would make such a great queen" classified as directive speech act as suggestion.

Conclusion

This study found that T'Challa used both of direct and indirect speech act. In indirect speech act, T'Challa used the structure of interrogative and declarative form with command function. Meanwhile in direct speech act, T'Challa used imperative form with command or request function.

In this study, the writer found 39 utterances made by T'Challa consists of directive speech act that used all of the types of directive speech act. It consists 26 commands, 8 requests, 5 suggestions.

The most frequent types of directive speech acts which are used by the main character T'Challa in Black Panther movie found in 39 utterances is command at 66,6%, followed by request at 20,5% and suggestion at 12,9%

The conclusion deals with finding three kinds of directive speech acts namely: command, request, suggestion that occur in the movie. Command as the dominant kind of directive speech acts occur in Black Panther movie made by the main character T'Challa. The character that use command usually higher position and authority than hearer. It can be seen in main character T'Challa, he mostly used command utterance, it is because he is the king of Wakanda who has highest authority in the movie and also has a degree of control the other characters. The reason speakers employing commands directive speech acts are to show power and to give strong order.

Request is an expression of what the speaker wants the addressee to do or refrain from doing something. In request, the hearer can either obey or refuse it. As same as with command, the request expression is influenced by social status. Commonly, request is employed by speaker who has lower status or authority. However, in a particular context, request also employed by speaker who has highest authority.

Suggestion in this movie showing about the care speaker to hearer. Speakers give opinion beneficial to the hearer. The reason speakers employing suggestion directive speech act are to show solidarity and to show attention.

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