

AN ANALYSIS OF DIRECTIVE SPEECH ACTS USED IN *THE ADDAMS FAMILY 2* MOVIE SCRIPT

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Abstract

The directive speech act refers to the utterance used by the speaker to ask and tell the speech partner to act. Therefore, speech and actions created through the phenomenon of directive speech acts can be found in human communication and language speech, such as in real life and movies. It can be seen through one of the movies such as *The Addams Family 2*. *The Addams Family 2* is a movie that has many directive speech acts that occur in the script. The purpose of this research is to understand the classification of directive speech acts and understand why directive speech acts in the form of types and functions are used in *The Addams Family 2* movie script. The researcher used a descriptive qualitative method in explaining the overall types and functions of directive speech acts on the data in the object of research. The analyzed movie is obtained from Apple TV (iTunes Channel) and the movie script comes from <https://scrapsfromtheloft.com/movies/the-addams-family-2-transcript>. *The Addams Family 2* because when the characters have a conversation there are utterances that have the types of asking, commanding, offering, inviting, advising, prohibiting, encouraging, competitive, convivial, collaborative, and conflictive. The theory used in analyzing this research is the type of directive speech acts by Austin and Searle's theory as well as the function of speech acts by Leech's theory. The directive speech act of asking is the highest data which amounted to 84 data (49.41%). Each character's utterance ensures that the interlocutor can provide answers and information in accordance with the questions given because the speaker asks questions to speech partners to get answers and information. Based on the data analysis, the competitive directive speech act function is the highest data with 124 (72.94%). This is because the competitive aspect arises when there is competition between speakers and speech partners regarding how actions or requests should be made. However, the speech partner may have a desire that is contrary to the wishes of the speaker.

Keywords: *directive speech acts, types of directive speech acts, functions of directive speech acts, The Addams Family 2*

INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the most important elements of human life. In the use of language, one must know and understand the use of the language. Language has an important role in human interaction, allowing for unforced communication and allowing us to express our interests and desires. Language is the main communication tool that covers all aspects of life, because everything experienced, felt, and thought by a person can only be known by others if expressed through language (Chaer & Agustina, 2004, p. 15). Language allows people to express feelings and emotions. To understand both context and language, it is important to ensure that feelings and messages are understood by others (Rani, 2006, p. 157). Therefore, every time people have a conversation, they express those feelings. The purpose of communication is to convey speech and understand each other's thoughts. When language is being exercised, speech acts occur (Kerap, 2004, p. 3).

Speech acts are human communication phenomena and include various methods for performing actions using language (Searle, 1969, p. 21). Therefore, the study of speech acts examines the meaning of language based on the relationship between speakers and speech partners. The study of speech acts explains the meaning of language through the relationship between speakers and speech partners. It focuses on how language is used to convey information, taking

into account context, purpose, and intended meaning. Effective communication relies on understanding the meaning conveyed in utterances, thus enhancing our understanding of language use in different situations.

Austin (1962:108) states that there are three types of speech acts, such as locutionary speech acts, illocutionary speech acts, and perlocutionary speech acts. Locutionary speech acts are influenced by context and the direct meaning of words, while illocutionary speech acts involve the speaker's intention behind their utterance, categorized into assertive, directive, expressive, commissive, and declarative types. Perlocutionary speech acts focus on the effects of the speaker's words on the listener's feelings, thoughts, and actions. Specifically, directive speech acts aim to prompt the listener to take a specific action as requested by the speaker. The directive speech act is a type of illocutionary act that aims to make the listener perform certain actions Yule (1996). Directive speech acts include various types such as asking, commanding, requesting, inviting, advising, prohibiting, and encouraging (Searle, 1969).

Directive speech acts play an important role in movie dialog by conveying messages and influencing interactions between characters, which in turn helps the audience understand the context and intent behind the characters' speech. The researcher chose to analyze "An Analysis of Directive Speech Acts used in *The Addams Family 2* Movie Script" to understand the importance of speech acts in regulating social interaction, developing characters, and reflecting communication in real life. The research aims to explore the types and functions of directive speech acts in movie scripts.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher conducted this research using a descriptive qualitative method. The researcher is descriptive qualitative because it can analyze the problem formulation of what and why in directive speech acts in *The Addams Family 2* movie script. The source of data was taken from *The Addams Family 2* movie script. The researcher focuses on determining the type and function of directive speech acts as well as explaining why directive speech acts appear in *The Addams Family 2* script. The data of this research is from Apple TV (iTunes Channel) and the script of *The Addams Family 2* movie at the source, <https://scrapsfromtheloft.com/movies/the-addams-family-2-transcript>. The main instrument of this research is the researcher himself. The research instruments used during the analysis were books, journals, and articles. The researcher focused on notes made during the data collection, and analysis process, putting the data into the column, classifying the data step by step based on the categories and functions, and drawing a conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Types of Directive Speech Acts

The researcher includes the findings related to the first research problem. The part explains the types of directive speech acts used in *The Addams Family 2* movie script. The data can be seen in the seven types of directive speech acts below.

Table 1. Types of Directive Speech Acts

Types of Directive Speech Acts	Frequency	Percentage
Asking	84	59.15%
Commanding	34	23.94%
Requesting	8	5.63%
Inviting	2	1.40%
Advising	7	4.92%
Prohibiting	3	2.11%
Encouraging	4	2.81%
Total	142	100%

Table 1 explains that the directive speech act type of asking is the highest number of data and the directive speech act type of inviting is the lowest amount of data. There are 84 data (59.15%) of directive speech act type asking, 34 data (23.94%) of directive speech act type commanding, 8 data (5.63%) of directive speech act type requesting, 2 data

(1.40%) of directive speech act type inviting, 7 data (4.92%) of directive speech act type advising, 3 data (2.11) of directive speech act type prohibiting, and 4 data (2.81%) of directive speech act type encouraging.

Functions of Directive Speech Acts

The researcher mentions the findings of the second research problem question. The second part shows the function of directive speech acts used in *The Addams Family 2* movie script. The data contains four directive speech act functions below.

Table 2. Functions of Directive Speech Acts

Functions of Directive Speech Acts	Frequency	Percentage
Competitive	105	73.94%
Convivial	15	10.56%
Collaborative	5	3.52%
Conflictive	17	11.97%
Total	142	100%

Table 2 shows that the directive speech acts function of competitive is the highest number of data and the directive speech acts function of collaborative is the lowest amount of data. There are 105 data (73.94%) of directive speech function competitive, 15 data (10.56%) of directive speech function convivial, 5 data (3.52%) of directive speech function collaborative, and 17 data (11.97%) of directive speech function conflictive.

Types of Directive Speech Acts

Asking

The data classified in the asking category is when a character in *The Addams Family 2* asks questions to other characters to get information. It can be seen when Wednesday gives the guests a question.

Wednesday: **"Have you** ever found yourself discontented by those closest to you?" (00:02:23 – 00:02:28)

The datum is categorized as asking because the subject "you" is preceded by the auxiliary verb "have" and the sentence ends with a question mark (?). In the conversation, the utterance in Wednesday's conversation datum states that the interrogative sentence expresses a more general and possible question with a "yes" or "no" answer to the guest. Therefore, Searle (1996) classifies the question as a directive speech act because the speaker attempts to make the speech partner answer the question.

Commanding

The data categorized as commanding is when a character in *The Addams Family 2* gives an order to another character to perform a certain action. It can be observed in the conversation between Gomez and Pugsley.

Gomez: "I told you, Pugsley. **It's push, not pull.** Hello, everyone!" (00:01:36 – 00:01:40)

The datum is classified as a command because the subject "it" is followed by the linking verb "is", the complement word "push and pull", and the conjunction word "not". In the conversation, Gomez gave a command to Pugsley to push, and not pull, so that Pugsley would not misunderstand.

Requesting

The data fall into the requesting category when characters in *The Addams Family 2* ask other characters to do something with polite actions or utterances. It can be seen from the conversation between Morticia and Uncle Fester.

Morticia: **"Please,** Uncle Fester, wait for the children. Children!" (00:08:55 – 00:08:56)

The datum in the dialog is requesting because of the subject "Uncle Fester", the verb "wait", the prepositional phrase "for the children", and the adverb "please". In Morticia's conversation, Morticia asks Uncle Fester to wait for the children. In this sentence, the word "please" is used to show politeness and respect for the interlocutor.

Inviting

The data that is considered in the inviting category is when Gomez in *The Addams Family 2* invited Wednesday to join their activities. It can be seen from the conversation that occurs between Gomez and Wednesday.

Gomez: **"Come, come. Join us.** We were just telling stories of when Pugsley was born. He kept us up all night, howling." (00:24:52 – 00:24:58)

The datum in Gomez's dialog fall into the inviting type because it found the verbs "come" and "join". The conversation said by Gomez that he invited Wednesday to join and listen to the story about the experience when Pugsley was born. The inviting type in Gomez's character datum has a function to attract attention and invite others to join the activities being carried out by Gomez and his family. After that, the invitation is used with polite sentences, and clear context, and creates a more inclusive situation.

Advising

The data is classified as advising when a character in *The Addams Family 2* gives advice or suggestions to another character about the action that the character is recommending. It can be found in Gomez's conversation with Pugsley and Wednesday.

Gomez: "That's the spirit, Lurch. Let's go, Wednesday. **It's time for some family bonding. Whether you like it or not. You see, Wednesday, this trip will bring the Addams family closer than ever before.**" (00:11:04 – 00:11:24)

The datum of the conversation shows the advising type because it contains the subjects "it", "you", and "this trip", and the verbs "is", "like", and "will bring". In the conversation, Gomez advises Wednesday to have fun and strengthen family bonds through a trip vacation. The advising type in the conversation advises Wednesday and expresses his goals and beliefs about how the activity will bring benefits to his family.

Prohibiting

The data falls into prohibiting when the character Wednesday in *The Addams Family 2* prohibits other characters from knowing information about her project. It can be seen from the conversation between Wednesday and Cryus Strange.

Wednesday : **"Alas, I can't share any of that. It's a family secret."**

Cryus Strange : "I see. And which family is yours?" (00:05:56 – 00:05:60)

The datum in this part of the conversation is classified as prohibited because of the subject "I" and the verb "can't share". Wednesday prohibits Cryus Strange from knowing information because it is a family secret. In the prohibition, Wednesday expresses a prohibition against the act of sharing personal information that exists in the context of family relationships.

Encouraging

The data is categorized as encouraging when the characters of *The Addams Family 2* give support to Wednesday's character to face the goals that she wants to achieve. It can be seen from the conversation between Cryus Strange and Wednesday.

Cryus Strange: "I get it, Wednesday. **I watched your presentation. It was brilliant.**" (00:05:35 – 00:05:39)

The datum in the conversation is considered encouraging because there are subjects "I" and "it", verbs "watched" and "was", and complement "brilliant". Cryus Strange supports Wednesday that he saw the presentation and assessed that the presentation was very interesting. The sentence has an encouraging meaning because it strengthens Wednesday's spirit and motivation as a form of praise and positive recognition of Wednesday's presentation.

From the discussion of the types of directive speech acts, it is found that the asking type is the most widely used utterance because the question utterance delivered aims to get answers or information from the speech partner which reflects the need or desire to get something from others. Then, the inviting type is not widely used because the conversations show that invitations to join in activities or attend something are less common in the analyzed conversations. Therefore, the asking type is the most dominant data than the inviting and other types of speech acts in *The Addams Family 2* movie script obtained from the source, <https://scrapsfromtheloft.com/movies/the-addams-family-2-transcript>.

Functions of Directive Speech Acts

Competitive

The data is categorized as competitive when the characters of *The Addams Family 2* give an action or speech to other characters that has the meaning of competition or impoliteness. It can be seen from the conversation that took place between Pugsley and the girls.

Pugsley: "Ugh. **Step aside**, kid. I'll show you how it's done." (00:02:05 – 00:02:10)

The datum above is classified in the competitive category, such as commanding because the verb "step" is found which is connected with the adverb "aside". In the conversation, Pugsley instructs the girls to step back from his path. The competitive function in Pugsley's speech shows that he feels confident in ordering someone to step aside because he will show them the right way to do things.

Convivial

The data falls into the convivial category when *The Addams Family 2* characters have a polite action or speech to other characters that implies positive, informal, and formal social interaction. It can be seen from the conversation between Gomez and Morticia

Gomez: "**You've** always **wanted** to see more of this great country." (00:10:22 – 00:10:24)

The datum above falls into the classification of convivial function, such as encouraging because there is the subject "you" and the verb "wanted". In the conversation above, Gomez supports Morticia's long-standing desire to explore and vacation in other countries. In the conversation, Gomez shows that the encouraging speech encourages speech partners to achieve their dreams and desires. Furthermore, the sentence expresses a positive atmosphere that can motivate someone to explore more about new countries and experiences.

Collaborative

The data is considered in the part of collaborative because when the characters of *The Addams Family 2* instruct other characters that does not involve manners because in this function manners are irrelevant. It can be seen from the conversation between Wednesday and Lurch.

Wednesday: "Lurch, **to Sausalito!**" (00:55:59 – 00:56:00)

The datum in the conversation above is part of the convivial, such as instructing or commanding because there is a prepositional phrase "to Sausalito" and the sentence ends with an exclamation mark (!). Wednesday's speech states that she is giving instructions or orders to Lurch to go to Sausalito. In the context of this conversation, it shows an instruction or call for Lurch by directing him to a place.

Conflictive

The data is categorized as conflictive because when the characters of *The Addams Family 2* oppose or forbid someone to do something in a soothing and conflicting situation. It can be seen from Wednesday's letter given to her family.

Wednesday (Message): "**Don't** try to talk to me." "I want to be alone." (00:09:38 – 00:09:40)

The conversation datum is classified as conflictive, such as prohibiting because there is a verb "don't". In the conflictive speech above, Wednesday in her letter expresses to her parents not to disturb and talk to her. The conflictive function of forbidding indicates an atmosphere of tension in interaction and a firm boundary between herself and others, feelings of frustration, and a desire to avoid communication.

In the discussion of the function of speech acts, it is found that the competitive function is the most dominant speech or action used because the function has the meaning of speech or action that reduces politeness. Consequently, the utterance in the speech is firm. After that, the data that is not widely used is the collaborative function because the conversations found in *The Addams Family 2* script show that irrelevant actions or speech refer to interaction or communication with cooperation between speech partners and speakers in achieving the desired goals. Therefore, the competitive function is the most data than the collaborative function and other directive speech act functions in *The Addams Family 2* movie script obtained from the source, <https://scrapsfromtheloft.com/movies/the-Addams-family-2-transcript>

CONCLUSION

The type of directive speech act of asking is the most data which is 84 data because the speaker in the question speech aims to get answers or information from the speech partner. Then, the lowest data is the type of inviting directive speech act which is 2 data because the conversation shows that the speaker invites the speech partner to join in activities or attend something that occurs less frequently. The most dominant data is competitive which is 105 data because the speaker states something that is not polite or irrelevant that is said. It shows that the writer tries to create interesting and entertaining interactions through the use of sharp and competitive language because the writer writes the script by considering the tone of speech with capital letters, exclamation marks (!) question marks (?), and emphasis on several words. Then, the lowest amount of data is the collaborative function which is 5 data because it is irrelevant and is related to interaction or communication in cooperation between speech partners and speakers to achieve understanding in action and purpose. Moreover, the writer chooses the function of directive speech acts related to the use of language that is easily understood by the listener. The type of directive speech act asking is the most data of all types of directive speech acts. It shows that the asking sentence aims to get answers or information from speech partners to get convincing answers or information. Therefore, the type is the most dominant data that is interrelated where the type of asking is the result of the competitive function to convince the speech partner to provide answers and information on the questions asked.

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