

LANGUAGE FUNCTION USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN “JOKER” MOVIE

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini terutama bertujuan untuk menganalisis fungsi bahasa yang terdapat pada tokoh utama dalam Film Joker. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui fungsi bahasa yang digunakan tokoh utama dalam film Joker dan mendeskripsikan konteks fungsi bahasa yang digunakan tokoh utama film tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif. Dikategorikan sebagai analisis wacana karena kajian ini berfokus pada analisis fenomena ujaran tokoh utama. Data dikumpulkan dari ucapan Arthur sebagai tokoh utama. Peneliti menggunakan teori Holmes untuk menganalisis fungsi bahasa dan teori Hymes untuk mendeskripsikan konteks fungsi bahasa. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan hanya ada tujuh dari delapan jenis fungsi bahasa yang dikategorikan oleh Holmes yang menggunakan tokoh utama dalam film Joker. Mereka adalah fungsi bahasa ekspresif, direktif, referensial, metalinguistik, phatic, puitis dan komisif.

Kata kunci: Analisis wacana, fungsi bahasa, konteks.

Abstract

This study was mainly intended to analyze language functions found in the main character in Joker Movie. The objectives of the study are to find language functions are used by main character in Joker movie and to describe the context of language functions that used by main character of the movie. This study uses descriptive qualitative approach. It is categorized as discourse analysis because this study focuses on analysis the phenomena of main character utterances. The data are collected from the utterances of Arthur as the main character. The researcher uses Holmes's theory to analyze language functions and Hymes' theory to describe the context of the language functions. The result of this study shows there are only seven from eight types of language functions categorized by Holmes that used the main character in Joker movie. They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, phatic, poetic and commissive functions of language.

Keywords : Discourse analysis, language function, context.

1. INTRODUCTION

There are many visual arts created by human to entertain people in this word one of them is movie. According to Bordwell and Thompson (2008), Film is an art form with a language and an aesthetic all its own. Movie is a visual language that tells stories in moving images and merging of many disciplines and crafts to create a powerful emotional experience, Lucas (1991). As an important art form, a movie carries out a source to entertain and educate people. It is because the conversation between the

The researcher chooses Joker movie, because the way Joker presents himself, both physically and especially verbally, is one of the key reasons this movie brings a lot of controversy. Some critics also characters in the movie aims to share and convey the information as a mean of communication, while in the human's daily life, conversation has become the important way for exchanging their opinions. Movie also can be considered as a representative of human life, it reflects the real life of society based on the situation and setting of the conversation. Moreover, through

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movies, we can learn about how languages that used in the conversations involved in the movie itself.

Argued the character could inspire violence (Wulfsohn, 2019). Zukerman (2020) reported that the director somehow manages the character to both stigmatize mental illness while still championing Arthur's crimes. The director also posits that his brain makes him a monster, while still finding his mania both entertaining and somehow, heroic. The way Arthur views the world is disturbing, but also provides a fascinating insight into the man. This results in some truly unforgettable lines in the film that will stick with people forever. (McCormick, 2020).

According to Walt Wolfram (1991) Language is one of the most powerful emblems of social behavior. In the normal transfer of information through language, we use language to send vital social messages about who we are, where we come from, and who we associate with. It is often shocking to realize how extensively we may judge a person's background, character, and intentions based simply upon the person's language, dialect, or, in some instances, even the choice of a single word. By the statement, language can describe the personality. They use language in order to fulfill those different purposes. Each purpose can be known as a language function. Halliday (1992) stated a functional approach to language means investigating how language is used: trying to find out what purposes that language serves for us, and how people are able to achieve these purposes through speaking and listening, reading and writing (Ambrosio et.al., 2015:107).

The research questions of the study are: what kinds of language functions are used by the character Arthur in the "Joker" and what are the context of language functions used by the character Arthur in the Joker. This study focuses on the analysis of language function

used in Joker's movie and the context of the language function.

The researcher choose language function that purpose by Holmes (2013) stated in his book that there are eight categories of speech functions, in which each of those functions has its own characteristics and purposes. They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, poetic, phatic, heuristic and commissive functions.

Expressive function is a sort of language work alludes to the language used to communicate what the speaker's brain or individual emotions. For example: I'm feeling great today. Directive function is the use of language to direct, influence and manage one's own or other's actions. For example: clean the table, please. Referential is capacity of language shows the state of the speakers who need to share their insight or news toward the listener. For example: water boils at 100 degrees. Metalinguistic refers to the articulations remark on language itself. For example: speaker stated, "I don't like you." "Sorry what did you say?" asks the addressee. Poetic is reveals how the speakers create the expressions by utilizing any kind of wordplays. For example: "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers." Phatic is express solidarity and compassion with others. For example: Hi, how are you, it's cold!. Heuristic is capacity emerged from the investigation of kid's language procurement where the language is used to learn and discover. For instance, "What is the function of tractor?". Commissive is language used to manage guarantees dangers, with marriage perspectives, bets, and presentations of war. By the by, every classification has its unmistakable attributes. For example: I will clean my room, I promise.

After that, the researcher used theory of context by the proposed framework of Hymes (1974) SPEAKING terms named : Situation, Participant, Ends, Act sequence, Key, Instrumentalities, Norms, and Genre. Situation refers to the time and place which is

*)Penulis Korespondensi

the concrete physical circumstances in which speech takes place. Participant It includes various combinations of speaker-listener, addressor-addressee or sender-receiver. Ends It refers to the conventionally recognized and expected outcome(s) of an exchange as well as to the personal goals that participations seek to accomplish on particular occasions. Act sequence It refers to the actual form and content of what is said: the precise words used, how they are used, and the relationship of what is said to the actual topic at hand. Key It refers to the tone, manner, or spirit in which a particular message is conveyed such as lighthearted, serious, precise, pedantic, mocking, sarcastic, pompous, and so on. Instrumentalities It refers to the choice of channel such as oral, written, or telegraphic, and to the actual form of speech employed, whether it will be deliver in a more formal way or a casual friendly one. Norms It is social rules governing the event and the participants' actions and reaction. Defines what is socially acceptable at the event. Genre It refers to the types of utterance that is being given such things as poems, proverbs, riddles, sermons, prayers, lecture, and editorials.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the researcher used the qualitative-descriptive method. Bogdan and Biklen (1982) stated that qualitative research is descriptive which the data is collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers. Data in the form of quotes from documents, field notes, and interviews of excerpts from videotapes, audiotapes, or electronic communications are used to present the findings of the study. Meanwhile, qualitative approach is an approach in which concerned on description and interpret the data rather than the counting of feature (Wray and Bloomer: 97).

The researchers collecting the data from the main character movie. the researchers underline the utterance that Arthur used to

*)Penulis Korespondensi

communication to other people or he in the own situation. There are the table that contain: time sequence, conversation, and type of language function. The code given for the type of language functions based on the abbreviation: Expressive (E), Directive (D), Referential (R), Metalinguistic (M), Poetic (P), Phatic (PH), Heuristic (H), and Commissive (C).

There are several steps to collect the data: (1) watches the movie based on the time sequence, (2) reads the script of Joker movie carefully while watching and listening to the movie. (3) underlines the utterances of character Joker that contained kind of language functions based on Holmes's theory.

After getting and collecting the data from the data source, the researcher analyzed the data by following the steps: (1) The utterances of Joker are categorized based on the types of language function by Holmes. (2) The types of language functions are counted to find out the language function that mostly and rarely used by the main character. (3) The language function are analyzed how to the context situation behind the use of language functions.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Firstly, the researcher divided the type of language function found in Arthur's utterance on the table below this :

Table 1. The Frequencies of Language Function That Found in Joker Movie.

No.	Type of language function	Frequency	Percentage
1	Expressive	62	39%
2	Directive	8	5%
3	Referential	57	36%
4	Metalinguistic	14	9%
5	Poetic	2	1%
6	Phatic	14	9%

7	Heuristic	0	0%
8	Commissive	2	1%
Total		159	100%

Based on the table 1 above, it is the frequency of language function that used in the Joker movie. the most frequency is expressive function totally 62. Second is referential with totally 57. Third is Phatic with totally 15. The next one is metalinguistic with totally 14. The next one is Directive with totally 8. Poetic functions are found 2 data. And the last is commissive with totally 2. Therefore, looking at the result, it can be concluded that the overall language function that used in Joker movie is expressive function with totally 62. While the overall minimum refers to heuristic with totally 0 data.

After the data are divided into the table, the researchers analyze the data by used description of language function and the context of situation. Theory of context based on Dell Hymes (1974) used SPEAKING terms namely Speaking, Participant, End, Act, Key, Instrumentalities, Norms, and Genre.

The researcher only found seven language function from eight language function. By the table frequency of language function, expressive function is the dominant used in Joker movie.

Expressive function is the language that refers to a kind of language that express the speaker feeling, idea, attitude and opinion. In the movie used expressive function like scene 1 when the main Character said "it is just me, or is getting crazier out there?." The context of language function is the participants in the conversation above are social worker and Arthur. The setting of the conversation is in Department of Health Office. The purpose is Arthur express himself about the crime that he received from society in Gotham City. The act sequence is same like the purpose of Arthur. The key is indicated the manner of the speaker is serious. The instrument is orally and

delivered in informal way. The norm is social worker tell to Arthur that life must struggling. The genre is expressive.

Then, Directive function is the language that refers to direct message request some action from hearer to the speaker. for example, like the conversation in scene 1, it can be seen that Arthur produced utterances that use directive function in which because he used language to the hearer to do something. In the conversation, Arthur said "*I was wondering if you could ask the doctor to increase my medication.*" It means that he requests to social worker to increase the medication that can make his feel not bad. In this conversation, it is clear Arthur request to increase the medication, but social worker give understanding that he already consumes seven different medication that make his condition getting worse. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation above are Arthur and Social Worker. The setting of the conversation is in Department of Health, Office. The ends are Arthur meet a Social Worker to consultation about his condition. The act is Arthur request to the Social Worker that he want to increase his medication. He wants to request that because he don't want to feel so bad anymore. The key is social worker make Arthur become a good condition. The instrument is orally and delivered in informal way. The norm is don't be greedy. The genre of the Arthur utterances is directive.

Then, Referential capacity of language shows the state of the speakers who need to share news toward the listener. for example, like the conversation in scene 5, Arthur give some information to hearer. Arthur produced utterances "*She always tells me to smile and put on a happy face. She says that I was put here to spread joy and laughter.*" From the utterances, Arthur want to give an information that he has a message from his mother that he had a purpose to bring a laughter and joy to the world. So, this is referential function because the purpose is to give some information to

*)Penulis Korespondensi

hearer. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation above are Arthur and Murray Franklin. The setting of the conversation is in Talk Show Studio. The ends are Arthur tell to Murray Franklin and the audience that he must bring a laughter and joy to the world. The act is Arthur produced the utterances to Murray that he has a purpose from his mother. The key is Arthur feel well. The norm is must share the joy to another people. The genre of the utterances is referential.

Then, metalinguistic function refers to the articulations remark on language itself. For instance, 'Authority' is not a typical word. Then again, it is utilized to depict portions of language, for example, syntax or words that portray language itself. Another model is "particle" of the sentence implies thing. for example, like the conversation in scene 4, the purpose is Arthur used language in order to comment on the use of language itself. Arthur produced utterances “(playful) *Everybody who? Who do you talk to?*” In order to clarify the Penny’s statement about Thomas Wayne. He wants to know everybody who says Thomas Wayne will make a great mayor. It is obvious that Arthur’s utterance is metalinguistic. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation above Arthur and his mother. The setting of the conversation is in Mom’s Apartment. The purpose of the conversation is Arthur wants his mother realize that Thomas Wayne is a busy man and many people did not like Thomas Wayne. The act sequence begins Arthur and his mother tell about Thomas Wayne. The key is the tone of Arthur’s speech is feeling confused. The instrument is informal way. The genre is metalinguistic.

Then, Poetic is the speaker used the language to express something but in aesthetic language for example used rhymes, quotes and so on. for example, like the conversation in scene 32, Arthur produced the quotes utterances to his mother. Arthur produced

utterances “(shrugs) *I got nothing left to lose, Murray. Nothing can hurt me anymore. This is my fate, my life is nothing but a comedy.*” From the utterances, Arthur tell about the aesthetic language that he think all of his life just comedy. So, this is Poetic function because the purpose is revealed by used aesthetic language. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation above are Arthur and Social Worker. The setting of the conversation is in Department of Health Office. The ends are Arthur tell about quotes in his life to social worker. The act is Arthur produced the utterances to Social Worker about quotes of his life. The genre of the utterances is poetic.

Then, Phatic function is the condition how the speaker give empathy to the hearer. for example, like the conversation in scene 5, Arthur produced utterances to Murray Franklin. Arthur produced utterances “*Hi Murray. Arthur. My name is Arthur.*” Arthur produced a greeting message to Murray Franklin because he invited to Murray TV Show. So, he produced a greeting message. This is phatic function because Arthur utterances carried in the form of language greeting someone. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation above are Arthur and Murray Franklin. The setting of the conversation is in Murray Franklin’s TV Show. The ends are Arthur greeting Murray Franklin. The act sequence Arthur invited to Murray Franklin’s TV Show. The instrument is orally and informal. The genre of the utterances is Phatic.

Then, Commissive refers to the utterances that used to promise, vows, bet, threat, declaration of war and so on. The purpose of commissive function is to commit the person to do something in the future. for example, like the conversation in scene 30, Arthur’s utterances refer to commissive function its because Arthur deal with commit to action in a future. Arthur produced “(catching his breath) *Do you watch the*

Murray Franklin show? I'm gonna be on tonight." It means that Arthur have an action in future that is he is going to be on Murray Franklin's TV Show tonight. This is commissive function because Arthur commit to Gary that he going to be on Murray Franklin's TV Show. The context of language function is the participant of the conversation are Arthur and Gary. The purpose is Arthur wants to say that he going to be on Murray Franklin's TV Show tonight. The act sequence began when after Arthur kill his friend named Randall and Gary wants to go out. The key is Arthur hope Gary see the TV Show. The instrument is in informal way. The genre is commissive.

4. CONCLUSION

From the discussion, there are two conclusions. First, there are 159 language function that found the main character in Joker's movie. The most frequency is expressive function totally 62. Second is referential with totally 57. Third is Phatic with totally 15. The next one is metalinguistic with totally 14. The next one is Directive with totally 8. Poetic functions are found 3 data. And the last is commissive with totally 2. Therefore, looking at the result, it can be concluded that the overall language function that used in Joker movie is expressive function with totally 61. While the overall minimum refers to heuristic with totally 0 data. The result of this research, language function that used the main character in Joker's movie mostly used expressive. Expressive is a language that used to express the speaker feeling, idea, attitude and opinion.

Second, by the finding of language function, Arthur used language to express the personality. For example: *My mom died, I'm celebrating*. By the statement, it can be show that Arthur express his negative feeling when his mother died. Mostly, the person when his parents is died, the person feel sad and stressed. But in this film, Arthur express his

feeling about he is happy if his mother died because his mother didn't tell the truth to him. So, there is the context purposes by in the Arthur's utterances. The participant of the conversation above Arthur and Randall. The setting of the conversation is Mom's apartment, front door. The purpose is Arthur tell to his friend that he is very happy because his mother died. The instrument is orally and delivered in informal way. The norms are described that Arthur express his feeling about his mother died, it is a negative expression. So, from the utterances and the context of the utterances, make this film is controversy.

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*Penulis Korespondensi

A-5-6

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