

Illocutionary Speech Act in Comic during the Covid-19 Pandemic

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Abstract. This article discusses illocutionary speech acts in comics during the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this research is to get an overview of declarative illocutionary speech acts in comics with the theme of covid-19. The declarative illocutionary function is to express something that shows disappointment, dislike, and pleasure. The research method used is a descriptive method, which describes the illocutions found in comics during the COVID-19 pandemic. The data sources used are ten sources from ten online sources. The findings show that in the comic there are declarative illocutionary speech acts that show disappointment, dislike, and pleasure. The impact of this research is that a message can be conveyed through many media, one of which is through comics. The meaning of the speech in a comic can show disappointment or joy. Therefore, language speakers can explore their ideas through various media so that it will look more varied and the message can be conveyed more interestingly

1. Introduction

Speech act is a pragmatic study. the study of the practical aspects of human action and thought. The study of the use of linguistic signs, words and sentences, in actual situations. The use of language in society is not only related to text but also contextual.⁵ Illocutionary in an utterance can give various assumptions depending on the context when the utterance is conveyed. Every utterance in a pragmatics can be direct illocutionary or indirect.¹¹ The meaning generated from an utterance is closely related to certain situations and conditions. The resulting meaning is influenced by sociolinguistics.³ This paper attempts to examine declarative illocutionary speech acts in comics during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Previous research that discusses illocutionary, among others, has been done by Septi Nur Azizah who discusses illocutionary functions such as reporting and prohibiting.¹ Veranita Ragil Sagita's speech act research emphasizes more on imperative and interrogative declaratives.⁶ Juanda's research emphasizes more on illocutionary expressions⁴, Arina Mana Sikana's illocutionary research focuses more on commissive, expressive, and declarative⁹, the other research conducted by Angga Sekarsany focuses more on illocutionary speech acts and their strategies.⁸ The difference between previous research and this research is that it focuses more on the illocutionary feeling of disappointment, dislike, and pleasure.

The purpose of this study focuses on illocutionary declaratives. The method used is a descriptive method, namely describing illocutionary declaratives in comic covid-19. The results found in this comic are illocutionary declaratives in the category of disappointment. The positive impact of these findings provides an overview of the condition of society during the covid-19 pandemic through comic media so that in this condition people can be wiser in taking an action or decision so as not to harm themselves and others. Another positive impact is for state leaders to be able to find the best solution for complaints that occur in the community during the pandemic that is shown in this comic.

2. Data Source

The data used to be used as research material is taken from online social media containing topics about comics. The data sources used are from the following sources: <https://www.supermanhomepage.com/superman-comic-strip-superman-vs-covid-19/>. Data taken April 2020. The method used in this study is a descriptive method by performing the following steps: collecting comics in online media randomly; classifying comics containing the topic of covid-19; Describing the utterances in comics; and explaining the illocutionary content in comics containing the topic of covid-19

3. Results and Discussion

This section discusses the results and discussion of the data used for directive illocutionary analysis.

Result



Figure 1. Superman

Discussion: This comic discusses that there is a woman who told Superman to fight the Corona virus, but Superman the superhero has actually tried to stop and participate in fighting the Corona virus by staying at home. In this comic, it shows an illocutionary of a woman's disappointment with Superman for not playing his role as Superman.



Figure 2. Wearing Mask

Discussion: This comic discusses the different perspectives of the community towards the use of masks. The picture on the left explains that before Covid-19 came, we often assumed that people who wore masks had health problems with them. While in the picture on the right, since the Covid-19 virus

has hit us at this time, many people have implemented health protocols by wearing masks for their health, and when they see that there are still people who are not wearing masks, then they will assume that other people are not wearing masks. Those who don't wear masks are the ones who have problems with themselves.

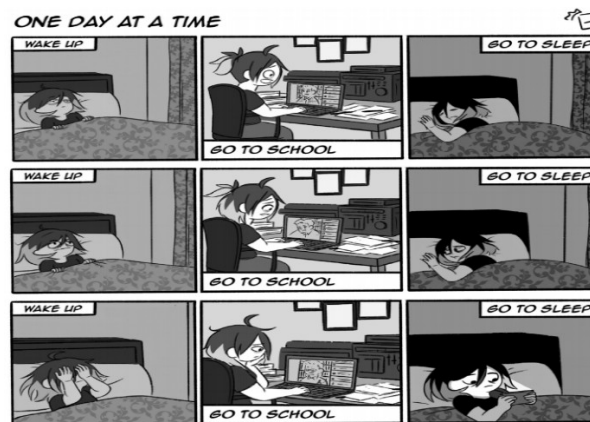


Figure 3. One Day at Time

Discussion: This comic explains how things are during quarantine at home. It depicts a student who goes about his daily life by waking up, then studying online and then going back to sleep. It can be seen that the expression of the child was happy at the beginning but became bored after being at home for too long with very monotonous habits.



Figure 4 March 2020

Discussion: This comic explains that when the pandemic began to be announced simultaneously in March 2020, things began to change everything. Schools are closed and learning is done online, and a lockdown is in place to prevent the spread of the virus. It can be seen from the comic above, a woman thought that online schooling was easy and fun at first, she also just realized that for the first time the whole family was at home. However, as time goes by the Covid-19 cases are increasing and making the Lockdown longer so the woman is bored and wonders "How long will this be?".



Figure 5. How to Support a Friend with Covid-19

Discussion: The comic image above tells us how to deal with our friends who are exposed to the Covid-19. We can do several things to help our friends such as examples; 1. We can cheer up our friend by sending any message to accompany him and support him so he doesn't feel lonely which can make our friend unable to express what he is going through. 2. If we know someone who has survived Covid-19, introduce him to our friends or ask for help so that they can give appropriate advice to survive with their experiences when exposed to the virus

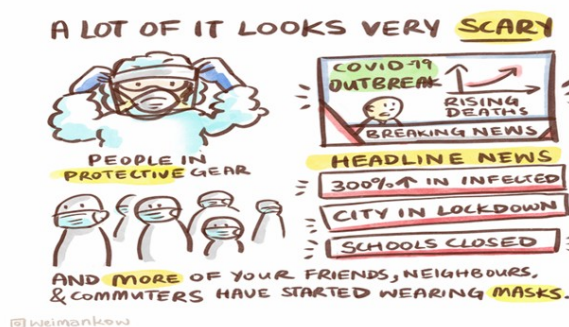


Figure 6. A lot of it Looks very Scary

Discussion: This comic tells how scary it was when this pandemic emerged. All the news contains the increase in Covid-19 cases, the lockdown, and the closure of public places including schools. People out there and those closest to us are starting to wear masks for health protocols.

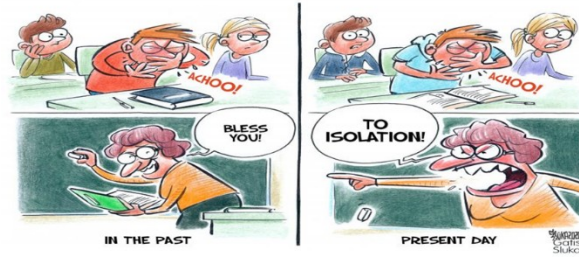


Figure 7. Coughing

Discussion: In the comic above, it can be seen how the different responses when someone is coughing. The picture on the left explains that in the past when someone coughed, we would respond by praying for him to get well soon. Whereas in the picture on the right, when the current pandemic is attacking, our response to people who are coughing is different, we feel afraid and stay away from the coughing person so we tell him to leave for safety.



Figure 8. Vaccines

Discussion: This comic explains to us that during this pandemic it turned out that the virus that appeared was not only Covid-19 but the other "viruses" were people who liked to spread hoaxes. In the comic above, it can be seen that hoax spreaders are carrying out their actions by spreading the news that vaccines are dangerous and inviting others not to vaccinate.



Figure 9. Hoaxes

Discussion : Almost similar to the case in the previous comic, in this comic there is someone who doesn't believe in the Covid-19 virus. The person believes that the Covid-19 is just a hoax and is just a made-up conspiracy. People like this are considered crazy for their way of thinking that is too deviant, people like this are also commonly referred to as viruses for their stupid act of spreading hoaxes.



Figure 10. Demonstration

Discussion: This comic image explains that there are certain groups who are fed up with the implementation of the lockdown, those who should stay at home are actually holding demonstrations that create crowds. Of course this invites the Corona virus to enter their bodies and increases the number of possible deaths by the virus.

4. Conclusion

The illocutionary message that the speaker wants to convey can be in the form of a moral message, it can be an invitation, and it can also be a satire. In the message can also indicate disappointment, dislike, and pleasure. The illocutionary of declarative discussed in this comic about phenomena and some of the upheavals of protest or disappointment against the never-ending state of covid-19. Language in comic can be conveyed more communicatively and interactively. The language and images presented in this comic show that in general people are tired of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, it is still difficult for the community to get out of the current Covid-19 situation. This is the importance of using media to convey messages. Environmental and social factors are very important in interpreting an utterance because it is contextual that can contribute to the psychological element of meaning because of certain situations.²

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