



## The Illocutionary Acts in X Social Media Platform: “Hold On, It Hurts,” an Indonesian Alternative Universe (AU) by Noveni Adelia

Dr. Agus Darma Yoga Pratama, S.S., M.Hum.

Universitas Warmadewa

[agusdarmayoga85@yahoo.com](mailto:agusdarmayoga85@yahoo.com)

### Article info

**Received Date:** 15 January 2024

**Accepted Date:** 31 March 2024

**Published Date:** 31 July 2024

**Keywords:\***

*AU, X, Twitter, Illocutionary acts.*

### Abstract\*

This article explores illocutionary acts within the "Hold On, It Hurts" Alternative Universe (AU) in the X application, utilizing Yule's theoretical framework as its foundation. The study focuses on how language, specifically illocutionary acts, creates and conveys meaning in this unique digital narrative space. Yule's theory also defines the classifications of speech acts, such as representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative, and serves as a lens to dissect and understand the intricacies of communication within the AU. The research primarily centers on the illocutionary acts, examining how the characters in the "Hold On, It Hurts" AU use language not just for literal communication but to perform various actions and express complex emotions. The study investigates the dynamics between the speaker and listener within the AU, highlighting how context, speaker intentions, and underlying emotional states are crucial in interpreting these acts.

### 1. Introduction

Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics that studies how context contributes to meaning in language and how language is used in social interaction. Pragmatics is concerned with studying the meaning a speaker or writer communicates. It involves the interpretation of the speaker's meaning, the negotiation of meaning between speaker and hearer, and the context of the utterance. Pragmatics goes beyond the literal meaning of an utterance and considers how meaning is constructed, as well as the individual's mental state, previous dialogue, and other elements.

Pragmatics and speech acts are closely related in the field of linguistics. Pragmatics is the study of how language is used in communication, considering meaning in context, while speech acts are actions performed by speakers using language. Speech acts are the main focus of pragmatics because they involve studying how utterances are used to perform actions and achieve communicative goals. According to Yule(1996;47), There are three levels of speech act: locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. The locutionary act refers to the essential act of speaking or uttering words. This level refers to utterance production, including grammar, phonetics, and phonology. The locutionary act is employed by a speaker to express a particular message.

Occasionally, our utterances are not merely well-structured statements without intention; instead, we construct an utterance with a specific objective. According to Yule (1996:48), an illocutionary act is carried out through the communicative impact of a spoken statement. Perlocutionary acts: This level of speech act involves intentionally creating an utterance with a specific function and intended impact (Yule, 1996:48).;

Yule also defines the classifications of speech acts, such as representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Assertive itself is a form that binds the speaker to the truth of the utterance. This type of speech can be expressed in statements such as stating, admitting, suggesting, and reporting. A directive is a form of spoken speech conveyed by the speaker so that the speech partner performs the action requested by the speaker, for example, commanding, ordering, and reporting.

Actions requested by the speaker, for example, commanding, ordering, charging, and pleading. An expressive speech act can be interpreted as the speaker's feeling or psychological attitude towards a situation. Conveyed by the speaker towards a situation, such as congratulating, thanking, praising, and accusing. A commissive speech act is an utterance that binds the speaker to do what he has said, for example, such as promising. The last speech act is declarative, which means to say. The last speech act is declarative, linking the utterance with the current reality. In this speech act, a new thing will happen, such as canceling, allowing, forgiving, and forbidding., which are analyzed using a pragmatic approach to understand their use in different contexts. Therefore, the relationship between pragmatics and speech acts lies in studying how language is used to perform actions and achieve communicative goals in specific contexts. First, let us understand that every utterance or piece of writing has more than just its literal meaning. Pragmatics brings the understanding that context, the intention of the speaker or writer, as well as the shared knowledge between the speaker and the listener greatly influence the interpretation of an utterance. Let us look at expressive illocutionary acts, where the speaker or writer expresses feelings or attitudes. Pragmatics will help us understand how the receiver of the message can understand the expression..

A simple example is when someone writes on X, "Just had the best day ever!" This sentence states that someone had a perfect day. However, pragmatics helps us realize that the illocutionary act here is to convey joy and happiness. Context, such as whether the day has a special meaning or not, as well as the relationship between the writer and the reader, also comes into play in the interpretation. In the context of the X application's Alternative Universe, expressive illocutionary acts may significantly shape the narrative and elicit emotional responses from the audience.

Mudiono (2010) has previously researched "Illocutionary Acts of Commissive Acts in the Indonesian Language in Family Interaction." The parallelism of this research is evident in the utilization of the same subject matter, namely the examination of illocutionary speech acts within the context of familial relationships. However, the distinguishing factor of this research compared to the previous one is its examination of five different kinds of speech in illocution. The discussion between parents and children involves various forms of illocutionary speech, including assertive, directive, expressive, commissive, and declarative. It is not limited to evaluating simply the commissive illocutionary activities. Aligned with this study, Setiawan (2019) researched illocutionary speech acts in his study titled "Ridwan Kamil's Illocutionary Acts of Speech in the Talkshow Insight on CNN Indonesia." The research in question demonstrates a parallel regarding the study's goal, which is illocutionary speech actions. However, it differs from earlier research that did not address illocutionary speech acts. This text does not address illocutionary speech acts in parent and child talks but focuses on illocutionary speech acts in the context of Ridwan Kamil's speeches. Baisu (2015) researched "Presumption of Speech Acts in Court at the District Court Office of Palu City". The commonality of this research resides in the subject matter under investigation, which pertains to speaking acts. However, this research explicitly restricts its focus to examining illocutionary speech acts in contrast to prior research that universally examines speech acts.

While research has extensively explored illocutionary acts in various contexts, more studies must examine the use and impact of illocutionary acts within the unique setting of Alternative Universes in the X application. Understanding the deployment of expressive illocutionary acts in this context is crucial for unraveling their role in conveying emotional nuances, shaping character interactions, and influencing the audience's engagement and interpretation of the narrative.

By delving into the realm of expressive illocutionary acts in the X application's Alternative Universe, this study aims to fill this research gap and provide valuable insights into the dynamics of digital

communication and linguistic phenomena within the distinct framework of the alternative universe in X Application. A comprehensive analysis sheds light on the nuanced use of expressive illocutionary acts and their implications for constructing and reception narratives within the X application's Alternative Universe.

## 2. Research Method

This study utilized a qualitative research methodology. Creswell (2009) defines qualitative research as a methodology used to examine and comprehend the significance that individuals or groups assign to a social or human circumstance. The research methodology of this study is divided into three components: data sources, data collection, and data analysis. Qualitative researchers commonly gather diverse data types, including interviews, observations, documents, and audiovisual information, instead of depending on a sole data source (Creswell, 2009).

The thread of the account @lalalafindyou on X social media platform will serve as the primary data source of this research. The data will be gathered from non-printed materials using the technique of library research. The study centered on examining the illocutionary acts present in the thread. In order to ensure the genuineness and accuracy of the information, the thread associated with the @lalalafindyou account is thoroughly examined numerous times to obtain precise details regarding the illocutionary act. This research primarily examines the illocutionary act type based on Yule's theory and the contextual circumstance, using Halliday and Hasan's theory.

## 3. Results and Discussions

This section presents the results and discussions concerning The data analysis focused on the conversation of the thread entitled “Hold On, It Hurts” by Noveni Adelia, which contains the type of speech acts by George Yule. There are five types of speech acts: representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative.

### 3.1 Representative

Representative is also an assertive illocutionary act that shows the actual condition of the utterance's meaning. Statement of a fact, affirmation, conclusion, and description are all examples of this type. The data that contains and is categorized as Representative below :

Data (1)

Anindia : “ Karinina itu siapa?”

“ Who is Karinina?”

Jean : “*Pacar gue, udah dua tahun*”

“*My girlfriend since two years ago.*”

Data 1 is taken from the dialog in tweet 03, which contains the dialogue between Anindia and Jean. Based on the story, Aninda and Jean got married through an arranged marriage when Jean had a girlfriend. Jean performed a speech act of representative to Anindia. The sentence “My girlfriend” shows Jean stating that he has a girlfriend named Karinina. Based on the context of the situation, the field of the conversation is an act of stating the facts done by Jean. Anindia started the conversation by asking who Karinina was. There are two participants in the conversation, Jean and Anindia. Anindia is Jean's Wife. The conversation mode uses written text in the chat box and casual language. Also, Jean intends to answer Anindia's question. Based on this context of the situation, Jean's act is part representative because he states the fact that he had a girlfriend.

Data (2)

Jean : “Lo gak sekalian masakin gue juga gitu?”

”Don't you cook for me too?”

Anindia : *”Gini ya Jean, ada karin berarti ada yang masakin kamu. Itu asumsiku”*

*”You see, Jean, having Karin by your side means there is someone cooking for you. That's my assumption.”*

Data 2 is taken from tweet 12, which contains the dialogue between Jean and Anindia. Based on the story, Jean asked Aninda if she made food for him too, because Aninda cooked prawn fried rice, and Jean did not like it because Karinina was allergic to prawns. So, the sentence *”You see Jean, having Karin by your side means someone is cooking for you. That is my assumption”* shows that Aninda concluded that when Jean is with Karinina, she does not need to make food for Jean. The field of this conversation is an act of concluding done by Anindia. There are two participants in the conversation, Jean and Anindia. The conversation mode uses written text in the chat box and casual language. Anindia intends to answer Jean's question. Based on this context of the situation, Anindia's doing the act concluded that a part of the representative.

### 3.2 Directives

Directives is an act used by speakers to tell others to do something. This type of speech act states what the speaker wants. This speech act includes commands, ordering, requesting, and giving advice.

Data (1)

Karin : *”Kak Anin, ini bajunya ngga ada yang modis dikit ya? Gue mau sekalian minjem buat berangkat pemotretan nanti sore. Jean gak ada waktu buat nganter belanja. Yang crop top kek, Hot pants kek, atau kak anin punya yang off shoulders gitu ngga?”*

*”Kak Anin, is there nothing fashionable clothes of yours? I want to borrow it to go to the photo shoot later this afternoon. Jean doesn't have time to go shopping. Is there any crop top, hot pants, or do you have any off shoulders clothes?”*

Anindia : *”Saya punya baju normal. Kamu kalo cari baju yang kurang bahan, kemeja saya kamu gunting aja.”*

*”I have normal clothes. If you're looking for clothes that lack material, you can just cut my shirt.”*

Based on the story, Karinina requested a set of fashionable clothes from Anindia because she was in a hurry and needed a set of onesies for a photo shoot. However, Karinina needed more time to go shopping. This data was taken from tweet 06, which contains the dialogue between Karinina and Anindia. There are two participants in this dialogue there are Karinina and Aninda. They also used written text in the chat box and casual language. Karinina intends to act on Anindia's request. Based on this context of the situation, Karina's utterance is a part of Directives.

Data (2) :

Jean : *”Gue sama Karin tidur dikamar utama malam ini. Lo pindah ke kamar tamu dulu.”*

*”Karin and I are sleeping in the master bedroom tonight. You move to the guest room first.”*

Anindia : *”Ngga mau. Itu kamar aku. Dia yang tamu, jadi dia yang tidur dikamar tamu.”*

*I don't want to. That's my room. She's the guest, so she sleeps in the guest room.”*

In the data above, based on the story, Jean does an act of command to Anindia. He commands Anindia to move to the guest room because his girlfriend wants to sleep in the main bedroom with him. This data was taken from tweet 08, which contains the dialogue between Jean and Anindia. There are two participants here, Jean and Anindia. They also used casual language in the form of written text in the chat box. So, Jean's act is a part of Directives.

### 3.3 Commisive

The speaker understands this speech act to bind himself to future actions. This speech act states whatever is intended by the speaker. This speech act can be a promise, threat, refusal, or pledge. It is shown in the data below :

Data (1) :

Jean : “ Ini jam 9 malam. Lo mau kemana?”

"It's 9pm. Where are you going?"

Anindia : ”Jangan bawel, ada operasi dadakan”

"Don't nag, there's an impromptu surgery."

Jean: “ Sekarang?”

“Now?”

Anindia: “Iya.”

“Yes.”

Jean : “ Biar gue anter.”

"Let me take you."

Anindia : “*Ngga usah. Karin bisa ngambek. Urusin dia aja*”

*"No need. Karin might get cranky. Just take care of her."*

Based on the story, Anindia does an act of refusal to Jean. Anindia was about to leave for the hospital because of an urgent surgery, and Jean wanted to take her because it was late, but Anindia refused. Anindia refused because she did not want to make Karin cranky. There are two participants in this conversation, Jean and Anindia. They used casual language packaged as writing in the chat box. From this situation, this data is a part of the commission because Anindia binds herself to future actions that she rejects and rejects Jean. Based on this context, the Anindia Act is a part of the Commissive.

Data (2)

Anindia : “Pernikahan itu, bagi kamu apa?”

"What is marriage to you?"

Jean : ”*Sesuatu yang gue lakuin sama orang yang gue cinta dan gue ngga pernah cinta sama lo, Anindia. Ngga akan pernah cinta.*”

*"Something I do with people I love and I never loved you, Anindia. Never will."*

Anindia : “ Oke stop disana. Jangan km jelasin lagi.”

"Okay, stop right there. Don't explain it again."

Jean : “ Good. Besok ada dinner sama banyak orang. Nanti depan temen-temen gue, pura pura ga kenal, oke? Lo ngikut Ibun aja, ngobrol.”

"Good. I have a dinner with a lot of people tomorrow. In front of my friends, pretend you don't know them, okay? You just follow Ibun, chat."

Anindia: “Oke.”

“Okay.”

In the data above, Based on the story, Jean is doing an act that commits his future action; he never loves Anindia. Jean and Anindia become the participants in this conversation. They also used casual language packaged as writing in the chat box. This conversation can also be found in tweet 04. Based on the context of the situation, Jean's act is a part of Commissive.

### 3.4 Expressive

This type of speech reflects psychological statements and can be a statement of joy, dislike, doubt, difficulty, fondness, hatred, pleasure, or sadness. It is shown in the data below :

Data (1) :

Hema : “*Je, gawat.*”

*"Je, it's bad."*

Jean: “ Apa?”

“What?”

Hema : “Gue ngga bisa nemuin karin. Jadwal photoshoot dia masih ada satu lagi.”

"I can't meet Karin. She still has one more photoshoot scheduled."

Jean: “Serius?”

"Seriously?"

Hema : “*Lo kira gue masih bisa bercanda pasal ginian? Ngga lah anjing. Ini alamat client marah – marahnya ke gue.*”

*"You think I can still joke about this situation? No, you fool. This time I will be scolded by the client."*

Based on the story, Hema expresses his feelings to Jean. Hema was panicking, and he texted Jean to inform them that he had lost Karinina while she still had one more photoshoot scheduled. Hema also felt annoyed because Jean still didn't believe him. This conversation was found in tweet 20. This tweet also informs that Hema is Karin's Manager and Jean's friend. The participants in this conversation are Hema and Jean. They used casual language packaged as writing in the chat box. Based on this situation, the Hema Act is a part of Expressive.

Data (2) :

Hema: “*Broooooo thanksssss*”

Jean: “Buat?”

“For what?”

Hema : “*Buat nyelametin gue dari amukan klien AOWKWOKWWOWK. Cewe lo tuh sumpah deh. Buat masalah mulu anjrit*”

*"For save me from the client's tantrum AOWKWOKWWOWK. I swear, she's a troublemaker."*

Jean : "Ketikan lo"

"Watch your finger."

Hema : "SERIUS GUE . Kemarin dia sempet dicomplain fotografer karena posenya kurang pas mulu"

"SERIOUSLY. Yesterday she was complained by the photographer because her pose was not right."

In the above conversation, Hema expresses his feelings (joy and relief) to Jean. He also thanked Jean for helping him to avoid complaints from the client. This conversation can be found on tweet 23. Jean and Hema are the participants in the conversation. They use casual language in the form written in the chat box. Based on this situation, the Hema Act is a part of Expressive.

### 3.5 Declarative.

This type of speech act changes the world through speech. This speech act can be a statement of or declaration of something. It is shown in the data below :

Anindia : *" Saya istrinya Jeandra, posisi saya lebih tinggi dari kamu. Mau kamu bilang Jeandra rela mati buat kamu, tapi kalo saya bilang dia Cuma boleh mati, kamu ngga bisa apa-apa."*

*"I am Jeandra's wife, and my position is higher than yours. You want to say Jeandra is willing to die for you, but if I say she can only die, you cannot do anything."*

Karinina: "Bitch"

Anindia : " Saya nikah, bukan jual diri. Oiya, kamu pengen ketemu Anne Avantie, nanti saya bilang ke beliau. Besok ada acara amal di yayasan saya, beliau tamu wajib tiap tahun. Saya ngerti Karinina, yang kamu liat dari saya Cuma jas putih dan stetoskop dileher, kamu ngga tau yang lain."

"I got married, not sold myself. By the way, you want to meet Anne Avantie, I'll tell her. Tomorrow, there's a charity event at my foundation; she is an obligatory guest every year. I understand Karinina; all you see from me is a white coat and a stethoscope on my neck; you do not know anything else."

In the conversation above, Aninda declares that she is Jeandra's wife and that her position is higher than Karinina, his mistress. This conversation can be found in tweet 30. Anindia and Karinina are the participants in the conversation. They used casual language and talked in written form through the chat box. Based on the context of the situation, Ananda's act is a part of the Declarative.

Data (2) :

Hema: "Can you stop acting like the baby inside you belongs to Jeandra?"

Karin : “Itu emang bayi dia”

"That's his baby."

Hema: ” *It is mine. Itu anaku. Berhenti denial. Percuma*”

*' It is mine. That is my son. Stop denial. It is useless. "*

Karin: ”Ngga ada yang percuma and stop texting me, can't you?”

"Nothing is useless and stop texting me, can't you?"

Hema : “ *Ngga bisa. Kamu bawa bayiku jadi kamu masih urusanku.*”

*"I can't. You're carrying my baby so you're still my business."*

Based on the story, in Hema's Point of View, he changes the world via his utterance. He declares that he is the father of Karin's baby. He also declares that while Karin is still carrying his baby, Karin is still his business. Hema and Karinina are the participants in the conversation. They used casual language and communicated via written text in the chat box. Hema's act is a part of Declarative.

#### 4. Conclusion

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that in Noveni Adelia's Alternative Universe (AU) posted on X application, there are five types of speech acts based on Yule's theory, namely representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. In the representative part, Jean's character shows the illocutionary act of stating a fact, while Anindia shows the illocutionary act of inferring. In the directive part, Karinina's character shows the illocutionary act of requesting, and Jean shows the illocutionary act of command. Likewise, in the Commissive section, Anindia's character shows the illocutionary act of refusal, and Jean shows the illocutionary act of pledge. Furthermore, in the Expressive part, Hema's character shows expressive illocutionary acts, such as feeling disturbed, relieved, and happy. In the last part, Declarative, Anindia shows the illocutionary act of declaring that she is Jeandra's wife. In contrast, Hema shows the illocutionary act of declaring that he is the father of the baby in Karinina's womb. In processing data, situational context theory is essential in strengthening the argument that a conversation can be classified into a specific type. In situation context theory, a field shows what is happening, tenor shows who is involved, and mode shows the form of language used by participants.

#### References:

1. <https://repository.uir.ac.id/4408/5/bab2.pdf>
2. <https://helpfulprofessor.com/pragmatics-examples/>
3. <https://repository.uir.ac.id/4323/5/bab2.pdf>
4. <https://study.com/learn/lesson/what-is-pragmatics-examples-rules.html>
5. <http://digilib.uinsa.ac.id/3244/5/Bab%202.pdf>
6. <https://www.masterclass.com/articles/pragmatics-in-linguistics-guide>
7. <https://www.arjonline.org/papers/ariel/v1-i2/4.pdf>
8. <https://www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/english/pragmatics/>
9. <http://repository.unas.ac.id/6685/3/CHAPTER%20II.pdf>
10. <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/career-development/pragmatic-skills>
11. <http://repository.unsada.ac.id/3106/3/Bab%202.pdf>



12. <https://www.thoughtco.com/pragmatics-language-1691654>
13. <https://repository.unair.ac.id/14656/14/5.%20%20CHAPTER%20II%20LITERATURE%20REVIEW.pdf>
14. <https://mangolanguages.com/resources-articles/how-pragmatics-works/>
15. <http://eprints.uny.ac.id/49012/3/chapter%202.pdf>
16. <https://www.studysmarter.co.uk/explanations/english/pragmatics/semantics-vs-pragmatics/>
17. Crystal, D. (2021, November). Retrieved from Encyclopaedia Britannica: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/language>
18. Fitriani, M. a. (2020). An analysis of Illocutionary acts in Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald . Research in English and Education (READ), 85-99.
19. Hidayat, A. (2016). Speech Acts: Force Behind Words. English Education: Jurnal Tadris Bahasa Inggris, 1-12.
20. J., A. (1962). How to Do Things With Word. Oxford University Press.
21. Leech, G. N. (1983). Principle of Pragmatics. United States of America: Longman Inc, New York.
22. Levinson, S. (1983). Pragmatics. Britain: University of Cambridge.
23. Searle, J. (1969). Speech Acts : An Essay in the Philosophy of Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Express.
24. Searle, J. (1976). A Classification of Illocutionary Acts. Language in Society.
25. Searle, J. (1976). Expression and Meaning : Studies in Theory of Speech Acts. Cambridge: Cambridge University Express.
26. Umaya, T. (2017). The Application of Speech Act in The Interview of Emma. Jakarta: Darma Persada University.
27. Yule, G. (1996). Pragmatics. New York: Oxford University Express.
28. <https://x.com/lalalafindyou/status/1425877323379736576?s=20>

#### **Biography of Corresponding Author**



Agus Darma Yoga Pratama is one of the lecturers at the Faculty of Letters, Warmadewa University, who completed his Doctoral Degree (S3) at Udayana University in 2016. Translation is one of the focuses of research that has been published in several seminars and journals, in addition to other linguistic fields. The main topic of the translation research such as: audiovisual, food, stories or news.

Email: [agusdarmayoga85@yahoo.com](mailto:agusdarmayoga85@yahoo.com).