Directive Illocutionary Acts in Japanese Teen Movies
Peach Girl and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to describe the meaning of directive illocutionary speech acts in two Japanese movies entitled *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*. The directive illocutionary act is the most frequently used speech act in everyday life. In Japanese language, the meanings of these speech acts are often misinterpreted by Japanese language learners, so that the meanings of the speeches are not conveyed properly. In the movies *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai,* the characters use a lot of directive illocutionary speech acts. Therefore, it is worth to conduct a deeper study regarding the meaning of those directive speech acts. This research used speech act theory proposed by Searle (1979) and applied descriptive-qualitative method. The results show that there are 10 meanings of directive illocutionary speech acts with their own structural characteristics, namely command (used in polite language form) order (with V~te form), beg (with the word *onegai*), request (with V~te form), invitation (with invitation form V~ou), deny (with ~nai form), advise (with V~nda form), prohibition (with V~nai form), warn (with V~te form and particle ~ne), and ask (with *keigo* form).

Key words: directive function, illocutionary act, Japanese movie, speech act

INTRODUCTION

Japanese is one of the most popular languages nowadays, so that a lot of schools and language courses provide Japanese language teaching. Many scholarships and vacancies to work in Japan have been opened which make a lot of people eager to learn Japanese to get these opportunities. Studying Japanese from schools or language courses are not the only options, some people also do self-taught learning from other media, such as movies, *anime*, comics, etc.

Unfortunately, there are significant differences between the formal language and the informal Japanese language that make it difficult for Japanese language learners to understand the meaning of the utterances they hear. In movies and *anime* with slice of life theme, most of the speakers use informal language. Formal language style is only used for people who are respected, older, and whose social levels are higher than the speakers. If Japanese learners do not know the context of the speech, it will be difficult to understand the meaning of the Japanese speech. To find out the meaning of such utterances, research on Japanese speech acts is needed in order to interpret the meaning of an utterance correctly.

Austin (1962) revealed that speech acts arise because when someone says something, they also do something. Later, he divides the speech acts into three types, namely locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts.

A locutionary speech act is the act of the speaker in saying something. It has the function to convey an utterance that have a certain meaning in a certain situation.

Meanwhile, an illocutionary speech act is an utterance that are spoken due to a specific purpose. Illocutionary speech act is spoken to convey something with the intention of carrying out a particular action. Illocutionary speech act is still a part of locutionary speech act (Cruse 2000; Sbisa 2013).

The third speech act is perlocutionary speech act. It is an utterance that has an impact on the listener. Perlocutionary speech acts can give certain effects to the listeners. Of the three speech acts, illocutionary speech act is considered the most frequently discussed and debated. Therefore, it is often used as research topics.

There are 5 functions of illocutionary speech acts, namely assertive, declarative, directive, expressive, and commissive. Of these five functions, the directive speech act is frequently used in everyday life. This is due to the speaker's desire for the listener to do something. So that there are many meanings of directive speech acts found in each utterance.

To interpret Japanese directive function, it is not only seen from the language variations used by the speaker but also context in which the conversation takes place. For example, when the speaker used V~てください (*V~te kudasai*) form to ask for help or order someone to do something politely, but if the context and level of the speaker and hearer are different, it can be a form of command. Moreover, it can also be used in direct and indirect directives. Seeing many directives illocutionary utterances that use the same form but have different meanings makes the researcher want to analyze the meanings contained in Japanese speech act.

Researcher took the dialogues from two Japanese movies, entitled *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*. The theme of these movies is about the life of Japanese teenagers at school, such as friendship, school life, family, and romance. The themes in these movies are very interesting and the languages used has many variations, making these movies suitable for learning Japanese. The data used are taken from the utterances of the main lead in both movies and are presented in the form of dialogue.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Many research has been done on directive illocutionary speech acts. Muslihah (2017) studied directive speech acts in the drama entitled *Miss Pilot* from sociopragmatic perspective where the meanings found are orders, requests, invitation, prohibition, suggestion, and permission. Rizkianto (2018) found that the politeness of directive illocutionary in drama *Yorozu Uranaidokoro Onmyouya he Youkoso* must be seen from various scales, such as the scale of disadvantages, scale of choice, scale of indirectness, etc. Hidayat and Yulia (2020) divided directive speech acts in *Flying Colors* movie into four forms, namely commands (*meirei*), requests (*irai*), prohibitions (*kinshi*), and suggestions (*teian*). Azhari (2021) revealed that the use of Japanese lingual markers in each utterance varies depending on the situation. Pratama et al (2022) found that directive speech acts in drama *3 Nen A Gumi* are spoken directly and indirectly based on the situation.

These studies only use 1 movie, so we cannot see the comparison of meaning of directive speech acts. To fill the gap in these studies, the researcher used two movies, entitled *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*, so that the directive speech acts found were more diverse and the comparison of the directive speech acts from the two movies could be seen. This research uses 2 movies with the similar theme, which is teen movie, to see whether the directive illocutionary in movies with the similar theme will produce the same results or not. In addition, this research does not only look at the terms of speech and context, but also the social relations of speakers and hearers as well as the

grammar used, so there are no misunderstandings in interpreting directive illocutionary speech acts.

UNDERLYING THEORIES

Speech act is an action expressed through speech, such as apologizing, inviting, complimenting, complaining, promising or requesting (Yule 1996). Speech act is the language used by speakers to explain certain situations. Speech act is used by speaker so that the hearer understands what the speaker means. Speech act is part of speech event and speech event is part of speech situation.

Kroeger (2018) states that speech act is an action performed by speaker by speaking, such as saying thank you, greetings, invitations, making requests, giving orders, etc. Meanwhile, Griffiths (2006) reveals that speech act is the basic unit of language interaction, such as giving warning, greeting, providing information, etc.

Illocutionary speech acts are utterances used to perform an action (the act of doing something) (Austin 1962). Illocutionary speech act comes from locutionary. Therefore, an illocutionary speech act is a locutionary speech act that the speaker wants to do. Illocutionary speech acts are also considered as ways of using language and types of language use. Illocutionary speech acts include saying, telling, and asking. Yule (1996) explains that illocutionary speech acts are speeches that have a purpose. The speaker says something because there is something to think about.

Searle (1979) divides speech acts into 5 functions, namely assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Searle divides these functions based on various criteria, such as politeness which is usually categorized into commissive speech acts and expressions, while impoliteness is classified into directive speech acts. Directive speech acts are used by the speaker to get someone else to do something. This speech act expresses what the speaker wants, such as orders, requests, suggestions, etc. (Yule 1996). Directive speech acts are used by speakers so that the speaker does what the speaker says (Searle 1979). This speech act will cause an effect in the form of action by the listener. This speech act is also used to demand, request, beg, advise, warn, recommend, etc.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative research where the data used is not in the form of numbers and the topics used can come from various aspects of human life (Raco, 2018). In this study the data is described descriptively. Therefore, this research is descriptive qualitative research. The data collection method used is the observing or listening method. Then for this method it is applied with note-taking techniques as a follow-up technique. The researcher listened to the utterances used in the two movies and then recorded the utterances. Then the researcher re-watched while listening to the utterances spoken by the speaker. In this case, researchers also use note-taking techniques to collect research data. The data analysis method used is a pragmatic method in which the data that has been collected is then analyzed to determine the meaning and function of the utterances.

THE MEANINGS OF DIRECTIVE ILLOCUTIONARY ACTS

The data used in this study came from movies entitled *Peach Girl* (PG) and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai* (MDKJ). After selecting and analyzing the data obtained, the data is sorted based on its meaning. The researcher pays attention to the situations and expressions of the speakers in each utterance so that the results obtained match the utterances and situations. The utterances will be presented in the form of dialogue.

Datum 1

Nao ：行ってください。(1)
Itte kudasai.
Please go.
Karin ：バイバイ！(2)
Bai Bai!
Bye!

(MDKJ/01:06:45-01:06:51)

In Datum 1, Nao picks up Karin at Ebina's house. Karin will be driven home by the Ebina family's driver but Nao didn't. After Karin got into the car, Nao immediately ordered the driver to go without getting into the car either.

In Datum 1, the dialogue between the speaker and hearer is directive illocutionary expressing command. The utterance form used in utterance (1) is V~てください (V~*te kudasai*) which is a form for asking for help or asking politely. However, Datum 1 is spoken by the speaker to the driver who is a driver. Because the speaker is a driver, the speaker's level is higher than the hearer. If this form is used for speakers whose level is lower than the speakers, the meaning that arises in Datum 1 is to command.

A directive illocutionary act with the meaning of commanding is an action that the hearer will perform on the basis of an order from the speaker. Command is speech act used to get someone to take an action. In Datum 1, Nao commands the driver to take action and that is to drive Karin home.

Datum 2

Bully ：今度かいりに近付いたら、なんか顎とかめちゃくちゃにするから！(1)
Kondo Kairi ni chikadzuitara, nanka ago toka mecha kucha ni suru kara!
Next time I see you approaching Kairi, I will break your jaw!
Momo ：足退けて。 (2)
Ashi dokete.
Step away.

(PG/07:07-07:17)

Momo was surrounded by many girls who wanted to bully her. One of the bullies throws then stomps on his cell phone. Seeing her cell phone being stepped on, Momo showed an angry expression and ordered the girl to get rid of her feet. The speaker's tone when pronouncing utterance (2) is flat in a low voice. But then Momo immediately pushed the bully and took her cell phone.

In Datum 2, the directive illocutionary meaning found is order. Datum 2 is uttered by the speaker when he wants to take his mobile phone which is stepped on by the bully. The form used in this utterance is the V~て (V~*te*) form which has various meanings. The V~て (V~*te*) form is a form that is often used in everyday conversation. This form is usually used for people who are close or at the same level as the speaker. Because the speaker and the bully are on the same level, the meaning contained in this utterance is to order, that is, the speaker orders the speaker to step away from her phone.

A directive illocutionary act with the meaning of ordering appears because of an order from the speaker to the hearer. Momo ordered her bully to step away from her phone and take her phone that was stepped on.

Datum 3

Kairi ：ももちゃん～ (1)
Momochan~

Momochan~

Momo ： うるさい！(2)

Urusai!

You're so loud!

Kairi ： これ、買ったんだ。**モデルになってよ** 。(3)

Kore, kattan da. ***Moderu ni natte yo***.

I bought this. **Be my model**.

(PG/49:32-49:39)

In Datum 3, Kairi, who had just bought a camera, came to Momo's house and asked her to become his model. Kairi said these words while smiling and in an excited tone.

In Datum 3, the directive illocutionary meaning found is request. Utterance (3) used V~て (V~*te*) form which is usually used in everyday conversation plus the ending ~よ (*yo*) which is used to emphasize the speaker's speech. Kairi asked Momo to be her model, but since it's a request, Momo can either decline or accept

A directive speech act with the meaning of asking is based on an action that the speaker will take in the future. This action is a speaker's request that may or may not be granted by the speaker. By asking Momo to be his model, Kairi has prepared if he'll be rejected by Momo because it's only a request but unexpectedly, Momo agreed to become his model.

Datum 4

Ebina ： 高校生どうして結婚って、どういうことだよ？嘘つけないか氏じゃないって。こういうことかよ。(1)

Koukousei doushite kekkontte, dou iu koto dayo? Uso tsukenai kari ga, kareshi janaitte. Kou iu koto ka yo.

A high school student get married, how can it be? You lied, you said it's not for your boyfriend. So this is what you mean.

Karin ： **おねがい**、りんりん誰にも言わないで。(2)

Onegai, *rinrin dare ni mo iwanaide.*

Please, don't tell anyone.

Ebina ： 誰にも言わないよ。(3)

Dare ni mo iwanai yo.

I won't tell anyone.

(MDKJ/59:40-1:00:02)

In Datum 4, because of Karin's suspicious movements, Ebina, who is Karin's best friend, brought Karin to his house and asked what happened to her even though he could already guess what happened. When she finds out that Ebina already knows about her marriage, Karin begs Ebina to keep her wedding a secret.

The directive illocutionary meaning found in Datum 4 is begging. In utterance (2), the speaker used the word *onegai* which is the abbreviation of *onegaishimasu* and used to ask someone to do something politely (Kokugoshiten, 2014). The used of *onegai* in utterance (2) indicating that the speaker is really begging the hearer not to reveal his secret. In addition, the speaker also said the utterance with a pitiful expression. Therefore, it can be concluded that this utterance means begging because of the words used and the speaker's expression when pronouncing this utterance.

Directive speech acts with the meaning of begging are based on the actions that the speaker will take in the future. This meaning arises because there is a

request from the speaker who wants to be granted by the speaker. Karin begs Ebina so he doesn't reveal his secret.

Datum 5

Momo : 何？ (1)

Nani?

What?

Kairi : じゃん！これ、桃の種。どんなに寒い冬でも、春がくれば必ず目が出て花は開く。ここからが始まる。**一緒に植えよう**。(2)

Jan! Kore, momo no tane. Donna ni samui fuyu demo, haru ga kureba kanarazu me ga dete hana wa hiraku. Koko kara ga hajimaru. ***Issho ni ueyou***.

See! This is peach seed. No matter how cold the winter is, when spring comes, it will sprout and the flowers will grow. It starts here**. Let's plant together!**

(PG/53:33-53:47)

In Datum 5, Kairi took Momo's hand and led her to the school's garden. He showed her a peach seed and asked her to plant the seeds together. The speaker invites the hearer to plant the peach seeds while smiling and in a tone of voice like inviting.

The directive illocutionary found in Datum 5 is invitation. Utterance (2) used an invitation form, namely V~おう (V~*ou*) which is the informal form of V~ましょう (V~*mashou*). Because the V~おう (V~*ou*) form is an informal form, it can be concluded that this form is used for people close to or on the same level as the speaker. Verb that used V~おう (V~*ou*) will have the word 'ayo' at the beginning of the utterance to indicate that the utterance contains an invitation. The use of the word ***issho ni*** which means 'together' also reinforces that the speaker wants to do something together with the speaker. Therefore, in Datum 5, it is clear that the speaker invites the hearer to do something together.

Directive speech acts with the meaning of inviting are based on the actions that the speaker will take in the future. This action is in the form of an invitation spoken by the speaker to the hearer so that they do something together. Kairi brought a peach seed and invite Momo to plant it together.

Datum 6

Momo : とうじはあたしになんか来てもらえたくない。(1)

Touji wa atashi ni nanka kite moraetakunai.

Touji doesn't want someone like me to come.

Kairi : なんで？心配なんでしょう？だったら行くべきだよ。(2)

Nande? Shinpai nan deshou? Dattara iku beki da yo.

Why? Aren't you worried? Then you should go.

Momo : でも、とうじは… (3)

Demo, Touji wa...

But, Touji...

Kairi : ももちゃん、だれか思う気持ちは我慢しなくていいんだよ。(4)

Momochan, dareka omou kimochi wa gaman shinakute iin da yo.

Momo-chan, you don't have to put up with your feelings.

(PG/22:40-22:56)

In Datum 6, Kairi invites Momo to visit Touji but Momo doubts whether Touji wants to see her or not. Seeing Momo looking sad, Kairi advised her that she didn't need to hold back her feelings. The way the speaker advises with a calm expression and a tone that convinces the speaker so that the speaker feels good.

In utterance (6), the form used is V~んだ (V~*nda*) which functions to emphasize the speaker's intention in everyday conversation and the particle ~よ to emphasize what the speaker said. Kairi advises the Momo to be better so that he thinks about himself too, not just other people. From the utterance (4), it can be concluded that the directive illocutionary meaning found is advise.

Advise is used to make the other person feel better or feel better. In Datum 6, Kairi advises Momo to be better so she won't be sad anymore and think about her feelings too.

Datum 7

Momo : **かいりなんて好きでも何でもない! (1)**
       Kairi nante suki demo nan demo nai!
       I don't like or have any relationship with Kairi!
Bully : はあ？好きじゃないならなんでかいりとキスしたんだよ？！ (2)
       Haa? Suki janai kara nande Kairi to kisu shitan da yo?!
       Hah? If you don't like him, why did you kiss him?!
Momo : はあ？！ (3)
       Haa?!
       Hah?!
Bully : 得意の遊びかよ。(4)
       Tokui no asobi ka yo.
       Such a low game you're good at.

<div align="right">(PG/07:22-07:30)</div>

In Datum 7, Kairi's fans thought that Momo liked Kairi so they flocked Momo and bullied her. Momo denied that she liked him and her bully asked why she kissed Kairi if she didn't like him. Momo was surprised to hear this statement because she felt that she had never kissed Kairi.

In utterance (1), the speaker used ~ない (~*nai*) form which is a negative informal form to deny the bully's words. When using the informal form, it can be concluded that speakers and hearers are equal. In addition, the expression shown by the speaker here looks shocked and angry at the same time and the speaker uses an angry tone as she argues with the hearer. Therefore, Momo deny that he likes Kairi or she has relationship with Kairi so the bully will stop their action. From the speaker's utterance, it can be concluded that the directive illocutionary meaning found in datum 7 is deny.

As we know, to deny is to oppose someone's words that are considered untrue. Therefore, the speaker denies the bully's statement because the statement appeared to be untrue.

Datum 8

Karin : こんな夜遅くまで、**どちらへ？**やっぱり良そうに人でもいらっしゃるのかしら! (1)
       Konna osoku made, **_dochira e_**? *Yappari yosou ni hito demo irassharu no kashira!*
       Where are you going this late at night? As expected, there's someone other than me!
Nao : テスト勉強してたんだけど。 (2)
       Tesuto benkyou shitetan dakedo
       I studied for a test
Karin : **テスト勉強？** (3)
       Tesuto benkyou?
       Test study?

Nao ：え、テスト。(4)

　　　E, tesuto.

　　　Eh, test.

<div align="right">(MDKJ/52:25-52:42)</div>

In Datum 8, Nao just got home late at night and Karin was already waiting at the dining table while looking at Nao sarcastically. Karin's tone seemed to judge and ask for an explanation from where Nao had been until this late and she assumed that Nao cheated on her. Nao explained he went home late because he was studying for a test and Karin doesn't know about the test.

In utterance (1), the speaker uses informal words such どちら (*dochira*) and いらっしゃる (*irassharu*). The speaker uses these words in order to make the question appear more serious and ruling. The words どちら (*dochira*) and いらっしゃる (*irassharu*) categorized as Keigo which is the honorific and humble form in Japanese or respectful language. In utterance (1), the speaker used Sonkeigo, which is the type of Keigo used to show respect to someone in higher position or superior to the speaker. But in utterance (1), the speaker used Keigo as a sarcastic form to the hearer. In utterance (3), the speaker repeated the hearer's statement because she never knows about it. In Datum 8, the directive illocutionary meaning found is asking where the speaker wants to get an answer from something that is not known and then answered by the speaker.

Directive speech acts with the meaning of asking are based on the speaker's curiosity about something or something that is wrong so it should be corrected. Therefore, Karin asked Nao about something she doesn't know and Nao answered so there won't be misunderstanding between them.

Datum 9

Nao ：新婚気取って俺の分まで**料理とかしないで**。(1)

　　　*Shinkonkidotte ore no bun made **ryouri toka shinaide**.*

　　　Don't pretend to be newlyweds and **don't cook for me**.

Karin ：え、新婚なのに？(2)

　　　E, shinkon nano ni?

　　　Even though we are newly married?

Nao ：**勝手に人の部屋に入らない**。ここは壁だと思ってね。(3)

　　　***Katte ni hito no heya ni hairanai**. Koko ha kabe da to omotte ne.*

　　　***Do not enter other people's rooms without permission**. Think this is a wall.*

<div align="right">(MDKJ/17:41-17:54)</div>

In Datum 9, Nao sets the ground rules for their marriage. Nao doesn't want Karin to think that they're a real newlywed couple and forbid her to cook for him. He also forbids her to enter his room without permission since they have separate rooms.

In utterance (1) and (3), the speaker speaks casually but the prohibition is absolute. His face was expressionless. These utterances directed to the hearer to not do something that the speaker doesn't want. The grammar used is V~ない (V~*nai*) which is the utterance of forbidding as in utterance (1) and (3). Therefore, the directive illocutionary act which found in Datum 9 is prohibit.

Directive speech acts with the meaning of prohibiting are utterances uttered by the speaker so that the hearer doesn't do the activities that speaker doesn't want. Therefore, Nao forbids Karin to cook for him and enter his room because he doesn't want Karin to think they're a newlywed couple.

Datum 10

Karin ： 暑いから、気をつけてね。(1)
        Atsui kara ki wo tsukete ne.
        It's hot so be careful.
Nao ： 知ってるよ。(2)
        Shitteru yo.
        I know.

(MDKJ/1:07:45-1:07:49)

In Datum 10, Nao and Karin go to a festival and buy food there. Because the food is still hot, Karin warns Nao to be careful because it might hurt Nao and Nao says he knows that.

In Datum 10, the speaker uses the utterance 気をつけて (*ki wo tsukete*) which is usually used to warn someone to be careful, like when they want to go somewhere and when they do something that could be dangerous. In addition, speakers use the ~ ね (~*ne*) to end the utterance. The basic meaning of the ね (~*ne*) is to confirm the sentence spoken by the speaker to the hearer but it turned out that the meaning of ね (~*ne*) is more general (McCready and Davis 2020). But in utterance (1), the speaker used ね (~*ne*) because she sees that the hearer less committed than she is based on the behaviour of the hearer but the hearer confirm that he's committed by saying utterance (2). By using the ね (~*ne*) at the end of the sentence, the speaker isn't just confirming but also warning the hearer about the dangerous thing that might happen if he doesn't listen to what she says. Thus, in utterance (1), Karin wants to get the confirmation from Nao and Nao replies he already knew that in utterance (2). Therefore, it can be seen clearly that in datum 10, the directive illocutionary meaning found is warning.

Warn is used to remind someone of something that can be harmful or dangerous. The speaker does not want the speaker to get hurt so he reminds the speaker to be careful. Therefore, Karin warns Nao of the danger that will occur if he eats the food immediately.

From the meanings found in the movie *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*, it can be seen that there are more diverse social relations in the *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai* than *Peach Girl*. This is proved by the speech forms used in the *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai* and the levels of speakers and interlocutors. In *Peach Girl*, the only social relationships found are boyfriends or friends, so the grammar used is an informal form for everyday conversation.

In the *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai*, it can be seen that different social statuses produce different meanings. Like Datum 1 which uses polite language forms even though it is for the driver, but is used to order. In addition, Datum 8 also uses a formal form that is usually used for people who are older, respected, or have a higher degree than the speaker.

Command usually used by speaker who has higher level than the hearer, order usually used by people who has close relation or the same level in society. Request is an action that can be agreed or refused and beg is an action that's so important for the hearer to do. From these found meanings, it can be seen that apart from context, social status and grammar also influence the interpretation of directive illocutionary meanings in Japanese speech acts.

CONCLUSION   Based on the analysis of directive illocutionary acts found in Japanese movies, 10 meanings were found, namely commanding, ordering, begging, requesting, inviting, arguing, advising, forbidding, warning, and asking. Of the 10 meanings found, some of them use the same utterance form, namely V~て (V~*te*), this shows that the social relationship between speakers and hearers is close or they

have the same degree. This is because the V~て (V~ *te*) form is an informal form that is commonly used in everyday conversation.

There are also formal words such as *dochira* and *irassharu* which are usually used for people who are respected, older, or in a higher position but it can also be used as a sarcastic form. The used o Even though the movies *Peach Girl* and *Miseinen Dakedo Kodomo Janai* are movies for teenagers, there are not only informal but also formal forms in these two movies. This shows that even though the actors in both movies are still teenagers, they know when to use the informal form and when to use the informal form.

Lastly, the researcher hopes that this research can be useful especially in the topic of speech acts and Japanese language. This research can also be a source of information in the study of Japanese speech acts. There are still many things about Japanese speech acts that can be studied so that knowledge about Japanese speech acts can be broadened.

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