CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Analysis

Sapir (1921: 8) says, “Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communication, ideas, emotions, and desires by means of a system voluntarily produced symbols.” It is clear that language as a systematic means is used to communicate ideas, feelings and desires clearly in building the relationship with other people. As we all know, language as a system of communication plays a crucial role in every aspect of human life. Through language we can express ideas in our mind and confess our feelings in order to interact with other people or even society. We need language for getting, giving, or searching information to broaden our knowledge. So, it is no wonder that language is mainly important for human being to share and associate with each other.

Linguistics which is regarded as the study of language explains all about aspects of language in its use. One of the interesting topics in learning language is to deal with the way language is used or what the users intend to convey by using the language. Therefore, learning language is also about learning meanings. Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) (Yule, 1996: 3). Pragmatics study of what people mean by their utterances than what the words and phrases in those utterances might mean by themselves.
Actions performed via utterances are generally called speech acts (Yule 1996:47). In discussing a speech act, it is important to make distinction between locution, illocution and perlocution. As, Austin in (Jean, 2000:44) says “Locution is the actual form of words used by the speaker and their semantic meaning. The illocution is an act performed by saying something. It is what the speaker is doing by uttering those words: commanding, offering, promising, threatening, thanking, etc. Perlocution is the actual result of the illocution or the hearer’s reaction.”

There are five types of general functions performed by speech acts (Yule 1996:53). They are declarations, representatives, expressives, directives and commissives. Declarations are those kinds of speech acts that change the world via their utterance. It brings extra linguistic state of affairs into existence, as we declare war, appoint, veto and so forth. Representatives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not. Expressives are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speakers feel. Directives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to get someone to do something. Commissives are those kinds of speech acts that speakers use to commit themselves to some future action.

More deeply Yule says expressive illocution describes and expresses psychological state of the speaker. It can be statement of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. In other words, expressives more concern with a feeling and behavior. For example: “I’m really sorry!”, “Congratulations!”.

Jane Austen (16 December 1775 – 18 July 1817) was a British novelist whose realism, biting social commentary and irony have earned her
a place as one of the most widely-read and best-loved writers in British literature. *Mansfield Park* is one of the greatest of her work after Pride and Prejudice and Sense and Sensibility.

In accordance with my brief explanation above I would like to convey that I am interested in analyzing illocutionary acts because it is important to get the meaning in the utterances spoken in the novel ‘*Mansfield Park*’ to get a good understanding on the whole story. In this case, I choose novel as my object to discuss because novel is one of the application of language where there are many utterances occur within it.

1.2 Problem of the Analysis

The problems will be analyzed in this thesis are as follows:

1. How many expressive illocutionary acts exist in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*?
2. Which type of expressive illocutionary acts is the most dominant appeared in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*?
3. How are the expressive illocutionary acts applied in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*?

1.3 Objectives of the Analysis

Based on the problem of the analysis above, I expect some objectives as follows:
1. To find out the number of expressive illocutionary acts in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*.

2. To determine the most dominant of expressive illocutionary acts in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*.

3. To describe the usage of expressive illocutionary acts in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*.

1.4 Scope of the Analysis

The analysis in this thesis is based on pragmatics that is to discuss illocutionary acts in Jane Austen’s *Mansfield Park*. It is very important for me to make the limitation in the analysis to get understanding on the problem discussed. I limit the analysis and focus it on the expressive one.

1.5 Significance of the Analysis

I expect the significances both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this thesis will broaden the knowledge of readers about illocutionary acts, especially the expressive one. Practically, it will be useful for teaching of pragmatics and reference for the readers who are interested in analyzing the same case.