CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a social interaction tool to send our message and implication from the speaker or the writer to the hearer or reader by gestures (non-verbal), voices, and symbols that has various things that make up the rules of language. Language is also used as a term to refer to the prescriptive rules of a given message, which may change over time and the various theories or perspective that attempt to understand it.

Pragmatics in general is the study of language that is used by speaker to communicate more than it is said. It deals with the ways we reach out goal in communication. Yule (1996:3) says that pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by reader (or listener). The advantage of studying language via pragmatics is that one can talk about people intended meanings, their assumptions, their purposes or goals, and the kinds of actions that they are performing when they speak.

When speakers communicate with others, they produce speech act. Yule (1996:47) says that actions performed via utterances called speech act. By using the utterances during the conversation, the speaker performs speech act such as making statement, giving command, suggestion, asking question, etc. In pragmatics, there are three types of speech act; locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. All of them are very important to make the intended meaning of an utterance or interpretation can be understood by the hearer. From the three types of speech act, the discussion is focused in Illocutionary act.

Speech act is not only occurred in real life conversation, but also in movie. Hornby (1995:434) says that a movie or film is a story recorded as a set of moving pictures to be shown on television or at cinema. Even though it is the result of human creation, it is the reflection of the perception of the society.

In this thesis, the utterances that occurred in a movie are analyzed to find out whether the theory of pragmatics can be applied in a movie as well as in our daily utterances. The source of the data in this thesis is the script of a movie entitled Pirates of the Caribbean: the Curse of the Black Pearl, which was downloaded from the Internet.
Pirates of the Caribbean: the Curse of the Black Pearl is a 2003 American fantasy swashbuckler film based on the Pirates of the Caribbean attraction at Disney theme parks. It was directed by Gore Verbinski and produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Jerry Bruckheimer. The movie is starred by Johny Depp (Jack Sparrow) as the main character. The movie was released in July 9, 2003 in United States by Walt Disney Studios.

The movie is chosen as the subject of the research because the language style of the main character is “unique” because in each utterances, the main character does not only produce utterances that contain grammatical structures and words, but also perform actions via those utterances that can make hard for the audience to understand the meaning if they do not know how to analyze them. Below is an example of the main character’s utterance that contain illocutionary act in form of request.

Example:

“Will you be saving her then?”

The utterance above had the characteristics to be classified into Directive illocutionary act because the speaker wanted the hearer to do something in form of a request. The utterance was expressed by using interrogative structure sentence because the utterance used (?) mark. When the utterance occurred, Jack (speaker) and the guards (hearers) were talking in a dock when suddenly they were surprised by a woman who was drowning into the sea. The purpose of the utterance was to ask the guards politely to rescue the drowning woman.

The audience generally will presume that the utterance is a question from the speaker to the hearers, but if the audiences analyze the utterance based on the context of the situation when the utterance occurred, they will understand that the speaker is not just ask a question to the hearer, but also do an action, in that case, it is a request.

1.2 Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study, there are some problems that will be analyzed in this thesis:

1. What types of Illocutionary Act are found in Jack Sparrow’s dialogue?
2. What type of Illocutionary Act is the most dominant in Jack Sparrow’s dialogue?
1.3 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study areas follows:

1. To determine the classifications of the Illocutionary act in every Jack Sparrow’s utterances based on context of situation
2. To find the most dominant Illocutionary Act that found in Jack Sparrow’s utterances.

1.4 Scope of the Study

It is necessary to limit the analysis to avoid the obscurity since the classification in Speech Act is too many. In this thesis, the discussion is limited only on the Illocutionary Act that is found in the dialogue of main character, Jack Sparrow, because there are too many characters in the movie, so it needs a limitation.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This thesis is expected to give some significance, they are:

1. To enlarge the reader’s knowledge about Illocutionary Act.
2. To help the reader in understanding the meaning of an utterance in conversation or in the movie.