

EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS IN BLACKPINK INTERVIEWS ON AMERICAN TALK SHOWS

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Abstract

Comprehending the speech acts theory is crucial in communication. The aim of this research is to identify the types and to describe the function of expressive speech act in Blackpink interviews on American talk shows. This research is classified as qualitative descriptive research. The data of this research were words, phrases, and clauses that contain expressive speech acts found in the videos of Blackpink and the hosts in American talk shows that were published from 2019 to 2022. The technique of collecting data was conducted by transcribing the English subtitle of Blackpink interviews on American talk shows, classifying the type of expressive speech acts, and the last is coding the data. The result revealed that there were five types of expressive speech acts used by the hosts and Blackpink, such as apologizing, congratulating, praising, attitude, and thanking. Apologizing functions as a form of self-acceptance for a mistake that has been made. Furthermore, congratulating functions as a form of appreciation for someone's achievement while praising functions to make the person being praised feel comfortable and happy. Attitude functions to make the interlocutor understand what the speakers feel. Thanking functions to show gratitude and respond to statements made by the speaker. In general, expressive speech acts are used on the talk show to involve viewers' emotions as a part of entertainment.

Keywords: Pragmatics, Expressive Speech Acts, Talk Show, Expressive function

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most important elements in human life is communication. In realizing good relations with other people, it is necessary to have the right way of communicating. It is done so that the intentions and goals of both the speaker and interlocutor are conveyed properly. Through communication, people might express their feelings using a particular word or utterance which has a certain meaning. To achieve this, an analysis of linguistic features is needed, one of which is the study of meaning. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that deals with the use of language using context and how people generate and understand meaning through language (Yule, 2020). In studying pragmatics, there are a lot of branches. One of them is a speech act in which the meaning is a study of how the speakers and hearers use language Yule (1996). It means that it is intended to explore the language used not only to convey information but also to carry out actions. By saying something, the speaker also does something. By telling an utterance, the speaker has a goal to be known and achieved by his interlocutor. In general, the speech produced by the speaker has three interrelated acts, they are locutionary (the form of the utterance), illocutionary (the implicit

meaning, motivation, and trigger), and perlocutionary (the effect that the speaker has by saying something). From the division of speech acts into three dimensions or interrelated acts, in its development, Searle (2011) classifies speech acts into five types. They are declarative, expressive, commissive, directive, and assertive.

This research discusses one type of speech act, namely the expressive speech act where this type is the form of speech that means the speaker and hearer convey what they feel and it is related to a psychological condition Yule (1996). For example, when there are two people in the room and their relationship is friends, but there is no conversation between them. Then, one of them said "*It is very cold here*", it not only expresses what the speaker feels but also it has some other meanings, such as the speaker just wants to start the conversation to break the silence, expressing his displeasure with the cold war between them, or even complaining. Therefore, the functions of expressive speech acts are related to the type of expressive speech act. It is the reason why it is crucial to comprehend the theory of speech act in communication because everyone needs to understand each other. In the development of speech act theory, Kreidler (2013) reformed the speech act classification stated by Searle (2011). Thus, according to Kreidler, an expressive speech act is a speech act uttered by the speaker because of an action in the past. This is an expression of present feelings or effects of actions that have been taken. The expressive speech act is retrospective, meaning to look back or the past. This utterance is said to be feasible if the speaker is able to do it, the speaker conveys his utterance sincerely, and the speech partner believes in the sincerity of the speaker.

It should be noted that the types of expressive speech acts are different from phatic utterances, such as greetings and farewells. The distinguishing point is that the phatic speech act is used only to maintain social bonds and not really to obtain information or can be said to have less function, while the expressive speech act is more directed to someone's statement which contains information and is spoken seriously. In the world of entertainment, statements containing expressive speech acts are widely used on various occasions. It involves a lot of interactions during the event. Since this research focuses on analyzing Blackpink interviews on American talk shows, the expressive speech act is chosen over other types of speech acts so that the researcher can find abundant data related to the use of speech containing the type of feelings. As argues by Morissan (2008), a talk show has a meaning as a program that features one or more people talking about a certain topic that is guided by the host. So, from that understanding, it can be concluded that a talk show is a type of television program in the form of a discussion or interview between the host and a person or group of guests discussing a topic. It is one element of the mass media. Talk shows provide entertainment and information about the truth of the topic or issue that is being discussed for the public. Talk shows exist to ascertain the facts of topics that are currently popular among the public, obtain opinions from guests who are experts in the topics being discussed, and explore guest points of view. Hojanto (2013) claimed that whether a show is memorable or not is also influenced by how many emotions the audience can explore, whether they are happy, touched, sad, and so on. So, it proves that it is important to build emotional attraction or build a relationship between speaker and listener; both guest stars and viewers. To create a successful talk show, a host must identify the speakers so that they are familiar with, and understand the theme by digging up as much information as possible in order to be able to express or provide appropriate responses and ask questions briefly. In the talk show, all matters relating to the topic of the guest stars must be considered starting from the character, gestures, diction, intonation, and tone of voice so that the audience and listeners do not misinterpret the meaning of the conversation.

Related to this research, several previous studies are discussed in this part to show the research gap. One of them is the research conducted by Nafi'ah (2015) that analyzed the expressive speech act in the movie script which resulted that the most dominant frequency of expressive speech act used is *dislike*. The other related research was conducted by Ambarwati (Ambarwati et al., 2018) who found that the function of expressive speech act used in social media includes thanking, blaming, apologizing, praising, and wailing. Another research that was conducted by Anggraeni (Anggraeni et al., 2020) discussed the expressive speech act on Ridwan Kamil's Instagram post comments about COVID-19. The result showed that the responses given by netizens contained expressions of wishing, complaining, and protest. Based on the previous research, the difference between this research and the previous research is the previous discussed the type of expressive speech act, and the data are taken from the field of social media and movies. The previous research did not provide an explanation about the function of each type of expressive speech act while this research discusses the type and the function of expressive speech act based on its communicative purpose in talk show. The expressive speech act is chosen as the topic of the research to explore more about the pragmatic meanings of various expressions. To this extent, the intended meaning makes the utterances meaningful as an evaluation of what is mentioned in the speech and has several functions in it.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The methods applied to answer the problems of this research. These parts include research design, data and source of data, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques. According to Creswell (2016), a research design is a research plan and procedure for detailed data collection and analysis methods. The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method by recording all the data that appears in Blackpink interviews on American talk shows. The qualitative method is the appropriate method because qualitative research does not require static calculation. The data are analyzed in the form of words, phrases, and sentences descriptively. It is the best method to analyze the types of expressive speech act and the researcher only classifies and analyzes the data and then draws a conclusion in the form of words and sentences. Data is obtained through data sources that have been processed where the meaning of data sources is the origin of the data obtained. The data source is taken from the video transcription with the English subtitle of all American talk shows that invite Blackpink as their guest which aired from 2019 until 2022. The data are in the form of words, phrases, and clauses which consist of expressive speech acts found in the videos of Blackpink members and the hosts in all American talk shows that were published from 2019 until 2022, on the YouTube channel. This research focuses only on the expressive speech act and its functions conveyed by Blackpink members and American talk shows hosts.

The document analysis technique is used to collect the data in this research. Document technique is the way to get the information related to the data. According to Sugiyono (2017), a document is a recording of an event that already happened in the past. To collect the data, a document in the form of a video is used. The steps are watching Blackpink interviews on American talk shows, transcribing the English subtitle into a word document, classifying the expressive speech acts used by American talk shows' hosts and Blackpink members, and coding the data that contain expressive speech acts to classify the types of expressive speech acts. Data that have been collected are analyzed. Data analysis is the activity of sorting, marking, and classifying data in such a way as to produce findings to answer research problems. The steps in analyzing data are select statements or utterances that contain expressive speech acts. Then, try to understand certain

data according to the statement of the problem in this study. Data that have been collected are classified more deeply into more specialized or smaller parts. In the next step, the data that have been classified is linked to the statement of problems. Then, the researcher's findings are compared with previous research. The last is to conclude the answer to the research problems.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The expressive speech acts in Blackpink interviews on American talk shows discussed in this study are divided into two parts: (1) the types and functions of expressive speech acts and (2) discussion about the findings and compare it with previous research presented in the research gap. The data is taken from the video of all American talk shows that invited Blackpink as their guest which aired from 2019 until 2022. The analysis of research problems is presented in this chapter.

a. Result

Table 1. Types of Expressive Speech Act

No.	Type of Expressive Speech Acts	Number of Each Type	Percentage of Each Type
1.	Apologizing	5	4.35%
2.	Congratulating	2	1.73%
3.	Praising	41	35.65%
4.	Attitude	57	49.57%
5.	Thanking	10	8.70%
Total		115	100%

Out of the 115 data, 57 (49.57%) of them are classified into the attitude type. So, it is the most dominant type. The other type is praising with a total of 41 (35.65%). The other type is thanking with a total of ten (8.70%). The other type is apologizing with a total of five (4.35%) data. The least number of data found is congratulating which is only two (1.73%) data.

Apologizing

Apologizing is an utterance to make an apology, to offer an excuse for some injustice, and an expression of regret. It intended to convey a moral and admission of errors.

(14/APG/ZSS)

(This conversation took place on the Zach Sang Show program and occurred in the middle of an interview with Zach Sang as the interviewer or host and Blackpink as the guest. In this case, Zach Sang wants to know the career journey of a Blackpink member named Rose)

Zach Sang : *"By the way, it is crazy that you left New Zealand to go to Korea to join because... did you audition?"*

Rose Blackpink : *"Australia."*

Zach Sang : *"Australia. Oh, I am so sorry."*

Rose Blackpink : *"No, it's ok because I was born in New Zealand and I lived in Australia then I left."*

The apology *Oh, I am so sorry* uttered by Zach Sang is categorized as the expressive speech act type of apologizing. According to Kreidler's theory, it can be regarded as an expressive speech act because Zach Sang's statement contains information that must be conveyed to the public, and as a host, he does not want to convey wrong information to his viewers. Therefore, he apologized seriously and reiterated the correct information (*Australia. Oh, I am so sorry*). He also admitted his mistake in mentioning Rose's hometown. After Zach Sang said this utterance, Rose accepted Zach Sang's apology and the viewers found out the real information regarding Rose's hometown.

Apologizing could function in various contexts such as apologizing for unforeseen circumstances, admitting a mistake, asking for someone's time to speak or interrupt, and giving an opinion. An apology in this context functions as a form of self-acceptance for a mistake that has been made. This apology must also be said in a moral form so that their social relations remain well. Moreover, one of the characteristics of a talk show is that it expresses factual things. So, from Zach Sang's apology, the audience can find out the correct information.

Congratulating

Congratulating is an utterance to express the feeling of pleasure toward the interlocutor's achievements or to express the feeling of honor toward the interlocutor's good fortune. It can be said that congratulating is an expression to show the speaker's sympathy or joy for what has happened to the interlocutor.

(107/CRT/JFL)

(This conversation took place on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Here, Jimmy Fallon as a host wants to end the show with Blackpink. However, before the event ended, Jimmy Fallon congratulated Blackpink for the achievements that they had achieved. He mentioned it at the end of the talk show)

Jimmy Fallon : *"Takes the win! BLACKPINK, we love you guys so much. **Congrats on the record.**"*

Rose Blackpink : *"Thank you so much for having us on your show, Jimmy."*

Jimmy Fallon : *"**Congratulations.** Thanks for playing. Bye! We love you guys."*

The sentences *Congrats on the record* and *Congratulations* repeated by Jimmy Fallon are categorized as expressive speech acts because Jimmy Fallon expresses the feeling of honor toward Blackpink's good fortune. In line with Kreidler's theory, inviting Blackpink to his talk show indicates that Jimmy Fallon not only maintains social relations but also provides information to the general public about the musical achievements of this South Korean girl group. From those utterances, all Blackpink members are happy and grateful for being able to appear on one of the US talk shows, The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon.

Congratulating utterance is used to congratulate, appreciate, and feel proud of others for their achievements. In this context, Jimmy Fallon congratulated Blackpink to appreciate Blackpink's achievement and for bringing back the news that has been viral on various social media for this achievement. It gives facts to the public because it is an achievement that is not easy for South Korean idols in the international level.

Praising

Praising can be interpreted as a strong expression and form of admiration for someone or something. This expression of praise can be given to anyone and it is a form of admiration for someone's achievements, someone's strengths, and other good things.

(10/PRS/ZSS)

(This conversation took place on the Zach Sang Show. In this case, they talked about the album songs that have been released by Blackpink. Zach Sang, the host of this talk show, praised Blackpink's songs which use Korean and English since the members are very fluent in speaking both languages. Therefore, the public from all around the world loves their songs).

Zach Sang : *“And I also think **your productions are amazing on these records and the way you guys flow between English and Korean is so seamless. It’s really beautiful like in one record I spent all weekend really diving in.**”*

Blackpink : *“Oh wow! Thank you.”*

The sentence *your productions are amazing on these records* is categorized as praising. This is reinforced by the sentence *It’s really beautiful like in one record I spent all weekend really diving in*. The praises indicate that Zach Sang admits the strength of Blackpink by giving the fact that he listened to Blackpink's songs all weekend. He also clarified his reason that the members are very fluent in speaking both languages by saying *the way you guys flow between English and Korean is so seamless*. It made all Blackpink members happy and grateful to hear this statement.

Since praising is a strong expression of admiration for someone or something, it functioned to make the person being praised feel comfortable and happy. In this case, Zach Sang fulfilled his duty as a host as revealed by Rahman (2016), a host must treat the interviewee like a star or a character who has worthy of respect so that the interviewee feels comfortable.

Attitude

Expression of attitudes is used to show dislike, like, complain, criticism, joy, sadness, approval, and disapproval. These expressions are expected to make the interlocutor mull the speaker’s utterance.

(63/ATD/JCN)

(This conversation took place on the Late Late Show with James Corden and occurred when James Corden, as a host, asked Blackpink about their first online concert. In this conversation, James Corden interviewed Rose about her first solo performance at the concert)

James Corden : *“Now, Rose, I know during the concert you will premier some of your solo material which is using something. Is this something you have always wanted to do?”*

Rose Blackpink: *“Well, I mean, I feel like just to be able to sing my song at the concert for my fans. **It’s really exciting. I enjoy that, a lot of my fans have been waiting and they are really excited about it. So yeah, I think that’s very special that I can finally sing my song.**”*

The conversation which is classified as an attitude type started when James Corden interviewed Rose about her first solo performance at the concert. Then, Rose expressed her pleasure feelings when she remembered that her fans had been waiting for a long time for Rose’s solo which she was finally able to perform. It is marked by the sentence *It’s really exciting. I enjoy that, a lot of my fans have been waiting and they are really excited about it. So yeah, I think that’s very special that I can finally sing my song*. Because of this utterances, James Corden and the audience were able to reflect, look forward to the performance, and know the efforts of Rose in preparing and giving a perfect performance for fans at their big online concert.

This type functioned to make the interlocutor understand what the speakers feel, maintain relationships with others, and show social bonds with others. In this context, the expression of excitement makes the audience understand Rose’s feelings in preparing for her solo

performance. The expression also shows the social bonds between Rose and her fans. Therefore, the audience could explore their emotions to make this talk show memorable.

Thanking

Thanking is an expression of gratitude to someone. Thanking also means an expression of gratitude thought and to express the satisfaction about something that should be known by the interlocutor.

(97/THK/STS)

(This conversation took place on the Strahan and Sara Show and happened when the hosts wanted to end the interview with Blackpink)

Strahan : *"I'm sure you guys are going to stick around because you are going to perform for us and I guarantee we'll see a whole bunch of people."*

Sara : *"A lot of smiles."*

Strahan : *"You know, every word, every song and you guys is really amazing. **Thank you for joining us, we appreciate. We really appreciate it.**"*

Blackpink : *"Thank you for having us."*

The utterance *Thank you for joining us we appreciate. We really appreciate it* uttered by Strahan can be classified as expressive speech, namely the thanking type. This utterance was said sincerely by Strahan because he wanted to show his feelings of respect and gratitude towards his guest stars who had come and shared their experiences on the talk show. By saying this, Blackpink, the guest star on this talk show, was honored and happy by Strahan's words.

In general, thanking can be used in various situations such as thanking someone or as a form of gratitude, responding to thanks, responding to comments containing opinions or praise, accepting offers, and politely declining offers. Moreover, as revealed by Rahman (2016), a host in the talk show must treat the interviewee like a star or a character who has worthy of respect so that the interviewee feels comfortable. In the context of this conversation, thanking is used to thank someone and show gratitude for Blackpink's willingness coming to this talk show and share all the experience.

b. Discussion

Understanding and analyzing expressive speech acts means enabling us to reveal psychological conditions based on what speakers say about their feelings as emphasized by Yule (1996). It happens because it is triggered by various events that occurred in the past. This data was obtained from interviews with Blackpink and hosts on several talk shows in the USA. The process of broadcasting was done through electronic media, namely television and Youtube Channels. Through these media, the public can not only obtain information but can also change their psychological condition and attitude from what they see and hear. Based on the function of the distribution media, talk shows that invite Blackpink as their guest star are classified as information and entertainment functions.

Expressive speech acts in Blackpink interviews on American talk shows have succeeded in answering the problems of research discussed previously. The expressions in the data found in this research are classified as expressive speech acts because they are retrospective, and expressed sincerely. The interlocutor believes in the sincerity of the speaker. This is the development and refinement of the theory of expressive speech acts as emphasized by Kreidler (2013). The type of expressive speech acts namely attitude is the most common type found with a total of 57 data (49.57%). This fact strengthens the theory which states that expressive speech acts are used to

express feelings related to psychological conditions. Most of the attitudes expressed feelings of sadness about past experiences, feelings of pleasure about things that have been done, feelings of dislike, feelings of like about something, feelings of agreement, and feelings of disapproval of a statement.

The second type found in this research is expressive of praising with a total of 41 data (35.65%). Praising functioned to show how to appreciate and as a form of admiration of someone's achievements. In this case, praise is used to give compliment to the achievements and talents of Blackpink members so that they feel comfortable and happy. In addition, praise is also used as a way to host a talk show in order to treat the guests who have worthy of respect. Based on the data collected, the expressive speech act of congratulating is the least common type with a total of 2 data (1.73%) because the hosts tend to show their expressions by praising and admiring Blackpink's achievements. Through those expressions, the speaker's sincerity is conveyed so that the listener could believe in what the speaker has said.

Previous studies on expressive speech acts have focused more on the types of expressive speech acts such as those conducted by Nafi'ah (2015) who found expressive of like, dislike, sorrow, joy, and pleasure. Several types of expressive speech acts in the analysis seem unclear because it can be seen that there is no difference between the expressive speech acts of joy and pleasure. The other related research was conducted by Ambarwati (Ambarwati et al., 2018) who found that the function of expressive speech act used in social media includes thanking, blaming, apologizing, praising, and wailing. There is no limitation in the topic being discussed so the analysis results are too broad and involve many people from various backgrounds and points of view. On the contrary, this research only discusses specific talk shows so that the results regarding communicative practice in this field are more clearly conveyed. Another research that was conducted by Anggraeni (2020) discussed the expressive speech act on Ridwan Kamil's Instagram post comments about COVID-19. The result showed that the responses given by netizens contained expressions of wishing, complaining, and protest. This study did not explain the function of the expressive speech act and its relationship with social media. On the contrary, this research does not only discuss the types of expressive speech acts but also describes the functions of expressive speech acts based on their communicative practices in related fields.

In general, expressive speech acts have several functions, such as: to describe a reality of something that has happened; express feelings, emotions, and reactions to things; and as a reference for determining an action such as disagreement and agreement. This is in accordance with the characteristics, objectives, and functions of the talk show. Talk shows exist to ascertain the facts of topics that are currently popular among the public, obtain opinions from guests who are experts in the topics being discussed, and explore guest points of view. The theme raised is to attract viewers, the topic is factual, and give information to the public. Moreover, both the host and the guest have fulfilled politeness in communicating. Hosts in these talk shows can treat their guests well, explore the feelings of their guests, and trigger viewers' emotions. By understanding expressive speech acts, both interlocutors and viewers could avoid misinterpreting the meaning of the conversation and they could determine their actions appropriately.

4. CONCLUSION

This study describes the type and each function of expressive speech acts found in Blackpink interviews on American talk shows. There are five types of expressive speech acts found in this research. The five types of expressive speech acts found are apologizing, congratulating, praising, attitude, and thanking. Apologizing functions as a form of self-acceptance for a mistake

that has been made. Furthermore, congratulating functions as a form of appreciation for someone's achievement while praising functions to make the person being praised feel comfortable and happy. Attitude functions to make the interlocutor understand what the speakers feel. Thanking functions to thank someone, show gratitude, and respond to statements made by the speaker.

All types and functions of the expressive speech acts are closely related to the purposes of talk shows. Therefore, expressive speech acts have a great role to involve viewers' emotions to enjoy the entertainment of the talk show itself. Understanding expressive speech acts allow us to understand other people's conditions and feelings so that we know how we should say and act. It proves that understanding expressive speech acts is essential in communicative practice. Related to the research data, understanding expressive speech acts is needed so that a talk show is successful, memorable, and able to create a harmonious relationship among the hosts, guests, and audience.

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