

## A SOCIOLINGUISTIC CASE STUDY: ILLOCUTIONARY SPEECH ACTS ANALYSIS ON BIMA YUDHO SAPUTRO'S CRITICISM OF LAMPUNG GOVERNMENT

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### ABSTRACT

*This research focused on the types of illocutionary acts as the part of speech act use in criticism, specifically on Bima Yudho Saputro's Criticism of Lampung Government that recently gone viral in Indonesia. The objective of this research is to find out the illocutionary acts used by Bima on his criticism. The methodology applied in this research is qualitative research with case study as the research design, and documentation as the research technique. There are 15 illocutionary speech acts in the criticism found, with 60% of representative utterance, 20% directive utterance, and 20% of expressive utterance. The result show the most frequent illocutionary speech act found in the data is representative. The researchers found the criticism indicates that Bima, the critic, mostly used his words to affirm the truth of a claim he made about something in his criticism. Cutting (2002: 17) provided evidence to support this conclusion when he said that representative speech or utterance are performances in which the speaker's beliefs are expressed through the use of language.*

**Keywords:** *Speech act, Illocutionary acts, criticism*

### INTRODUCTION

People interact with one another consistently as they are so tenuous to one another to meet their needs. The exchange of ideas among individuals, which directly advances the quality of life itself, may be carried out through communication. The behaviours taken can be influenced by one's capacity to perceive utterances in a communication. The bridge of communication is language. Language has functions to communicate itself, being the system in communication, and also reaching the purpose of communication (Corder, 1973:32).

As language always develops among people around the world, the study of languages within the theories is also developed by linguists. One of the popular theories of language is the speech act theory which was first stated by Austin in 1962 and has been a massive topic in the Sociolinguistic and Pragmatics field of study. This topic also becomes the theoretical basis of this paper to assist the study's aim, which is to describe the types of speech acts used by Bimo Yudho Saputro in his criticism of the Lampung government.

Regarding aspects of the speech act, (Austin, 1975) explains that speech acts are actions that refer to the activity carried out by produced utterances. When someone utters a series of words, the speaker often tries to achieve some effect with these words. In some cases, alternative measures may have an impact. Speech acts involve three aspects: locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary. Locutionary is the physical act which produces the utterance, while illocutionary is the act that is committed when an utterance is made. Perlocutionary, on

the other hand, is the speaker's actions along with the utterance that affects the interlocutors. Furthermore, As Searle's critique of Austin's classification of illocutionary speech acts. Searle (1976) has classified illocutionary acts into expressive (criticism, apology, etc.), directives (requests, orders, etc.), commissives (promise, refuse, etc.) representative (concluding) and declarative (announcement) assert that speakers use language to carry out a variety of speech acts, including promising, threatening, apologizing, criticizing, etc. Criticism is one of these employed functions. (Mira et al., 2004) on (Al Kayed & Al-Ghoweri, 2019) described the criticism as an act that speakers use to assess adversely what the hearer has said or done to improve the hearer's words and actions.

Aligning with the researcher's objective of this paper, the researchers involves criticism as the object to find out what types of illocutionary speech acts are used in Bima Yudho Saputro's criticism of Lampung government and what illocutionary speech acts dominance in the criticism to see the critic's goal. The researchers are interested in analyzing the illocutionary speech acts used in the criticism of a content creator named Bima Yudho Saputro. Bima, currently domiciled in Australia, released a video of sub-4 minutes duration on his TikTok social media account @awbimaxreborn where he expressed his disappointment with the conditions in his hometown in Lampung (a province in Indonesia), which had minimal progress of infrastructure, lack of good educational system, and broken economic system. The video has gone viral and has been watched more than 16.6 million times on Tiktok.

There has been previous research on speech acts, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire Movie" by (Roisah & Raharningtyas, 2019), analysed the speech acts in the Harry Potter and Goblet of Fire movie and classified them as locutionary act, illocutionary act, perlocutionary act, direct speech act, and indirect speech act. The difference between this research and previous research is that our research object is based on criticism as a real social phenomenon, whereas the research cited employs a fictional literary work to study speech acts. The researchers also use the case study as the research method to differ from the previous research, which applied a descriptive qualitative as the research method.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Regarding aspects of the speech act, (Austin, 1975) explains that speech acts are actions that refer to the activity carried out by produced utterances. Speech acts involve three aspects: locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary Locutionary is the physical act which produces the utterance, while illocutionary is the act that is committed when an utterance is made. Perlocutionary, on the other hand, is the speaker's actions along with the utterance that affects the interlocutors. Furthermore, (Searle, 1969) has classified illocutionary acts into expressive (criticism, apology, etc.), directives (requests, orders, etc.), commissives (promise, refuse, etc.) representative (concluding) and declarative (announcement). assert that speakers use language to carry out a variety of speech acts, including promising, threatening, apologizing, criticizing, etc. Criticism is one of these employed functions. (Mira et al., 2004) on (Al Kayed & Al-Ghoweri, 2019) described the criticism as an act that speakers use to assess adversely what the hearer has said or done to improve the hearer's words and actions.

A study related to the analysis of speech acts has been conducted by many researchers, especially in illocutionary acts. For example, a study conducted by (Setiani & Utami, 2018), which concerns with illocutionary act produced by the main character in "How to train your

dragon 2” movie. Using speech acts theory, they have found the most frequent category of illocutionary act produced by the main character was representative. Another study was a research by (Haucsa et al., 2020), which was specifically done in analyzing illocutionary speech acts performed in Tom Cruise’s interview in promoting his movie. The result showed that there are four kinds of illocutionary speech acts which are performed in Tom Cruise’s interview which are representative, commissive, directive, and expressive. The last study was conducted by (Oktaviani & Nur, 2022) related to the Hate Speech case in comments on the Twitter account @Indraakenz, in which they found 3 types of illocutionary acts and what types of hatred are in the comments.

The three studies above concern illocutionary acts. Based on these three studies, the researchers believe that analyzing speech actions, such as illocutionary acts, is critical to understanding the intended meaning of an utterance. Meanwhile, there is a slight difference between this study and previous studies. Despite the fact that only illocutionary acts have been researched, the current study examines a speech of someone's criticism of the government via social media accounts, which is an exciting new issue to discuss.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This research uses a qualitative method with a case study as the research design in analysing the data. Qualitative research is a research method which focuses on obtaining and analysing non-numerical data that involves real-world problems. By applying the qualitative methodology, the researchers strive to gather better data and obtain a more in-depth understanding of issues, cases, or events (Aas et al., 2005). (Creswell, 2012) asserted there are five different categories of qualitative methods: phenomenological research, grounded theory, ethnography, case study, and narrative research.

In gathering the data, the researchers used the documentation technique. Documentation is deliberate to collect information directly from the research, including relevant books, studies, activity reports, and research data. Data documentation was gathered from the currently viral criticism of the Lampung government in Indonesia. The subject background is a Lampung citizen who has experienced living there himself named Bima Yudho Saputro. The researchers analysed the data by reading and observing the data transcript of Bima Yudho Saputro’s critics of the Lampung government, making notes and tables to help the researchers identify the illocutionary acts within the criticism.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Findings**

The researcher write down Bima Yudho Saputro’s critics of the Lampung government and analysed the transcript to classify its illocutionary speech act types based on Searle's (1976) theory of speech act; representative, commissive, expressive, directive, and declarative. Each data is presented in a table form of the utterance, translation, and meaning.

#### **1. Representative**

Representative speech is any statement made to commit the speaker to the validity of the proposition made (Searle, 1969). Representative speech includes state, claim, informing, belief, remind, suggest, report, assure, agree, predict, insist, hypothesize, boast, complain, conclude, etc.

Table 1. Representative utterances

No.	Utterance	Translation	Meaning
1.	“Oke di video kali ini gua mau presentasi tentang alasan kenapa lampung ini kagak maju maju. Buat yang baru ngeliat video ini di fyp kalian, kenalin nama gue Bima gue berasal dari provinsi yang satu ini dajjal dan gue sekarang lagi menjalani proses study gue di Australia”.	“Alright in this video I would like to present the reasons why Lampung never developed. For you guys who see this video for the first time on your FYP, my name is Bima and I’m from this sucks province, but now I’m doing my study in Australia.”	The utterance uttered by the critic hypothesizes the reasons for the undeveloped Lampung province according to what he believes. The critic also stated that he’s come from the Lampung province himself to claim that he gave the criticism based on his experience.
2.	“Alasan pertama adalah infrastruktur yang terbatas , ini banyak banget di Lampung tuh proyek – proyek dari pemerintah yang mangkrak contohnya Kota Baru kak, itu dari zaman gue SD sampe sekarang gue gak pernah dengar kabarnya lagi...”	“First reason is the limited infrastructure, there are a lot of government stalled projects, such as Kota Baru that never finished, even since I was in Elementary School until today I never know what happened with it anymore...”	The critic uttered his first reason for the undeveloped Lampung province, which is the limited infrastructure in Lampung. The critic’s utterance also consists of information about Kota Baru, one of the government’s stalled projects in Lampung.
3.	“Dan juga jalan-jalan di Lampung ya , gue sering bahas jalan karena jalan itu kayak infrastruktur yang paling umum dan untuk mobilisasi ekonomi di Lampung. Tapi jalan-jalan di Lampung tuh kayak 1 km bagus 1 km rusak, terus jalan ditempel - tempel doang...”	“Also roads in Lampung, I often talk about this because the road is the most prevalent infrastructure for economic mobilization in Lampung. However, the roads in Lampung are like 1 km good, 1 km damaged, and the rest are just patch roads...”	The utterance containing the critic’s complaints about the damaged roads as the economic mobilization media.
4.	“Sistem Pendidikan yang lemah nih alasan ke-2. Gua ga bilang Lampung itu kekurangan orang pintar ya, Lampung itu banyak banget orang pintar. Menteri-menteri aja banyak dari Lampung , Erick Thohir,	“The weak educational system is the second reason for this issue. I’m not saying that Lampung lacks smart people, Lampung has lots of smart people. Lots of ministers are from Lampung, Erick Thohir,	The utterance said by the critic continues his hypothesis about the reason for the undeveloped Lampung province, which is the weak educational system. In the utterance, the critic

	Sri Mulyani tuh kan , ada menteri pertanian juga dari Lampung kalau gak salah gua lupa namanya.”	Sri Mulyani, and there was also the Minister of Agriculture from Lampung if I’m not mistaken, I forgot his name.”	claimed that people in Lampung are smart, however, there is much fraudulence found in the education system itself.
5.	“Cuma, proses penyaringan peserta didik yang ada di Lampung itu sendiri itu banyak banget kecurangan ya. Bahkan, yang berkontribusi itu orang orang yang bekerja di sector pendidikan.”	“However the screening of students candidate on Lampung itself has many fraudulences. Even people who contribute to that fraud are people who work in the educational sector.”	
6.	“Kunci jawaban tersebar, kalau udah mau UN tuhkan...”	“The answer keys are scattered when the National Test is about to be run...”	The utterance is the form of the example mentioned by critics about the weak educational system.
7.	“...yang ke-3 adalah tata kelola yang lemah. Korupsi dimana-mana, birokrasi nggak efisien, hukumnya nggak ditegakkan, lemah banget. Terus juga suap, aduh enggak usah bahas suap ya mak, dimana mana udah kayak makanan sehari-hari gitu kan. Kayak suap-suap duit...”	“...The third is weak governance. Corruption is everywhere, the bureaucracy is inefficient, the laws are not enforced, very weak. Then also bribes, no need to talk about bribes, everywhere bribes it's like daily food, right? bribes of money...”	This utterance was uttered by the critic as a follow-up to the previous reasons mentioned. The critic stated that weak governance is another reason that has to be noticed. The utterance consists the example of weak governance such as bribes and corruption behaviours.
8.	“Yang terakhir, alasan terakhir ini adalah ketergantungan pada sector pertanian. Tidak bisa dipungkiri Lampung itu salah satu provinsi yang memproduksi banyak banget hasil pertanian, kayak jagung, beras, ketan dan lain- lain. Dan kontribusinya di Lampung sendiri itu sampai 40% lebih, kalian bisa cek di websitenya BI dan disitu adalah	"Finally, the last reason is dependence on the agricultural sector. It is undeniable that Lampung is one of the provinces that produce a lot of agricultural products, such as corn, rice, sticky rice and others. And the contribution in Lampung itself is up to 40% more, you can check on the BI website and there are statistics and others. And	The utterance is the last reason stated by the critic to complete his hypothesis. The critic claim that Lampung province is too dependent on the agricultural sector, while this agricultural sector is fluctuating and unstable in giving incomes.

	statistiknya dan lain-lain. Dan sektor ini tuh vulnerable ya, kayak fluktuatif gitu, nggak bisa stabil dan yang set harga kan yang di pusat juga gitu.”	this sector is vulnerable, it's fluctuating, it can't be stable and the price is set at the centre as well.”	
9.	“...dulu anjlok, kadang-kadang naik gitu. Eh mohon maaf, kadang-kadang bisa kayak kaya raya gitu. Orang Lampung bisa nyekolahkan anaknya ke luar negeri kak ya. Karena emg sektor pertanian ini sebenarnya kayak main binomo ya gue rasa rasa...”	“..there’s a time when the income goes down and up, like when the income is up the people in Lampung even can send their children to study abroad. Because the agricultural sector is actually like playing a gamble I think...”	The utterance uttered gives a picture to the hearer of how the agriculture sector has unstable incomes and affects the people live in there. The critic also stated that this is pretty similar to playing a gamble.

## 2. Expressive

Expressive speech is the act of using expressive verbal acts, such as thanking, forgiving, congratulating, criticizing, or praising, specifically when the speaker conveys the sentiment with intention (Searle, 1969).

Table 2. Expressive utterances

No	Utterance	Translation	Meaning
1.	“...Oke udah gue udah gedek banget ya udah next slide please..”	“...Alright I feel so pissed already, turn to the next slide please...”	The utterance uttered by the critic at the beginning of the video after the introduction shows how the critic has been annoyed with the Lampung government system for a long time. The verbal act shown in this utterance is a disappointment.
2.	“...Itu aliran dana dari pemerintah pusat itu ratusan milyar ya bestie dan gue gak tau tuh sekarang udah jadi tempat jin buang anak kali.”	“...all the flow of funds from the central government has reached hundreds of billions, yet the place now might be a haunted place”	This utterance was uttered when the critic talk about a stalled project in Lampung, Kota Baru. The verbal act shown in this utterance is criticizing and also regretting the wasted funds.
3.	“Aduh gedeg banget dah, next slide”	“Dang how pissed I am, next slide”	This utterance was uttered by the critic to

show his annoyed feeling to the hearer when he talked about the damaged road in Lampung. This utterance contains the disappointment of the critic.

### 3. Directive

Directive speech is the speech act performed to gain feedback from the hearer. When someone uses a directive speech act, they are asking the listener to follow their instructions, such as giving an order, demand, request, or piece of advice (Searle, 1969).

Table 3. Directive utterances

No.	Utterance	Translation	Meaning
1.	"..Ini apa sih? pemerintah main tangga atau apa?"	Ini ular "What is this? Is this the government playing snakes and ladders or what?"	This utterance contains implied meanings by the critic. It was uttered when the critic talked about the damaged roads in Lampung province. It's not the general question that needs an answer but an action. The utterance can be interpreted as the critic's request to the government to fix the roads.
2.	"Kayak dosen nitipin anaknya, rector nitipin ponakannya, ini apa sih ? Apa?!"	"It's like a lecturer taking his child, the chancellor taking his nephew, what is this? What?!"	The utterance was uttered when the critic talked about the fraudulence found in the education system in Lampung. The utterance interprets as a request from the critic to the Lampung government especially the people involves in the educational system to stop this kind of cheating.
3.	"..itu yang nyebarin siapa kalau bukan yang dari pemerintah, hah ? siapa? Nyokap gue? Gue?"	"...who scattered it if not from the government themselves, huh? Who? My mom? me?"	This utterance contains an implied meanings to stop scattering the answer keys or other fraudulence in the

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education system in  
Lampung.

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Table 4. Illocutionary Speech Acts in Bima Yudho Saputro's Critics of Lampung Government.

No.	Illocutionary Speech Act	Count	Percentage
1.	Representative	9	60%
2.	Directive	3	20%
3.	Commissive	0	0%
4.	Expressive	3	20%
5.	Declarative	0	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Discussion

The researchers found the total quantity of illocutionary speech acts in Bima Yudho Saputro's criticism of the Lampung government is 15 illocutionary speech acts. The representative utterance reached (60%) with 9 data, (20%) directive utterance with 3 data, (20%) expressive utterance with 3 data, and (0%) of commissive and declarative utterance in Bima's criticism. The result shows the illocutionary speech act in the criticism dominated by representative utterance or representative speech act. It means Bima as the critic mostly uttered the utterance to commit the validity of the proposition made by what he believes is true. This finding was supported by Cutting (2002: 17) who stated that representative speech or utterance are performances in which the word said what the speaker believes to be the case or not.

According to Rao, in *A Brief Study of Criticism and Its Forms* published in the Journal for Research Scholars and Professionals of English Language Teaching, the criticism that Bima did of the Lampung government is Constructive Criticism. Constructive criticism refers to demonstrating the rationale behind something already completed using different methods. It is assumed that a comparison purpose may be achieved in different ways than what used to be applied before. This also can be seen in the reaction of the hearer after the criticism has gone viral, as the form of speech act; *perlocution*. On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023, the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Jokowi, visited Lampung Province to validate the criticism from Bima about the damaged roads there. As a result of Bima's illocution, the roads in Lampung are under review and some are being repaired.

### CONCLUSION

This research aim to find the illocutionary acts produced in the criticism of Bima Yudho Saputro to Lampung Government. The result show the most frequent illocutionary speech act found in the data is representative. This indicates that Bima, the critic, mostly used his words to affirm the truth of a claim he made about something. Cutting (2002: 17) provided evidence to support this conclusion when he said that representative speech or utterance are performances in which the speaker's beliefs are expressed through the use of language. However, the result can be different in another criticism in a different topics and from different critics. In this research case, the critic intended to give a constructive criticism, thus the critic used more representative utterance to leave the hearer decided what they wants to believe.



This research might serve as a further resource for those who are interested in studying illocutionary acts in criticism to further pragmatic or sociolinguistic studies. This research can also be an object to be compared in the future research. The researcher suggested the readers to read this paper in order to give better contribution in understanding of illocutionary act used in criticism.

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