

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

As social human beings, people need to communicate with other individuals using verbal and nonverbal communication. Verbal communication is communication attitudes focusing on the spoken words. The other communication, nonverbal communication is communication behavior other than written or spoken language that creates meaning for someone. This includes body posture and movement, eye contact, facial expressions, vocal cues, use of personal space and territory, personal appearance, and the communication environment (Masterson, 1989).

Interaction using verbal communication or speech is needed because an individual learns other things especially language from other individuals. Each individual has different experiences of language. Every person has his/her own experiences of language though they are twins who are grown up and taught with the same attitudes in a family. They will produce their unique language and different language from each other.

Speech can present a personal image for others to evaluate, both through what one says and the way one says it (Brown and Levinson 1978 in Leech 1988: 115). Through speech, a person can do lots of cooperative activities, where everyone tries hard to help everybody else maintain his or her personal images. As an addressee, an individual tries hard to make sense of what other people say. On the other hand, an addresser tries to anticipate problems that the addressee may have in making sense of what an addresser say, by saying only what an addresser may reasonably expect addressee to understand.

In short, an addresser wants the addressee to understand what an addresser is talking about in a wide range of activities: conversations, quarrels, jokes, committee meetings, interviews, seductions, introductions, lessons, teasing, chit-chat and a host of others. Expressing someone's ideas, asking someone to do something, giving information, asking information are some purposes of utterances in daily conversation.

In order to make a good communication, the addressee should not only interpret the surface structure but also the deep structure. In other words, people do not only need to understand the grammar but also the meanings of utterances. To understand the meaning of utterances in real life, people can make use of their knowledge in semantics, syntax, phonology, and context. To produce an utterance, the addresser sets the concept of his/her topic in mind then the utterance is transferred from brain to speech production. The utterance is produced as a speech. An utterance "The door is open" can have many different functions depending on who says it, to whom, in what situation, and the intonation of the addresser. If it is said by a teacher to a pupil, the function might be directive function as an order. If it is said by a husband to a wife in midnight, the function might be expressive function as the expression of anxiety.

Speech function does not only occur in everyday life but also in a novel. Readers of a novel can find a lot of speech functions in the contents of a novel because a novel gives a description and variation of the real life in a society (Little, 1966:102). A novel leads the readers to feel what the author's ideas through the setting, the conversations through the imaginary characters, and their imaginary actions (Hawthorn, 1980:32).

This study investigates a novel written by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Her novel is chosen because it uses simple English sentences and a regional dialect to make the story more alive. Additionally, she writes some books for children and adults. *Secret Garden*

(1888) and *Sara Crew* (rewritten to become: *A Little Princess* (1909)) are some children novels best known today. *The Lass o' Lowrie's* and *A Lady of Quality* are some her notable adults novels. The writer is interested in Burnett's children novel entitled *Secret Garden* because this novel has been published in many countries and has been adapted to be a film. Through the suspense utterances of Mary Lennox, the writer tries to identify speech functions used in social interaction and a speech function which used more by this character. The suspense utterances are selected because people will not read the novel if there is no suspense. It means that suspense is an essential part to create a novel. Because of the reason, the writer wants to know speech functions of Lennox's suspense utterances.

Secret Garden is a children novel about the adventures of Mary Lennox in finding a secret garden among other walled gardens around her uncle's huge house and in helping her cousin to have a will to live. Lennox is a spoiled and sickly child who lives in India. Her parents died because of a cholera epidemic then she moves to Misselthwaite Manor to live with her rich uncle in England. This story also tells Lennox's friendship with Dickon and Colin. Dickon is a brother from a maid in Lennox's uncle house and also has an ability to speak to animals. He is different from Lennox because he gets attentions from his mother. Colin is Lennox's cousin. He is a child who has no will to live and thinks that he is a cripple person. His father gives all Colin needs but he abandons Colin.

In conclusion, individuals need to know the function of each utterance or speech function. They should know the speech whether the speech is a request, information, expression or other functions. Speech functions are really important to understand what an addresser says besides grammar. Without understanding the speech functions, an

addressee cannot identify the use of utterances. If an addressee does not understand the utterances of an addresser, the addressee will not reply or will not give an answer that the addresser wants. Based on the reasons above, the writer would like to find out the speech functions spoken by Lennox, and whether the addressee replies or does not reply the Lennox's utterances with appropriate answers. Further, the writer also wants to know a speech function that Lennox frequently uses.

1.2 Research Questions

The writer investigates speech function used by the character in *Secret Garden*.

The research questions are:

1. What speech functions does Mary Lennox use in social interaction?
2. Do the addressees reply Lennox's utterances with appropriate answers?
3. Which speech function does Mary Lennox frequently use?

1.3 Objective of the Study

In line with research questions, the writer intends to find out the speech functions Lennox uses in the social interaction, whether the addressee replies or does not reply the Lennox's utterances with appropriate answers, and a speech function that Lennox frequently uses.

1.4 Theoretical Framework

There are some theories underlying this study but one of the most important theories is the theory of speech function. Leech (1999:48) says that speech serves many functions shown in the larger systems of human society.

The kinds of speech functions are (Cook, 1990: 26):

1. **Emotive** function: communicating the inner states and emotions of the addresser,
2. **Directive** function: seeking to affect the behavior of the addressee,
3. **Phatic** functions: opening the channel or checking that it is working, either for social reasons or for practical ones,
4. **Poetic** function: in which the particular form chosen is the essence of the message,
5. **Referential** function: carrying information,
6. **Metalinguistic** function: focusing attention upon the code itself, to clarify it or renegotiate it,
7. **Contextual** function: creating a particular kind of communication.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

The findings of this study are expected to broaden and develop the English Department students' knowledge about speech functions in nineteenth century's novel. This study is aimed to the language users, especially the English Department students, to understand the speech functions well so they can reply or answer the addressee's utterance properly.

1.6 Scopes and Limitation of the Study

This study focuses on speech function spoken by Mary Lennox. The writer analyzes speech function because an addressee cannot identify the use of utterances without understanding speech functions. For the data, the writer uses an English novel

in nineteenth century written by Frances Hodgson Burnett entitled *Secret Garden*. The writer takes the dialogues of Lennox in some chapters that represent suspense. Suspense is the pleasurable anxiety the readers feel to make them still reading the novel.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

It is necessary to define several key terms applied in this study to make the reader easy to understand them.

1. Speech Function is the means of communication to express people's thoughts, such as: expressing someone's feelings, carrying information to other people, influencing other people's behaviors, keeping socialization, creating a particular kind of communication. The kinds of speech functions are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistics, poetic, phatic, and contextual functions (Cook, 1990:26).
2. Social interaction is communication between an individual and other individuals or communities in his/her surrounding with a certain topic, a setting, and a purpose.
3. Experiences of language are background knowledge and skills of language applied to understand other people's utterances and interpret new utterances (Masterson, 1989).
4. Speech is the action of expressing thought in spoken words in which there are participants (speaker and hearer), topic, purpose, and setting.
5. Addresser or speaker is the person who produces the message (Cook, 1990:25).
6. Addressee or hearer is the person to whom the message is directed (Cook, 1990:25).

1.8 Organization of the Study

This study consists of 5 chapters. Chapter I deals with Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Research Questions, Objective of the Study, Theoretical Framework, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation of the Study, Definitions of Key Terms and Organization of the Study. Chapter II presents Review of Related Literature, which consists of Related Theories and Related Study. Chapter III deals with Research Methodology. Chapter IV shows Findings and Discussion. Chapter V states Summary and Suggestions.