

THE ASSERTIVE ACTS IN SPIDER-MAN NO WAY HOME MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This qualitative research aimed at finding out the assertive acts. To fulfill the objective of this research, the researchers used Searle and Vanderveken's theory about assertive acts. The theory was applied to the "Spider-man No Way Home" movie as the data source. The movie was chosen because the characters mostly uttered the truth about the hero's struggles in the movie. In collecting the data, the researchers applied the observational method. This method was used to observe the use of language based on the context of an utterance and it was followed by a note-taking technique to get valid data. In analyzing the data, the researchers used the pragmatic identity method followed by the pragmatic competence in equalizing technique. This technique aimed to equalize the data with the theory pragmatically. Finally, the result was displayed narratively and descriptively. The researchers discovered twenty-three out of thirty-two acts of assertiveness. The acts were asserting, affirming, stating, denying, assuring, arguing, informing, reminding, objecting, predicting, reporting, suggesting, insisting, hypothesizing, guessing, swearing, admitting, confessing, accusing, blaming, praising, complaining, and boasting. The researchers did not find any claiming, disclaiming, rebutting, notifying, retrodicting, conjecturing, testifying, criticizing, or lamenting. The most frequently appeared was informing act. Characters' utterances contained more social meaning in conveying information to the interlocutors. The utterances were not only uttered by the speakers, who were the ones who got the effect, but also by the hearers. The utterances occurred because it was based on a situation that caused the speaker to express the statements.

Keywords: *assertive, pragmatics, utterance*

1. Introduction

Language is an important aspect of communication. Rogers and Kincaid (1981) declared that communication is the act of conveying a message from one person to another to inform and express opinions, either directly or indirectly through the media. With language, humans can also express a sentence and develop their knowledge by interacting with the environment so that the meaning of an utterance can be understood by a speech partner (Zega & Ambalegin, 2023).

In language use, there are elements of language or speech acts that are related to the form and choice of language variety, including who is speaking, with whom, about what, what kind of situation there is, what the purpose is, and all that affects the process of communication. This form of communication is pragmatically called a speech act that needs to be understood. A speech act arises because the speaker does not merely state speech; it can contain the meaning behind the speech. To understand speech acts, we not only treat language as a description of a situation or fact that is bound by truth conditions but also consider non-linguistic communication situations called context (Austin, 1962).

The assertive acts, one of the speech acts branches, is the focus of this research. Assertive acts involve telling the truth of the expressed proposition. When someone uses an assertive act, it means he or she expresses themselves honestly. These assertive acts work to state, suggest, boast, complain, claim, and report several speeches belonging to several acts of assertiveness (Leech, 1983).

Based on the explanation above, this research was triggered by issues that happened in society, such as social media. Assertive acts can be found in daily life which is a conversation between two speakers or more. An example was found

in the talk show, The Kelly Clarkson Show aired on March 22nd, 2022, on NBC. Daniel Radcliffe was invited to the talk show. They were Daniel as the speaker and Kelly as the hearer.

Daniel : "If you want to like, just, if you come to earth tomorrow and had quickly educate somebody about the last 30 years about of American culture, you could do worse than doing Simpsons."

Kelly : I'm just saying, it's a great show."

: ",

Kelly asked him if it was true that The Simpsons was how he learned about America. Daniel answered and described it clearly with a small joke. Then, Kelly responded by stating the sentence "I'm just saying, it's a great show." This indicates an assertive act and it is called a stating act. She stated the truth or the correctness of what she said, and everyone agreed with the statement.

The issue was reflected in the movie. A movie is a media that shows or visualizes the communication of speakers. Flick (2014) stated that movie is important media to be analyzed in society. In the movie, society interacts and communicates with each other. He also added that movie is a discursive part and practice of society, reflecting the condition and structures of society or individuals. A movie must be analyzed systematically based on the structures, scripts, texts, terms of production and perception, and social context (Flick, 2014). Therefore, the researchers chose Spider-man: No Way Home movie to analyze the utterances of the characters. This movie was released in 2021 and directed by Jon Watts. The movie was chosen because the characters mostly uttered the truth about the hero's struggles in the movie. Many utterances were spoken by the characters in this

movie. One of the utterances is below. The situation showed Peter was coming to Stephen's house to ask for help.

Stephen : "Because someone forgot to cast a monthly maintenance spell to keep the seals tight."

Wong : "That's right, he did, because he forgot I, now, have higher duty."

Stephen as a speaker and Wong as a hearer. Stephen came from nowhere and offended Wong. Wong responded with a boasting act that Stephen forgot that he has a higher duty than him. Wong used boasting words to respond to it and showed his pride to the interlocutor. It means that this issue is an act of assertiveness.

Some research has been studied by previous researchers related to this study. First, Ramadhan and Ambalegin (2022) analyzed the types of assertive acts uttered by the main character in Hacksaw Ridge movie. They used Searle's theory to analyze the data. They investigated the main character's utterances and obtained 28 utterances of assertive acts which contained asserting with 1 data, reporting with 11 data, complaining with 4 data, suggesting with 1 data, boasting with 2 data, explaining with 2 data, and denying with 7 data.

Second, Indrawati et al. (2021) analyzed assertive illocutionary in different data sources. Researchers used local tour guides' speeches in one of the tourism objects in Bali as the data source. By using Searle's theory, researchers analyzed four assertive. They found 31 utterances including informing with 15 data, stating with 2 data, expressing an opinion with 9 data, and reminding with 5 data.

Previous and present research analyzed assertive acts by using Searle's theory. After finding the issues, the researchers were interested in analyzing and examining more assertive acts.

Uniquely, what distinguishes it from previous research, the researchers used different data sources. Moreover, the researchers used Spider-man No Way Home movie as the data source. The purpose of this research was to analyze the assertive acts by using Searle and Vanderveken (1985)'s theory uttered in the movie.

2. Speech Acts

According to Searle (1969), the speech act is the smallest part of linguistic communication. He added, communication is not just a symbol, word, or sentence, but an utterance or result of a word or sentence symbol in the form of the implementation of speech acts. The speaker also has a purpose in mind when they talk that they want the listener to fulfill. This theory tends to examine the structure of the sentence. If someone wants to say something to someone else, then what he puts forward is the purpose of the sentence or the meaning itself. However, to deliver the meaning or intent, the person must put it in the form of a speech act.

Furthermore, Austin as cited in Birner (2013) stated that there are several types of speech acts, namely: locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. A locutionary speech act is an act to express something. The meaning of the speech is usually a fact or a real-life situation. In the locutionary speech act, the information conveyed is the truth. This speech act does not imply any hidden meaning behind the speech and does not require any specific responses or consequences from the interlocutor (Leech, 1983). According to Cutting (2002), an illocutionary speech act occurs when someone says something and performs an action that contains intent or meaning and embodies an expression. The illocutionary speech act is an act of doing something with a specific function and

purpose. This is usually related to saying thanks, ordering, offering, giving permission, and so on. It contains meaning and the function or power of speech. An illocutionary speech act is not easy to identify, it has to do with who speaks to whom, when, the situation, and where the speech is made. A perlocutionary speech act is an act of growing influence or effect on the speech partner. This act contains the power to do something by saying something. A perlocutionary speech act is more concerned with the result because this act is said to be successful if the speech partner does something related to the speaker's utterance.

2.1 Illocutionary Speech Acts

Leech (1983) said that there are five types of illocutionary speech acts based on Searle (1979)'s categories:

- a. Assertive acts are speech acts that describe circumstances or events, such as stating, boasting, suggesting, reporting, claiming, and complaining.
- b. Declarative acts are speech acts that can change the situation. These words change a person's status from ungraduated to graduate. This act includes dismissing, resigning, christening, naming, etc.
- c. Expressive acts are speech acts used by speakers to express feelings and attitudes toward something. This includes thanking, congratulating, blaming, condoling, etc.
Example: "Congratulation, Dicky! You are a dad now."
- d. Directive acts are language expressions used to direct the behavior of the listener, such as commands, requests, or invitations. They aim to influence the listener to do something or refrain from doing something.
- e. Commissives are speech forms that function to state something in the future, such as promises or threats. It

includes offering, promising, and vowing.

2.2 The Assertive Acts

According to Alston (2000), an assertive act is a type of speech act that requires the speaker to assert the truth of what they are saying. This means that the speaker is making a statement that they believe to be either true or false. Assertive is an act that states what the speaker believes to be the case or not. There are many different types of assertive acts, each with its unique features and characteristics. Some examples of assertive acts include stating, affirming, denying, and disclaiming. In order to understand the intent behind a speaker's assertive act, it is important to consider not just the words that they are using, but also the context in which they are speaking and how they are delivering their message.

To further classify assertive acts, Searle and Vanderveken (1985) introduced a list of thirty-two acts that fall under this category. Below are the explanations of each act of assertiveness identified by Searle and Vanderveken (1985).

- a. Asserting: involves making a statement about a certain fact or state of affairs.
- b. Claiming: involves stating that something is true or valid.
- c. Affirming: similar to asserting but used in more formal contexts and may carry additional connotations or implications.
- d. Stating: similar to asserting but used in more formal contexts and may carry additional connotations or implications.
- e. Denying: involves rejecting or disavowing a certain fact or claim.
- f. Disclaiming: involves rejecting or disavowing a certain fact or claim.
- g. Assuring: involves making a promise or giving a guarantee.
- h. Arguing: involves presenting evidence or reasons to support a particular claim or position.

- i. Rebutting: involves presenting evidence or reasons to refute a particular claim or position.
- j. Informing: involves providing information about a particular topic or issue.
- k. Notifying: involves informing someone about something that has happened or will happen.
- l. Reminding: involves bringing to someone's attention something that they may have forgotten or overlooked.
- m. Objecting: involves expressing disagreement or opposition to a particular claim or position.
- n. Predicting: involves making a prediction about something that will happen in the future.
- o. Reporting: involves providing information about something that has happened.
- p. Retrodicting: involves making a prediction about something that has already happened.
- q. Suggesting: involves proposing a particular course of action or solution to a problem.
- r. Insisting: involves strongly asserting a particular claim or position.
- s. Conjecturing: involves speculating about something that may or may not be true.
- t. Hypothesizing: involves proposing a possible explanation or solution to a problem based on limited evidence.
- u. Guessing: involves making a guess or estimation about something.
- v. Swearing: involves making a solemn declaration or oath.
- w. Testifying: involves giving evidence or testimony about something, typically in a legal or formal context.
- x. Admitting: involves acknowledging that something is true or valid.
- y. Confessing: involves admitting to something that one has done wrong or that is embarrassing.
- z. Accusing: involves making a claim that someone has done something wrong or illegal.
- aa. Blaming: involves assigning responsibility for a particular outcome or situation.
- bb. Criticizing: involves expressing disapproval or negative feedback about something or someone.
- cc. Praising: involves expressing admiration or approval for someone or something.
- dd. Complaining: involves expressing dissatisfaction or annoyance about a particular situation.
- ee. Boasting: involves bragging or boasting about one's accomplishments or abilities.
- ff. Lamenting: involves expressing sadness or regret about a particular situation or event.

3. Research Method

The researchers applied the descriptive qualitative method to conduct this research. Taylor et al. (2016) stated that qualitative research is in the form of research procedures or steps that aim to produce descriptive data either in written or oral form from the behavior of people who can be observed. Therefore, the utterances taken from the data source help the researchers to analyze the data in the form of written words based on the context of the utterance. For the result, this research showed the acts of assertiveness in written words descriptively.

The observational method was used in collecting the data by using Marshall and Rossman (2016)'s theory. They said that the observational method is done to observe the use of language. To get valid data, the researchers needed a technique to collect the data. The technique was the note-taking technique purposed by Sudaryanto (2015). He said that the note-taking technique is done by

noting the utterances on the data card which is immediately followed by classification and using certain writing instruments. The observation was begun by watching the movie from the beginning to the end. After watching the movie, the researcher transcribed conversations or utterances from the beginning of the movie to the end using the note-taking technique. Lastly, the researchers presented the data in the form of conversational text. This text simplifies the researcher in highlighting and analyzing the raw data.

Afterward, this research conducted a pragmatic identity method to analyze the data theorized by Sudaryanto (2015). The technique used was pragmatic competence in equalizing. This technique aims to equalize the data with the theory. The process began by highlighting the data. Before analyzing, the researchers wrote thirty-two acts by numbering the acts in order. Next, the researchers selected the utterances that contained the assertive acts and numbered the expressions at the beginning of the sentences. Lastly, the researchers analyzed the identified data and revealed the assertive acts in the form of narrative text.

4. Result and Discussion

4.1 Result

This research found 92 data of utterances in Spider-man No Way Home movie that contained assertive acts. The researchers discovered twenty-three out of thirty-two acts of assertiveness. There were asserting, affirming, stating, denying, assuring, arguing, informing, reminding, objecting, predicting, reporting, suggesting, insisting, hypothesizing, guessing, swearing, admitting, confessing, accusing, blaming, praising, complaining, and boasting. There were no claiming, disclaiming, rebutting, notifying,

retrodicting, conjecturing, testifying, criticizing, or lamenting. More detail, the results are shown in the table below.

Table 1. The Assertive Acts in Spider-Man No Way Home movie

The Assertive Acts	Frequency	Percentage
Informing	12	13%
Suggesting	11	12%
Complaining	8	9%
Stating	7	8%
Guessing	6	7%
Asserting	5	5%
Denying	4	4%
Assuring	4	4%
Reminding	4	4%
Insisting	4	4%
Swearing	4	4%
Arguing	3	3%
Objecting	3	3%
Accusing	3	3%
Predicting	2	2%
Reporting	2	2%
Admitting	2	2%
Praising	2	2%
Boasting	2	2%
Affirming	1	1%
Hypothesizing	1	1%
Confessing	1	1%
Blaming	1	1%
Total	92	100%

4.2 Discussion

1. Asserting

The expression occurred in the (00:12:35) - (00:12:40). The situation showed the crowd was growing closer and closer to Peter Parker and MJ after the bad news was informed. They kept their heads down as security guided them through. Ned followed along trying to protect Peter and MJ from the crowd. Below, Ned as the speaker started the dialogue toward the crowd,

and a random woman from the crowd as the hearer responded to it.

Ned : "Back off!"

Random : "Who are you?"

Woman

Ned : **"I'm Ned Leeds, I'm Spider-Man's best friend."**
(00:12:40)

The speaker made a statement toward the crowd to back off so that his friends were able to come through. The hearer responded to the statement with the question, "Who are you?" Then, the speaker answered the question, **"I'm Ned Leeds, I'm Spider-Man's best friend."** This utterance shows the asserting act because the speaker believed it to be true and in accordance with reality (Searle & Vanderveken, 1985). The speaker asserted the true statement in accordance with the facts that occur throughout the movie. The expression was found after the hearer addressed a question to the speaker and the answer from the speaker was the data found.

2. Affirming

The conversation began with the last moments of Quentin Beck's broadcast, from the end of the previous movie, on the big screen of the building, so that the crowd paid attention to it. Jameson, who was a broadcaster, made a statement related to an edited video and believed it was true. The expression was uttered by Jameson as the speaker and the viewers (including the crowd and Peter Parker) as the hearers.

Jameson : "There you have it, folks: conclusive proof that Spider-Man was responsible for the brutal murder of Mysterio! An interdimensional warrior who gave his life to protect our planet, and who will no

doubt go down in history as the greatest superhero of all time. But that's not all, folks. Here's the real blockbuster. Brace yourselves, you might wanna sit down."

Quentin Beck : "Spider-Man's real... Spider-Man's real name is... Spider-Man's name is Peter Parker!"

Peter Parker : "What the f!"

Jameson : **"That's right, folks. Peter Parker. A 17-year-old high school delinquent harbouring a homicidal hunger is in fact the vile vigilante villain Spider-Man."** (00:01:16)

The speaker uttered the expression between (00:00:44) - (00:01:16). The way he showed people the edited video confirmed that the information cannot be avoided. The utterance occurred after showing the short video of Quentin Beck and the speaker concluded the statement, **"That's right, folks. Peter Parker. A 17-year-old high school delinquent harboring a homicidal hunger is in fact the vile vigilante villain Spider-Man."** This utterance is an affirming act. The speaker affirmed a confirmation to the hearer about information that the speaker uttered, and the hearer cannot avoid the information.

3. Stating

The conversation happened between AVC as the speaker and Peter as the hearer. Doc Oct thought Peter Parker was his Peter Parker from another universe (Peter Two). Doc Oct caused chaos and attacked Peter Parker. Peter Parker saved the people around the bridge, including AVC (Assistant Vice

Chancellor) from MIT which he and his friends were about to join.

AVC : **"Peter... you're a hero."** (00:33:33)
Peter Parker : "No, well, I'm, No."

Peter Parker rescued AVC from the car that was about to fall into the river. Then, AVC uttered a statement. This statement is stating act. AVC said, **"Peter... you're a hero."** This utterance conveys the information based on the understanding and experience of the speaker and can be proven true. The utterance occurred because Peter Parker helped AVC out from the car.

4. Denying

The conversation took place under Sanctum Sanctorum, Strange's building. Peter Parker succeeded in arresting the bad guys in the cell. Peter Parker as the speaker assured to fix them, but Doc Oct as the hearer denied the statement. In the short dialogue below, there were Peter Parker as the speaker, and Max Dillon, Norman, and Doc Oct as the hearers.

Peter Parker : "I think I can help you guys. If I can fix what happened to you, then when you go back, things will be different, and you might not die fighting Spider-Man."
Max Dillon : "What do you mean fix us?"
Peter Parker : "Look, our technology is advanced, and I'm,"
Norman : "I can help you. You know, I'm something of a scientist myself. Octavius knows what I can do."
Doc Oct : **"Fix? You mean like a dog? I refuse."** (02:00:32)

The speaker tried to explain how to fix the hearers from their bad futures, so

they can go back to their families in another universe. Instead, the hearer refused the statement. Focused on Doc Oct as the hearer, he refused the explanation of the speaker. The hearer said, **"Fix? You mean like a dog? I refuse."** This means that the hearer asserted denying act. The utterance occurred when the speaker addressed an explanation and the hearer responded to it. The hearer refused the existence of the kindness of the speaker.

5. Assuring

The conversation happened in the forest. Peter tried to catch Max Dillon and put him in the teleportation cell. Somehow, Flint Marko reacted to the incident. He thought that Peter killed Max Dillon because Max Dillon suddenly disappeared with the magic-webbing of Peter. The conversation happened between Peter Parker as the speaker and Flint Marko as the hearer.

Peter Parker : "I can explain everything. **You just have to trust me, please just trust me.**"(00:46:19)
Flint Marko : "I don't trust you! I don't know you!"

Flint Marko thought that Peter Parker killed Max Dillon. It was just a misunderstanding. Then, Peter Parker tried to convince Max Dillon. Peter Parker as the speaker assured the hearer, by asserting an utterance, **"You just have to trust me, please just trust me."** The utterance is assuring act. The expression occurred when Flint Marko asked Peter Parker something out of doubt. Then, the hearer had to feel sure what the speaker uttered was a misunderstanding. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) added the perlocutionary intention of this act is to strengthen the illocutionary utterance

and convince the hearer about the doubt of the truth of the utterance.

6. Arguing

The conversation showed the situation of the characters in the middle of a mission. They tried to cure the bad guys, but the bad guys did not want to be cured and they tried to defend themselves. In the middle of the action, Peter Three as the speaker and Peter Two as the hearer in the conversation below.

- Peter Three : "What the hell is going on out there? I keep yelling at you, Peter-Two, Peter-Two, Peter-Two."
- Peter Two : "I know, but I thought you were Peter-Two."
- Peter Three : **"What?! I'm not Peter-Two!"** (01:45:44)
- Peter Parker : "Stop arguing! Both of you! Listen to Peter One. Look, we're clearly not very good at this!"

The conversation happened between (01:45:41) - (01:45:50). The speaker asked the hearer, why the hearer did not answer the speaker's yell. However, the hearer did not recognize who Peter Two was. The hearer thought that the speaker was Peter Two. Then, the speaker argued that statement by saying, **"What?! I'm not Peter-Two."** Here indicates an arguing act. It can be assumed, the arguing act occurred when the speaker responded to the hearer's answer. The speaker tried to against the statement from the hearer. This arguing act is strengthened by the next hearer, Peter Parker. The hearer said, "Stop arguing!"

7. Informing

The conversation happened in Sanctum Sanctorum. When Peter Parker asked Strange to solve his problem. In this case, Peter wanted to go back in time to when his problem started. Then, Strange cast one spell to make people forget something, not a spell to return to the past. The quoted conversation below consists of Strange as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer.

- Strange : "The Runes of Kof-Kol."
- Peter Parker : "The Runes of Kof-Kol?"
- Strange : **"Oh, it's just a standard spell of forgetting. It won't turn back time, but at least people will forget that you were ever Spider-Man."** (00:21:39)
- Peter Parker : "Seriously? That would be..."

The conversation started with the speaker's assertion. He said "The Runes of Kof-Kol." Peter parker was strange with these words. So, he asked for more information about it. Then, the speaker continued with complete information that the hearer did not know before. The speaker answered, **"Oh, it's just a standard spell of forgetting. It won't turn back time, but at least people will forget that you were ever Spider-Man."** It can be said that the utterance occurred when the hearer asked. The answer of the speaker showed informing act. The speaker informed the information that the hearer did not know what was being informed.

8. Reminding

The conversation happened in the forest, at night. The night was Max Dillon's arrest. In the middle of the mission, Flint Marko, the guy from the other universe (Sandman), appeared and helped Peter Parker by making the

sand wall whirl up. Then the face suddenly appeared toward Peter Parker. Below, the conversation started with Flint Marko as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer.

- Flint Marko : **"Peter, it's me! Flint Marko! You remember?"**
(00:44:08)
- Peter Parker : "I'm Peter, but I'm not your Peter."
- Flint Marko : "What do you mean you're not my Peter? What the hell is going on?"
- Peter Parker : "I'll explain everything. But first, can you help me stop this guy?"
- Flint Marko : "Okay."

In the conversation above, Peter Parker was shocked by the appearance of Flint Marco's face. Then, the speaker expressed an utterance to remind the hearer. The speaker said, **"Peter, it's me! Flint Marko! You remember?"** This utterance is a reminding act. This reminding utterance aimed to assert something with condition that the speaker might be forgotten things. Therefore, the speaker intended to remind the hearer. It can be assumed that the identified utterance occurred when the speaker expressed something.

9. Objecting

The conversation happened in the donuts shop. Peter entered the shop with an envelope in his hand. They gathered and were ready to open their MIT envelopes together at the same time.

- Peter Parker : **"This is so not fair. I mean, this is so not fair! I didn't do anything wrong. I mean, you guys definitely didn't do**

anything wrong."
(00:17:15)

MJ, Peter Parker, and Ned read MIT's results. The statement showed the rejection of the MIT application on their envelopes. Then, Peter Parker objected to it. He said, **"This is so not fair. I mean, this is so not fair! I didn't do anything wrong. I mean, you guys definitely didn't do anything wrong."** They should have been accepted to MIT. Therefore, the speaker stated the objecting act. This objecting act occurred after the issue of MIT's rejection letters Searle and Vanderveken (1985) said that objecting is an act to assert with additional preparatory conditions that some proposition which is incompatible with the propositional content that has been previously asserted.

10. Predicting

The conversation below happened in the ancient chamber, Sanctum Sanctorum. There were some guys from other universes arrested in the cell. In the conversation, there were Peter Parker as the speaker, and Max Dillon as the hearer below.

- Peter Parker : "I think I can help you guys. **If I can fix what happened to you, then when you go back, things will be different, and you might not die fighting Spider-Man.**" (01:00:13)
- Max Dillon : What do you mean 'fix' us?"
- Peter Parker : "Look, our technology is advanced."

According to Peter Parker, if he sent the guys back to their universes, they would be dead. Hence, Peter Parker as the speaker stated the utterance. It can be assumed that the utterance

occurred because the speaker responded to the current situation. This response is predicting act. The speaker responded, **"If I can fix what happened to you, then when you go back, things will be different, and you might not die fighting Spider-Man."** However, the hearer still doubted it. Next, the speaker responded with evidence that they had advanced technology to help them. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) stated that predicting is an act to assert something that the condition is future concerning the time of the utterance and with an addition that the speaker has evidence in support of the utterance.

11. Reporting

The conversation happened at Midtown High, the school where Peter Parker and his friends went to. There was chaos outside the front doors. There were reporters, fans, and protesters. This situation happened after the shocking news that Peter Parker killed Mysterio (the enemy from the previous sequel). The reporters reported the information regarding the situation outside the school. They reported the information through television. The scene started with reporter 1 as the speaker and the hearer as the viewer, because it was live on television.

Reporter 1 : **"The crowd has continued to grow here all morning long at the Midtown School of Science and Technology."**
(00:12:08)

The speaker asserted the utterance about the chaos outside the school. This bold utterance is reporting act. This act is an expression to report something to the viewer in the past. It can be said, the utterance occurred

because of the current situation. He said, **"The crowd has continued to grow here all morning long at the Midtown School of Science and Technology."** The speaker reported about the crowd at the front doors had continued to grow. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) strengthened that reporting act is an utterance to report something or it can be about the past or present, but it cannot in general be about the future.

12. Suggesting

The conversation happened on top of the bridge. There were MJ as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer. The people of the whole city were on them. It happened after the shocking news revealed Peter Parker's identity.

MJ : **"We should go. We should go, come on!"** (00:02:25)
Peter Parker : "But you said you don't want to swing."

MJ as the speaker started the conversation. The crowds looked at them. MJ was not comfortable. So, he asked Peter Parker to swing her and go. It can be said that the utterance occurred because of the situation that happened and made the speaker utter something. She said, **"We should go. We should go, come on!"** This utterance is a suggesting act. It contains something that suggests the hearer should do and can be considered.

13. Insisting

The situation showed that Peter Parker was having a phone call with Flash. As he knew that Flash got into MIT, he asked Flash where was the MIT lady. Thus, he could meet the MIT lady and talk about consideration of his friends' acceptance. However, in this

situation, Flash was hard to work with. In the conversation, there were Flash as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer.

Flash : "What's in it for me? I'm risking a lot just talking to you."
 Peter Parker : "Okay, I will, um... pick you up and swing you to school for one week?"
 Flash : "For a month."
 Peter Parker : "For a week."
 Flash : "Two weeks."
 Peter Parker : "Flash, please come on, help me!"
 Flash : "**You know what I want.**" (00:26:44)
 Peter Parker : "Okay, I'll tell everyone that you're my best friend. Flash, please help me!"
 Flash : "Cool, cool, cool."

The conversation started with the speaker refusing the request from the hearer. The hearer understood that the speaker needed something. Thus, the hearer offered several things, so that the speaker was willing to cooperate. Instead, the speaker insisted on the hearer by demanding the hearer more. The speaker said, "You know what I want." This response contains insisting act. It can be said that this utterance occurred when the speaker responded to the hearer's statement. The speaker tried to insist on the hearer more than the speaker offered. Finally, the hearer agreed to tell everyone that Peter Parker was Flash's best friend.

14. Hypothesizing

The conversation took place at the upper scaffolding of the Statue of Liberty. Doc Oct dropped Max Dillon onto the scaffolding gently after Max

Dillon was tapped out. It meant that Max Dillon became an ordinary person and was cured. Peter Three was dropped down beside him. Max Dillon as the speaker started the conversation and Peter Three as the hearer.

Max Dillon : "You gotta nice face. You just a kid."
 Peter Three : "Um"
 Max Dillon : "You from Queens. You got that suit. You help a lot of poor people. **I just thought you was gonna be Black.**" (01:52:47)
 Peter Three : "Oh man, I'm sorry."

The speaker started the conversation with some reasons or evidence. These reasons lead to the hypothesizing utterance. Which was uttered, "I just thought you was gonna be Black." The speaker hypothesized to think that Peter Three was Black. Hypothesizing act requires at least some evidence or other sort of reason, therefore this utterance is hypothesizing act.

15. Guessing

The conversation took place in the ancient chamber, Sanctum Sanctorum. There were some guys from other universes arrested in their cells. In the conversation, there were Curt Connors as the speaker, and Max Dillon as the hearer below.

Curt Connors : "Speaking of which, what happened to you? Last I recall, you had bad teeth, glasses, and a comb-over. Did you get a makeover? You know I can give you a real makeover."
 Max Dillon : "**Let me guess, into a lizard?**" (00:47:11)
 Curt Connors : "Exactly!"

The speaker asked multiple questions to the hearer. The speaker said that he could give the hearer a real makeover. Then, the hearer responded, “**Let me guess, into a lizard?**” This utterance occurred because of the questions, and someone needs to respond with the answer. This kind of response is a guessing act. The speaker responded with the expression that it was true. It strengthened with the English assertive, guess. Guessing act aims to estimate or suppose without sufficient information to be sure of being correct.

16. Swearing

The conversation happened in the ancient chamber, Sanctum Sanctorum. There were Peter Parker as the speaker, and Strange as the hearer. Strange began to cast the spell that made everyone forget who Peter Parker was. The conversation started at 00:24:08 below.

Peter Parker : “**Okay, I’m done. I’m done. I swear I’m done. I’m done.** Ah! But my Aunt May should really know!” (00:24:03)

Strange : “Peter, stop tampering with the spell.”

Strange stated that everyone would forget that Peter Parker was Spider-Man. Peter Parker requested his girlfriend and Ned still remembered him. He forgot to include his aunt May. Strange readjusted the spell many times. He told Peter Parker to not change the spell anymore. Then, Peter Parker responded, “**Okay, I’m done. I’m done. I swear I’m done. I’m done.**” This utterance is a swearing act. The speaker committed something to the hearer that he swore that he was

done. This act refers to the ways of confirming that the speaker is telling the truth. The utterance has an English assertive ‘swear’ in it. It is strengthened to identify the expression.

17. Admitting

The conversation happened in New York City. Jameson did live on The Daily Bugle program and face timing with a Peter Parker appearance. The broadcast was played on a TV in a restaurant and on giant video billboards in Time Square. They discussed the mess Peter Parker made. Below, there are Jameson as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer.

Jameson : “Ladies and gentlemen, the Bugle tip line has just received a call from none other than the fugitive known as Spider-Man! Fresh from his rampage in Queens. So, Peter Parker. What pernicious propaganda are you peddling?”

Peter Parker : “Just the truth.”

Jameson : “Oh sure.”

Peter Parker : “The truth is, that this is all my fault.”

Jameson : “Hmm.”

Peter Parker : “**I accidentally brought those dangerous people here.**” (01:39:16)

Jameson : “Well, he admits it!”

Jameson as the speaker, asked the hearer, “What pernicious propaganda are you peddling?” Then, the hearer answered the truth that it was his fault. However, the speaker seemed to disbelieve it. Then, the speaker continued, “I accidentally brought

those dangerous people here.” The speaker confessed the expression to be true or to be the case. In some way, it was connected to the speaker. Therefore, this utterance is admitting act. Admitting is an act to assert with the additional preparatory conditions that the state of affairs represented by the propositional content is bad (Searle & Vanderveken, 1985).

18. Confessing

The setting took place on a midtown rooftop. Peter Parker was accompanied by Ned, MJ, Peter Two, and Peter Three. Below consists of Peter Parker as the speaker.

Peter Parker : **“She’s gone. And it’s all my fault. She died for nothing. So I’m gonna do what I should have done in the first place.”**

This happened after May’s death. MJ and his friends felt sorry about his loss. Then, Peter Parker uttered something. **“She’s gone. And it’s all my fault. She died for nothing. So I’m gonna do what I should have done in the first place.”** This utterance showed a confessing act. He confessed that it was his fault. He would make up for the mistake he had made. Confessing is to admit something, and the speaker is responsible for his certain affair (Searle & Vanderveken, 1985).

19. Accusing

The conversation happened in the hall of Sanctum Sanctorum. Peter Parker invited MJ and Ned to help him arrest the bad guys. In the conversation, there were Ned as the speaker, and Strange as the hearer below.

Ned : “So, how did the bad guys get here?”

Strange : **“He screwed up a spell trying to get you into college.”** (00:37:48)

Ned as the speaker started the conversation. He asked Peter Parker how the bad guys were arrested. Instead of the answer from Peter Parker, Strange as the hearer answered the question, “He screwed up a spell trying to get you into college.” Strange accused Peter Parker that this all happened because of Peter Parker. Peter Parker must be responsible for his chaos. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) said that an accusing act is to assert something to someone that the content predicates responsibility for the existence of the state of affairs. Therefore, the bold utterance above is an accusing act.

20. Blaming

The conversation took place at the Statue of Liberty, upper scaffolding. Doc Oct dropped Max Dillon onto the scaffolding gently after Max Dillon was tapped out. It meant that Max Dillon became an ordinary person and was cured. Peter Three was dropped down beside him. Max Dillon as the speaker started the conversation and Peter Three as the hearer.

Max Dillon : “You from Queens. You got that suit. You help a lot of poor people. I just thought you was gonna be Black.”

Peter three ; “Oh man, I’m sorry.”

Max Dillon ; “No, no, don’t apologize. There’s gotta be a Black Spider-Man somewhere out there. **Goddamn eels.**” (01:52:59)

The speaker hypothesized that he thought the hearer was Black. Then, the hearer apologized to the speaker. However, the speaker refused it. This

was not Peter Three fault. He continued, **“Goddamn eels.”** The speaker uttered blaming act because the speaker assigns responsibility for a fault or wrong. This expression is done by the speaker’s thought, not toward the hearer.

21. Praising

The conversation below happened before the battle. The scene took place around the scaffolding of the Statue of Liberty. The dialogue involved Peter Three as the speaker and Peter Two as the hearer.

- Peter Three : “I’m lame. Compared, like, I fought a Russian guy in, like, a rhinoceros machine.”
- Peter Two : “Can we wind it back to the “I’m lame” part? Cause you are not.”
- Peter Three : “Aw, thanks. No, yeah, I appreciate it. I’m not saying, “I’m lame.” I’m just saying, like,”
- Peter Two : “But it’s just the self-talk maybe we should, you know,”
- Peter Three : “Yeah, listen, uh.”
- Peter Two : **“Cause you’re... you’re amazing.** Just to take it in for a minute.” (01:42:38)
- Peter Three : “Yeah, yeah, yeah, I can take it in. I can take it in.”

Peter Three as the speaker started the conversation by stating that he was lame. However, Peter Two as the hearer convinced him that Peter Three was not lame. Instead, Peter Two said, **“Cause you’re... you’re amazing.”** This utterance is called a praising act because the hearer expressed the warm approval and admiration of the speaker. It can be assumed that the speaker must utter this expression

because of the hearer’s statement. The hearer praised the speaker and said that the speaker was amazing.

22. Complaining

The conversation below happened on New York streets. The conversation involved MJ as the speaker and Peter Parker as the hearer. After the big news about Peter Parker, MJ and Peter Parker felt unsafe in society. Then, Peter parker swung MJ repeatedly.

- MJ : **“I told you I never wanted to do this ever again!”** (00:01:49)
- Peter Parker : “MJ, I’m so sorry, but I can’t see anything with your hand in my,”

MJ tired of Peter Parker swung her again. MJ felt it was dangerous. Then, MJ uttered a sentence, **“I told you I never wanted to do this ever again!”** This utterance is a complaining act. MJ complained about Peter Parker swinging her again. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) explained complaining speech is speech that expresses or reflects the suffering and hurt of a situation.

23. Boasting

The conversation happened in Stark’s Lab. Peter Two spit out the web from his own hands. There were Ned was the speaker and Peter Two was the hearer involved in the conversation below.

Ned	:	“That came out of you!”
Peter Two	:	“Yeah. You can’t do that, huh?” (01:37:58)

Ned as the speaker uttered the statement, **“That came out of you!”** He was amazed by what Peter Two did. Then, Peter Two responded to the statement. He said, **“Yeah. You can’t do that, huh?”** This expression is a

boasting act. The utterance contains an expression that shows pride.

5. Conclusion

This research analyzed assertive acts as the aim of this research. Spider-man No Way Home movie was the data source used in this research. The utterances were spoken by characters in the movie as the data analysis. This research found 92 data of utterances in Spider-man No Way Home movie that contained assertive acts. The researchers discovered twenty-three out of thirty-two acts of assertiveness. There were asserting, affirming, stating, denying, assuring, arguing, informing, reminding, objecting, predicting, reporting, suggesting, insisting, hypothesizing, guessing, swearing, admitting, confessing, accusing, blaming, praising, complaining, and boasting. There were no claiming, disclaiming, rebutting, notifying, retrodicting, conjecturing, testifying, criticizing, or lamenting. Informing act was the most frequently uttered by the characters in "Spider-Man No Way Home" movie. Characters' utterances contained more social meaning in conveying information to the interlocutors.

The utterances were not only uttered by the speakers, who were the ones who got the effect, but also by the hearers. The utterances occurred because it was based on a situation that caused the speaker to express the statements. The speakers showed confidence in presenting their views or factual information, using assertive behavior to communicate in an honest and direct manner. They were not hesitant or passive in expressing themselves, but rather displayed a strong and confident approach.

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