A Speech Act Analysis of the First Speech of Imran Khan as Prime Minister

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Headings

Abstract   *This paper aims to highlight the speech acts which have been working behind the first speech that has delivered by Imran Khan as Prime Minister of Pakistan at 26, July 2018. It is a political discourse that attracts the researcher's interest. The objective of this paper is to answer what type of speech acts have been used by Imran Khan, the overlapping of what speech acts occur in Imran Khan's speech and what direct and indirect speech acts have been used by Imran Khan. The findings revealed that his speech includes representative acts (27.083%), expressive acts (1.041%), declarative acts (7.291%), directive acts (25%), commissive acts (39.583%) out of the total 100% of data. This paper-based on both qualitative and quantitative analysis of discourse. The framework employed in this study is the Speech Act theory that has introduced by J.L Austin in 1962 and further developed by J.R Searle (1969).*

Key Words: Locutionary Act, Illocutionary Act, Perlocutionary Act, Speech Act Analysis, Direct Speech Acts, Indirect Speech Acts

Introduction

People who express themselves produce the utterances that contain words and grammatical structures and also perform some actions via those utterances that are called speech acts. Speech acts are generally known as the acts of communication and the acts that are performed via utterances. The speech act has its roots in the work of Searle (1969) and Austin (1962). The speech act theory may be described as "How to do things with words theory".

The purpose of this study is to explore the categories of speech acts, overlapping of the categories of speech acts, and direct and indirect speech acts that are working behind the first speech of Imran Khan as Prime Minister of Pakistan. Since the speeches that are delivered by politicians mainly concerned with making people believe what they are saying and the speech acts play the most significant role in it, by doing speech act analysis of political speeches of politician's researchers can come to know their intended meanings behind the speech.

Speech Act theory was introduced by J.L Austin and further developed by Searle, and Bach and Harnish. According to Austin (1962), locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary are three classes of speech acts. When a speaker produces an utterance, this act of producing that utterance is caller locutionary act. A conventional force is achieved when a speaker produces or say that an utterance, this is called illocutionary act. An effect on actions, feelings and thoughts of listeners is called the perlocutionary act.

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Nowadays, an illocutionary act is regarded as the real action that is performed via utterances and its effect on the listeners is called the perlocutionary effect. According to Austin (1962), the centre of his theory is an illocutionary act. Non-linguistic and extra-linguistic knowledge is very much important for clear understanding and production of certain utterances. This theory cannot be understood without pragmatics because we cannot understand an utterance without a suitable context. Speaker and listener relationship, speaker's choice of linguistic form and speaker's communicative competence cover the scope of pragmatics.

There are five types that are studied in Speech Act theory and are described as five classes of illocutionary act by Searle (1969) and are classified according to the functions performed. These are representative, expressive, directive, commissive and declarative. This paper has also analyzed the selected speech of Imran Khan according to these classes of speech act theory, as mentioned above, and these classes of speech acts can overlap with each other.

Another classification of Speech Acts is according to their structure. These are (1) declarative (2) interrogative and (3) imperative speech acts. However, direct speech acts are those in which there is a direct relation between structure and function of speech act and indirect speech acts are those in which there is an indirect relation between structure and function of speech acts. Indirect speech acts, speakers explicitly illustrate the intended meanings that work behind speaker's utterances and indirect speech acts are those that are 'performed by means of another' according to Searle.

By conducting the speech act analysis of political discourse, researchers can explore the implied meanings and net of meaningful structures working behind the utterances of politicians. This paper aims to explore these hidden meanings through the structure of the language used by a politician of Pakistan, Imran Khan who is PM of Pakistan now.

Literature Review

Simon and Cartis (2014) have not only identified the speech acts that have used in the written advertisement, but they have also classified and analyzed those speech acts. For this purpose, the researchers have performed the quantitative analysis on a corpus of 84 written advertisements that have selected from various magazines and newspapers. The study revealed that advertisers use many types of macro and micro speech acts in order to get their aims. In order to determine the psycho-social situation of Egypt, Asadu (2013) has conducted the speech act analysis of the speeches of Hosni Mubarak. The researcher has used Austin's felicity conditions in order to analyze the speech acts of ex-president Hosni Mubarak. The research has concluded that the speech acts (SAs) of ex-president is infelicitous.

Altikriti (2011) has conducted a speech act analysis of three short stories, namely, *Acme, Post Haste* and *The Happy Prince.* The researcher has identified that several studies regard speech act theories as one of the most significant elements to study pragmatics. The researcher has analyzed the selected short stories pragmatically by employing speech act theory. The findings of the research have revealed that a short story can be analyzed pragmatically, just like novels and dramas. And the frequency of illocutionary forces found within each speech act varies from one text to another text.

Adetunji (2009) has investigated the rhetoric, and speech acts in the address of George W.

Bush, president of America, and the 'Second Inauguration Address' of Olusegun Obasanjo, president of Nigeria.

Rudyk (2007) has examined the speech of George W. Bush and the power relations in his speech. The speech studied the abuse of power in the United States of America and the Iraqi war and studied its effect on the recipients. Similarly, Pu (2007) investigated how the rhetoric and linguistic strategies are deployed in the speech of President George W. Bush that he has delivered at Tsinghua University of China.

Adegoji (2005) also conducted a study on political discourse. This study has described numerous ways of using language in order to promote and defend the group and personal interests, and in order to subvert

the goals of the opponents. Opeibi (2004) has conducted his study in order to investigate the speeches of politicians on how they use the English language in order to achieve their goals and made their communication effective. He conducted a political discourse study on the use of English language in the presidential election campaign in Nigeria in 1993.

Skoniecki and Colllege (2004) had examined the speech of the president of the United States of America Ronald Regan when he was calling the people of the world and the West Berlin in order to take action against communism. Bullock (2003) has examined all the rhetorical strategies that were employed by George W. Bush president, and his purpose was the persuasion for the prosecution of the war of Iraq, and in order to justify the prosecution of America in the war of Iraq.

Wiredu (1996) has investigated the style that was opted by the politicians of Nigeria for their language. He has also investigated their numerous persuasive strategies in order to sway the electorate. Awonusi (1996) has also conducted his study in order to examine the political discourse, its features and strategies used by politicians that they use in the text of the election campaign.

The above literature review shows that the researchers have conducted an analysis of advertisements, short stories and even political discourses and they have also employed speech acts theory in order to conduct the analysis, but no one has conducted the speech act analysis of

Imran Khan's political speech and no one has conducted the speech act analysis in order to see the direct and indirect speech acts as well as the overlapping of the types of speech act.

Research Questions

This research article aims at finding out the following research questions
1. What types of speech acts have been used by Imran Khan in his speech?
2. Overlapping of what types of speech acts occur in Imran Khan Speech?
3. What direct and indirect speech acts have been used by Imran Khan?

Methodology

The type of this study is both qualitative and quantitative in nature means mixed methodology has used in this research. The researcher has analyzed the data that have been selected from Imran Khan's speech that he has delivered on 26 July, 2018. The researcher has translated the speech into English and has selected 50 utterances from the selected speech for the speech act analysis. The researcher has selected those specific 50 utterances because in those utterances Imran Khan has expressed almost all the significant plans that he wanted to fulfil and one by one he has presented them before the nation.

The researcher has used a simple percentage method in order to present the data quantitatively in the form of tables. The data has presented quantitatively in the form of tables and chart. In this paper, the researcher has used the speech act analysis in order to conduct the qualitative analysis of selected fifty utterances of political speech because by doing so it would be possible to explore his hidden intentions and states of mind of the speaker. The framework employed in this study is the Speech Act theory that has been given by J.L Austin in 1962, and then it has been further developed by Searle (1969).

Framework

The framework that has employed in this study is the speech act theory that has introduced by J.L Austin (*How to Do Things with Words*, 1962), and it was further developed by J.R Searle (1969), who was an American philosopher. Speech act theory is central to pragmatics and in order to interpret the functions and meanings of words that work behind different speeches can only be interpreted by this tool called speech act theory. Through the use of words various actions are performed by words or a particular act is performed when words are being used and utterances are being made these are called speech acts.

According to Austin (1962), there are three aspects of speech acts that are: locutionary act (the production of meaningful linguistic expression), illocutionary act(there is always some kind of action in an utterance that we form, and an utterance has a communicative force and an illocutionary act is performed by that communicative force of an utterance), perlocutionary act(an utterance has an effect on the feelings, thoughts and attitudes of a listener that effect is called the perlocutionary act, so it is an effect of an utterance). According to Searle, five classes of illocutionary act that are explained below:

1. Representatives: These are the kinds of speech acts, that commit speakers to state what he/she believes to be the case or not. It uses verbs such as a report, concludes, denies, believes and affirms.
2. Expressive: These are those kinds of speech acts that tell us about speaker's attitude, psychological state by using verbs such as regret, welcome, thank, congratulate, detest, appreciate, deplore.
3. Directive: When speakers want someone else to do something, they perform directive speech act by using words such as invite, request, command, beg, challenge, ask, dare and insist.
4. Commissive: When speakers want to commit themselves to some future actions, they perform commissive speech acts, with verbs such as pledge, swear, warrant, vow, promise, guarantee, undertake.
5. Declarations: These speech acts can change the world via utterances; the speaker can alter the condition of a situation by making the utterance. For example, I pronounce you husband and wife.

According to Austin (1962), speech acts have also classified on the basis of their structures; these are imperative, declarative and interrogative speech acts. Speech acts may be direct and indirect. When there is a direct relationship between function and structure of speech acts, they are called direct speech acts. On the other hand, when there is an indirect relation between structure and function of speech acts, these are called indirect speech acts.

Data Analysis

Section A

This section has analyzed the data that have selected from the speech of Imran Khan. This section has given explained answers to all the research questions. As mentioned earlier, the researcher has selected fifty utterances of Imran Khan from his speech. The researcher has also given an explanation of about those fifty utterances in data analysis according to the classes of speech acts. Utterance wise speech act analysis (at clause level) is given, and this section A includes the qualitative representation of data as given below:

1. "If Allah wills, I will prove it to you that this is going to be the first government in which there will be no political victimization towards any of my opponents." (direct commissive, undertake, illocutionary act)
2. "The rule of law will apply equally to my supporters and those who are not." (direct commissive, undertake, and indirect declarative, illocutionary act)
3. "We will establish the supremacy of the law, that whoever violates the law we will act against them." In this sentence, there are two clauses and analysis has conducted at the clause level now. The first clause "we will establish the supremacy of the law" is direct commissive, (undertake), the second clause, "that whoever violates the law we will act against them" is both direct commissive and indirect directive as there are direct commitment and indirect warning also. Therefore, in this clause, there is an overlapping of two macro classes.
4. "Whoever violates the law of this country, anybody who is strong or weak, rich or poor, we will take action against them." This is direct commissive (undertake), and indirect directive as there is an indirect warning to those who violate the laws.

5. "If Allah wills, I will prove it to you our state institutions will be strong that they will stop corruption." (direct commissive, undertake)
6. "These organizations will keep a check on the government, on Imran Khan, and on his ministers." (direct commissive, undertake and indirect directive, warning)
7. "Accountability will start with me then from ministers, and then it will trickle down." (indirect directive, warning and direct commissure, undertake)
8. "If in Pakistan the corruption is eating the country like the ailment of cancer, the reason is they have a law for the government in power, and there is another law which is outside." (Direct representative, belief, and indirect directive, warning).
9. "Those who are in the opposition accountability are for them." (Direct directive, command)
10. "If Allah wills, we will set an example of how the law is same for everyone." (Direct commissive, undertake and indirect directive, command)
11. "If the west is ahead of us today their biggest advantage is their laws are not discriminatory, the supremacy of law is there, the more civilized society, the stronger their institutes are going to be." It has three parts, one is "if the west is ahead of us today their biggest advantage is their laws are not discriminatory", this is direct representative, and the second part is, "supremacy of law is there", it's again direct representative ", the last one is "the more civilized society, the stronger their institutes are going to be", it's again direct representative. All are indirect commissive.
12. "This will be our bigger guiding principle in Pakistan." (direct commissive, undertake)
13. "If Allah wills, we will establish an organization in this country which if Allah wills takeover all the governance system until the governance system is not improved the investment is not going to come to our current economic challenge in the history." (the first part, "if Allah wills, we will establish an organization in this country", is direct commissive, and the second part that is, "which if Allah wills takeover all the governance system", it is again direct commissive, and the third part of the above sentence
14. that is, "until the governance system is not improved the investment is not going to come to our current economic challenge in the history", this is both direct representative
15. and indirect directive.
16. "The biggest challenge we are facing is the economic crisis." (Direct representative, belief and locutionary act).
17. "We have never had such a huge fiscal deficit."(direct representative, belief and
18. locutionary act)
19. "There was never a trade deficit in Pakistan." (Direct representative, belief, and locutionary act).
20. "We have never taken this much loan in the history of Pakistan." (Direct representative, belief and locutionary act).
21. "The value of rupee was never this low in comparison to the dollar." (Direct representative, belief, and locutionary act)
22. "All of this is because our economy is going down." (Direct representative, belief and a locutionary act).
23. "Because of dysfunctional institutions, our economy is going down." (direct
24. representative, belief and indirect directive, command)
25. "We need to fix our governance system." (direct representative, belief) (Direct representative and indirect commissive, commitment) in this utterance, and there is an overlapping of three macro classes.
26. "We need to make an atmosphere for doing business." (Direct representative, belief) (indirect directive, command) (Indirect commissive, commitment).
27. "We will have to fix the cost of doing business and ease of doing business." (direct commissive, undertake, and indirect directive, command).

28. "I think our greatest asset is our overseas Pakistanis." (Direct representative, and locutionary act).
29. "We will fix governance and invite them to invest in this country:" (direct commissive, undertake).
30. "Until today if overseas Pakistani did not invest in the country the way they should have done, the reason behind that is corruption has destroyed Pakistanis institutions."(Direct representative, belief and indirect directive, command).
31. "Because of corruption people prefer investing in Dubai and Malaysia, but they did not
32. invest in Pakistan." (Direct representative, belief, and locutionary act).
33. "Our second problem is unemployment." (direct representative, belief, and indirect commissive, undertake)
34. "We have the second youngest population in the world, they need jobs, and unless we get investment in the country how can we get employment for them?" (First part in this utterance is direct representative that is, "we have the second youngest population in the world", and then the second part "they need jobs", is direct representative and indirect commissive, and "unless we get investment in the country how can we get employment for them", is direct directive, 'asking').
35. "I in front of you am telling this we will run Pakistan in a way it has never been run
36. before." (Direct commissive, undertake and indirect directive).
37. "We will give governance to this country in a way that has never been done before."
38. (direct commissive, undertake and indirect directive, command)
39. "And we will start with ourselves." (Direct commissive, undertake, and indirect declarative).
40. "We will bring us under the department." (Direct commissive, undertake, and indirect declarative).
41. "We will establish simplicity." (Direct commissive, undertake and indirect declarative)
42. "I pledge today in front of you all rulers who have come so far they spend money on themselves, on their glory lifestyle, on big missions, they spend money on foreign trips." (Direct commissive, pledge).
43. "The way our ruling elite spends money how will anyone pay tax?" (direct directive, asking a question).
44. "A country that takes a big amount of charity in the world pays the lesser amount of tax in the world." (Direct representative, belief).
45. "Because they see how our ruling elite spends that money on themselves, they stole, spend on them, laundering their money." (Direct representative, conclude).
46. "If Allah wills, I pledge in front of you, I promise that I will protect the people's tax money." (Direct directive, pledge and promise).
47. "We will cut our expenses." (Direct commissive, undertake and indirect declarative).
48. "I am telling you here that the Prime Minister houses this huge mansion, a country where there are so many poor people, I will be embarrassed to go and live in PM house, in such a big mansion." (Direct, expressive, sympathy).
49. "Our government will decide what we are going to do with PM house." (Direct commissive, undertake and indirect directive, command).
50. "We will use it as an educational institute." (Direct commissive, undertake, and indirect declarative).
51. "We will take a small and simple place for the PM to live; all governor houses will be used for the public." (This has two clauses the first clause, "we will take a small and simple place for the PM to live", is direct commissive, and the second clause, "all governor houses will be used for the public" is direct commissive and indirect directive and indirect declarative also).
52. "We will convert Nathia Gali's governor house into a hotel so that we will get income from it for the public." (The first clause, "we will convert Nathia Gali's house into a hotel", is both direct commissive and indirect directive and indirect declarative, and the second clause, "so that we will get income from it for the public", is direct commissive and indirect representative).

53. "Everywhere where ever there are resorts and rest houses will be used commercially so that it can earn money for the residents." (the first clause is direct commissive and indirect directive, and the second clause that is, "so that it can earn money for the residents", is direct representative).
54. "My point is that we have seen in Pakistan so far the way the ruling elite has lived off the country's taxes". (Direct representative, conclude).
55. "If Allah wills, I promise you I will change it, I will start it from myself, from my ministers and from the parliamentarian." (The first clause, 'if Allah wills, I promise you I will change it", is direct commissive, and the second clause, "I will start if from myself, from my ministers and from the parliamentarian", is direct commissive and indirect directive).
56. "We will tell the nation that we've to come out from this economic crisis; no one outside will come and save us." (the first clause "we will tell the nation that we've to come out from this economic crisis", is direct commissive, and the second clause, "no one outside will come and save us", is direct representative and indirect directive, warning)
57. "We will have to strengthen our institutions." (Direct directive).
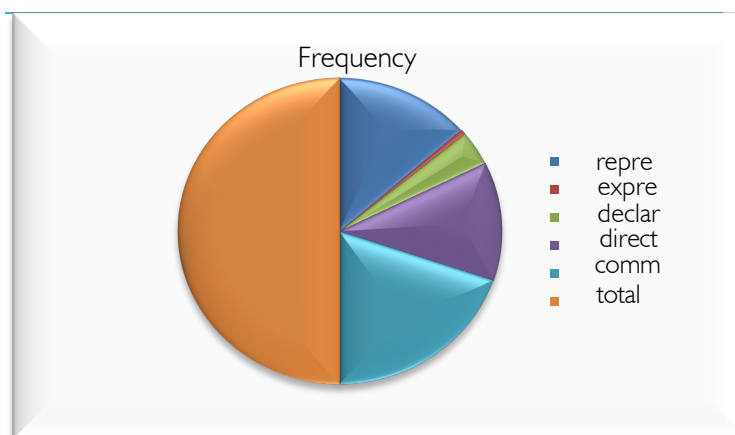
Section B

This section contained the quantitative interpretation of data and data results have shown in the form of tables and graphs as given below:

Table 1. All Direct and Indirect Speech Acts' Classes

Acts	Frequency	%age
Representative	26	27.083%
Expressive	1	1.041%
Declarative	7	7.291%
Directive	24	25%
Commissive	38	39.583%
Total	96	100%

This table shows that 26 out of total 96 speech acts are representative, 1out of total 96 speech acts are expressive, 7 out of total 96 speech acts are declarative, 38 out of total 96 speech acts are commissive, and 24 out of total 96 speech acts are directive speech acts used by Imran Khan in his selected part of speech. Therefore, he has used 27.083% out of total 100% speech acts are representative speech acts, 1.041% out of total 100% speech acts are expressive speech acts, 7.291% out of total 100% speech acts are declarative speech acts, 25% out of total 100% speech acts are directive speech acts and 39.583% out of total 100% speech acts are commissive speech acts.

Image Chart of the Table is given below

Following is the table that shows the interpretation of direct macro classes of speech act.

Table 2. Direct Speech Acts' Classes

Acts	Frequency	%age
Direct Representative	24	39.344%
Direct Expressive	1	1.639%
Direct Declarative	0	0%
Direct Directive	5	8.196%
Direct Commissive	31	50.819%
Total	61	100%

The above table shows that a total of 61 direct speech acts are used in the selected utterances of Imran Khan's speech and out of total 61 are 24 direct representatives, 1 direct, expressive, 5 direct directives and 31 direct commissives. Therefore, out of total 100% direct speech acts are 39.344% direct representative speech acts, 1.639% direct, expressive speech acts, 0% direct, declarative speech acts, 8.196% direct directive speech acts, and 50.819% direct commissive speech acts.

Table 3. Indirect Speech Acts' Classes

S. No	Acts	Frequency	%age
1	Indirect Representative	2	5.714%
2	Indirect Expressive	0	0%
3	Indirect Declarative	7	20%
4	Indirect Directive	19	54%
5	Indirect Commissive	7	20%
6	Total	35	100%

The above table shows that out of a total of 35 indirect speech acts are 2 indirect representatives, zero indirect expressive, 7 indirect declarative, 19 indirect directives, 7 indirect commissives. Therefore, out of

total 100% indirect speech acts are 5.714% indirect representative, 0% indirect expressive, 20% indirect declarative 54% indirect directive, and 20% indirect commissive.

Findings and Discussion

The recent paper based on mixed methodology as the data has analyzed both quantitatively and qualitatively, and simple percentage method is used in order to analyze the data. The framework employed in this study is the speech act theory given by Austin and Searle. This paper based on the speech act analysis of Imran Khan's first speech that he has delivered being Prime Minister of Pakistan. The researcher has investigated the overlapping of the classes of speech acts, direct and indirect classes of speech act, and types of speech acts that have used in the selected part of Khan's speech. The analyzed data show that commissive speech acts are used more than any other class of speech acts. The findings revealed that throughout the speech, Imran Khan has done commitments and has shown the nation his plans and future commitments. Total speech acts that have used in the selected part of speech are 96 (61 direct and 35 indirect) and out of 96 speech acts, 26 representatives (24 direct representative and 2 indirect representatives), 1 expressive (direct expressive), 7 declarative (7 indirect declarative), 24 directive (5 direct directive and 19 indirect directives) and 38 commissives (31 direct commissive and 7 indirect commissives) speech acts have used.

The speech acts that Khan has used according to the frequency of occurrence are given below:

S. No	Acts	%age
1	Commissive	39.583%
2	Representative	27.083%
3	Directive	25%
4	Declarative	7.291%
5	Expressive	1.041%

Conclusion

In conclusion, the study has explored the classes of speech acts that have used in his speech, and the overlapping of those classes has also examined. The study has also explored the direct and indirect classes of speech acts. Commissive speech acts have been used most frequently by Khan as he has done many commitments and prepared himself for his future plans that he has made for Pakistan. After that, he has used representative speech acts in which he has shown his beliefs, opinions and ideas. He has used directive speech acts 24 times out of total 96 speech acts, in which, he has given directions and being a PM, he has authority as well and, in his speech, the researcher has found 7 indirect declarative speech acts that have used by Khan. In his speech, there have representative acts (27.083%), expressive acts (1.041%), declarative acts (7.291%), directive acts (25%), and commissive acts (39.583%) out of total 100% acts in data.

Future Recommendations

In this section, some future recommendations have been offered for the researchers in order to conduct their study in future these are given below:

1. The recent study is the speech act analysis of Imran Khan's first speech that he has delivered after becoming the Prime Minister of Pakistan future researchers can also conduct the critical discourse analysis (CDA) of this speech.
2. The researcher has selected the fifty utterances of Khan's speech, and other researchers can investigate remaining utterances of Khan in this speech.
3. The researcher has selected one political discourse, but other researchers can conduct comparative analysis by selecting two political discourses for their study.

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