

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to explain what is the speech acts means and focuses on the illocutionary acts according to Searle's theory. Illocutionary acts are divided into five there are: directives, commissive, expressive, assertive, and declarations. This study analysis the utterance of the characters in the novel *Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka. Through a descriptive qualitative approach. The data were collected from the utterance of the characters in the novel. Illocutionary acts is the field of speech acts theory, refers to communicative force to intended purpose behind an utterance. The data were analysis the types of illocutionary acts and the dominant types of illocutionary acts. The dominant type of illocutionary acts is directives because it serves to influence the action or behavior of the characters in the story. The primary purpose of illocutionary acts is to perform an action through language. Illocutionary acts focuses on the indicated communicative function or purpose behind an utterance like beyond simple stating, commanding a fact and involving actions like promising, thanking, ordering.

Keywords: *Speech act, Illocutionary acts, Novel, Franz Kafka*