



Expressive Speech Acts of Talk Show of Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo: A Pragmatic Approach

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze and describe the types and functions of expressive speech acts found in the Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo Talk Show (June 2025 edition) and to examine their relevance to Indonesian language learning in schools. This study employed a pragmatic approach using a descriptive qualitative research design. The data consisted of utterances and conversations containing expressive speech acts in the Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo Talk Show, June 2025 edition. The data were collected through documentation, observation, and note-taking techniques. Data analysis was conducted in three stages: data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The findings indicate that four types of expressive speech acts were identified, namely 22 instances of compliments, 9 instances of criticism, 6 instances of apologies, and 7 instances of expressions of gratitude. In terms of their functions, the study identified 21 referential functions, 23 emotive functions, 2 conative functions, 2 metalingual functions, and 7 phatic functions. These findings demonstrate that expressive speech acts serve various communicative purposes in interpersonal interactions. Furthermore, the findings are relevant to Indonesian language learning for Grade 10 senior high school students, particularly the Learning Outcomes (Capaian Pembelajaran/CP) for Phase E in the listening element. Accordingly, the identified expressive speech acts can be utilized as authentic teaching materials to support students in understanding language use in real-life communication. In conclusion, the study identified four types and five functions of expressive speech acts in the Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo Talk Show (June 2025 edition). The findings also confirm their relevance to Indonesian language learning at the Grade 10 senior high school level, particularly in achieving the Phase E Learning Outcomes for the listening element. Therefore, the findings may serve as authentic instructional resources to enhance students' listening comprehension, pragmatic competence, and ability to analyze the meanings and functions of utterances in communicative contexts.

Keywords: expressive speech acts, talk show, pragmatic

INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication system used by humans to convey thoughts, ideas, emotions, and information. It is a fundamental tool that enables social interaction, the formation of culture, and the transmission of knowledge from one generation to the next. According to Bagiya, language is a means utilized by humans to establish relationships with others, on both external and internal levels (Pratama & Utomo, 2020). It functions as a medium for conveying specific intentions and objectives. In its use, humans produce utterances—forms of speech acts that emerge from the interac-

tion between a speaker and an interlocutor within a specific situation or context.

Effective language use facilitates the smooth functioning of social life. Language is understood as a mutually agreed-upon and arbitrary system of sounds used by humans to express thoughts and feelings and to build social relationships (Murti, cited in Saragih, 2022). It enables humans to express emotions, convey ideas, and share information, whether orally or in writing. Beyond being merely a communication tool, language reflects the culture and identity of a group or individual, as

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well as the mindset of a community. In academic studies, students examine language through various aspects such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. They also gain an understanding of language's functions: communicating, expressing the self, strengthening social ties, and regulating behavior within society. Furthermore, language plays a crucial role in preserving cultural values and norms while serving as a creative medium for producing literary works of aesthetic value.

In the communication process, humans inevitably encounter misunderstandings regarding intentions and objectives during daily interactions. Many problems arise from poor language use; consequently, employing effective speech acts during communication is essential. According to Leech (Melani & Utomo, 2022), an utterance is a form of speech delivered by a speaker to an interlocutor within a communicative context. In the field of pragmatics, an utterance is understood as the product of a verbal language act, rather than the verbal act itself. A speech act is understood as an action realized through an utterance, wherein speaking entails not merely arranging words but also performing specific functions appropriate to the communicative situation. In the study of pragmatics, speech acts are viewed as language use inextricably linked to the context in which it occurs. Every utterance conveys more than just literal meaning; it also embodies specific intentions and purposes—such as requesting assistance, issuing a command, making a promise, or expressing gratitude. According to Putrayasa (cited in Astika et al., 2021: 56), a speech act occurs when an individual uses language to communicate with others. Yule (1996) similarly defines a speech act as an action realized through an utterance. This indicates that an utterance is not merely a sequence of words but also carries meaning that represents an action; in other words, speaking itself constitutes a form of activity. The concept of the speech situation lies at the core of speech acts, as every utterance serves a specific purpose. In this context, a speech act is understood as an action that produces an utterance.

A speech act is a form of action expressed through utterance; speaking involves not merely arranging words but also conveying a specific intention held by the speaker. Searle (Hermaji, 2021: 50–53) categorizes speech acts into five types: (1) representative or assertive speech acts, (2) directive or impositive speech acts, (3) expressive or evaluative speech acts, (4) commissive speech acts, and (5) declarative speech acts. An expressive speech act is a type used to state the speaker's feelings or inner attitude regarding a specific condition or situation. Searle (in Saleh et al., 2024: 51) notes that this type of speech act focuses on conveying the speaker's thoughts or feelings rather than altering reality or influencing the interlocutor's actions. According to Searle (1979), expressive speech acts encompass various forms, such as praise, criticism, expressions of gratitude, and apologies. Each form possesses distinct characteristics and functions within communication; for instance, criticism is used to convey an evaluation or judgment, whereas praise serves to express regard or appreciation.

In general, a talk show is recognized as a format involving the exchange of ideas or the discussion of a specific topic with guests (resource persons) relevant to the subject matter. According to Utud (in Riqqah et al., 2024), a talk show is a discussion program featuring one or more guests who discuss a particular topic. The program's appeal lies in the topic being discussed. According to Alan (Raqqah et al., 2024: 131), a talk show is a session managed by a moderator who poses questions to two to five experts in a specific field, each offering a different perspective.

Denny Sumargo is a multi-talented Indonesian figure renowned across various fields. Born on October 11, 1981, in Luwuk, North Sulawesi, he gained widespread recognition for his athletic achievements and a life story that has inspired many. Beyond his success in sports, he is celebrated for his ability to inspire others through his podcast, *Curhat Bang*, where he hosts a variety of equally inspiring guests. Denny is also a talented actor with an undeniable track record; before establishing



himself as a prominent actor and podcaster, he was known as a basketball player. Despite coming from an underprivileged background, he rose above his circumstances to achieve his dream of becoming a professional basketball player. He developed a passion for the sport at an early age, inspired by legends such as Michael Jordan and Kobe Bryant.

In the entertainment world, Denny is also active on television as a host for programs such as *My Trip My Adventure* and *Love Jukebox*. His on-screen charisma has boosted his popularity and solidified his position in the industry. In 2017, he launched the YouTube channel "Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo," which quickly garnered public attention. Thanks to his ability to draw out his guests' stories, many of his podcast episodes have trended on YouTube; as of October 2024, the channel has amassed over 6.9 million subscribers, making every episode a compelling watch.

The June 2025 edition of the *Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo* talk show features engaging expressive utterances arising from the guests' emotional storytelling. The show frequently presents episodes covering inspiring tales, life journeys, family matters, and romantic relationships; consequently, these episodes often contain significant instances of expressive speech.

METHOD

This study employs a pragmatic approach to objectively describe and explain a specific phenomenon or event. In this context, the author analyzes the types and functions of expressive speech acts within the June 2025 edition of the *Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo* talk show.

This research utilizes a qualitative descriptive method. According to Lapan et al. (in Waruwu, 2024), Razak (2017), qualitative research seeks to delve deeply into the social context under study, emphasizing profound, specific, interpretive, and comprehensive meanings within a particular context and timeframe. This study is classified as qualitative descriptive research because it utilizes data in the form of utterances or conversations found in the *Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo* show.

The study aims to describe and explain the forms of expressive speech acts used by the speakers—such as expressions of gratitude, praise, apologies, and other emotional expressions.

RESULTS

1. Types of Expressive Speech Acts

1.1 Expressive Speech Act: Praise

An expressive speech act of praise is an utterance spoken with the intention of expressing the speaker's psychological state, conveying appreciation, admiration, or a positive evaluation of the interlocutor. Based on Searle's theory of speech acts, expressive speech acts essentially function as a medium to represent the emotions or feelings experienced by the speaker.

Data JTT 1.01

Context: The utterance was spoken by Denny Sumargo after discussing personal matters regarding Jefri Nichol.

Speaker: Host

Utterance: "Crazy, Jefri is such a 'real man'!"

Indicator of Praise: "Crazy" (Gila)

Analysis: Expressive Speech Act of Praise. Data JTT 1.01, "Crazy, Jefri is so manly!" falls under the category of an expressive speech act of praise. Denny uses the phrase "Crazy, Jefri is so manly" to express admiration for Jefri's courage in proving that he is not merely a "bad boy" figure but possesses true masculine character. The word "Crazy" used by Denny Sumargo does not imply that Jefri is mentally unstable; rather, it reflects deep admiration, serving to emphasize that Jefri possesses above-average qualities. Semantically, the term "so manly" symbolizes validation of ideal masculine values—such as physical vigor, courage, and striking charisma. This demonstrates that Jefri successfully embodies the socially perceived standard of an ideal man, thereby eliciting amazement from observers.

1.2 Expressive Speech Act of Criticism

An expressive speech act of criticism is an utterance used to convey the speaker's psychological state, encompassing feelings of

dissatisfaction, disagreement, a reprimand, or a negative evaluation regarding a particular situation.

Data JTT 1.01

Context: The utterance occurs while Denny Sumargo is discussing the outcome of Jefri's match against El Rumi.

Speaker: Jefri Nichol

Utterance: "I'm disappointed with the result. The points result."

Analysis: Expressive Speech Act of Criticism

Data JTT 1.01 represents an expressive speech act of "Criticism" voiced by Jefri, who is disappointed with the points awarded following his boxing match against El Rumi. This is evident in Jefri's statement: "I'm disappointed with the result. The points result." He makes this statement because he does not accept the points he received. The use of the word "Disappointed" at the beginning of the sentence conveys a strong yet controlled emotional impact. Unlike explosive anger, disappointment signals unmet expectations; it often places greater psychological pressure on the person being criticized because it touches upon the issue of trust. This specific type of criticism focuses on the "outcome" or "score"—meaning the disappointment stems not from the process or effort involved, but rather from the final figures or data achieved.

1.3 Expressive Speech Act: Apology

An apology is a speech act used to express regret, admit a mistake, or accept responsibility for actions or words that have caused discomfort or harm to others. Through this utterance, the speaker seeks to mend social relationships, maintain politeness, and restore the communicative atmosphere that may have been disrupted by the error.

Data JTT 1.01

Context: Jefry made this statement while discussing a topic with Denny that was

considered quite sensitive; consequently, Jefry apologized in case his response might not be well-received.

Speaker: Jefry Nichol

Utterance: "Sorry if my answer seems a bit odd. As for dating, though, I don't think I've ever been rejected."

Analysis: Apology Speech Act

Data JTT 1.01 represents an expressive speech act of "apology." The utterance spoken by Jefry—"Sorry, dear, if there are any odd answers"—specifically constitutes an apology, as Jefry acknowledges the possibility of an error or discomfort and wishes to express regret or a sense of fault. The word "sorry" (maaf) at the beginning of the sentence serves as an illocutionary marker indicating the speaker's humility and acknowledgment of a potential mistake. Pragmatically, the use of "sorry" here functions as a negative politeness strategy, wherein the speaker attempts to mitigate the negative impact of the "odd answers" so as not to offend or disadvantage the interlocutor. The particle "ya" following "maaf" acts as a softener, transforming a formal apology into a request for understanding that is more fluid and persuasive.

1.4 Expressive Speech Act: Expression of Gratitude

An expression of gratitude is a type of speech act used by a speaker to convey thankfulness, regard, or appreciation to another person for assistance, attention, kindness, or benefits received. Through such an utterance, the speaker acknowledges the positive contribution of the interlocutor while simultaneously seeking to maintain and strengthen the social relationship between them.

Data JTT 2.01

Context: The utterance was spoken by Denny when Irfan attended an invitation extended by Denny.

Speaker: Host

Utterance: "Well, Prof. Dr. Irfan Wahyudi is here with us. Thank you, Prof, for making the time despite your busy schedule. You have just heard a brief overview of the chronology, Prof. As an expert, how do you view this incident?"



2. Analysis: Expressive Speech Act – Expression of Gratitude

Data JTT 2.01 represents an expressive speech act of "expressing gratitude." Denny Sumargo's remark to Prof. Dr. Irfan Wahyudi serves as an expression of gratitude and appreciation for accepting his invitation despite a busy schedule. "Thank you, Prof, for making the time amidst your busy schedule." Pragmatically, the use of "Thank you" at the beginning of the sentence functions as an explicit illocutionary marker acknowledging the value of the time sacrificed. The phrase "making the time amidst a busy schedule" acts as a positive politeness strategy, wherein the speaker demonstrates empathy and acknowledges the interlocutor's social standing and heavy workload. This conveys that the speaker deeply values the gift of time—not as a matter of course, but as a privilege.

4.1 Functions of Expressive Speech Acts in the Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo Talk Show (June 2025 Edition)

2.1 Referential Function

The referential function is a language function oriented toward the context or referent—namely, the objects, events, or circumstances serving as the topic of communication. This function is employed to convey information, facts, or knowledge objectively to the interlocutor, ensuring the message is understood in alignment with the reality being referenced. Furthermore, the referential function is a language function oriented toward the context or referent—that is, the object, event, or situation serving as the topic of communication. This function is employed to convey information, facts, or knowledge objectively to the interlocutor, ensuring the message is understood in alignment with the reality being referenced. In this study, 21 instances of the referential function were identified: 4 in the first video, 5 in the second, 1 in the third, 8 in the fourth, and 3 in the fifth.

Data FTT 1.01

Speaker: Jefri Nichol

Utterance: "Yeah. Luckily for El, his tactics are good."

Analysis:

Data FTT 1.01 represents the referential function, marked by the word "Dia" (he/his). The use of the pronoun "dia" refers back to El, the previously mentioned referent. This pronoun helps the speaker direct the interlocutor's attention to the figure being discussed. Through this utterance, Jefri conveys the information that El possesses good tactical skills. The content of the speech emphasizes conveying facts or explaining El's characteristics rather than expressing the speaker's feelings or attempting to influence the interlocutor.

2.2 Emotive Function

The emotive function is a language function oriented toward the speaker, serving as a means to express feelings, attitudes, emotions, and the psychological state experienced by the speaker. Through this function, the speaker does not merely provide information but also reveals their emotional reactions, allowing the interlocutor to understand the speaker's inner state. The emotive function is typically marked by the use of words, phrases, or sentences that reflect emotional elements—such as feelings of happiness, sadness, anger, disappointment, admiration, or surprise.

Data FTT 1.01

Speaker: Jefri

Utterance: "I'm disappointed with the result, actually. The points result."

Analysis:

Data FTT 1.01, "I'm disappointed with the result, actually. The points outcome." This data falls under the emotive function, marked by the word "Kecewa" (disappointed). The word "kecewa" indicates an emotive function because it represents the speaker's expression of negative feelings regarding a match result or an achievement that fell short of expectations. In this instance, the emotion is not conveyed implicitly but rather directly through a lexical item that semantically carries a negative affective value. Pragmatically, the use of "kecewa" also serves to emphasize the

speaker's psychological state to the interlocutor; thus, the utterance is not merely informative but also conveys a subjective expression revealing the speaker's emotional involvement with the event being discussed.

2.3 Connotative Function

The connotative function is a language function used by speakers to convey indirect meanings—such as emotional nuances, attitudes, judgments, or specific intentions—that can only be understood through the context of the utterance. Pragmatics posits that the meaning of an utterance is determined not only by the lexical definitions of the words used but also by the communication situation, the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor, and the goals of the interaction.

Data FTT 1.01

Speaker: Host

Utterance: "Crazy, Jefri is so manly!"

Analysis:

Data FTT 1.01, "Crazy, Jefri is so manly!" This data falls under the connotative function, marked by the word "gila" (crazy). In this context, "gila" is not used in its denotative sense (referring to mental illness) but rather carries a connotative meaning that expresses admiration, emphasis, and intensification regarding the image of masculinity attributed to Jefri. Here, "gila" functions as a form of hyperbole that reinforces the public perception of a masculine persona viewed as exceptionally strong and attractive. Pragmatically, the use of this word also creates a dramatic yet informal effect, fostering a sense of communicative closeness typical of entertainment media conversations.

2.4 Metalingual Function

The metalingual function is a language function used to discuss or explain language itself—including words, terms, structures, and linguistic rules—thereby ensuring that the message in communication is understood more clearly. This function is employed to provide explanations, clarify points, or convey information regarding the linguistic code used in the communication process, such as vocabulary, terminology, sentence

structures, or other linguistic conventions. Through the metalingual function, the speaker and the interlocutor can ensure that the message conveyed is accurately understood, thanks to the explanation provided regarding the linguistic elements being used.

FTT Data 1.01

Speaker: Jefry Nichol

Utterance: "Damn, why was I so harsh? I should have been gentler."

Analysis:

Data FTT 1.01 in the utterance "Damn, why was I so harsh? I should have been gentler" contains a metalingual function because the speaker highlights and evaluates the manner of speaking they employed. The focus of the utterance is not merely on the message content but also on the form of delivery, which is deemed too harsh. Through this statement, the speaker demonstrates an awareness that the previously used communication style was not quite appropriate. Furthermore, the speaker expresses a desire to use softer language via the phrase "I should have been gentler." This statement indicates an assessment of the language choices made, alongside a comparison with a form of communication considered superior. Thus, the metalingual function is evident in the speaker's attempt to reflect upon, evaluate, and correct their own language use.

2.5 Phatic Function

The phatic function is a language function that serves to initiate, maintain, prolong, or conclude an interaction so that the communication process can proceed effectively. The phatic function does not focus on the content of the information conveyed, but rather on the effort to sustain social connections within the communication. Consequently, linguistic elements such as greetings, expressions of small talk, and conversational markers of attentiveness constitute manifestations of the phatic function, as they serve to preserve and strengthen the closeness and harmony of the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor.



Data FTT 1.01

Speaker: Jefry Nichol

Utterance: "Sorry, babe, if I give any weird answers."

Analysis:

The phatic function in the utterance "(Hesitant) Oh dear, I'm actually afraid to answer because Amira is still listening... Sorry, babe, if I give any weird answers. As for dating, I don't think I've ever been rejected" is evident in the phrase "Sorry, babe." This expression is not used to convey information related to the topic of conversation; rather, it serves as a means to maintain a good relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor. By combining an apology with an affectionate term of address, the speaker shows consideration for the feelings of Amira, who is also listening to the conversation. Furthermore, the use of the term "sayang" (dear/darling) reflects the emotional closeness and intimacy shared by the speaker and the listener. The utterance serves to create a comfortable communicative atmosphere while maintaining an established social relationship. Thus, the phrase "Maaf ya sayang" can be categorized as serving a phatic function, as it acts to sustain contact and communicative harmony rather than to convey the primary information or message of the conversation.

DISCUSSION

Types and Intentions of Expressive Speech Acts

a. Expressive Speech Acts of Praise

Expressive speech acts of praise were the most frequently encountered type in this study, accounting for 22 instances. Praise in this talk show is used to express appreciation for the guests' personal qualities—ranging from physical appearance and character to achievements, intelligence, maturity, and decision-making abilities. This finding aligns with the view of Chaplin (cited in Romas 2006: 1), who states that praise is a verbal statement capable of generating satisfaction or increasing the likelihood of a learned behavior recurring. Furthermore, Purwanto (cited in Romas 2006: 1) explains that praise is a gratifying experience that can establish a

connection or association between a behavior and an expected outcome. In the context of the talk show, praise serves not only as an acknowledgment of the conversation partner but also as a strategy to foster an intimate and positive conversational atmosphere.

b. Expressive Speech Acts of Criticism

Nine instances of expressive speech acts involving criticism were identified. In this study, criticism manifests as negative assessments, expressions of dissatisfaction or disappointment, or evaluations regarding specific situations, actions, or systems. Such criticism is directed not only at individuals but also at broader social conditions. This aligns with the perspective of Nguyen (cited in Jauhari 2018), who notes that criticism is generally expressed through negative evaluations or unfavorable judgments regarding the behavior of the person being criticized. Meanwhile, Brown and Levinson (cited in Jauhari 2018: 167–177) view criticism as a speech act that carries a high risk of threatening face; therefore, it needs to be conveyed with due regard for politeness. In the research data, criticism is evident in utterances expressing disappointment regarding match results, the education system, or societal behavior. For instance, the statement "The bad thing about Indonesia is the tendency to hurl baseless accusations" represents social criticism directed at the public habit of making accusations without clear grounds. Such criticism serves not only as an expression of dissatisfaction but also as a form of evaluation regarding social reality.

c. Expressive Speech Act of Apologizing

Six instances of the expressive speech act of apologizing were identified. In this study, apologies do not always arise from major errors; they also serve as expressions of politeness, caution, and conversational softening. Searle (cited in Anshori 2018) classifies apologies as expressive speech acts because they must be conveyed with the speaker's sincerity and intent. Meanwhile, Leech (cited in Anshori 2018: 112–125) views the act of apologizing as part of the politeness principle, which requires sympathy, generosity, and tact between the speaker and the interlocutor. In the

context of a talk show, apologies are used to ensure the interlocutor's comfort and to avoid potential disruption to the communicative relationship. For instance, using the word "maaf" (sorry) at the beginning of an utterance functions as an illocutionary marker indicating humility, an acknowledgment of a possible mistake, or an attempt to mitigate the negative impact of the statement. d. Expressive Speech Act of Expressing Gratitude. Seven instances of the expressive speech act of expressing gratitude were identified. In this study, expressions of gratitude appear as a way to acknowledge the presence, time, explanations, support, or opportunities provided by the interlocutor. Searle (cited in Rachmawati 2018: 1–23) explains that the expressive speech act of expressing gratitude constitutes an expression of thanks from the speaker to the listener. Such expressions are used to show appreciation for something someone has done. In this talk show, expressions of gratitude serve not only as formal remarks but also convey emotional appreciation. For example, the phrase "Makasih ya Sheila Dara sudah mampir" (Thanks for stopping by, Sheila Dara) demonstrates Denny's appreciation for the guest's presence on the show. The use of informal forms like "makasih ya" reflects a relaxed, friendly, and warm conversational atmosphere. Thus, the expression of gratitude in this talk show serves as part of a positive politeness strategy, as the speaker seeks to maintain a good relationship with the interlocutor.

Functions of Expressive Speech Acts in the Curhat Bang Denny Sumargo Talk Show (June 2025 Edition)

In addition to being analyzed by type, expressive speech acts in this study are also analyzed based on language functions. Roman Jakobson (cited in Arisona 2013) categorizes language functions into six types: referential, emotive, conative, metalingual, phatic, and poetic. These six functions demonstrate that language is used not only to convey information but also to express feelings, influence the interlocutor, explain the language code, maintain communicative

contact, and shape messages aesthetically. The functions identified in this study are referential, emotive, conative, metalingual, and phatic; the poetic function was not found in the research data. The number of functions identified exceeds the number of speech act types because a single utterance can encompass more than one function.

a. Referential Function

Twenty-one instances of the referential function were identified. This function arises when an utterance is used to refer to specific people, events, conditions, or information within a conversation. Setyowati (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) explains that the referential function focuses on the communicative context—encompassing the participants involved, the purpose of communication, social conditions, the communicative situation, the medium used, and the relationships between forms of communication. Meanwhile, Jakobson (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) states that the referential function is one of the most prominent language functions because it relates directly to the subject matter or context of the conversation. In the research data, the referential function is evident in the use of pronouns, personal names, or specific references that clarify who or what is being discussed. For instance, the word *lu* (you) in the utterance "Pinter lu! Alasan lu masuk akal banget" (You're smart! Your reason makes perfect sense) refers directly to the interviewee as the interlocutor.

b. Emotive Function

The emotive function is the most dominant function in this study. This function emerges when an utterance directly reveals the speaker's feelings, attitudes, or emotional responses regarding an event or the interlocutor. Suparno (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) explains that the emotive—or expressive—function centers on the speaker's attitude, status, and emotional state. Jakobson (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) also states that the emotive function focuses on the message sender and aims to directly express the speaker's attitude toward the topic of conversation. In the research data, the emotive function is manifested through expressions of



disappointment, admiration, concern, pride, surprise, and other forms of emotion. For instance, the utterance “I’m disappointed with the result. The points outcome...” demonstrates the emotive function because the word “disappointed” represents the speaker’s negative feelings regarding a result that fell short of expectations.

c. Conative Function

The conative function is identified in the research data as a language function oriented toward the message recipient. Although the manuscript initially used the term “connotative,” based on Jakobson’s theory—which is applied in Chapter II—the correct term is conative function. The conative function describes the use of language to urge or influence the interlocutor. Renwarin and Costa (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) explain that the conative function relates to using language to persuade or influence others. Andora (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) also states that the conative function is recipient-oriented, as language is employed to prompt the recipient to respond to what is being said or to take action in accordance with the speaker’s wishes. In the context of a talk show, the conative function is evident when the speaker encourages, invites, or influences the interlocutor to provide a specific response.

d. Metalingual Function

Two instances of the metalingual function were identified. This function arises when a speaker uses language to explain, clarify, or comment on language itself. Supriyanto (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) explains that the metalingual function is used to describe linguistic aspects, particularly when a speaker attempts to clarify or modify language usage. Jakobson (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) states that the metalingual function focuses on the language code, requiring both the speaker and the interlocutor to ensure that the code being used is mutually understood. In the research data, the metalingual function is evident when a speaker evaluates their own manner of speaking or explains the meaning of a specific expression. For instance, the utterance “It might sound cliché, but he is truly kind to me

and to my family as well” demonstrates that the speaker is not merely expressing an opinion about someone but is also commenting on their own choice of words. The phrase “sounds cliché” indicates the speaker’s awareness of the linguistic form being used, while the subsequent explanation clarifies the meaning of the word “kind.” The themes associated with the metalingual function are the explanation of meaning and the affirmation of language choices. The results indicate that in talk show conversations, speakers sometimes need to explain specific words or expressions to prevent misinterpretation.

e. Phatic Function

Seven instances of the phatic function were identified. This function serves to maintain social relationships, sustain communicative contact, and foster a sense of rapport between the speaker and the interlocutor. Prawoto (cited in Luthfialana et al., 2024: 1–11) explains that the phatic function focuses on maintaining the continuity of communication between the speaker and the interlocutor. Prasetyo further explains that the phatic function involves the use of language to establish and sustain communicative relationships. In talk shows, the phatic function is evident through greetings, softening particles, or expressions that maintain the flow of conversation—such as “ya,” “Bang,” “Prof,” “Bos,” or “sayang.” While these forms do not always convey core information, they play a crucial role in fostering rapport, maintaining social contact, and ensuring the conversation feels natural. The essence of the phatic function lies in sustaining familiarity and the smooth flow of interaction. The findings indicate that the phatic function serves as a vital tool for reducing social distance between the host and the guest, thereby allowing the conversation to proceed more fluidly and communicatively.

CONCLUSION

The language used in interactions between the host and the interviewee serves not only as a medium for conveying information but also as a means to express feelings, offer evaluations, demonstrate attitudes, build interpersonal

relationships, and sustain the flow of communication. Regarding their forms, four types of expressive speech acts were identified: praise, criticism, apologies, and expressions of gratitude. Praise is used to convey admiration, regard, and appreciation for the interlocutor's character, abilities, achievements, or specific qualities. The expressive speech act of criticism is employed to convey dissatisfaction, disappointment, or an evaluation regarding specific actions, situations, or issues. Furthermore, apologies not only signal regret for a mistake but also serve as a politeness strategy to mitigate potential discomfort during the interaction. Expressions of gratitude serve to acknowledge and appreciate the interlocutor's presence, time, assistance, or contributions. When examined through the lens of Jakobson's theory, five language functions were identified: referential, emotive, conative, metalingual, and phatic; the poetic function, however, was not found in the research data.

The referential function is used to refer to the people, events, conditions, or information constituting the topic of conversation. The emotive function is the most prominent, as many utterances serve to reveal the speaker's emotional state—such as disappointment, admiration, pride, concern, or surprise. The conative function is used to influence or prompt the interlocutor to provide a specific response. The metalingual function involves the use of language to explain, evaluate, or comment on linguistic elements themselves. Meanwhile, the phatic function plays a role in maintaining communicative contact, fostering a sense of rapport, and sustaining social relationships between the speaker and the interlocutor.

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