AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE FUNCTION FOUND IN MIRA'S NOVEL "FIRDAUS YANG HILANG"

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ABSTRACT


Key words: Language Function, Speech Act, Utterances, Mira Widjaja’s novel.

The study under report is discussing the language function in Mira’s novel “Firdaus yang Hilang”. This novel is about a woman who is looking for her lost paradise. After the writer read this novel for several times, the writer was interested to analyze this novel, especially the language function and the perlocutionary act because the writer found that there were some failures in interpreting the utterances.

The writer formulated the following questions: (1) What kind of language functions are found in the utterances of the main character of “Firdaus yang Hilang”? (2) Are the utterances conveyed by the main character understood by her interlocutors?

To answer those questions, the writer relied on language function theory and speech act theory. The theory of language function is used to find out what kinds of language functions are found in the utterances of the main character of “Firdaus yang Hilang”, while the theory of speech act is used to analyze whether the utterances conveyed by the main character are understood or not by her interlocutors.

In view that the source of data of this study is Mira’s novel, the first step of data collecting procedures was one straight through reading. To get a detailed understanding on the character’s utterances, the writer, then, reread the novel. The writer, at last, quoted some of the utterances which showed language function and also analyzed the perlocutionary act.

Having collected the data, the writer started the analysis in accordance with the above mentioned theoretical frameworks. The analysis results show that, first, among 47 utterances, there are 19 utterances that having informational function, 15 utterances that having expressive function, 11 utterances that having directive function, and 2 utterances that having phatic function. However, there is no aesthetic function in the main character’s utterances. Second, there are language functions in the main character’s utterances that cannot be caught by her interlocutor. Third, there are some failures from the interlocutor in responding to what the speaker wishes. Fourth, the expressive function of an utterance does not need a reply because the speaker only wants to express her feeling to the interlocutor. At last, there are unstated expression on the main character’s utterances.