# EXPLORING SPEECH ACTS IN THE MOVIE "THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING"



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Thereby, I truly certify this certificate of originality.

Surabaya, 4 July 2025

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# **MOTTO**

Not just chasing a degree, but building a better version of me.

Believe in your journey, trust the process, and embrace every challenge.

Proof that anything is possible with enough deadlines, snacks, and sleeps.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Kinanti, Sekar Wangi Putri.21620010. Exploring Speech Act in The Movie "The Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King". Department of English Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Wijaya Kusuma Surabaya University, 2025.

Keywords: Speech Acts, Illocutionary Act, Perlocutionary Act, *The Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King* 

This research explores the use of speech acts in the movie *The Lord of the Rings:* The Return of the King, focusing on identifying and classifying both illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. The study is based on John Searle's (1969) theory, which explains that language is not only used to convey meaning but also to perform actions such as stating, requesting, promising, or influencing others. Speech acts help us understand the deeper functions of language, especially in conversations in film.

The main purpose of this research is to describe what types of speech acts are used by all characters in the movie. This study uses a descriptive qualitative method, where data were collected from the movie's dialogue, transcribed, and analyzed. Each utterance was categorized into types of illocutionary or perlocutionary acts.

The findings show that there are 259 speech acts in total: 228 illocutionary acts (including 94 assertives, 77 directives, 28 expressives, 20 commissives, and 9 declaratives) and 31 perlocutionary acts. The results indicate that characters use language not only to speak but also to act, express emotions, and influence others. These findings support Searle's theory and demonstrate how speech acts function in fictional narratives, especially in epic films that involve emotion, leadership, and conflict.

This research is expected to be helpful for students, teachers, and future researchers who are interested in language use in movies and literature.

# TABLE OF CONTENT

APPROV	'AL SHEET i	
APPROV	AL SHEET ii	
CERTIFI	CATE OF ORIGINALITY iii	
MOTTO.	iv	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTv		
ABSTRA	ACTvii	
TABLE (	OF CONTENTviii	
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION1		
10.1.	Background of The Study1	
10.2.	Research Question	
10.3.	Purpose of The Study6	
10.4.	Scope and Limitation6	
10.5.	Significances of The Study6	
A.	Theoretically6	
B.	Practically7	
10.6.	Operational Definition	
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW		
2.1.	Language9	
2.2.	Pragmatic	
2.3.	Speech Act	
2.4.	Locutionary Act	
2.5.	Illocutionary Act	
2.5.1	. Types of Illocutionary	
2.6.	Perlocutionary Act	
2.7.	Movie	
2.8.	The Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King	
CHAPTE	ER III RESEARCH METHOD	

3.1.	Research Design	30
3.2.	Source of Data	31
3.3.	Data of Research	31
3.4.	Research Instrument	32
3.5.	Techniques of Data Collecting	32
1.	Observation	32
2.	Documentation	32
3.6.	Procedures of Data Analysis	33
1.	Data Collection	33
2.	Data Reduction	33
3.	Data Classification	33
4.	Data Coding	34
5.	Data Analysis	35
6.	Conclusion	36
CHAPTER IV FINDING AND DISCUSSION		37
4.1.	Finding	37
4.1.1. Types of Illocutionary Act and Perlocutionary Act by All Characters		
in Th	ne Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King Movie	
4.2.	Discussion	83
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION 8		88
5.1.	Conclusion	88
5.2.	Suggestion	90
REFERE	REFERENCES	
APPENDIX		93