

**THE STUDY OF SPEECH ACTS IN
EUGENE O'NEILL'S 'ILE'**

A THESIS

**As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in ,
English Language Teaching Faculty**



By :

SHERLY TANNER

NRP : 1213094136

No. INDUK	1922/00
TGL TERIMA	28.8.00
REVISI	
NO. BUKU	TK-19 Tan 05-1
KOP. KE	(SATU)

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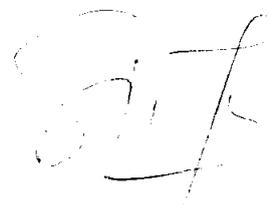
(1)

This thesis entitled The Study of Speech Acts in Eugene O'Neill's 'ILE', prepared and submitted by SHERLY TANNER has been approved and accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors.



Drs. Hendra Tedjasuksmana, M.Hum.

First Advisor



Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.

Second Advisor

APPROVAL SHEET

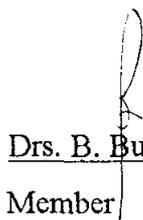
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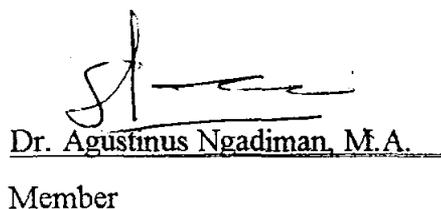


Drs. Antonius Gurito

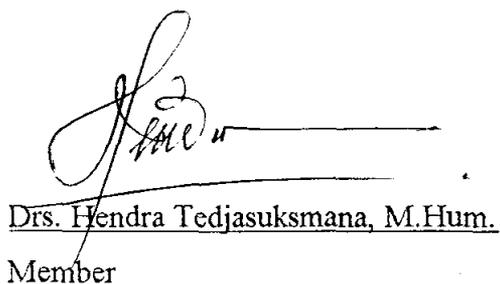
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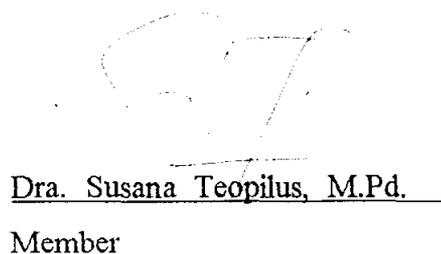
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Member



Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, M.A.
Member

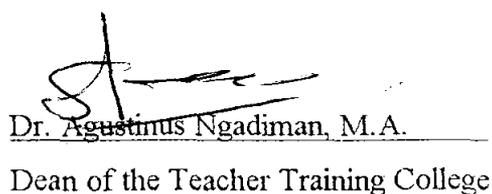


Drs. Hendra Tedjasuksmana, M.Hum.
Member

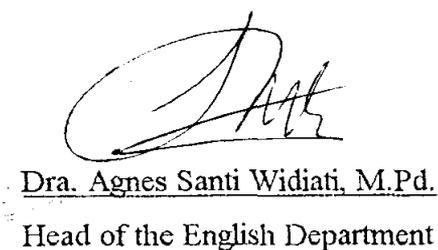


Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.
Member

Approved by



Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman, M.A.
Dean of the Teacher Training College



Dra. Agnes Santi Widiati, M.Pd.
Head of the English Department

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Advisors: 1. Drs. Hendra Tedjasuksmana, M.Hum.
2. Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd

ABSTRACT

Language is a universal human activity. People use language in order to be able to communicate with one another in everyday life. Therefore, language is said to be a means of communication in the society. People may speak different languages to express their ideas depending on the contents in which they are involved. Since people may speak many languages differently in different social context, we need to understand the pattern of communication. One way to understand the pattern of communication is by analyzing speech acts.

In this thesis the writer discusses speech acts in literary work and the literary work which is discussed here is a play. The writer chooses a play because she has some reasons. First, in reading a play, the writer has to be a creative reader to understand the dialogue between the characters. By being creative, she will be able to dig up the content of the play to get as much information as she can. The second, it is not enough to read a play as simply as sequence of statement made by newspaper in the hot-line or statement in the cover of magazines. The reader has to imagine what the dialogue between the characters look like on the stage.

The play which is being discussed here is *Ile*. *Ile* is considered by some critics as one of the most powerful tragedies yet written in the one-act form. This one-act play was about the journey of Captain Keeney, his wife, and his crew in searching for whale's oil. During his journey, some conflicts happened and at the end of the story the captain's wife lost her mind. Although *Ile* is only one-act play, it has all elements of a drama and it is well-performed and became O'Neill's first successful play.

The author, Eugene O'Neill is known as one of the American greatest playwrights who takes care much about human problems. Based on the above reasons, the writer wants to analyze Eugene O'Neill successful play '*Ile*' in order to find out the speech act elements which are used there.

As we know, speech acts can be categorized into three parts, they are locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Here, the writer wants to find out the three elements above in '*Ile*'. To make this study easier, the writer divided the play into three parts: dialogues between minor characters, dialogues between minor and main characters, and dialogues between main characters. The writer applied the elements into each dialogue.

Locutionary acts is known as the physical acts of producing an utterance or the acts themselves and in *Ile* it is appeared in every dialogue.

Illocutionary acts is the acts which are committed by producing the utterance and can be divided into several types. Here, the writer used classification of illocutionary acts by Elizabeth C. Traugott and Mary Louis Pratt. There are seven types of illocutionary acts, they are representative, expressive, verdictive, directive, commissive, declarative, and phatic function. All types of illocutionary acts occur in the dialogue. Representative mostly occurred in the dialogue between minor and main characters (69.88%), expressive between main characters (15.38%), verdictive between main characters (2.56%), directive between main characters (32.05%), commissive between minor characters (6.90%), declarative between main characters (1.00%), and phatic function between main characters (3.85%).

Perlocution is the production of an effect through locution and illocution, or in other words, perlocution is the effect on the receiver. There are two kinds of perlocutionary acts which are noticed; they are verbal response and non-verbal response. However, the effects are mostly in the form of verbal responses (100%) followed by non-verbal responses. The non-verbal responses are divided into non-action responses with the percentage of 52.81% and action responses with the percentage of 47.19%.