# Analysis of Jokowi's Commissive Speech Acts in 2014 and 2019 Inaugural Address: A Pragmatic Study

Salwa Fadila Firdaus<sup>1</sup>, Lia Maulia Indrayani<sup>2</sup>, Ypsi Soeria Soemantri<sup>3</sup> salwa19003@mail.unpad.ac.id<sup>1</sup>, lia.maulia@unpad.ac.id<sup>2</sup>, ypsi.soeria@unpad.ac.id<sup>3</sup>

Universitas Padjadjaran

#### **Abstract**

This article attempted to identify and describe the commissive acts in the inaugural addresses delivered by the Indonesian president Joko Widodo in 2014 and 2019. This includes the felicity condition of the addresses. The differences between commissive speech acts produced in his inauguration address and the second terms were also contrasted. The data were the transcripts of the addresses in both terms. Descriptive qualitative was implied in this study. The results found that there were two categories of commissive acts in the first term and four in the second term. In contrast with the first term which was only 11, in his second term he uttered 15 commissive acts. The results concluded that to maintain people's trust in his second term, the speaker proposed more commissive acts than in the first term.

Keywords: addresses, commissive speech act, promise, speech acts, threat

#### Introduction

In a political context, politicians use speech as a tool to organize people's minds and opinions. The speech must have been arranged in advance before it is delivered, so the politicians must also have the intended meaning when delivering the speech whether it is to convince, to promise, to threaten, to direct, or to assert some particular matters.

Speech acts in political speeches delivered by politicians may serve different interpretations to the hearer. For instance, the speech act produced by a politician in campaign speech is dominated by commissive and representative speech acts. Politicians used selected devices in order to convince the public and to be able to communicate directly with them (Priyatmojo, 2012).

Studies concerning political speeches vary (Dosia & Rido, 2017; Andewi & Waziana, 2019). In the an inaugural address, the elected president usually states his mission and vision in the past and in the current period. Putri (2018) analyzed Donald Trump Inaugural address. The research found that representative and commissive speech acts in Trump's inaugural address were the most dominant. Based on the analysis, the representative functions in the context are to convince, to promise and to affirm the people who have voted for him that he could lead the country to be great again. A pragmatic analysis on speech acts was also done by Loko (2018). He found that the representative is dominated the Trump's inaugural address to displayed his truth engagement to lead his party. By analyzing the speech acts produced by the politicians, language use and the characteristic of political leaders can be discovered.

Different occasions serve different types of speech and its characteristics. According to Ulum and Sutopo (2018), the characteristic of language of political use rhetoric which involves promises. In pragmatics, promises can be analyzed by using speech act theory, more precisely commissive speech act.

For this research, the analyzed speeches were the inaugural addresses of Jokowi as the seventh President of Indonesia in the first term and the second term. Unlike in his first term, the election in his second term went through many pros and cons. In his first term, people tried to believe what he offered for the country, but in the second term, people tended to be more cautiously evaluating his works for the past four years and people tend to be more serious about the election promises he offered for the new term. In the inaugural address, a president usually conveys his vision and mission for the next four years. From here, the speech acts that he produces can be analyzed from the addresses. Therefore, this research intends to identify and describe Jokowi's commissive speech acts along with the felicity conditions when performing commissive acts or promises in his vision and mission statement in the inaugural address to retain the people's trust. Then the commissive speech acts in 2014 and 2019 inaugural addresses were contrasted to see the differences.

# **Theory and Method**

Qualitative research has the natural setting as the direct source of data and the researcher is the key instrument (Aminuddin, 1990). As the key instrument in the study, the focus of the researcher are collecting, compiling, categorizing, understanding and interpreting data (Creswell, 2012). The technique of data collection of this study was documentation. Qualitative research design allowed the researcher to collect data from documents. For this research the data were taken from the document in the transcript form of the seventh president of Indonesian inaugural addresses in 2014 and 2019. The documents may be public or private (Creswell, 2012). The document could be articles in newspaper, book, records, or report.

The data were analysed through some steps. The steps taken in this research were based on three processes in qualitative data analysis by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana, (2014). The data were classified first based on the keywords that indicateed commissive speech acts with the help of a software called Antconc (Anthony, 2019) which is a freeware corpus analysis toolkit for concordance and text analysis. It produced word lists that appeared in the addresses. The collected word lists were selected to find what indicated commissive words, such as promise, will, guarantee etc. Some of the commissive speech acts were usually marked by the word "will", but in fact, the utterance needed to be fully examined whether it was included to commissive speech act or not.

The next step on analyzing the utterance in the inaugural address is categorizing those sorted out words into Searle's (1976) and Schmid's (2000) category of commissive speech acts. In line with Searle's category, Vergaro (2018) stated in analyzing the commissive speech acts Schmid (2000) distinguished it into three main groups, namely, the offer group which include bid and offer, the promise group which include promise, pledge, guarantee, assurance, vow and oath, and the last group is the threat group which include warning, threat, and caveat. The commissive speech act can be predicted by the usage of the modal will (Loko, 2018). It captures the futurity of the speaker's actions or intentions (Dunmire, 2005).

Another aspect to analyze in commissive act is felicity conditions in Jokowi's inaugural address both in 2014 and 2019. In order an utterance to be felicitous, in line with Searle, Yule (1996) introduced four conditions of felicity conditions, namely content condition, preparatory conditions, sincerity condition, and essential condition. Fuller and Wardaugh (2015) state that felicity conditions describe the circumstance necessary for a particular speech act to be successfully performed (felicitous).

Based on Yule's classification, in line with Searle's classification, the general condition means the speaker must not be pretending like an actor and the hearer must be able to hear understand the language. Content conditions deal with the appropriate content of an utterance. Preparatory condition means that the speaker should be able to perform the promises uttered by him/her self and the speaker is not under control of other's power (speaker's willingness to do an act). In sincerity conditions the speaker is genuinely intends to carry out the future action. Sincerity should be held by the speaker to keep the promise in order to fulfill the sincerity condition (Hadiati, 2019). The speech act in sincere means it is being performed seriously and sincerely. Then the last condition is essential condition when the speaker uttering a promise, therefore the speaker intends to create an obligation to carry out the action as promised.

These conditions are necessary to be filled by the speaker when uttering a promise or a threat. As it is stated earlier that commissive speech act is a speech act which commit the speaker to do some future actions and once a person makes an utterance of promising, his promises should satisfy the felicity conditions, otherwise the promise will be infelicitous.

# **Findings and Discussion**

After the commissive acts were classified in each period, the researchers found four categories of the commissive act, namely promising, assuring, guarantying, and threatening. The analysis in the 2014 inaugural address showed that the president produced 11 commissive speech acts which categorized as promising and threatening speech acts. Meanwhile, in his 2019 inaugural address, the researchers found 15 utterances, and those utterances are categorized as promising, assuring, guarantying and threatening.

## Commissive Speech Acts in Inaugural Address in 2014

In analyzing the data, the president's utterances are classified based on the kind of speech act and the indicating point that express the utterance. From the 11 utterances, there are two categories that appear in 2014 inaugural address, namely, promising and threatening. After analyzing the data from the first term utterance, below are the utterances that include into commissive speech act.

(Com) 5- I am certain we will be able to carry this extremely difficult test of history with unity, cooperation [gotong royong] and hard work. (Com)[...]7- We will never be great if we are trapped in division and disunity. (Com)8- And, we will never be truly free without hard work. (Com) 9-The government that I lead will work to ensure that all people in all corners of the country can feel the presence of government services. (Com)[...] 11 -I am sure that this country will be stronger and dignified if all state agencies work, bearing the mandate as given by the Constitution. (Com)[...] 22- The next five years will be a defining momentum as a free nation.(Com)[...] 24I am confident, with hard work and cooperation, we will be able to protect the entire nation of Indonesia, and all of its people, to increase people's prosperity, to educate people's life, and to involve in world's order based on freedom, perpetual peace, and social justice.(Com)[...]26- I am stressing, under my administration, Indonesia as the third largest democracy with the largest Muslim population on Earth, as an archipelagic state, as Southeast Asia's largest country, will always conduct a "independent-and-active" foreign policy, to serve national interest, and to involve in world's order based on freedom, perpetual peace, and social justice. (Com)[..]30- We will be in full sail. (Com)-31-We will face all storms and waves with our own strength. (Com)-32 I will stand under the people's will and under the Constitution.

In these utterances, Jokowi performed commissive speech acts. He committed himself to do some future actions which he stated to the country on his inaugural day as the President of the Republic of Indonesia in 2014. As it is known that commissive speech acts are also varied, there are commissive act that include into promises, threats and offer. There are only two different kinds of commissive act in this those are promises and threats. The data displayed 11 commissive act which formed by 9 promises and 2 threats. Most of the utterances here are using the repetitive of modal will, as in *will be able, I will stand, the government that I lead will work.* Utterances in line 5, 9, 11, 22, 24, 26, 30, 31, and 32 are belong to commissive act promises, while the other two, line 7 and 8 are belong to commissive act threats.

## **Promising**

The speaker commits himself to do the things that he promisses to do in the future time and made an obligation to action he promised to the hearer which is the audience. An utterance in line 9 is an example of commissive because it tells the speaker's future action. The speaker makes his utterance to the hearer as a certain kind of obligation. He promises that the government that he leads will work to ensure that all people in all corners of the country can feel the presence of government services.

These promises should be seen its felicity condition in order to discover whether the promises are felicitous or not. From the general condition, both the speaker and the hearer are Indonesian and fully understand the language, therefore it fulfills the general condition because they do not pretend like the actor. Propositional content, the utterance refers to the future act, Jokowi commit himself to the hearer which is also the citizens, it can be predict from the use of modal *will*.

Preparatory condition will be fulfilled if the speaker is not under someone's power, since he was chosen as the President, he is able to do the promise which will have a beneficial effect to the hearer which the people in the entire country can feel the presence of government service.

In sincerity condition, "you mean what you say", it means that in this condition, the speaker sincerity is shown by the intention to perform his utterance. Since the speaker is capable to do the promise as he stated, that means he is sincere enough to carry out the future action.

The essential condition, he has the obligation to make the government he leads to ensure that all people in all corners of the country can feel the presence of government services. In other word, his utterance changes his state from non-obligation into obligation. The utterances in line 5, 9, 11, 22, 24, 26, 30, 31 also fulfill this condition. All of these conditions are felicitous if done as it should be, but in the present time when writing this article, some of the utterances are infelicitous, because the utterance does not meet the condition as promised, such utterance in line 9, 22 and 24. The future action does not meet the conditions, those utterances and promises will be infelicitous. It is proven in the second term address that the speaker uttered promises what he should be done in his first term which in the past.

### **Threatening**

Threats are divided into three, namely warning, threat, and caveat. The commissive of threatening that found in the data is warning. The president warned the audience of his inaugural address. The use of conditional sentence seems to be the marker to indicate the warning, since it is not giving benefit to the hearer. The example from line 7 and 8 are the utterance that categorized as commissive warning.

These commissive acts point is to say if the hearer will be X, if the hearer does not do Y (want Y (don't do, X)). The intended illocutionary acts are under the president government, he intended to make Indonesia unity and free.

In propositional condition, the presence of the modal *will* in a sentence indicates a future action of an utterance, therefore this condition is fulfilled, if the utterance does not meet the conditions in the future, the utterance is not included into propositional condition. The preparatory condition is fulfilled because the he is aware that he has warned the hearer about the future event that will happen if they do X. In preparatory condition, if a speaker utters a warning, it would probably give no benefit to the hearer. As for the sincerity condition, the speaker truly meant to warn the citizens to avoid disunity. The last is the essential condition, by uttering this warning, his utterances changes from non-informing of a bad future event to informing. Both of this utterance will be infelicitous if the utterance does not meet the conditions.

## **Commissive Speech Acts in Inaugural Address in 2019**

Different with the previous address, the second term address produce a lot of utterances. There are 65 utterances and 15 of them are categorized as the commissive speech acts. From the 15 utterances, there are four categories that appear in 2019 inaugural address, namely, promising, assuring, guarantying and threatening. The repetitive use of will, will be, will have, will continue, he uttered the promises refers to his upcoming leadership to overcome the unfinished work as he promised in his first term. The use of will here stands for willing. That means he is willing to do something or to act better in the future of the citizens of Indonesia. After analyzed the data from the second term utterance, the following are the utterances that include into commissive speech act.

(Com) [...] 4- Our dream, our ambition is that by 2045, after one century of Indonesian independence, Indonesia should, Insya Allah (God willing), have escaped the middle-income trap. (Com) 5- Indonesia will have become an advanced country with an annual income of Rp. 320 million per capita or a monthly income of Rp. 27 million per capita. (Com) [...] 7- Our dream is that by 2045, Indonesia's gross domestic product will have reached US\$7 trillion. (Com) 8- Indonesia will have become one of the top five world economies with a poverty rate nearing zero percent. (Com) [...] 33- I want and I will force a bureaucracy to deliver. (Com) [...] 40- First, the development of human resources will be our main priority. (Com) [...] 45- Second, we will continue infrastructure construction – infrastructure that connects production areas to distribution areas.(Com) [...] 47- The government will invite the House of Representatives to pass two big laws.(Com) 48- Both of these laws will be omnibus laws, namely a single law that revises several, even dozens of other laws. (Com) 49-Dozens of laws that hamper job creation will be revised at the same time. (Com) 50-Dozens of laws that hamper the development of small and medium enterprises will also be revised. (Com) 51- Fourth, we will continue to massively simplify the bureaucracy. (Com) 54- I will ask that this be simplified to only two levels, replaced by functional positions that value skill and competence. (Com) [...] 56- I will not have any mercy for those who are not serious. (Com) 57- I guarantee, one more time, i guarantee that I will remove [them].

### **Promising**

In this category, there are two categories of commissive acts, assuring, promising and guarantying. First the speaker performs act of promise as he try to assure the hearer that this country will have escaped the middle-income trap, will have become an advanced country, Indonesia's gross domestic product will have reached US\$7 trillion, will have become one of the top five world economies with a poverty rate nearing zero percent.

Through the use of *will have* here indicates the promise which categorized as assuring as stated in line 4,5,7 and 8. From the general condition, just like in the first term, both of the speaker and hearer understand the language being used. As for the content condition, the utterances in line 4,5,7, and 8 are not fit the content condition, because in the first term the speaker already stated that in the government that the speaker lead will make this country as free nation, but in fact the speaker still assure the citizen in his second term as stated in line 4,5,7 and 8. Thus make the content condition infelicitous, so the sincerity and the essential conditions.

Second, the speaker promises for more action he will do, to be exact in the next five years, the repetitive use of will, will be, will have, will continue, he uttered the promises refers to his upcoming leadership to overcome the unfinished work as he promised in his first term. The use of will here stands for willing. That means he is willing to do something or to act better in the future of the citizens of Indonesia. The content condition is felicitous because the speaker the future event will be the future act of the speaker. Then these utterances also fulfil the sincerity because the speaker has willingness or intention to do the future actions. This makes the utterance change into obligation, or fulfil the essential condition.

Unlike other utterances, this utterance is using performative verb of promising which is guarantee. It means that he has a strong intention to remove the people (ministers, officials, bureaucrats) who are not seriously guarantee the achievement of the goals of development programs. This means his utterance fulfil the sincerity condition. From his utterance it can be concluded that he undertakes this obligation in the future to remove the people who are not serious to achieve the goal. The preparatory condition fits the condition because the speaker is able to perform the utterance, felicitous.

# **Threatening**

Threatening in this address is different from threatening in the previous address which expresses warning. This utterance expresses a threat, line 56 and 57 are included. Here the illocutionary point of the utterance is to threat those people (ministers, officials, bureaucrats) who are not seriously guaranteed the achievement of the goals of development programs will not gain any mercy from the President. He has to commit with the threat he made to the minister, officials, and bureaucrats as one of his responsibility during the period of his presidency. In line 57, the speaker also made it clear as a threat that if those people are not serious, they will be removed from the parliament.

The felicity conditions of both utterances fulfil the general condition, the speaker is the chosen President and non-playacting, and the hearer are Indonesian citizens, so they meet the conditions because both of them are not understand the language being used.

The content condition concerns the appropriate content of an utterance and in this state, the circumstance support the production of the utterance. The speaker as the leader of the country who is stated the visions and missions in inaugural address is appropriate to produce such utterance. Therefore, it is clear that utterance fulfill the content condition. The utterance of threats here is also fits the preparatory condition because the speaker does think the event will occur if the hearer or the ministers, officials, bureaucrats who are not serious.

Sincerity condition can be analyzed from the sincerity of the speaker when he uttered the threats the speaker intended to carry out the action which has no benefit to the hearer. Since the utterances fulfill the condition, this utterance is pragmatically felicitous. The last is essential condition, his utterances changes from non-informing of a bad future event to informing. The speaker utterance fits this condition.

#### Conclusion

The present study has analyzed the inaugural addresses delivered by Jokowi in 2014 and 2019 using the speech acts theory. The results unveiled how Jokowi employed and used commissive acts in the inaugural addresses. First the results revealed that there are two categories of commissive acts in the first term and four in the second terms.

In contrast with the first term which were only 11, in his second term he uttered 15 commissive acts. The results conclude that to maintain people's trust in his second term, the speaker proposed more commissive acts than in the first term. This way of speaking was used to influence the hearer's perception to accept him as candidate who has good intentions to make the country developed. The results also revealed that there are four infectious commissive acts that the speaker produced in the second term which affect three commissive acts in his first term become infelicitous. However, the rest of commissive acts as the speaker promised for the other next five years met the felicity conditions which mean the utterances are felicitous. If in the future the speaker violates the commissive acts he uttered in 2019, it means that the speaker's commissive acts are infelicitous.

## References

- Aminuddin. 1990. *Pengembangan Penelitian Kualitatif dalam Bidang Bahasa dan Sastra*. Malang: Yayasan Asih Asah Asuh.
- Andewi, Widi & Waziana, Winia. 2019. An analysis of teacher's speech acts in teaching and learning process. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 17(1), 29-34.
- Anthony, L. 2019. AntConc [Computer Software]. Tokyo: Waseda University.
- Dosia, Putri Ayu & Rido, Akhyar. 2017. Production of English diphthongs: A speech study. *Teknosastik: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra*, 15(1), 21-35.
- Dunmire, P. L. 2005. Preempting the future: Rhetoric and ideology of the future in political discourse. *Discourse and Society*, *16*(4), 481-513.
- Fuller, J. M. & Wardaugh, R. 2015. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. United Kingdoms: Wiley Blackwell.
- Hadiati, C. 2019. Felicity conditions of the speech acts in Banyumasan daily conversation. *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*, *9*(6), 700.
- Loko, C. D. 2018. Analysis of speech acts in Donald Trump's acceptance speech. *Revue Internationale de Linguistique Appliquée, de Littérature et d'Education*, 1(1), 234-248.
- Miles, M. B., Huberman, A. M. & Saldana, J. 2014. *The Analysis of Qualitatitive Data*. USA: SAGE Publications.
- Priyatmojo, A. S. 2012. Indonesian political language. *UNNES International Conference on ELTL*, (1), 102-108.
- Putri, P. D. S. P. 2018. Representative and commissive illocutionary acts in Donald Trump's inauguration speech, 22, 1057-1062.
- Schmid, H. J. 2000. *English Abstract Nouns as Conceptual Shells*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Searle, J. R. 1976. A classification of illocutionary acts. *Language in Society*, 1–23.
- Ulum, M. & Sutopo, D. 2018. A comparison between Trump's and Clinton's commissive

speech act in America's presidential campaign speech. *English Education Journal*, 8(2), 221–228.

Vergaro, C. 2018. Illocutionary Shell Nouns in English. Switzerland: Peter Lang.

W.Creswell, J. 2012. Educational Research: Planning, Conducting and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boston: Pearson.

Yule, G. 1996. Pragmatics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

e-mail: teknosastik@teknokrat.ac.id