

Direct Commissive Speech Act in President Joe Biden's Address to Congress

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Abstract

In a speech event, it is common for the speaker may be hiding various meanings from the listeners in addition to just stating what they are saying. As a result, there are breaks in communication and understanding for the listeners. This current study was aimed to identify the types of direct commissive act and the literal meanings and pragmatic effects in President Joe Biden's Address to Congress. Focusing on the types of commissive speech act based on Searle's theory while the literal meaning as well as the pragmatic effects were based on Austin's theory. This study employed a qualitative methodology. The data were collected through perusal of documents. The findings showed that all the six types of direct commissive acts – promise, commit, guarantee, offer, bet, and threat – were used in President Joe Biden Address. The literal meanings and pragmatic effects showed that not all of President Biden's states were true. The findings of this study can be used by students who are going to conduct studies in this aspect, in particular, research in the pragmatic field focusing on the study of speech acts. This study suggest that stakeholders should use the findings of this study as a tool of assessment of public's point of view to leaders' promises in the context of social and political speech.

Keywords: Commissive act, illocutionary acts, pragmatic approach, speech event

Introduction

Speech act is a linguistic phenomenon that most people should be able to understand, and when a speaker gives a speech, they intend to impart meaningful information to the audience. As a result of speakers' utterances, the phrase "speech act" is created (Fadilah & Kuswoyo, 2021). Furthermore, in a critical speech event such as a speech to Congress, speakers' utterances typically contain more than one meaning; they usually have clear goals they hope to accomplish (Yokossi, 2022). However, the speaker may be hiding various meanings (pragmatic) from the audience in addition to just stating what they are saying (literal) (Mufiah *et al.*, 2018). As a result, there are breaks in communication and understanding for the listeners. Additionally, it might be challenging for listeners to judge whether or not the audience understands the speaker's context. These problems may lead to misunderstandings, especially for the listener; therefore, literal and pragmatic meanings should be implied to understand the speaker's real intentions (Husain *et al.*, 2020).

Luh *et al.* (2021) agreed that speakers must be truthful and willing to uphold their commitments. It compels the speaker to carry out his speech's instructions exactly. In order to effectively communicate verbally or in writing, one must comprehend the commissive speech act (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021). The researchers' attention was drawn to the direct commissive speech act. A direct commissive speech act, such as a promise or a commit, is a speech act made to oblige the speaker to act in the future. It refers to an act in which the speaker commits him/herself to do something with words such as offering, promising, committing, threatening, betting, and guaranteeing.

Several researchers have previously studied speech act analysis. These investigations have been conducted in several instances of speech act analysis and the meaning of words concerning political and social issues. First, Caroline et al. (2021) analyzed the speech acts of Mark Zuckerberg in English speeches on YouTube channels. The findings show that illocutionary acts found in the research are directives 15 cases or 43% and assertive 14 cases or 40% along with expressive 3 cases or 8%, commissive 2 cases or 6%, and declarations 1 case or 1%. The analysis found the dominant type of illocutionary act used in Mark Zuckerberg's speech "Find Your Purpose" based on the percentage of illocutionary acts is directive, representing 15 cases or 43%. Second, Husain et al. (2020) focused on the commissive speech act in the first Indonesian Presidential Debate in 2019. The findings show that 20 utterances belonged to the commissive speech act produced by Jokowi, Prabowo, and Sandi. However, there were no commissive speech act utterances produced by Ma'ruf. Third, Isanabiah & Fitrawati (2022) analyzed the Illocutionary acts performed on Fluency's YouTube channel. The findings show that the total of illocutionary acts is 209 cases, or 100%, consisting of representative 98 cases, expressive 77 cases, directive 18 cases, declarative 8 cases, and commissive 8 cases. The representative was the most dominant type of Illocutionary acts during the podcast about foods and jobs. The frequency of this type was performed 52 times in the food podcast and 46 times in the jobs podcast. In contrast, the minor types performed in the podcast are declarative and commissive. The total frequency of those types performed during the Foods and Jobs podcast is eight times. Fourth, Yokossi (2022) studied speech acts in Joe Biden's opening and closing remarks at the Virtual Summit for Democracy. The findings show; 1) the commissive speech acts have unveiled President Joe Biden's dream for the summit, and 2) the directive speech acts have revealed Biden's humble personality and collaborative character.

This study was conducted based on the issues above, therefore this study tried to look on the types of direct commissive speech acts as well as the literal meanings and pragmatic effects of the types from President Joe Biden Address to Congress. This study tries to determine the direct commissive speech act types in President Joe Biden's states in the Union Address to Congress on March 1st, 2022. President Biden spoke about various domestic concerns in his inaugural address. Moreover, he started by discussing the Russian invasion of Ukraine and vowed to continue providing military, economic, and humanitarian aid to the Ukrainian people. President Biden continued discussing the American economy, highlighting the bipartisan infrastructure bill's passage and the American Rescue Plan (ARP). In addition, he discussed immigration and border security, financing for the police, and the COVID-19 epidemic.

Theory and Method

This study implied J.L Austin's (1962) theory, and further developed by Searle's (1969) theory. The speech acts theory guided this study and has led to a substantial amount of empirical research on a variety of speech functions by analyzing the types of the direct commissive speech acts. Searle (1969) pointed out that the use of language includes at least three different categories of speech acts. The locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts are three categories of concurrent actions by Austin's (1962) Theory. This study concentrated on the commissive speech acts, one of the illocutionary act varieties. The commissive speech act is an act that aims to make promises or commitments in the future. According to Searle (1969), there are six types of commissive speech acts: promise, offer, commit, guarantee, bet and threats.

Meanwhile, the qualitative methodology approach was used in this study, which aims to comprehend the phenomena of a research topic by explaining it through the kind of words

or writing (Ivana & Suprayogi, 2020; Pranoto & Suprayogi, 2021; Rido et al., 2020). The qualitative method is a research strategy that explains a current phenomenon, occurrence, or event. Both the data collection and analysis are conducted qualitatively. Furthermore, the collected data is examined using relevant qualitative techniques (Creswell, 2009). Collecting and interpreting data are intuitive processes (Afrianto et al., 2021; Puspita & Pranoto, 2021).

Document analysis was used to gather data for this research. The Researchers gathered data for the qualitative study using a document analysis methodology (Bowen, 2009). This study used listening, reading, and simultaneous note-taking while collecting data and watching the video source (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005). Sutopo (2002) claimed that the following example demonstrates the data collection methods: Initially, the datasheet was mainly made to classify the data. Second, the researchers viewed the video source. Third, choose the data from the sentences after the study's goal. Fourth, collect the relevant videos. Lastly, classify the information that will be displayed on the datasheet.

For the data analysis, researchers, in this instance, detailed the direct commissive speech act in President Joe Biden's Address to Congress, which entails coding the data, identifying and classifying, categorizing, operating, and interpreting. The first step is for the researchers to code the speech video clips that the researchers have already transcribed. Second, the researchers identified and classified the data into five illocutionary acts categories: assertive, directive, expressive, commissive, and declarative. Third, the researchers only classified the data for any utterances—including commissive act utterances—divided into six types, namely: promise, commit, guarantee, offer, bet, and threat. After the data had been collected, the researchers finally analyzed it.

Findings

The findings of this research described into two categories. The first objective is to identify the types of direct commissive speech act that President Joe Biden used in his Address to Congress. The second objective is to know the literal meaning and pragmatic effect of direct commissive speech acts in President Joe Biden's states.

The findings indicated 64 utterances of the direct commissive act produced by President Joe Biden during his address. Six types of direct commissive act have emerged from the data that indicated promise, commit, guarantee, offer, bet, and threat as the results of direct commissive act types. The analysis of the direct commissive act types used by President Joe Biden's states is summarized in the table below.

Table 1. The Types of Direct Commissive Act

Speech Act	Types	Total
Commissive	Promise	32
	Commit	18
	Guarantee	7
	Offer	4
	Bet	2
	Threat	1

Table 1. presents the number of types of direct commissive act found during the speech. Based on the table, the total of the direct commissive act utterances is 64 data. Those types were promise with 32 data, commit with 18 data, guarantee with 7 data, offer with 4 data, bet with two data, and threat with one data. The detailed descriptions and explanations are in the following.

A. Promise

To promise someone that you will do something, not do something, or that something will happen, is known as a promise act. A commitment from the president is a significant message for the country's citizens when he addresses a joint session of Congress. It can be a tool to grab listeners' attention or it can also denote political order. In the states that President Joe Biden represents, there are 32 promise act. The data samples below show the utterances.

Extract 1.

"We're going to have an infrastructure decade." (data sample 2)

"It is going to transform America and put us on a path to win the economic competition of the 21st Century that we face with the rest of the world—particularly with China." (data sample 3)

Based on the extract 1 (data samples 2 and 3) above, the utterances were generated in the domestic manufacturing section. Biden pledged to build an infrastructure to spur economic development while transforming America. The infrastructure decade refers to the period from 2021 to 2030, in which significant investments in the country's infrastructure are expected. President Biden has proposed the American Jobs Plan, which is a \$2 trillion package aimed at rebuilding infrastructure, creating jobs, combating climate change, and addressing racial inequities. The proposed plan will be the largest investment in infrastructure in the country's history, and it is expected to revitalize the economy, create good-paying jobs, and improve people's quality of life.

The extract 1 (data samples 2 and 3) were categorized as promise act of type. Based on the context, Biden's goal was to improve America, including these facts. Biden thought the low jobless rate in America was due to a lack of economic growth. Overall, the Infrastructure Decade will bring opportunities for continued progress and growth. With significant investment in infrastructure, the country will overcome many of the challenges that have been holding it back, leading to increased economic growth, job creation, improved public health, and a sustainable future. This investment in the country's infrastructure is not only necessary but long overdue, and the American Jobs Plan presents a unique opportunity to bring the country up to speed with other developed countries in terms of infrastructure.

Extract 2.

"My plan will not only lower costs to give families a fair shot, it will lower the deficit." (data sample 17)

"By the end of this year, the deficit will be down to less than half what it was before I took office." (data sample 18)

Based on the extract 2 (data samples 17 and 18) above, Biden continued with further explanation about his plan of American family and education programs. He mentioned the enchanted Child Tax Credit also he stated that his plans would lower costs for families and deficit.

The extract 2. (data samples 17 and 18) were categorized as promise act of type. From the context, these utterances show that President Biden did a commissive act that is promising. He promised the deficit would be down to less than half what it was before by the end of this year, which refers to the data deficit before Biden became president and took office. According to CNN Politics, the data was accurate, making the deficit smaller under the Biden administration than at the end of President Donald Trump's tenure. However, the deficit has been more significant under the Biden administration than the nonpartisan federal

Congressional Budget Office had projected it would be if the Biden-era federal government stuck with the laws that were in effect when Trump left office in early 2021.

B. Commit

A serious commitment or pledge to do something is referred to as a commit act. President Joe Biden was determined to have committed a compulsive speech act during his speech. As shown in the data samples below, the data happened when the speaker was committed to resolving issues, taking action, and demonstrating intent.

Extract 3.

“We are choking off Russia’s access to technology that will sap its economic strength and weaken its military for years to come” (data sample 33)

Based on the extract 3 (data sample 33) above, Biden's plan to prevent Russia from accessing technology will undermine that country's military and economic might for years. Its serious goal was to stop Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The extract 3 (data sample 33) was categorized as a commit act. The speaker should intend to act in the future, and the addressee should want him to do what he promises. Biden did commit to doing what he said in the utterance, going by the context. He convinces the populace subtly that blocking Russia's access to technology is the only way to prevent an invasion. Because Russia's military is far more sophisticated than America's, Biden understood that defeating Russia on the battlefield is impossible.

Extract 4.

“And let’s get all Americans the mental health services they need. More people they can turn to for help, and full parity between physical and mental health care.” (data sample 46)

By referring to the extract 4 (data sample 46) above, it was produced by President Biden in the Medicare Health part of his states. According to Sari et al. (2020), the medical team is the group that needs the most attention during this global pandemic because they are in charge of caring for Covid-19 victims and are working to address the situation on a worldwide scale. They need support from society.

The extract 4 (data sample 46) was categorized as a commit act. From the context, it was about mental health for all American and full parity between physical and mental health care. Because today’s conditions are not going to be okay without their participation in helping the victim of Covid-19, we need to take self-protection by our self not only come from public health. Thus, the leader must clearly state that everyone would be safe and sound.

C. Guarantee

When a speaker promises to do something in the future, they are making a guarantee. It was discovered that the assurance was used with considerable conviction in the matter. Sometimes it was carried out by negative effects connected to the problem. This incident took place as the speaker was discussing the infrastructure, health, and gun trafficking. The data samples below show the utterances.

Extract 5.

“And I will keep doing everything in my power to crack down on gun trafficking and ghost guns you can buy online and make at home—they have no serial numbers and can’t be traced.” (data sample 57)

Based on the extract 5 (data sample 57) above, Biden produced it that focused on gun trafficking and online ghost guns. It was about the dangers of ghost guns. New York Times News reported that one of the actions taken by President Biden to curb gun violence was to crack down on the proliferation of firearms assembled from kits that do not have serial numbers. "I want to see these kits treated as firearms under the Gun Control Act," Mr. Biden said. According to a report by Everytown for Gun Safety, a gun violence prevention organization, an AR-15 build kit costs as low as \$345. It's easy and relatively inexpensive.

The extract 5 (data sample 57) was categorized as a guarantee act. From this context, Biden intended to ban the ghost guns that everyone can afford easily at online stores. He will start the crackdown by shutting down those online stores and investigating whether the products have serial numbers. This solution can provide the team efficiency while working on it. It is easy to detect because those products cannot be tracked.

Extract 6.

"We're leaving no one behind or ignoring anyone's needs as we move forward." (data sample 52)

"And on testing, we have made hundreds of millions of tests available for you to order for free." (data sample 53)

"Even if you already ordered free tests tonight, I am announcing that you can order more from covidtests.gov starting next week." (data sample 54)

"If necessary, we'll be able to deploy new vaccines within 100 days instead of many more months or years." (data sample 55)

By referring to the extract 6 (data samples 52-55) above. President Biden produced the utterances in his healthcare part of the speech. Biden mentioned the availability of millions of tests for free for all communities. He also said how to visit and register for the test via a website, namely covidtests.gov, that everyone can explore on their gadgets. Biden guarantees that no one will not be left behind, which refers to all the patients that are still struggling to be cured and all American, with no exceptions. He also promises that everyone will get the same treatment on the progress.

The extract 6 (data samples 52-55) were categorized as guarantee acts type. From this context, President Biden guaranteed that all Americans have the same treatment and that all will be taken care of through the "test to treat" program. They will not ignore behind, as he stated in his extract. He mentioned that everyone that has already ordered a trial could take it for the second or third time as long as they registered on the covidtest.gov official website. He reassured the community that the government's comprehensive preparation could back up the number of vaccines immediately; it would not take so long, according to his utterance.

D. Offer

The word "offer" is frequently used in ordinary conversation to present something for acceptance or rejection. It was discovered that President Joe Biden had generated offer act in his states. This investigation showed that a datum including an offer utterance was present in the event, as shown by the data samples below.

Extract 7.

"Up to eight state-of-the-art factories in one place. 10,000 new good-paying jobs" (data sample 58).

By referring to the extract 7 (data sample 58) above, the speaker not directly produced the word "offer", which means it had an implicit meaning of future action. Biden stated some points of his plans for future actions. Specifically, Biden noted that he would build an infrastructure that would provide 10.000 new job vacancies for the American people.

The extract (58) was categorized as an offer act. It is one of President Biden's missions that he will achieve in the future. From this context, he offered optimism in the future about opening new job vacancies for thousands of applicants. The purpose was to stimulate audiences to believe in him as the current US President and bring back his people's trust. Even though most of the audiences, precisely society, cannot easily give faith in him anymore.

Extract 8.

"If you're immunocompromised or have some other vulnerability, we have treatments and free high-quality masks" (data sample 60).

By referring to the extract 8 (data sample 60) above, Biden stated about covid-19 recovery in the healthcare part of the speech. The Biden-Harris Administration began a nationwide Test to Treat campaign in March 2022 to facilitate prompt access to COVID-19 life-saving medicines at little to no cost. Thousands of locations nationwide, including pharmacy-based clinics, federally funded health centers, long-term care homes, and community-based sites, provide the Test to Treat initiative. The program was expanded in May 2022 to include Test to Treat facilities funded by the government and serving vulnerable areas. Some of the biggest pharmacy chains in the country are partners with Test to Treat.

The extract 8 (data sample 60) was categorized as an offer act. From this context, Biden proposed the "Test to Treat" program to help everyone with no exception that they will get tested at a pharmacy. The purpose is to persuade them that the government is trying to provide the best possible service to the community. Biden clearly stated that everyone could have equal treatment and nothing left behind.

E. Bet

A bet act is a decision to take a financial risk, etc. When the speaker's power was on the line, it was discovered that a bet was used. The data samples below show the utterances.

Extract 9.

"When the history of this era is written Putin's war on Ukraine will have left Russia weaker and the rest of the world stronger." (data sample 62)

By referring to the extract 9 (data sample 62) above, Biden produced it at the end of the conflict in Ukraine section. After he mentioned the utterance, he empathized with the fallen victims' families. He assured the community that even though there would be a possible chance of engaging in a war with Russia.

The extract 9 (data sample 62) was categorized as a bet act. From this context, Biden intended to reassure all Ukrainians that America controls everything. As he said in the extract, "Putin's war on Ukraine will have left Russia weaker and the rest of the world stronger". As Biden mentioned directly in the datum, President Biden declared that this conflict was all caused by Putin. He had power at stake, position and reputation. Both forces became a bet to improve Ukraine and corner Russia. In this case, he fought something by entrusting his position as president.

Extract 10.

“And, if Congress provides the funds we need, we’ll have new stockpiles of tests, masks, and pills ready if needed.” (data sample 63)

Based on the extract 10 (data sample 63) above, President Biden reassured the community that the government thorough preparation could back up the number of vaccines immediately; it would not take so long, according to his utterance. Thus, in this data (63), Biden purposely told Congress to hand him the money.

The extract 10 (data sample 63) was categorized as a bet act. From this context, the way Biden defied Congress to hand him some money to provide the things he promised will be provided soon as possible. He challenges himself to take care of it quickly and precisely.

F. Threat

A threat act is an assertion that warns someone that they will suffer consequences or suffer harm, especially if they do not comply with your wishes. The threat was discovered to have served as a warning to the addressee. This information was gathered at a time when the speaker's policy was being overextended. The data sample below show the utterances.

Extract 11.

“When we use taxpayer dollars to rebuild America – we are going to Buy American: buy American products to support American jobs.” (data sample 64)

By referring to the extract 11 (data sample 64), Biden warned all American to start using American products to support American jobs. As part of his administration's initiatives to strengthen the nation's manufacturing sector, President Joe Biden issued an executive order on Monday to enforce current United States government "Buy American" laws and close loopholes. The directive will instruct agencies to raise the threshold and the price preferences for domestic goods to reduce the \$600 billion the US government spends on federal contracts. According to the White House, it would also establish a central evaluation of prospective Buy American waivers and oversee a cross-agency examination of all domestic preferences.

The extract 11 (data sample 64) was categorized as a threat act. From the context, Biden used threat type of acts pointing to all Americans as a warning to buy and use all American products to support American jobs, economic growth and infrastructure.

Discussion

To begin with, the preponderance of direct commissive speech acts is indicative of the main themes of the researched address to a Congress in each case. President Joe Biden has used direct commission speech acts to express his point of view about issues and challenges that the United States face at the time in particular and in the global context generally, knowing that they accurately reflect the state of affairs as perceived by the speaker (Baby et al., 2020). The president was able to inform the congress participants of the true nature of his presentation to the entire globe by using this category of speech acts. Shedding light on the pressing issues the US is currently dealing with, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare, climate change, social justice, and other issues for which there is no statistical data. Politicians are prone to lying on such occasions, but Joe Biden is probably not doing so here. However, some analysts claim that parts of his statements lacked strong evidence. He like to inform the attendees of the joint sessions of Congress of the true main challenges that are currently being faced in order to take significant action against its negative trends by

advocating some of his strategies to tackle such concerns. As a result, the felicity content condition—which demands that the locutions' or utterances' content be appropriate—is satisfied. Therefore, whatever has been said about the American president's speech is partially accurate and partially trustworthy.

The concluding remarks made by President Joe Biden addressed Congress at the joint session essentially intended to highlight the conference's tangible accomplishments in terms of resolving the issues that the United States was currently facing at the time. This study has mostly used commissive speech acts, in this perspective. This study has similar purpose with Baby et al. (2020) study, sentences are analyzed on both direct illocutionary acts and indirect illocutionary acts to show that speaker has intention to say more than what he utters and he wants to do more than his utterances. While this study only focus only on direct commissive speech act, focusing on commissive illocutionary acts in particular. According to the hypothesis, commissive act speak about future actions that the speaker plans to take. Yusanti et al. (2022), argued that by inviting leaders from more than 100 governments along with activists, trade unionists, and other members of civil society, premier experts and researchers, as well as representatives from the business community to the joint sessions of congress, the commissive speech acts of the examined remarks have been used to reveal or lay bare the plans Biden has in mind for the re-establishment for a better America. Biden actually wants the meetings to be a time when important choices are made to counter the current dangers to the United States (Baby et al., 2020; Yusanti et al., 2022)). All these tangible accomplishments, according to Yokossi (2020), provide assurance that Joe Biden will carry out the ideas that led to the summit's organizing. Consequently, the happy sincerity conditions are then met. These favorable circumstances enable us to state that Joe Biden and the session participants will carry out all the plans and decisions made there as recorded in the cooperative speech actions in the analyzed remarks. With these efforts of the American President Joe Biden, the summit's participating nations and the entire world can anticipate living in a better world in the future.

President Biden enumerated promise acts to take or the laws he had suggested. The COVID-19 epidemic, healthcare, climate change, social justice, and other pressing issues facing the US are among those addressed in this speech event. One of President Biden's biggest commitments is the American Families Plan, which calls for investing \$1.8 trillion in American family and educational initiatives over the following ten years. This strategy asks for expanding preschool access, paid family leave, community colleges, and financial aid for families with young children. The numerous guarantees in this proposal for childcare, healthcare, and education will be helpful to American families. The American Families Plan includes universal pre-kindergarten, free community college, two years of paid family and medical leave, enhanced child tax credits, and lower healthcare costs. Biden emphasized the significance of these safeguards in order for families to prosper in the present and the future. The results of the Yokossi (2020) study about President Joe Biden's opening and closing remarks on the Virtua Summit, the writer supported President Biden's pledge to quickly sign into law the Build Back Better Plan, which will be a significant investment in American workers and give families in the country a little more breathing room to handle their challenges and opportunities. This Build Back Better Plan program's significances have similar goals with American Families Plan in this study. However, there is no significant statistical data progress on the plans, only changing the name of the program. Thus, President Joe Biden only provided sweet promises to regain public trust but there is no real visible progress. Additionally, President Biden's infrastructure plan, the American Jobs Plan, promises to invest \$2 trillion in improving America's infrastructure, creating jobs, and halting climate change. In addition to boosting broadband availability, investing in

sustainable energy, and allocating funds for affordable and accessible housing, the plan calls for fixing roads, bridges, and highways. Another significant commitment made by President Biden is his support for social justice and police reform. According to Efendi (2022), President Biden suggested the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which would make police more accountable and put a stop to racial profiling. Additionally, he urged Congress to enact the Equality Act, which offers protections for LGBTQ+ individuals in employment, housing, and other areas. This is consistent with the findings of Yokossi's (2020) study, which showed that all these tangible realizations provide Joe Biden confidence that he will follow out his goals, which resulted in the summit's organization.

President Joe Biden highlighted a number of commit acts in his speech to Congress that are essential to understanding his administration's objectives. In fact, President Biden mentioned how the US has consistently supported Ukraine since that country's independence in 1991. As a result of its political and geostrategic alignment with the US, Ukraine has received significant financial, military, and diplomatic support from the US. Additionally, by sanctioning Russia, the US has supported diplomatic efforts to end the conflict in Ukraine and supported Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In Bani-Khaled (2021) study, the United States has fostered the growth of deeper economic, security, and interpersonal ties between the two countries and has been a significant partner for Ukraine. It can be argued that the commit acts found as the most used in the present study was in contrast with the finding of Yokossi (2020) study. In addition, President Biden provided a list of recommendations for resolving the problems facing the country among them is healthcare. He listed the "Test to Treat" philosophy of medicine as one of his top concerns. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services states that patients' healthcare providers (including telehealth) and other locations of care can test, treat, and prescribe treatment for COVID-19 (Ahmed, 2021). This significant in line with Ahmed (2021) study, the Test to Treat effort seeks to speed up easy access to COVID-19 medicines that can save lives. The test to treat industry involves thousands of locations around the nation, including pharmacy-based clinics, federally funded health centers, long-term care facilities, and community-based sites. Ahmed (2021) stated that these pledges are bold, but they will cost a lot of money, time, and effort to fulfill. The president will need to work closely with Congress and the American people to achieve these goals.

President Joe Biden highlighted a number of guarantee acts in his speech to Congress. The COVID-19 immunizations and the ghost pistol were two of President Biden's most crucial assurances in his speech to Congress. With regard to vaccines and "ghost" weapons, the US has been facing significant challenges. While vaccinations can boost herd immunity and protect against fatal diseases, the more recent and alarming phenomenon of ghost guns is to blame for deadly mass shootings. These two issues are now of utmost importance to the general public, policymakers, and medical community. Both decision-makers and citizens must concentrate on these two pressing challenges in order to take fast action. Based on Yusanti et al. (2022), utilizing vaccines is essential for preserving and enhancing public health and safety, and steps must be taken to dispel misconceptions regarding any potential risks. Tougher laws could also aid in reducing their prevalence and the harm resulting from their improper use. The public's anxiety about their health and safety in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the aftermath of the pandemic has come to an end, thus, this issues need to be handled by the officials soon. Moreover, the public safety is seriously threatened by ghost weapons. According to the New York Times, President Biden's efforts to reduce gun violence included cracking down on the spread of weapons made from kits without serial numbers. Mr. Biden stated, "I want to see these kits recognized as guns under the Gun Control Act. A report by Everytown for Gun Safety claims that an AR-15

construction kit can be purchased for as cheap as \$345. It's simple and reasonably priced. The president underlined the need to combat structural racism and protect Americans' right to vote in his speech. He committed to fight for racial and economic justice and urged Congress to pass laws relating to police reform. Sofian (2021) stated that the George Floyd Justice in enforcement Act, one of President Biden's measures for racial fairness and enforcement reform, was another topic of discussion. The bill also aims to establish uniform national standards for police enforcement by outlawing the use of lethal force and restricting the use of racial profiling. Additionally, it establishes accountability for law enforcement misconduct and makes it easier to file charges against police for civil rights violations. These laws are essential for ensuring that everyone is treated equally and fairly under the law, regardless of their background, and for racial justice.

In order to boost the economy, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for Americans, President Biden put up a number of offer acts. Two of the president's top legislative suggestions are improvements to infrastructure and the reduction of COVID-19. In his speech, President Biden stressed the need to prioritize sustainability when improving infrastructure. Infrastructure must be long-lasting, environmentally friendly, and sustainable. This calls for a long-term strategy that takes into account both the implications of climate change and societal expectations in the future. In Ahmed (2021) and Yusanti (2022) studies, they discussed the significance of ongoing coronavirus relief programs, including funding for vaccine distribution, assistance for start-up companies, and increased unemployment benefits. How strongly human health and wellbeing are correlated with the quality of the infrastructure that supports their daily living has been made clear by the COVID-19 pandemic. Strong infrastructures, such as efficient public health systems, testing capabilities, and hospitals with ample beds and medical supplies, were already in place in the countries that were better able to handle the epidemic. If infrastructure is to be improved and COVID-19 alleviation measures are to be reached, government investment must increase. Therefore, both public health activities and upcoming illness research need more money. Such funding will help with the development of additional hospitals to house patients as well as the study of disease vaccines and treatments.

President Joe Biden made a number of bet acts claimed in his home state, suggesting that only Putin was to blame for the crisis involving Russia and Ukraine. He bet that Putin's war on Ukraine would make the rest of the world stronger and weaken Russia since he had power, position, and reputation at stake. Both parties made a bet to fortify Ukraine and encircle Russia. In this case, he fought against something by giving up his presidency in the eyes of the communities. Rugged international sanctions have been imposed on Russia as a result of Putin's controversial conduct in annexing Crimea and supporting rebels in eastern Ukraine (Bani-Khaled, 2021; Baby et al., 2020). As a result of the violence in Ukraine, many people have perished and thousands of more have been forced to flee their homes. Putin could have wished to reestablish Russian dominance in the region, but it seems that the conflict has actually made Russia weaker than it was before. The sanctions that the West put on Russia have had a major impact on its economy. The country's GDP has drastically declined, and the value of the ruble has diminished. Additionally, as a result of Russia's military intervention in Ukraine, Ukraine's standing among its people and the international community has declined. Thus, what President Biden uttered in his address at the Congress was mostly true. He intended to tell the communities to reassured them that United States and Ukraine are safe and sound under Biden's administrations. He also gave sympathy to all Ukrainians about the problems that they faced at the moment. Therefore, President Biden hand a bet to the world that these problems are under control by the president of America.

President Joe Biden issued a threat in his home states, saying that purchasing items made in the United States will support American jobs. One argument is that customers can contribute to the preservation of jobs in the country by assisting small businesses and domestic producers. This thereby reduces unemployment rates and boosts the economy. In Baby et al. (2021) study, they agreed that as jobs are created, the wages and benefits that go along with them will increase consumer demand, which will lead to the creation of even more jobs. There is also the argument that because American-made products must pass strict certification requirements and standards, they are typically of superior quality and safety than equivalent imports. But some detractors claim that emphasizing buying products made in the United States can be restrictive, especially as the world moves toward a global economy. The officials claimed that as a result of globalization, American producers today find it difficult to compete with businesses from countries with lower labor costs and less regulation. In the end, American-made products become much more expensive, rendering many consumers unable to afford them (Sofian, 2021). A few imported goods may also be of great quality and provide clients more options. Moreover, Ahmed & Amir (2021) also agreed that there are arguments for and against buying products made in the United States in order to support American workers. The choice must ultimately be made by the individual depending on their priorities and values. It is important to keep in mind that opting to buy products created in the United States should not come at the expense of other nations given that we are all global citizens and that international trade promotes economic growth and development for both the domestic and global markets.

Conclusion

All the six types of the direct commissive act were used in this study. Based on Searle's theory, the researchers found the types of the direct commissive act in President Joe Biden's address to Congress described as follows: the total of direct commissive act types were 64 data divided into six types such as Promise with 32 data, followed by Commit with 18 data, along with Guarantee with 7 data, then Offer with 4 data, while Bet with 2 data, and Threat with 1 data.

President Biden mostly used Promise and Commit acts in his Address to Congress. It shows that President Biden's real intentions had severe purposes for overcoming the problems in his states, starting with the conflict in Ukraine, COVID-19 recovery, domestic manufacturing, and healthcare, energy, & tax. The use of the guarantee act in the states was President Biden committed himself to the belief that he would achieve certain things in the future. Somehow, it was followed by consequences related to the issue if he could not fulfil his pledges in the future. It showed from the discussions that some parts of his programs could not be or not possible to be implemented according to some experts. The use of offer act could help the speaker bring opportunities for the community whether they agree with President Biden's offer. Biden has one of the worst approval ratings going into his first inaugural address of any president in the polling era. President Biden tries to bring a closer relationship with the audience and simplify the use of words by stating an offer act of type. The use of bet act of type helps the speaker to give background assumptions about the information to gain back the community's trust without stating prolixity in making utterances. Lastly, the threat act type by President Biden was used in a warning act to the addressee. They will be punished or harmed, especially if the hearer does not do what the speaker wants, which is to make threats against somebody. It was found that President Biden used threat act in his states that compulsion all Americans to start using American products to support American jobs, which threatened them to buy all local products and prohibited to use of other countries products.

The study's findings are beneficial in a variety of ways. First, the results of this study are helpful to students who are planning to do research in this area, particularly pragmatic research that focuses on the analysis of speech acts. Second, it gives readers much more information on compulsive speech acts and insight into the underlying meanings of words. Third, based on the direct commissive act from the speech, the findings also offer a thorough understanding of what the speaker means to say during the speech. Finally, stakeholders should use the study's findings as a new framework for comparison and evaluation of the public's perception of President Joe Biden's pledges within the framework of social and political communication.

To this end, this study has produced some intriguing findings, but these findings have two limitations. First, this study only examined one type of illocutionary act, the commissive act; subsequent research should examine additional types and functions. Second, the study was confined to a thorough examination of a small number of data sources. Future research could use more extensive speech events to provide more in-depth analyses of the types and purposes of speeches. This study also implies that this subject should be investigated further utilizing a number of additional theories and perspectives.

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