

SPEECH FUNCTIONS IN THE ELLEN DEGENERES' SHOW

Helena Aprilia

Tarakanita Junior High School, Citra Raya, Tangerang, Indonesia

correspondence: helenaaprilia98@gmail.com

<https://doi.org/10.24071/uc.v3i1.4734>

received 29 April 2021; accepted: 29 February 2022

Abstract

Learning and having a deep understanding of speech functions are important in order to diminish misunderstanding in a process of communication. Thereupon, this research aims to identify the speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests. In this research, the researcher formulated two research questions: 1) Which speech functions that are used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests? and 2) What are the differences of speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests? In order to answer the research questions, the researcher used the qualitative data method by applying content analysis. There are then found six speech function categories used by Ellen DeGeneres. Those functions were instrumental, regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, and heuristic. Moreover, Ellen's guests used five speech functions. Those functions were regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, and heuristic. In the five videos, Ellen was more dominant in using heuristic and regulatory functions. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests were more dominant in using interactional, regulatory, and representational functions.

Keywords: Ellen DeGeneres, Ellen's guest, speech function

Introduction

As social creatures, people certainly need to communicate with others because they cannot live alone. They can express their feelings to others, interact with other people, share their experiences and knowledge, solve some problems, and trigger new ideas when they are communicating. According to Velentzas and Broni (2014), "One definition of communication is any act by which one person gives to or receives from another person information about that person's needs, desires, knowledge, or affective states".

When people want to communicate with other people, they need a language as a medium of communication. Wardhaugh (2006) states that language is a code that is used by people when they communicate one to another. Additionally, Armstrong and Ferguson (2010) state that language is used to either deliver information or request services in several conditions such as asking services in a market. Therefore, language is an important thing in people's life because they use it in the process of communication.

Based on the explanation above, it is important for people to communicate in the society by using a language. However, in understanding the language used in a society, people need to learn sociolinguistics. Deckert and Vickers (2011) state that

sociolinguistics focuses on the way people use language in their life. Additionally, Holmes (2013) says that sociolinguistics is related to the language and context where the language is used.

One of the parts learned in sociolinguistics is speech function. It focuses on people's way to deliver some ideas in the process of communication so the listeners can understand well. Halliday (1973) states that there are seven functions of language. They are instrumental, regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, heuristic, imaginative, and metalinguistic. Moreover, Holmes (1992) states that there are six functions of language. They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, poetic, and phatic.

In daily conversation, people use various functions of language. Besides in daily conversation, speech functions can also be found in electronic and social media such as television, YouTube, and Instagram. For example, videos of television programs such as "The Ellen DeGeneres Show", which can be downloaded from YouTube. The Ellen DeGeneres Show is one of American television programs. This program is hosted by Ellen DeGeneres. As a host, Ellen DeGeneres uses different functions of language. It can be seen from the way she leads the discussion with her guests. Moreover, Ellen's guests also use different functions of language in the talk show.

Therefore, in this era, it is important to learn and understand the speech functions. This part of the sociolinguistics field helps people to grasp each function of speech in a conversation. Then, people can deliver the message to others well. As a result, people can diminish misunderstanding in the conversation. Moreover, learning and understanding speech functions can create a good interaction among people.

Speech Function

In daily conversation, people talk differently to other people. This statement is in line with Holmes (2013:274) who says that people adapt their language when they are talking to others, such as children, colleagues, and customers. They use various categories of speech functions because those categories have different purposes in a conversation. Therefore, the functions of language are important to understand because the functions of language also affect their forms.

Halliday (1973) states that there are seven functions of language. Those functions are instrumental, regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, heuristic, and imaginative.

Instrumental Function

Halliday (1973) states that instrumental function is used to satisfy people's needs and it enables people to get what they want. Additionally, in the book *Applied Studies Towards a Sociology of language*, Halliday explains that "it is the 'I want' function, including of course 'I don't want'." (as cited in Bernstein, 2004, p.349).

Regulatory Function

Regulatory function aims to control some events. It also controls someone's actions. Besides, "the regulatory is the 'do as I tell you' functions of language" (Halliday, 2006, p. 71). Regulatory function by Halliday (1973) is similar to directive function by Holmes (1992). Directive function, as Holmes and Wilson (2017) state, aims to get other people to do something. Directive function is in the form of interrogative, imperative, and declarative. The first is interrogative. Holmes (2013)

states that interrogative form is the polite attempt to get other people to do something. The next is imperative. Holmes (2013) states that imperative form is used to express commands. Furthermore, Thompson (2013) states that imperative form is used to prompt someone to do something. The last is declarative. According to Holmes (2013), declarative form is the polite attempt to ask other people to do something.

Representational Function

Representational function is used to make statements, explanations, reports, or representations of reality (Halliday, 1973). This function is similar to referential function by Holmes (1992). Referential function as Holmes and Wilson (2017) explain, is used to give information. For example, “The ice is cold.” The sentence represents the reality of the ice. Other examples are “Biology examination will be started at 7 a.m.” and “We are going to learn about respiratory system.” The first sentence consists of information about the time when Biology examination begins. Meanwhile, the second sentence consists of information about the material that is going to be learned.

Interactional Function

Halliday (1973) states “the interactional function of language serves to ensure social maintenance”. In other words, this function aims to maintain social relations with other people. Furthermore, interactional function by Halliday (1973) is similar to phatic function by Holmes (1992). Phatic function, as Holmes and Wilson (2017) explain, aims to express solidarity with others. The example of the interactional is presented below.

John : Hi, Mike!
Mike : Hi, John!
John : How are you, Mike? Mike : Great, thanks.

Based on the example above, the sentences “Hi, Mike!”, “Hi, John!”, and “How are you Mike?” show greeting utterances. Meanwhile, the sentence “Great, thanks” shows a good answer for the hearers. Moreover, the sentences that are uttered by John and Mike can keep social relations because they greet each other, and Mike responds to John’s greeting well.

Personal Function

Personal function aims to express someone’s feelings and emotions as well as speakers’ personality (Halliday, 1973). Personal function is similar to expressive function by Holmes (1992). Expressive function, as Holmes and Wilson (2017) explain, is used to express the speaker’s feelings. Halliday (1973) states “A person’s individuality is usually characterized by his or her use of the personal function”.

Heuristic Function

Halliday (1973) states that heuristic function aims to enrich knowledge and learn about the surrounding. This function directs to answer because it is in the form of questions.

Imaginative Function

Halliday (1973) states that imaginative function allows a speaker to create fictional senses in telling fairy tales or writing novels. This function also gives the

freedom of using language to create impossible dreams. Afterward, according to Holmes and Wilson (2017), imaginative function in their poetic function focuses on aesthetic features. The examples of poetic function, as stated by Holmes (2001), are a poem, an ear-catching motto, and a rhyme.

Metalinguistic function

Holmes (1992) states that metalinguistic function is used to comment on language itself. For instance, 'Hegemony' is not a common word. The word "hegemony" means leadership and domination by a country over other countries or nations. Afterward, "not a common word" is the comment of hegemony because it is not a familiar word or rarely used by people.

In addition to the theory of speech function, the researcher reviewed some researches that are relevant to the speech function. Tarigan (2018) did the same research. She analyzed the speech function used by the main characters in the Moana movie. In collecting the data, she watched and analyzed the script of Moana movie that was downloaded from a website, namely Fandom. The findings of the research showed that Moana used five speech function categories and Maui used six speech function categories. Moana was dominant in using regulatory function while Maui was dominant in using personal function.

Martanto (2014) also did the same research. He analyzed the speech functions used by Alex Hitches and Sara Mendes in the "Hitch" movie. The findings of the research showed that ten kinds of speech functions used by Alex and Sara. They were statement, answer, question, acknowledgement, contradiction, command, offer, disclaimer, rejection, and acceptance. The highest function that was used by both of them was a statement.

Sibarani and Santoso (2019) did the same research as Martanto (2014). They analyzed speech function in the E-Talk Show Program. Furthermore, the theory of speech functions by Halliday (1994) was used in analyzing the data. The researchers used host's and guests' utterances in the E-talk show program on TvOne as the data. In addition, the researchers applied qualitative content analysis method in this research. The results of the research showed that the guests used statement, question, command, and offer in both of sensitive topics. However, the guests on an opponent's side did not use command.

Moreover, Hapsari (2019) did a similar research about speech function. She analyzed speech functions in the student's group discussion at the tenth grade of MAN Salatiga. In this research, qualitative study applied because the data were not in the form of numbers. In collecting the data, the researcher did the observation, the interview. She also recorded the students' group discussion and used transcription. The findings of the research showed that the students used 42 utterances of expressive, 60 utterances of directives, 51 utterances of referential, 62 utterances of metalinguistic, 3 utterances of poetic, and 9 utterances of phatic in their group discussion.

The Ellen DeGeneres Show

The Ellen DeGeneres Show is an American television program. This television program was released on September 8th, 2013 and it is hosted by Ellen DeGeneres. Besides, it is included as a comedy talk show. According to Timberg and Erler (2010), the TV talk show is controlled by some rules that make it different from other

television programs. Moreover, Ilie (2001) states talk show is known as an entertainment program that is designed to be funny and relaxing.

Method

This study is a qualitative research. According to Denzin and Lincoln (2005), qualitative research concerns interpretation and natural approach (p.3). During the qualitative research process, human has important roles. In 2009, Ary, Jacobs, Sorensen, and Razavieh state that human is the instrument of qualitative research who collects and interprets the data (p.424). Moreover, data in qualitative research are not in the form of numbers. Neuman (2014) states that qualitative data are in the forms of written or spoken words, symbols, and visual images such as videos (p. 204).

In answering the research questions, the researcher used content analysis by collecting and analyzing the transcripts of The Ellen DeGeneres Show as the source of data. According to Flick (2015), content analysis is the procedure of analyzing data, which is in the form of text, such as media products and interview data (p. 163). Additionally, Krippendorff (2018) also states that “the most obvious sources of data appropriate for content analysis are texts to which meanings are conventionally attributed: verbal discourse, written documents, and visual representations” (p. 404). After getting the data in a form of text, the researcher made some codes and divided the text into sentences. This statement is in line with Mishra & Mohanty (2020) who explain that the text is either coded or divided into some levels such as words, phrases, or sentences before it is analyzed. Furthermore, Wood and Kroger (2000) state that “content analysis involves a much more mechanical process of categorization, neglects the possibility of multiple categorizations, and aims to quantify the relationship between coding categories” (p. 33).

Findings and Discussion

Speech Functions Used by Ellen DeGeneres

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found that Ellen DeGeneres used eight speech functions in the five videos. The results of the analysis are presented in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Frequency of Each Function Used by Ellen DeGeneres

No.	Speech Function	The Frequency of Each Function
1.	Instrumental	3
2.	Declarative	4
3.	Imperative	25
4.	Interrogative	1
5.	Representational	25
6.	Interactional	11
7.	Personal	3
8.	Heuristic	57
9.	Imaginative	-
10.	Metalinguistic	-
	TOTAL	129

Instrumental

According to Halliday (1973), instrumental function is used to satisfy someone's needs and enable someone to get what he or she wants. As seen in Table 4.1, there were three utterances of the instrumental function used by Ellen DeGeneres, as follows:

1. "I want to see her react again."

The word "want" in this sentence indicates the instrumental function. According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the word "want" means "to have a desire or a wish for something or somebody." In this sentence, Ellen wanted to see Britney's reaction when she played mix and match game. Then, Ellen called Britney as the guest, and Ellen asked her to play mix and match game again.

2. "I want to hear about your acts of good."

The word "want" in this sentence indicates the instrumental function because it enables someone to get what he or she wants. According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the word "want" means "to have a desire or a wish for something or somebody." From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen wanted to hear the audience's acts of good. Then, she asked all audiences in the show to go to her website and tell their good actions.

3. "I want to hear your act of good."

The word "want" in this sentence indicates the instrumental function because it enables someone to get what he or she wants. According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the word "want" means "to have a desire or a wish for something or somebody." From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen wanted to hear audiences' acts of good. Then, she asked all audiences to go to her website and tell their good actions.

Declarative

Declarative is a form of the directive function. According to Holmes (2013), declarative function is a polite attempt to ask other people to do something. This function typically ends with a full stop. Below are the utterances included to declarative function found in the videos:

1. "You can't do that at the museum."

The words "can't do" in this sentence indicate the declarative function because those words are used to ask other people to do something. In order to emphasize the declarative function, Ellen used the negative form of the modal verb "can." According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the modal verb "can" is "used to say that it is possible for somebody or something to do something, or for something to happen." From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen controlled Parker's action because it was impossible to run and stand too close to some portraits when she was in the museum.

2. "You must have so much fun."

This sentence is included in the declarative function because it was used to ask Snoop Dog to do particular actions while Ellen gave an idea about what he had to do. In order to emphasize the declarative function, Ellen used the modal verb "must" to say that something is necessary or very important. From the whole sentence, it meant

that Ellen asked Snoop Dog to have fun while he was doing his work with Martha Stewart. She did that because she thought that having so much fun was necessary.

3. “You should celebrate that.”

The words “should celebrate” indicate the declarative function because those words are used to ask other people to do something. From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen asked Simon Cowell to celebrate his birthday because he was going to be 60 and it was amazing.

Imperative

Imperative function is a form of the directive function. Holmes (2013) states that imperative function is used to express commands. Moreover, Thompson (2013) explains that imperative function aims to encourage someone to do something. As shown in Table 4.1, the imperative function used by Ellen DeGeneres was found in 25 utterances. Below are six of them.

1. “Put the tutu on.”

The word “put” indicates the imperative function because it commands other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “put” means “to attach or fix something to something else.” In this sentence, Ellen instructed Parker to wear the tutu because Parker wanted to show her ballet ability. Therefore, she used the word “put” in order to command Parker to wear the tutu.

2. “Tell me about yourself.”

The word “tell” indicates the imperative function because it orders other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “tell” means “to give information to somebody by speaking or writing.” In this sentence, Ellen asked Britney to tell about herself, such as her name, job, and address. Ellen instructed Britney to tell about herself because she wanted to know more about her fan.

3. “Let’s go here.”

The word “let’s” indicates the imperative function because it commands other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “let’s” is used for making suggestions or as a polite way of telling people what someone wants other people to do. In this sentence, Ellen encouraged Britney to stand on the other side that was near the screen because they wanted to play mix and match game.

4. “Pick one.”

The word “pick” in this sentence conveys the imperative function because it orders other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “pick” means “to choose somebody or something from a group of people or things.” In this sentence, Ellen instructed Britney to choose a number because they were playing mix and match game.

5. “Turn those over.”

The word “turn” conveys the imperative function because it commands other people to do something. In this sentence, Ellen instructed one member of her crew to turn two squares because Britney and she wanted to play mix and match game again.

6. “Go to my website, tell us what you’re doing.”

The words “go” and “tell” in this sentence indicate the imperative function because those words command other people to do something. In this sentence, Ellen asked people who watched The Ellen DeGeneres Show to look at Ellen’s website and tell what they were doing. She asked many people to do that because she wanted to know people’s acts of good.

Interrogative

Interrogative is a form of the directive function. According to Holmes (2013), interrogative is the polite attempt to ask other people to do something. As shown in Table 4.1, there was one utterance of the interrogative function used by Ellen DeGeneres, as follows:

1. “Could you imagine, when you started out,?”

The word “could” indicates the interrogative function because it asks other people to do something in a polite way. In this sentence, Ellen DeGeneres asked Snoop Dog if he could imagine his career would not only last long but also expand to different areas. Then, he said that he was able to do different things and that he was not afraid to take risks in his career.

Representational

Representational is used to make statements, explanations, reports, or representations of reality (Halliday, 1973). Moreover, Holmes and Wilson (2017) explain that this function is used to provide information. Below are some of the utterances of representational function used by Ellen.

1. “We doubled it to make it a little bit harder.”

This sentence belongs to the representational function because it gives information about the game to Britney. In the previous mix and match game, the number of squares was 12. When Ellen asked Britney to play mix and match game again, Ellen’s team doubled the amount of the squares in order to make the game a little bit harder. Adding more squares in the game could also make Britney feel confused in choosing a number. Therefore, the name of the game was Mega Mix and Match Game because Ellen’s team doubled the amount of the squares.

2. “I’m going to give you three chances to match some things.”

This sentence is included in the representational function because it informs Britney about mix and match game. In this sentence, Ellen told Britney that she wanted to give three chances when Britney played the game.

3. “This is your birthday present.”

This sentence belongs to the representational function because it provides information for Simon Cowell. In this sentence, Ellen informed Simon Cowell that a

hat brought by one of Ellen's team was his birthday present. After he received the hat, he said "It's a hat, isn't it?" and he tried to wear that hat.

4. "Two more tries."

This sentence belongs to the representational function because it provides information to Britney. In this sentence, Ellen informed Britney that she still had two chances in playing mix and match games. Then, at the second chance, she chose number 21 and 3. Furthermore, at the third chance, she chose number 24 and 7.

5. "I have a gift for you."

This sentence is included in the representational function because it informs Snoop Dog. In this sentence, Ellen told Snoop Dog that she wanted to give him a gift. The gift that was given by Ellen was an apron.

Interactional

Halliday (1973) states that "the interactional function of language serves to ensure social maintenance". Additionally, it is used to show solidarity between people (Holmes & Wilson, 2017). Therefore, interactional function is very crucial in social relations. As shown in Table 4.1, there were 11 utterances of the interactional function used by Ellen DeGeneres. However, in this study, the researcher would only discuss five of them.

1. "Hi, Jessica, nice to meet you."

This sentence is included in the interactional function. The term is used to greet other people when they meet each other for the first time. From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen welcomed Jessica well from the beginning of the show by uttering those words when she came as the guest. Then, she responded to Ellen by saying, "Hi, nice to meet you."

2. "Thanks for being here."

This sentence is included in the interactional function because of the word "thanks." According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the word "thanks" is used to show that someone is grateful to other people for something they have done. From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen thanked Jessica and Parker for being able to come to the show as the guests. Ellen really appreciated their coming.

3. "Oh, congratulations."

This sentence is included in the interactional function because of the word "congratulations." It is used to show solidarity because someone has achieved something. According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, the word "congratulations" means "a message congratulating somebody." From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen congratulated Britney because she got Ellen's water after playing the mix and match game.

4. "It's good to see you."

This sentence is included in the interactional function because it is used to begin a communication between people that can keep their social relation. Ellen said, "It's good to see you" because the purpose of that clause was to greet a person whom

someone once met before. From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen DeGeneres gave warm welcome to Simon Cowell for coming to the stage because they did not meet for a while.

5. “Hello you two.”

This sentence is included in the interactional function because of the word “hello.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “hello” is used as a greeting when a person meets somebody, in an email, when someone answers the phone or when they want to attract somebody’s attention. From the whole sentence, it meant that Ellen greeted Latonya and Kevin Esch after they came to the stage.

Personal

According to Halliday (1973), a personal function is used to express someone’s feelings, emotions, and even personalities. As shown in Table 4.1, there were three utterances of the personal function used by Ellen DeGeneres, as follows:

1. “I’m very happy.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “happy.” This word expresses the speaker’s feeling. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “happy” means “feeling or showing pleasure.” In this sentence, Ellen felt happy because she said that Simon Cowell seemed very happy and he said, “So do you.”

2. “I love that.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “love.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “love” means “to like or enjoy something very much.” In this sentence, Ellen really liked a job, which was a veterinary technician. The task of a veterinary technician is to help all animals to live healthily. In expressing her interest in the veterinary technician, Ellen used personal function.

3. “I love Drew Brees, too.”

This sentence belongs to the personal function because Ellen used the word “love.” However, it did not mean that Ellen fell in love with Drew Brees, instead, it meant that Ellen admired him. In expressing her admiration towards Drew Brees, Ellen used the personal function.

Heuristic

According to Halliday (1973), a heuristic function is used to learn about surrounding and enrich knowledge. As seen in Table 4.1, there were 57 utterances of the heuristic function used by Ellen DeGeneres. However, in this study, the researcher would only discuss seven of them.

1. “How did she get in touch with you?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because it explores someone’s action. In order to emphasize the heuristic function, Ellen used the word “how” to show that Ellen explored the way Jessica and Parker met Michelle Obama.

2. “What was your reaction when you finally got tickets to the show?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because of the word “what.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “what” is used to ask for particular information about somebody or something. Ellen used the word “what” because she wanted to know about particular information. This sentence showed Ellen’s curiosity about Britney’s reaction when she finally got the ticket show.

3. “How did you get here?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because it explores someone’s action. In order to emphasize the heuristic function, Ellen used the word “how.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “how” means “in what way or manner.” In this sentence, Ellen explored about Britney’s way so she could arrive in The Ellen DeGeneres Show.

4. “How did the Snoop Dog meet the Martha?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because it explores someone’s action. In order to emphasize the heuristic function, Ellen used the word “how.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries the word “how” means “in what way or manner.” In this sentence, Ellen explored the way the Snoop Dog and the Martha met.

5. “How do you feel about it?”

This sentence belongs to the heuristic function because it asks about particular information. In this sentence, Ellen was curious about Simon Cowell’s feelings because he was going to be 60. Then, he answered that he felt great although he did not even like to celebrate his birthday.

6. “What made you want to do this for her?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because of the word “what.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “what” is used to ask for particular information about somebody or something. In this sentence, Ellen wanted to know particular information about the reason why Kevin Esch wanted to give tip and pay expenses for Latonya. Then, he answered that he felt good when he did good things.

7. “How did you find out that he paid all your expenses [sic]?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because of the word “how.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries the word “how” means “in what way or manner.” In this sentence, Ellen wanted to know Latonya’s way to find out that Kevin paid all her expenses.

Speech Functions Used by Ellen’s Guests

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found that Ellen’s guests used seven speech functions in the five videos. Those seven speech functions were declarative, imperative, interrogative, representational, interactional, personal, and heuristic.

Table 4.2 Frequency of Each Function Used by Ellen’s Guests

No.	Speech Function	The Frequency of Each Function
1.	Instrumental	-
2.	Declarative	3
3.	Imperative	6
4.	Interrogative	1
5.	Representational	10
6.	Interactional	18
7.	Personal	8
8.	Heuristic	4
9.	Imaginative	-
10.	Metalinguistic	-
	TOTAL	50

Declarative

Holmes (2013) states that declarative function is the polite attempt for asking people to do something. As seen in Table 4.2, there were three utterances of the declarative function used by Ellen’s guests, as follows:

1. “You can do a turn.”

This sentence is included in the declarative function because it was used to ask Parker to do particular action while Jessica gave an idea about what she had to do. In order to emphasize the declarative function, Jessica used the modal verb “can” to say that it is possible for somebody or something to do something, or for something to happen.

2. “Just stick your tongue out every time we do a picture.”

The phrase “just stick your tongue” indicates the declarative function because those words are used to ask other people to do something. In this sentence, Simon Cowell asked his family to stick their tongue when they did a picture because he did not like his photo taken, while Lauren liked to do a picture wherever they go.

3. “Oh, please believe it.”

This sentence is included in the declarative function because of the word “please.” This word is used to ask other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “please” is “used as a polite way of asking for something or telling somebody to do something.” In this sentence, Snoop Dog asked Ellen to believe that he would not make recipes that had marijuana infused in his next book because he wanted to keep his book clean.

Imperative

Holmes (2013) states that imperative function is used to express commands. Moreover, Thompson (2013) states that imperative function is used to encourage other people to do something. As seen in Table 4.2, there were six utterances of the imperative function used by Ellen’s guests, as follows:

1. “Look, look, right there.”

This sentence is included in the imperative function. The word “look” indicates the imperative function because it instructs people to do something. In this sentence, Parker instructed Ellen and Jessica to look at the screen because the photo of Parker who was standing in front of the picture of Michelle Obama was shown on the screen.

2. “Do the jump.”

This sentence is included in the imperative function. The word “do” in this sentence indicates the imperative function because it instructs someone to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “do” means “to work at or perform an activity or a task.” In this sentence, Jessica instructed Parker to perform the activity mentioned, which was doing the jump.

3. “Look at her face.”

This sentence belongs to the imperative function. The word “look” indicates the imperative function because it instructs someone to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “look” means “to turn your eyes in a particular direction.” In this sentence, Jessica instructed Ellen to look Parker’s face when Ellen wanted to show all kinds of different tutus.

4. “Let’s see.”

The word “let’s” indicates the imperative function. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “let’s” is used for making suggestions or as a polite way of telling people what a person wants somebody to do. In addition, this sentence also shows the fundamental base of imperative which is ‘I want us’ to do something. From the whole sentence, Snoop Dog instructed Ellen to find new words that she could learn from him.

5. “Look, he’s wearing a helmet.”

The word “look” in this sentence indicates the imperative function because it commands other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “look” means “to turn your eyes in a particular direction.” In this sentence, Simon Cowell instructed Ellen to look a picture of Eric who was wearing a hat on the screen.

6. “--and so is Lauren, look. “

The word “look” in this sentence indicates the imperative function because it commands other people to do something. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “look” means “to turn your eyes in a particular direction.” In this sentence, Simon Cowell instructed Ellen to look at Lauren’s picture that was shown on the screen.

Interrogative

Holmes (2013) states that the interrogative function is a polite attempt for asking people to do something. As seen in Table 4.2, there was one utterance of the interrogative function used by Ellen’s guests, as follows:

1. Would you like to show her?

This sentence belongs to the interrogative function because it asks other people to do something in a polite way. In order to emphasize the interrogative function, Jessica used the word “would.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the modal verb “would” is “used in polite offers or invitations.” From the whole sentence, it meant that Jessica asked Parker to show her ballet ability.

Representational

There were ten utterances of the representational function used by Ellen’s guests. Representational function is used to make statements, explanations, and reports (Halliday, 1973). Moreover, it is used to give information (Holmes & Wilson, 2017). Below are some of the utterances from the videos that showed that Ellen’s guests used representational function.

1. “We’ve been there a few times before.”

This sentence is included in the representational function because it gives information to many people. In this sentence, Jessica informed Ellen and all audiences that they had been in that museum a few times before.

2. “There’s Michelle Obama, right there.”

The word “there” indicates the representational function because it gives information to other people. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “there” is used to show that something exists or happens. In this sentence, Parker gave information to Jessica, Ellen, and all audiences about the picture of Michelle Obama that she saw on the screen.

3. “I tried to get tickets for six and half years [sic].”

This sentence belongs to the representational function because it gives information to many people. In this sentence, Britney informed Ellen and all audiences that she had tried to get a ticket show for six and a half years. In the process of getting the ticket, she did many things such as downloading every game of Ellen in her phone, writing to Ellen all the time, standing outside in Ellen’s 60th birthday, and dancing in the side of the road for 60 honks.

4. “That’s the video.”

This sentence is included in the representational function. The word “that’s” in this sentence indicates the representational function because it provides information for other people. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “that” is used to refer to a person or thing that is not near the speaker or as near to the speaker as another. In this sentence, Britney pointed the video on the screen showing her action when she was trying to get the ticket show.

5. “I got over 200 honks.”

This sentence belongs to the representational function because it informs many people. In this sentence, Britney informed Ellen and all audiences that she got more than 200 honks because of her action. She stood and wore a dancing inflatable woman costume on the side of the road for 60 honks for Ellen’s 60th birthday. In fact, she got more than 60 honks.

Interactional

Halliday (1973) states “the interactional function of language serves to ensure social maintenance”. Moreover, Holmes and Wilson (2017) state that it is used to express solidarity.). Below are the utterances of the interactional function used by Ellen’s guests.

1. “Hi, nice to meet you.”

This sentence belongs to the interactional function. It is used by people when they meet other people for the first time. From the whole sentence, it meant that Jessica responded to Ellen’s warm welcome because they met each other for the first time.

2. “Thank you for having us.”

This sentence belongs to the interactional function because of the phrase “thank you.” This phrase is used to show solidarity because a person has done something for another person. From the whole sentence, it meant that Jessica thanked Ellen and her team because of their acceptance towards Jessica and her daughter in the show.

3. “Good job.”

The phrase “good job” is used to show solidarity because it shows an appreciation towards someone for something they have done. Jessica said “Good job” to Parker after she did the jump in front of Ellen and all audiences. Then, all audiences gave applause because of Parker’s performance. Appreciating someone can keep the social relations built with other people.

4. “Sorry.” (Video 2)

The word “sorry” indicates the interactional function. Britney said “sorry” to Ellen because she thought that her attempts to get the ticket show were very excessive. In the process of getting the ticket show, she downloaded every game of Ellen on her phone, wrote all the time, and stood on the side of the road for 60 honks for Ellen’s 60th birthday.

5. “Hi, how are you?”

This sentence is included in the interactional function because it is used to begin a conversation among people. From the whole sentence, it meant that Latonya greeted Ellen at the beginning of the show. She tried to get closer to Ellen by uttering those words.

Personal

According to Halliday (1973), personal function is used to express someone’s feelings, emotions, and even personalities. As seen in Table 4.1, there were eight utterances of the personal function used by Ellen’s guests, as follows:

1. “I’m from Cleveland, Ohio.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the words “Cleveland, Ohio.” Those words declare someone’s identity. From the whole sentence, it meant that Britney wanted to show her identity to Ellen and all audience that she was from Cleveland, Ohio.

2. “I work at vet-- I have few jobs, actually.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “vet” and “few jobs.” Those words declared someone’s identity especially her occupation. In this sentence, Britney wanted to show her identity to Ellen and all audiences about her jobs.

3. “My birthday is December 21th [sic].”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the words “December 21th.” Those words declare someone’s identity. From the whole sentence, it meant that Britney wanted to show her identity especially her date of birth.

4. “I love this.”

This sentence belongs to the personal function because of the word “love”. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “love” means “to like or enjoy something very much”. From the sentence, it meant that Snoop Dog liked the apron with the writing “Lakers” on it. The apron was given by Ellen when Snoop Dog came as the guest.

5. “I feel actually great.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “great.” It expresses the speaker’s feeling. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “great” means “very good or pleasant.” In this sentence, it meant that Simon Cowell expressed his great feeling to Ellen and the audiences because he was going to be 60.

6. “I love Drew Brees.”

This sentence belongs to the personal function because of the word “love.” It expresses the speaker’s feeling. However, the word “love” in this sentence did not mean that Latonya fell in love with Drew Brees but it meant that she admired him. In expressing her admiration, Latonya used the personal function.

7. “I love you too.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “love.” It expresses the speaker’s feeling. In this sentence, Latonya expressed her feeling to Ellen by using the word “love” because the word “love” in this sentence meant affection.

8. “I was so happy to get that tip.”

This sentence is included in the personal function because of the word “happy.” It expresses the speaker’s feeling. According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “happy” means “feeling or showing pleasure, pleased.” From the whole sentence, it meant that Latonya felt very happy because she received a tip from Kevin Esch.

Heuristic

According to Halliday (1973), the heuristic function aims to learn about the surrounding and enrich knowledge. As seen in Table 4.2, there were four utterances of the heuristic function used by Ellen’s guests, as follows:

1. “What was that?”

This sentence belongs to the heuristic function because of the word “what” to ask for particular information about somebody or something. From the whole sentence, it meant that Jessica wanted to know about a certain ballet move that would be shown by Parker.

2. “Were you high when you did that?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because of the words “were you high...” Those words indicate the heuristic function because it explores someone’s action.

3. “Where’s the picture?”

This sentence is included in the heuristic function because of the word “where.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “where” means “in or to what place or situation.” From the sentence, Simon Cowell was curious, and then he asked about the picture of him when he was not wearing a helmet.

4. “What is that picture?”

This sentence belongs to the heuristic function because of the word “what.” According to the Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries, the word “what” is used to ask for particular information about somebody or something. From the whole sentence, it meant that Simon Cowell asked for particular information about the picture that was shown on the screen.

The Differences in Speech Functions Used by Ellen DeGeneres and Her Guests

The differences in speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests are presented in this part. The data are presented in Figure 1. As shown in Figure 4.1, there were eight speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres. Meanwhile, there were seven speech functions used by Ellen’s guests.

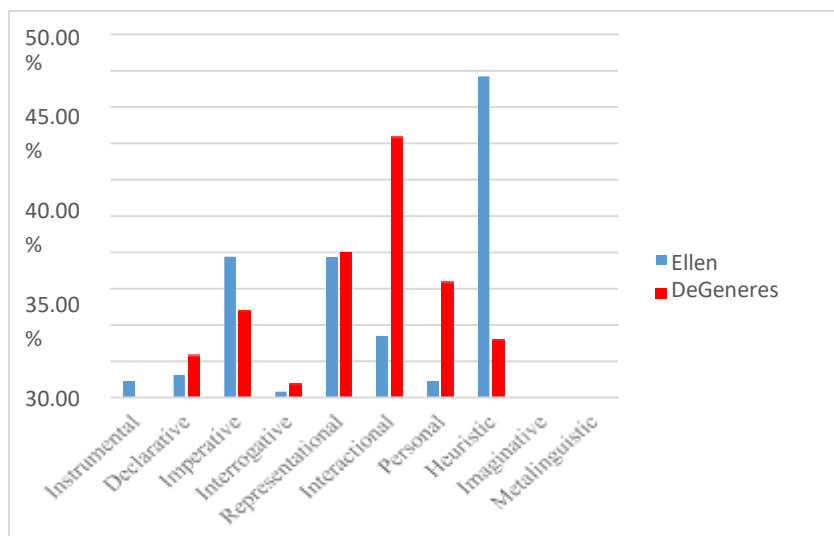


Figure 1. Percentage of Speech Functions Found in Ellen Degeneres’ and Her Guests’ Utterances

Instrumental

Instrumental function is used to satisfy someone's need and it enables someone to get what he or she wants. As presented in Figure 4.1, Ellen used this function by 2.3%. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests did not use this function. The example of Ellen's utterance is "I want to see her react again".

Declarative

Declarative function is the form of directive. It is used to ask other people in a polite way and it ends with a full stop at the end of a sentence. As shown in Figure 4.1, the declarative function gets 3.1%, meaning Ellen used it less frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 6%. The results show that both Ellen and her guests did not really use this function in their conversation. The example of Ellen's utterance is "All of you should be wearing helmet". Meanwhile, the utterance of Ellen's guests is "You can do a turn".

Imperative

Imperative function is the form of directive. It is used to ask other people to do something and it usually ends with an exclamation mark. As seen in Figure 4.1, the imperative function gets 19.4%, meaning Ellen used it more frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 12%. The results show that Ellen was more dominant in using this function. Some examples of the utterances performed by Ellen are "Put the tutu on", "Come over here", and "Tell me about yourself."

Interrogative

Interrogative function is the form of directive. It is used to ask other people to do something in a polite way. As seen in Figure 4.1, the interrogative function gets 0.8%, meaning Ellen used it less frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 2%. The results show that both Ellen and her guests did not really use this function in their conversation. The example of Ellen's utterance is "Could you imagine, when you started out that your career would not only last this long, but all the different areas that you would go into?". Moreover, the example of Ellen's guests utterance is "Would you like to show her?".

Representational

Representational function is used to make statements, explanations, and provide information. As seen in Figure 4.1, the representational function gets 19.4%, meaning Ellen used it less frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 20%. The difference is up to 0.6%. The results show that Ellen's guests were more dominant in using this function. Some examples of the utterances performed by Ellen's guests are "We've been there a few times before" and "I got over 200 honks."

Interactional

Interactional function is used to maintain social relations among many people. As seen in Figure 4.1, the interactional function gets 8.5%, meaning Ellen used it less frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 36%. The results show that Ellen's guests were more dominant in using this function. Some examples of the utterances performed by Ellen's guests are "Thank you for having us" and "Hi, nice to meet you."

Personal

Personal function is used to express someone's feelings, emotions, and personalities. As shown in Figure 4.1, the personal function gets 2.3%, meaning Ellen used it less frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 16%. The results show that Ellen's guests were more dominant in using this function. Some examples of the utterances performed by Ellen's guests are "I'm from Cleveland, Ohio", "I love this", and "I feel actually great."

Heuristic

Heuristic function is used to obtain knowledge and learn about the surrounding. As seen in Figure 4.1, the heuristic function gets 44.2%, meaning Ellen used it more frequently than her guests. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests used it 8%. The results show that Ellen was more dominant in using this function because she is a host who is responsible for leading the discussion. Some examples of Ellen's utterances are "How did she get in touch with you?", "What was your reaction when you finally got tickets to the show?", and "How did you get here?"

In the process of data validation, the researcher asked for a help from a lecturer who teaches sociolinguistics. There were seven comments that were given by the lecturer. The first comment was about replacing the total column with the frequency column. Secondly, it was about adding a source in the declarative part. Third, the researcher was asked to recheck the sentence, "You can't do that at the museum", whether it belongs to the declarative or imperative function. Next, as the fourth comment, the researcher was asked to add context and the response in the sentence, "Could you imagine, when you started out, that your career would not only last this long, but all the different areas that you would go into?". Fifth, the researcher was also asked to recheck the sentence, "What was your reaction when you finally got tickets to the show?", whether it belongs to the interrogative or heuristic function. Sixth, it is about rechecking the sentence, "What are you doing?". Seventh, the researcher was asked to give an explanation about how to distinguish between declarative and imperative function.

Conclusion

After the process of analyzing data, there are two conclusions that can be drawn from the research. The first conclusion comes from the results of the first research question, namely, the speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests. In this study, the researcher found six speech function categories used by Ellen DeGeneres. They are instrumental, regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, and heuristic. Meanwhile, the researcher found five speech function categories used by Ellen's guests. They are regulatory, representational, interactional, personal, and heuristic. The second conclusion comes from the results of the second research question, namely, the differences in speech functions used by Ellen DeGeneres and her guests. The researcher found six speech function categories used by Ellen DeGeneres and five speech function categories used by Ellen's guests. Heuristic is used by Ellen as the first function while Ellen's guests use the interactional function. Ellen DeGeneres uses regulatory as the second function. Meanwhile, Ellen's guests use representational and regulatory functions. Ellen DeGeneres also uses representational as the third function while her guests use personal function. Then,

interactional is used by Ellen DeGeneres as the fourth function while Ellen's guests use heuristic function. The fifth functions used by Ellen DeGeneres are instrumental and personal.

After doing the research, the researcher suggests that ELESP students learn more about speech functions, so they have a deep understanding of them. If they understand, they can implement all functions well, so misunderstanding in a conversation can be decreased. After doing the research, the researcher recommends future researchers to read more references about speech functions. It will be easier for future researchers to categorize and analyze data into each function if they have a deep understanding of speech functions.

References

- Armstrong, E., & Ferguson, A. (2010). Language, meaning, context, and functional communication. *Aphasiology*, 24(4), 480-496.
- Ary, D., Jacobs, L. C., Sorensen, C., Razavieh, A. (2009). *Introduction to research in education* (8th ed). Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.
- Bernstein, B. (2004). *Applied studies towards a sociology of language*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Deckert, S.K. & Vickers, C.H. (2011). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics: Society and Identity*. London: A&C Black.
- Denzin, N. K. & Lincoln, Y. S. (2005). *The Sage handbook of qualitative research* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Flick, U. (2015). *Introducing research methodology: A beginner's guide to doing a research project*. (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks: Sage.
- Halliday, M. A. K. (2006). *Language of early childhood* (Vol. 4). London: A&C Black.
- Halliday, M. A. K. & Matthiessen, C. M. (2013). *Halliday's introduction to functional grammar*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Halliday, M. (1973). *Explorations in the functions of language*. London: Edward Arnold.
- Hapsari, N.P. (2018). *An analysis of speech functions in the students' group discussion at the tenth grade of MAN Salatiga in the academic year 2018/2019*. Retrieved on February 27th, 2020 from <https://e-repository.perpus.iainsalatiga.ac.id/5241/>
- Holmes, J & Wilson, N. (2017). *An introduction to sociolinguistics* (5th ed.). Abingdon: Routledge.
- Holmes, J. (1992). *An introduction to sociolinguistics*. New York: Addison Wesley Longman.
- Holmes, J. (2013). *An introduction to sociolinguistics* (4th ed). Abingdon: Routledge.
- Ilie, C. (2001). Semi-institutional discourse: The case of talk shows. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 33(2), 209 - 254. (Q1)
- Krippendorff, K. (2018). *Content analysis: An introduction to its methodology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage publications.
- Neuman, W. L. (2014). *Social research methods: Qualitative and quantitative approaches*. London: Pearson Education Limited.
- Martanto, C.W. (2014). *The speech functions analysis in utterances used by Alex Hitches and Sara Mendes in "Hitch" movie*. Retrieved on February 25th, 2020 from https://eprints.dinus.ac.id/8281/1/jurnal_13438.pdf

- Mishra, S. P. & Mohanty, B. (n.d.). Approaches to strategy formulations: A content analysis of definitions of strategy. *Journal of Management & Organization*, 1-28. doi:10.1017/jmo.2019.86 (Q2)
- Sibarani, B. & Santoso, D. (2019). Speech Function in E-Talk Show Program. In *4th Annual International Seminar on Transformative Education and Educational Leadership (AISTEEL 2019)*. Atlantis Press.
- Tarigan, G.A. (2018). *The categories of speech functions used by the main characters in the Moana movie*. Retrieved on September 15th, 2019 from https://repository.usd.ac.id/31321/2/141216162_full.pdf
- Thompson, G. (2013). *Introducing functional grammar*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Timberg, B. M., & Erler, R. J. (2010). *Television talk: A history of the TV talk show*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
- Velentzas, J. O. H. N., & Broni, G. (2014). Communication cycle: Definition, process, models and examples. *Recent Advances in Financial Planning and Product Development*, 117-131.
- Wardhaugh, R. (2006). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* (5th ed.). Oxford: Blackwell.
- Wood, L.A., & Kroger, R.O. (2000). *Doing discourse analysis: Methods for studying action in talk and text*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cD8GPuw1AFE&t=2s> (Ellen Recreates Viral Photo with Young Michelle Obama Fan)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EthYDwwXxik&t=212s> (Ellen Welcomes Back a Fan with the Best Reaction)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3YWExof-eI&t=3s> (Snoop Dog on Staying at Martha Stewart's House and Teaching Ellen a New Word)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1OJkOa8gyt&t=158s> (Simon Cowell Can't Eat Cake on His 60th Birthday)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGcIX2CbM8M&t=28s> (Ellen Meets Uber Driver and Her Generous Passenger)