CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the study, the formulation of research problems, research objectives, significance of the research, scope and limitation and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

People may communicate with their communities in a variety of ways, including by using various words, actions, and behaviors according to their relationship status. The disparity in cultural backgrounds can sometimes cause people to miscommunicate with one another. Even though they have studied the grammar of a second language or foreign language, when people communicate with one another in that language, they typically bring their first language's cultural and social norms with them instead of taking into account the social and cultural norms of the second language or foreign language they are using. This leads to improper linguistic behavior as well as pragmatic failure.

Meanwhile, people are speaking through their languages because they have something to delivered on. Speech acts is nothing more than a knowing act. When language is used in a speech act, it is born. The strategies of speech act have been the subject of numerous investigations. Additionally, the majority of scholars have been examining research on speech acts. One study that consistently enhances the appeal of numerous earlier studies to provide innovation with different research is

the speech act. Over time, the study of speech acts was the focus of an endless effort to identify different speech act subdivisions derived from conversation.

According to Searle (1979), speech acts are a theory of language expression that can be summed up as the speech act rules. Unlike other language expressions, this quality's meaning is independent of whether it appears in a sentence. The linguistic significance of how words and phrases are utilized when speaking is explained by speech behavior. All voice communication requires speech acts, which is why there are some researches focusing on this topic. The formation of signals, words, or sentences while performing speech acts is what constitutes linguistic communication, not the common notion that a sign, word, or sentence is a unit of linguistic communication. Speech acts are frequently used to communicate verbally in either the first language (L1) or a second language (L2). To put it briefly, speech acts are "doing things by words" such as asking, thanking, apologizing, ordering, promising, requesting, warning, challenging, threatening, and so on (Searle, 1969). While mentioned above, speakers simultaneously realize some acts while they make utterances. One of the speech actions that deals with potential future events and the speaker's commitment is the promise.

We can actually find promise in our surroundings. Sometimes, the promise is produced from teacher to student, from student to teacher, in our daily activities, like from parents to their son or daughter, and so on. However, the utterances that include the promise are also found in political events such as the presidential election or the election between governors. Every candidate will give their promise

to branding them, making society believe in them, and choosing them to be president. The candidate will guarantee something in the future when they are chosen as president of the country.

The focus of this study is promising speech acts that denote commitments and declarations. According to the Oxford dictionary, a promise is defined as a guarantee that something will be done or that a specific event will occur. Searle (1969) stated that a promise is a speaker's agreement regarding a future event. The speaker is prompted by the receiver to cooperate and take action. A promise generally places the speaker under pressure to bring about a specific outcome. A promise automatically makes the agreement between the two parties a requirement that the promise-maker fulfills. However, promises are used by Austin (1962) to exemplify the concepts of performative utterance and illocutionary act successively more than any other type of speech act. Leech (1983), on the other hand, accepts by offering sufficient ratios and conditions to carry out the promise. He approved the formulation of other preparations and released the necessary circumstances in the description of this illuminator's action. Through some strategies, speech acts will be produced by the speaker itself.

The researcher has used several studies on promising speech acts as references to finish the investigation. Found from Dorin (2022), he investigated The Speech Act of Promising in Political Speeches from Obama's Speech. In his study, he tried to show the analysis of pragmatics dealing with promising speech acts produced by Barack Obama throughout the 2008 and 2012 presidential

campaigns. The qualitative was used as a method and speeches were used to get the data. To compute and report the frequency of promising utterances and performative verbs as well as their percentages, this study likewise used a quantitative approach. He also used the Searle's theory in identified the speech of Obama. The finding said the most frequent intentions produced by the speakers' speech are confirming, assuring, and reconfirming.

Pragmatic Transfer in the Speech Act of Promise Among Students written by (Benni 2019) found as the reference. On his Study, he focuses on examining how Semarang State University's English Department students perform the speech act of promise, the most common strategies employed, the variables influencing students' promise performing, and the pragmatic transfer that occurs in their English conversations. The DCT or Discourse Completion Task were used to collect the data. 13 promise strategies were classified by responses as stated by Gibbs & Delaney (1987). However, their pragmatics transfer from their responses categorized in two types as stated by Kasper (1992). According to the results, the respondents primarily utilized the "explicit promise" method (26.53%) for English illustrations and the "future act" strategy (23.31%) for Indonesian illustrations. Furthermore, social power level was the most important element that affected promise performance, followed by social distance, formality, and last rank of imposition. In delivering on the promise, pragmatic transfers also took place. When making promises, the students continued to bring their L1 cultural norms into their interactions in English, doing so both pragmatically and socio-pragmatically.

Malki (2022) investigate Gender Differences in the Usage of Speech Act Promise among Moroccan Female and male High School Students aimed to examining the promising speech acts produced by female and male of Moroccan high school students also the questionnaire was used to collect the data. The data showed that the students of Moroccan high school while creating promise utterances, students use six strategies such as self-repetition, conditional promises that incorporate Al Istinha promises, assurance-based expressions, self-praising attributions, technique of preferred adjacency pairs, and swearing tactic. Additionally, the results of this study have shown that Moroccan high school students who are performing the speech act of promising use those methods in significantly different ways as compared to Moroccan students who are female. The distinct application of effective techniques has demonstrated that both genders speak various languages.

Another previous study found on Promising Speech Act by the Tenth Year Students of SMAN STAR 1 Tahunan Jepara written by Mubais (2021). His study aimed to analyze the study of pragmatics focused on speech act of promising produced by students of SMAN STAR 1 Tahunan Jepara. He examined the speech act of promising and the factors that effects the students in producing speech acts, also the factor and the most strategy used by students. His study is used qualitative descriptive used Discourse Completion Tasks and role play as the method. Based on his investigation the strategies used by students are promise to act, predictive assertion, and future action. The dominance, distance, and imposition are the probable factors that effects the students. In various situations or conditions, a

particular mix of social characteristics results in a new technique for students to give a promising speech act. Students' ability to implement a promise strategy is further impacted by the various combinations of the three factors in the specific scenario, interference from the students' native language, and pragmatic transfer in the language acquisition process. The findings of this study demonstrate that the students' primary strategy is the future action.

However, the researcher found the weakness from those previous studies. The limited data in those researches made the finding of those researches also limited. Thus, the writer decides to conduct the research titled "The Promising Acts Performed by the Participants of American presidential election debate 2021". To conduct related and trustworthy research, the researcher manages the study by referring to pertinent data from previous studies. By using different theories and methods from previous studies, the researcher hopes to get the newest results and information.

B. Research Questions

The research questions that the writer used are:

1. What strategies are commonly performed by participants of American presidential election debate 2021 in doing promising acts?

2. How are promising acts linguistically realized by participants of American presidential election debate 2021?

C. Objectives of the Research

Based on research question mentioned above, the writer decides to write the objective of the research as:

1. To know the strategies that commonly performed by participants of American presidential election debate 2021 in doing promising.
2. To know how promising acts linguistically realized by participants of American presidential election debate 2021

D. Significance of the Research

This study informs readers, particularly English Literature Department students, about the numerous speech patterns or specific expressions of promising acts that the participants of American presidential election debate 2021 employed. Hopefully, it can lead the students, readers, teachers and so on to produce the strategy of promising acts based on the data gotten from this research. Additionally, the researcher wants to tell next academics who are interested in researching the strategies of promising speech acts.

E. Scope and Limitation

This study also provides the scope and limitations. The researcher only focuses on the strategy of promising speech acts, which is different from other research that mostly investigates kinds of promising speech acts. In this study, the researcher decides to use the library research. Meanwhile, the method that is frequently used in other research is the DCT method.

F. Definition of Key Terms

This chapter, shows the definition of key terms that related to the topic.

1. Speech Act: According to Searle (1979), speech acts are a theory of language expression that can be summed up as the speech act rules. Speech acts are frequently used to communicate verbally in either the first language (L1) or a second language (L2). To put it briefly, speech acts are "doing things by words" such as asking, thanking, apologizing, ordering, promising, requesting, warning, challenging, threatening, and so on.

2. Promising: According to the Oxford dictionary, a promise is defined as a guarantee that something will be done or that a specific event will occur. Searle (1969) stated that a promise is a speaker's agreement regarding a future event. The speaker is prompted by the receiver to cooperate and take action. However, promises are used by Austin (1962) to exemplify the concepts of performative utterance and illocutionary act successively more than any other type of speech act

3. Promising Strategy: According to the definition of "strategy" in the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, it is "a planned series of actions for achieving something." While "promise means to state that you will unquestionably perform an act, make a provision, or state that a specific event will occur." Consequently, based on the concepts given above, a promising strategy is a planned sequence of actions used to assure a person that we will do something, offer something, or that something will happen.