EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS ON NETIZENS’ COMMENTS IN JOE BIDEN’S INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT

Mega Bunga Indriyana,* Yuyun Nurulaen, Erlan Aditya Ardiansyah

English Literature, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Gunung Djati, Bandung, Indonesia
E-mail: megabungaindriyana456@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

United States presidential election 2020 is the most awaited event for the citizens of the United States. People usually want to get to know how good the presidential candidates are by searching for information about the presidential candidates. Checking the presidential candidates’ social media is one way to find out their profiles. Joe Biden as one of the presidential candidates uses the growing popularity of Instagram to gain public attention by posting some of his responses to current issues and promoting himself as the next President of the United States. It made Joe Biden’s Instagram account is filled with netizens’ comments. This research aims to identify the expressive speech acts that appear in Joe Biden’s comments published on September 13, 2020, to January 20, 2021, and to describe the reasons for their use of these expressive speech acts. The instrument of this research is a document. The data were collected by browsing the comments on Joe Biden’s Instagram post, then the data were selected, and identified the expressive speech acts used by netizens, then the research showed the findings of the research by presenting data and analysis. There are 26 data contained an expressive speech act, in which 10 data as expressive of thanking, 3 data as expressive of congratulating, 5 data as expressive of wishing, 8 data as expressive of attitude. The expressive speech act of thanking is the most dominant type of expressive speech act found on the netizens’ comments of Joe Biden Instagram post. In conclusion, netizens’ comments contained the expressive speech act of thanking since netizens appreciated the good things that Joe Biden had planned when he ran for President of the United States. Joe Biden frequently posts his thoughts on various issues and promises a good solution in the future. Netizens expressed their gratitude for Joe Biden because they felt they had found a leader who cared about society.

Keywords: expressive speech act; Instagram; Joe Biden; pragmatics, speech act
INTRODUCTION

The United States held a presidential election in 2020, with Joe Biden and Donald Trump as candidates. This presidential election is the most awaited event for all Americans and even the rest of the world. One way to find out the presidential candidates’ profiles is by checking their social media.

At the same time, the Covid-19 virus was spreading throughout the world, including the United States. The online campaign was then stepped up even more. Joe Biden became more active in uploading his activities in presenting himself as one of the presidential candidates of United States Presidential Elections 2020. On Instagram, Joe Biden frequently invites Americans to vote for him in the 2020 United States presidential election.

Joe Biden commonly posts his thoughts on current issues in America and his plans to address the issues if elected President of the United States. His posts during campaign period received many responses from his followers, who are known as netizens. Netizen is a term for someone who frequently uses the internet (Hornby, 2000). Instagram is part of the internet, so people who use it are referred to as netizens. By commenting on Joe Biden’s Instagram posts, all citizens of the United States expressed their excitement and feelings. Netizens’ comments can also indicate whether or not the candidate is accepted by society. All of those comments were used as a research data sources.

Pragmatics is the study of aspects of language use that are crucial to comprehend language as a system and to grasps meaning in particular (Levinson, 1983). One of the important points of pragmatics is speech act. A speech act is an utterance that contains information that is required to perform and action. Its purpose is not only to provide information and facts, but also to show how these words appeared to carry out an action (Tamam, 2020). A speech act is an action performed by the speaker while the speaker is uttering a sentence. In a conversation, people do not always know how to express themselves well when they communicate. The speaker can convey physical action through speech acts by using words and phrases.

In the comment column of the Joe Biden’s post, netizens expressed their feelings about Joe Biden’s opinion that he shared through his posts. The way the netizens expressed such expressions to something can be seen in pragmatics. Using pragmatics, especially expressive speech acts, all comments from netizens can be thoroughly analyzed. This research chose the expressive speech act as a topic of the research because the expressive speech act is a kind of speech act in which express how the speaker’s feels. Expressive speech act has a function to express, to utter, or to convey the speaker’s psychological state to a statement of the state predicted by the illocutionary, such as thanking, congratulating, apologizing, blaming, praising, condoling, and so on (Kurniawan, 2018).

This research aims to find out the types of expressive speech act found on Instagram comments of Joe Biden’s account and to identify the purposes of expressive speech act found on Instagram comments of Joe
Biden's account. As a psychological meaning related to the speaker's feelings and expressions, it is related to the way people interact with each other. This can be achieved in the social phenomenon represented by this research, which illustrates how people react to Joe Biden's Instagram account.

In the comments of Joe Biden's post, this research found the kind of expressive speech act, then identify and describe the purposes of expressive speech acts in each comment found on Instagram comments of Joe Biden's account. The research follows the public reaction in Joe Biden's Instagram account to analyze the number of comments made by netizens in the social media crowd. Because netizens frequently comment based on their feelings, netizens' comments are frequently related to the success or failure of the party for the people.

The research can be used as a reference for future research on learning and analyzing discourse through expressive speech acts, guided by Searle's theory. The findings of this research can help to improve comprehension and understanding of pragmatics, especially expressive speech acts. This research can also be used by the reader to understand how expressive speech acts can be used to analyze people's feelings in the Instagram comment column.

There are some previous studies focused on expressive speech acts. Herman (2020) analyzed the illocutionary acts contained in Trump's speech of the 2020 American President General Election Campaign in Toledo Ohio. The thesis employed Searle's theory and a qualitative method. The thesis found that representative speech acts were the most commonly used in Trump's speech during the 2020 United States presidential election campaign. The difference between the thesis and this research is that the thesis focused on an illocutionary act which is more general than an expressive speech act.

Maula (2019) analyzed speech acts in her thesis that was entitled Speech Acts Study on Twitter Comments of The United Nations Speech Video about Youth and Self-Acceptance Delivered by RM (Kim Namjoon) of BTS (Beyond the Scene). The thesis employed a qualitative method. The only difference is the social media platforms that both of them use. The data for the thesis came from Twitter comments on a video of Kim Namjoon of BTS giving a speech about youth and self-acceptance at the United Nations, while this research took the data from the Instagram platform, specifically from netizen comments on Joe Biden's Instagram account.

Murniati (2016) analyzed the types of directive speech act used in Mark Twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. This research used the thesis as a guide because the thesis has the same focus in examining the speech act, but in this case, it focuses on directive speech acts. The thesis employed the qualitative method and Searle's theory. The thesis used a novel as the object of the research.

Even though there are some similarities in taking on the issue of speech acts, none of the studies examined the expressive speech act used by netizens who expressed their feelings on Joe Biden's Instagram account.
during Joe Biden's campaigning period. This research aimed to find out the kinds of expressive speech acts that often appear in Joe Biden’s campaign period to the inauguration day of Joe Biden, and identify the purposes for their use of these expressive speech acts on Instagram comments of Joe Biden's account. The questions are: 1) What types of expressive speech acts found on Instagram comments of Joe Biden’s account? 2) What are the purposes of the expressive speech act found on Instagram comments of Joe Biden’s account?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Pragmatics

Pragmatics is the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (a writer) and interpreted by a listener (a reader) (Yule, 1996). In other words, pragmatics examines what people’s words mean, not what the words or phrases in those utterances may mean. To successfully communicate, there must be a context for communication. The context can be the environment in which the speaker or the listener (the recipient of the message) is located. Also, the context may include one or more various elements, such as the relationship between the speaker and the listener. Different communication styles will emerge as a result of this context.

It is possible to conclude that pragmatics is concerned with the meaning of the words that are used and are related to context. As a result, the speaker’s meaning (or in the case of a sentence, a writer) is dependent on the knowledge assumptions shared by both the speaker (the writer) and the listener (the reader): the speaker creates the linguistic message and intends or implies a meaning, whereas the listener interprets the message and infers meaning from it.

Speech Acts

The first concept of speech acts was introduced by Austin in his monograph How to Do Things with Words. The point of Austin’s monograph was that every normal utterance has both a descriptive and an effective aspect. It means that saying something is also doing something (Austin, 1962). A statement made by the priest can unite two people into a husband and wife. Certain conditions must be met for such an utterance to be considered a valid act (Austin, 1962).

Austin’s idea was then expanded upon by Searle, who assumed that all utterances were acts (Searle, 1969). As a result, Searle referred to all of the acts that were spoken as speech acts. This act is defined as the minimal unit of human communication. Emotional expression involves more than just using words and grammar structures; it also involves doing actions through those utterances.

Under Austin, Searle classified speech acts as a locutionary act, an illocutionary act, and a perlocutionary act (Searle, 1969).
**Locutionary Act**

Locution is the act of saying something with meaning and reference. The basis of utterance or meaning in linguistics is the locutionary act. This is similar to say a specific sentence with a specific meaning and reference, which has a similar meaning in the traditional sense (Yule, 1996).

The meaning of the spoken utterance, rather than the purpose or function of the utterance, is the focus of the locutionary act. The locutionary act is the easiest to identify because the identification process does not consider the context of the speech. For example, when someone says, “it is hot here,” it means that the speaker is feeling hot in his place. This utterance is said solely to inform something without any intention of doing anything or influencing the listener.

**Illocutionary Act**

The difference between locutionary and illocutionary acts is clearly defined as the difference between saying and doing. Saying “go away” does more than just say it; it also directs someone to do something. When someone says, “It is hot here,” that can mean expressing discomfort due to hot air, expressing discomfort because there is no air conditioner, or requesting that the air conditioner be turned on.

Most languages associate the speaker’s activities with words that are frequently mentioned by verbs. Therefore, every language has an identity term for the word and looks for linguistic expressions related to these activities in the form of certain verbs, which represent speech acts. This type of verbs is known as a performative verb or a speech-act verb. However, some speech acts cannot be represented by only a few verbs. For example, the speech act of order can be expressed in various ways, “I order you to close the door”, “Close the door!”, and “You will open the door.” The first sentence employs the verb “to order”, the second sentence employs a regular verb in an imperative sentence, and the last sentence employs an indirect way.

**Perlocutionary Act**

Perlocution is the action or effect that occurs as a result of the speaker’s words certain illocutionary acts. The illocutionary act has received the most attention in pragmatic studies of the three speech acts mentioned above because it is complex, varied, and frequent. The perlocutionary act is defined by Searle as an effect of the speaker’s utterance on the listener that goes beyond the listener’s understanding of the utterance (Searle, 1980). The perlocutionary act includes convincing, persuading, annoying, amusing, and frightening. The perlocutionary act is also known as the act of affecting someone.

For example, there is someone who said, “This house is so dirty,” then that someone clean the house. The effect of that someone clean the house is known as a perlocutionary effect. Another example, there is someone who was late for a meeting, then that someone said to another coworker, “The
traffic is very heavy. It's hard for me to drive my car. It's my fault for not leaving a few hours earlier than usual." That someone apologizes for arriving late and the effect of coworker forgives that someone is a perlocutionary act.

**Classifications of Illocutionary Acts Pragmatics**

Austin classified illocutionary acts into five categories, namely expositive, verdictives, exercitives, commissives, behabitives (Austin, 1962). Austin's theory was criticized by Searle especially in his argument about a performative verb. According to Searle, there is some confusion between verbs and actions in Austin's theory. There is too much overlap, in theory, too much heterogeneity in categories, and most importantly, the lack of a consistent classification principle. Then, Searle classified types of the illocutionary act into five: representatives, directives, commissives, declarative, and expressive (Searle, 1969).

**Representatives**

The members of the representative class' point or purpose of the statement are to commit the speaker to something being the true, in relation to the truth of the stated proposition (Searle 1979). Representative is a kind of speech act that shows the speaker's belief in a fact expressed by the thoughts and brings the truth value.

The type of representative illocutionary act includes describing, informing, swearing, reporting, and threatening (Searle, 2005). An example of the representative illocutionary act is when someone informs a friend, "I met your parent yesterday," this is a type of representative illocutionary act because the speaker uses the utterance to inform the listener. Another example is when someone says, "The earth is flat" to a friend, the speaker expresses his belief that the earth is flat.

**Directives**

Searle (1979) states the directive illocutionary act is an attempt by the speaker to persuade the listener to do something. Searle added that the directive illocutionary act includes several acts like advising, asking, begging, forbidding, requesting, inviting, and suggesting. When someone says, "Don't enter the room!" this is an example of a directive illocutionary act. The speaker forbids someone from entering the room, which, based on the definition given by Searle (1979), indicates directive illocutionary acts because the speaker persuades the listener to do something. Another example of a directive illocutionary act is when someone says, "Can you open the door?" the speaker requests that the listener open the door. Requesting is one of the directive illocutionary types.

**Commissives**

Commissive is a speech act that expresses a speaker's future appointment. Commissive has several characteristics, including the fact that it tends to be convivial rather than competitive, that it is performed in the
interest of someone other than the speaker, and that the interaction way of both the speaker and the listener should be directive. Promises, threats, and refusals are types of commissive illocutionary acts.

An example of a commissive illocutionary act is when someone says, “I’ll buy you some foods tomorrow.” This utterance is known as a promise speech act because the speaker used the word “will,” which has a promise meaning. Another example of a commissive illocutionary act is when someone offers you a cup of coffee and then asks, “Should I get you a coffee?” This sentence is referred to as an illocutionary act because the offer is a type of commissive illocutionary act.

**Declaratives**

A declarative illocutionary act is when the speaker gives change effect directly through several statements in an event. The speaker has an impact on society through his mind and world. Declarative illocutionary act verbs include not only declaring but also naming, baptizing, and marrying.

When the boss says to his employee, “You are fired!” this is an example of a declarative illocutionary act. If they are expressed in the right context, it may result in a change in reality. Another example of a declarative illocutionary act is when the priest says to the couple who wants to marry after saying their marriage vows, “You have declared your consent before the Church.” The priest's utterance replaces one condition with another new. In this case, the pastor has married off two lovers and turned them into husband and wife.

**Expressives**

The expressive speech act is the main object of this research because it discusses the speaker’s perception. The expressive speech act demonstrates sincerity in relation to a situation (Searle, 1979). Searle stated that there are some paradigm cases in expressive speech act, those are: expressive of apologizing, expressive of congratulating, expressive of thanking, and expressive of welcoming. The utterance that refers to how the speaker expresses his or her attitude or feeling is referred to as an expressive illocutionary act (Searle, 1976).

An example of an expressive illocutionary act is when someone says, “Congratulation!” to a friend. The speaker’s utterance is intended to congratulate someone and is a part of an expressive illocutionary act. Another example of an expressive illocutionary act is when someone says, “I’m glad to meet you,” to a friend that has been met. The speaker expresses his feeling to the listener.

**Classifications of Expressive Speech Acts**

Classifications of expressive speech acts were first started by Searle who wrote that there are paradigm cases in expressive speech act, those are: apologizing, congratulating, thanking, and welcoming (Searle, 1976). Then it continued to Yule who wrote about paradigm cases in expressive speech act
that express or state a psychological attitude of the speakers, such as joy, sorrow, and like/dislike. Almost the same as Searle, Clark classified the kinds of expressive speech acts as thanking, apologizing, congratulating, and greeting (Clark, 1996).

This research discovered several types of expressive speech acts. The data of this research were analyzed using Searle's theory. There are several types of expressive illocutionary acts, which are expressive of apologizing, expressive of congratulating, expressive of greeting, expressive of thanking, expressive of wishing, expressive of attitude (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018).

Expressive of Apologizing
Searle defines expressive of apologizing as an expression of regret. When someone regrets what he has done or said, he attempts to express his regret by apologizing (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018). In the other word, the expressive of apologizing is a type of utterance made by the speaker when he or she expresses regret for something that has happened. Norrick stated that apologizing is the expression of negative feelings toward an addressee by the speaker in order to appease them (Norrick, 1987 in Ronan, 2015).

For example, when someone said, “It’s my fault,” it means that someone feels sorry to the addressee and wants the addressee to forgive that someone. That someone not saying “I’m sorry” that has a keyword to apologize, but it has the same meaning as “I’m sorry” in the context.

Expressive of Congratulating
An expressive of congratulating is used to express joy and sympathy to the listener (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018). An expressive of congratulating is a type of utterance expressed by the speaker when the speaker feels sympathy for what has happened to the listener, including feelings of pleasure for the listener’s luck and compassion for the listener’s sadness.

For example, when someone said, “Congrats!” to the addressee, it can be an appreciation from the speaker to the addressee for doing something good or successful to get an achievement.

Expressive of Greeting
The speaker’s expression of welcoming can be defined as expressive of greeting. The expressive of greeting utterance expressed by the speaker to show an expression of welcoming and an act of greeting by the speaker to the listener (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018).

For example, when someone said, “Welcome home!” it means the speaker’s positive or polite way of greeting the addressee. Greeting is a response of approving attendance to a location or event with passion and joy.
Expressive of Thanking

Expressive of thanking is defined as an expression of gratitude on the part of the speaker to the listener. An expressive of thanking is a type of utterance expressed by someone to demonstrate how people are grateful for something that someone has done (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018).

For example, when someone said, “It means a lot to me,” it has a meaning that someone feels gratitude and appreciation for the addressee’s help or does. There is no "thank you" in the sentence, but the way the speaker said it means that the speaker is thankful to the addressee.

Expressive of Wishing

An expression of desire is characterized as expressive of wishing. The expressive of wishing is an expression of the speaker’s willingness to express or hope that the hope is realized (Searle, 1976 in Siregar, 2018). The speaker wishes to articulate what he or she intends to happen as well as what is expected of him.

For example, when someone said, “I wish you luck in your new job,” it means the speaker’s desire and wants to expect it becomes reality. In this case, the speaker hopes the addressee gets luck in the addressee’s new job. The word “wish” is also included in the utterance, indicating that it is part of the expressive speech act of wishing.

Expressive of Attitude

An expressive speech act is that are used to express or state a psychological attitude of the speakers, such as joy, sorrow, and like/dislike. The act of expressing one’s disagreement or dislike with the listener’s attitude is known as expressive of attitude (Yule, 1996). The expressive of attitude is a type of utterance made by a speaker to indicate that he or she is criticizing something (Searle, 1976 in Siregar 2018). In this situation, expressive of attitude means criticizing, arguing, or expressing dissatisfaction with the listener's attitudes.

For example, when someone said, “I cannot accept this,” it means that the speaker disagreed with the addressee’s attitude. It is used to express the speaker’s criticism of the addressee’s attitude or statement. The utterance is included an expressive speech act because it contained the speaker's opinion about the problem.

Instagram

Instagram is a well-known social media platform that allows users to connect and communicate even when they are separated by long distances. Instagram is frequently used as a place to save a moment with friends or families in the form of photos and videos, but Instagram is now also a business place to sell any products.

Instagram users are not only among young people but also among all age groups. One of Instagram’s users is Joe Biden. Joe Biden has frequently shared his speeches and activities in presenting himself as a candidate for
United States Presidential Elections 2020, and his post got a lot of responses from his followers. Joe Biden's followers often use sentences containing expressive speech act elements to express their feelings about Joe Biden's posts. Netizens expressed various types of expressive speech acts in the comments column of Joe Biden's post, which can be examined using the expressive speech act. An expressive speech act is related to people's expression when expressing their feeling and attitude about something. This research employs the expressive speech act theory by Searle as a guide to analyze 26 netizens' comments of Joe Biden Instagram account.

METHOD

Referring to the research questions, this research employs a qualitative research design. The qualitative method is a research concept that is designed by referring to quality (Creswell, 2012). Therefore, this research type is employed to find out the types of expressive speech acts and to identify the purposes of expressive speech acts found in Instagram comments of Joe Biden's account. Document analysis is the process of research by a qualitative investigator that consists of public documents (such as newspapers, minutes of meetings, official reports) or private documents (such as personal journals, diaries, and letters) (Creswell, 2012). Based on Creswell's statement, the data of this research which includes people's responses in the Instagram comments are part of a document. The data were taken from netizens' comments on Joe Biden's Instagram post from September 13, 2020 to January 20, 2021 which is the presidential campaign period.

In the process of analyzing the data, here are some steps which are done: selecting the data from comments in Joe Biden's Instagram post that he posted in his presidential campaign period; selecting the data was contained expressive speech act used Searle's theory, which are apologizing, congratulating, greeting, thanking, wishing, and expressive speech act of attitude (Searle, A Classification of Illocutionary Acts, 1976); analyzing and describing the results of the whole analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Finding of the Research

Using Searle's (1987) theory of expressive speech act, the writer found the types and the purpose of netizens’ comments on Joe Biden's Instagram post. There are four type of expressive speech act used in the netizen's comments on Joe Biden's Instagram post: expressive speech act of thanking, expressive speech act of congratulating, expressive speech act of wishing, and expressive speech act of attitude. Netizens used those types of expressive speech act in expressing their perception and feeling to Joe Biden's opinion published on his Instagram post. This research builds on the previous studies by including a fresh object. The difference between this
research and previous study is that apart from knowing the types of expressive speech act and its purposes stated by netizens. People’s responses in comments on Joe Biden’s Instagram indicated how much people support Joe Biden’s opinions and plans, as well as whether the public is for or against Joe Biden as the presidential candidate of the United States. This is consistent with the expressive speech act theory, which explains how the speaker’s (the netizen’s) perception and feelings about something are expressed. The following are the data of the expressive speech acts on netizen’s comments of Joe Biden’s Instagram account:

Table 1. Percentage of research result.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Classifications of Expressive Speech Act</th>
<th>Σ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Expressive of Thanking</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Expressive of Congratulating</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Expressive of Wishing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Expressive of Attitude</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows that the comments mostly contain expressive speech acts of thanking with 10 data. The comments containing the expressive speech act of attitude is 8 data. The comments containing the expressive speech act of wishing is 5 data. The comments that contained expressive speech act of congratulating is only 3 data. Thus, it can be seen that netizens expressed their gratitude, criticism and complaint (attitude), wish, and congratulations as the responses to Joe Biden’s Instagram post during the presidential campaign period.

The data analysis findings are derived from the analyzing process using data from Joe Biden’s Instagram post during the presidential campaign period. The results are shown below.

Expressive Speech Act of Thanking

- Datum 1
  @tolonis: Thank you, Joe Biden, for fighting on behalf of women.

  In this datum, the netizen expressed her gratitude by commenting on Joe Biden’s post on September 14, 2020. Joe Biden stated in his Instagram post that he will fight for all women and will protect them. This datum includes a statement of thankfulness that shows that the netizen is grateful for something that Joe Biden did.

  The purpose of using an expressive speech act of thanking is to express gratitude for something. In this case, the netizen (the writer of the comment) is grateful to Joe Biden (the addressee), who aimed to protect all women. The netizen was pleased with Joe Biden’s statement that he
would look after all women in the midst of rampant crimes against women. It made the netizen thank Joe Biden and wrote a statement of gratitude that contained an expressive speech act of thanking.

- **Datum 2**
  @5cent_corter: Thank you, Joe.
  Datum 2 included a thankful statement from the netizen who was pleased with Joe Biden's Instagram post stating that he will fight for all women. It is a kind of expressive speech act of thanking because the netizen comments with a statement expressing her gratitude.
  The purpose of using an expressive speech act of thanking on this datum is to show gratitude to Joe Biden (the addressee) for his vision and mission to protect all women.

- **Datum 3**
  @lachy_brady: Thank God for you Joe Biden without this message the world would forget to respect women.
  In this datum, the netizen thanked Joe Biden for his vision and mission to protect all women. The netizen expressed gratitude to Joe Biden by commenting on his Instagram post with a grateful statement.
  The purpose of using an expressive speech act on this datum is to express the netizen's gratitude to Joe Biden because he decided to fight for women in the midst of many crimes against women. Based on the netizen's comment, that post can be a reminder to others to respect women.

- **Datum 4**
  @mjswinimerdesigns: Thank you, I'm very fortunate to have federal health care as a retire.
  Joe Biden posted his opinion on December 14, 2020, that health care is a right for all. Joe Biden also stated that he would work to ensure that all Americans have access to the care they require. The netizen was pleased and appreciated Joe Biden's fight for health welfare, especially for cancer sufferers. This datum contained a type of expressive speech act of thanking because it contained an appreciation feeling and a thankful statement from the netizen.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking on this datum is to express the netizen’s thankful feeling for Joe Biden. The netizen believed it would help her to have federal health care as a retiree.

- **Datum 5**
  @beingsimonas: Thank you, Dr. Biden. My husband was diagnosed with throat cancer two years ago. We own our consulting company and had two school and kids. It was a life changing experience. We need to protect preexisting conditions and invest in cancer research! You inspire us!
In this datum, the netizen commented that Joe Biden’s statement is very helpful because Joe Biden stated in his Instagram post on October 31, 2020, that he would fight for cancer survivors through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Because it contained a statement and an expression of gratitude from the netizen, datum 5 is included as a type of expressive speech act of thanking.

The purpose of using this type of expressive speech act is to express gratitude to Joe Biden for his plan to fight for cancer survivors. As a wife whose husband was diagnosed with throat cancer, Joe Biden’s plan is very helpful.

- Datum 6
  @stoneleighhomeandgardens: Thank you from a young survivor of a rare, aggressive form of breast cancer!

  There is a thankful statement on this datum. As a young survivor of breast cancer, the netizen felt gratitude because Joe Biden (the addressee) stated that he will support cancer survivors. A thankful statement is a sign that this datum is included as a type of expressive speech act of thanking.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking is to express the netizen’s appreciate feeling for Joe Biden’s fight for cancer survivors. The netizen appreciated Joe Biden by commenting on a grateful statement on Joe Biden’s Instagram post.

- Datum 7
  @realtodaygonetomorrow: Thank you so much cause I really need help in this area. It my biggest life stress. It makes my heart warm to hear you say these words

  The netizen expressed gratitude to Joe Biden by using a thanking statement in the comment section of Joe Biden’s Instagram account. The netizen commented on Joe Biden’s Instagram post on December 14, 2020, about health care. The netizen felt pleased because Joe Biden stated in his Instagram post that he will ensure every American has access to the care they need. The netizen felt very helped by the action that Joe Biden took. This datum contained an expression of gratitude and thanking statement, datum 7 included a type of expressive speech act of thanking.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking in this datum is to express the netizen’s gratitude and appreciation for Joe Biden’s effort to ensure that every American has access to the care they require.

- Datum 8
  @sassy_lou_who: Thank you, Mr. President! I appreciate that so much!

  In datum 8, the netizen commented on Joe Biden’s Instagram post with the phrases “thank you” and “appreciate.” It is an example of expressive speech in the form of a thank-you gesture. The netizen in Joe Biden’s Instagram post about healthcare. This datum is an expressive
speech act of thanking because it contained a thanking statement and an expression of gratitude.

The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking is to express netizen's gratitude and appreciation for Joe Biden's efforts to improve healthcare for all Americans. The netizen expressed her satisfaction with Joe Biden's plan statement by using the phrases "thank you" and "appreciate."

- Datum 9
  @mherrera_2008@yahoo.com: Thank you for acknowledging Breast Cancer.
  We appreciate you.

  In this datum, the netizen expressed appreciation for Joe Biden's support (the addressee). The netizen believed that by making this post, Joe Biden has acknowledged breast cancer patients. Breast cancer, which initially did not get anyone’s sympathy, gradually gained acceptance in the community. This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of thanking because it contained an expression of gratitude.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking is to express the netizen's gratitude to Joe Biden for his support of cancer survivors. This datum used the phrases “thank you” and “appreciate,” indicating the netizen's appreciation.

- Datum 10
  @logangayledr: Thank you for supporting this vulnerable population.

  The netizen made a thankful statement through the comment to praise Joe Biden for being more concerned about mental health and black life matters. Joe Biden posted on his Instagram on October 29, 2020, stating that black life matters and mental health should not end in death. This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of thanking because there is a statement and expression of thanking.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of thanking is to express the netizen's appreciation for Joe Biden. The netizen felt gratitude to Joe Biden for caring more deeply into black lives and mental health.

Expressive Speech Act of Congratulating

- Datum 11
  @garyberry7765: Congrats!

  The netizen commented on Joe Biden Instagram post with a congratulatory statement. This datum is a type of expressive speech act of congratulating because it contains a congratulation statement. The netizen congratulated Joe Biden for winning the presidential election.

  Congratulating is an act of sympathetic pleasure expression. In this case, the purpose of using the expressive speech act of congratulating is to
express the netizen’s pleasure toward Joe Biden winning for the presidential election.

• Datum 12
  @saeedeh_khammar: Congratulations on behalf of the whole of Iran.
  This datum includes a statement in which the netizen expressed his pleasure on Joe Biden’s victory in the 2020 United States presidential election, considering that the comment was posted after Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th President of the United States. This datum is a type of expressive speech act of congratulating because it includes a congratulation statement as well as an expression of pleasure about someone’s success.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of congratulating in this datum is to express the netizen’s pleasure at Joe Biden’s election as president. There is a congratulation statement in this datum to convey the netizen’s congratulation to Joe Biden.

• Datum 13
  @tracz1966: Congratulations, Mr. President. I’m so excited for what we have to look forward to.
  There is a phrase “congratulations,” which refers to her congratulation to Joe Biden, who won the presidential election and is now the President of the United States. This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of congratulating because it contains a congratulation statement.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of congratulating is to express the netizen’s pleasure for Joe Biden’s victory as president of the United States. Based on the datum, the netizen is overjoyed for Joe Biden.

Expressive Speech Act of Wishing

• Datum 14
  @ms.emilyvbenjamin: Hope all is well.
  This datum is a type of expressive speech act of wishing because it contains a desire expression, which is for Joe Biden to win the 2020 United States presidential election. Using a desire expression, the netizen hopes that the United States’ future will be bright during Joe Biden’s presidency.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of wishing in this datum is to express the netizen’s hope that the presidential election will go well and that Joe Biden will be able to carry out his vision and mission successfully.

• Datum 15
  @iii_shade: I hope you become president instead of that Orange Cheeto.
  This datum includes a statement indicating that the netizen hopes Joe Biden (the addressee) would defeat Donald Trump in the election. This
datum is a type of expressive speech act of wishing because there is an expression of desire.

The purpose of using the expressive speech act of wishing is to express the netizen’s hope for Joe Biden to win the United States presidential election in 2020.

- Datum 16
  @ava.robinson.123: *I wish I could vote.*
  On September 13, 2020, Joe Biden posted a picture that influence people to vote for himself in the United States presidential election. In this datum, the netizen expressed her desire to vote for Joe Biden in the presidential election. This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of wishing because it contains an expression of desire.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of wishing is to express the netizen’s desire to vote for Joe Biden. The netizen wanted Joe Biden to become president of the United States, so the netizen wished that she could vote for Joe Biden.

- Datum 17
  @nepib2019: *Wish Trumpster could understand on what you are saying. They are in denial. It would be next to impossible to make them understand.*
  This datum contains a type of expressive speech act of wishing because the netizen expressed an expression of desire and wants Trumpers, which is a name for political supporters of Donald Trump, understands and do not compete between Donald Trump’s and Joe Biden’s camps and stay focused on the Covid-19 virus.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of wishing is to express the netizen’s desire to Trumpsters to avoid competing between Donald Trump’s and Joe Biden’s camps. In Joe Biden’s Instagram post on November 26, 2020, he stated that all Americans should focus on fighting Covid-19, not on fighting each other.

- Datum 18
  @aliomarshmaileh: *I wish you happiness, Mr. President, with all respect and appreciation.*
  This datum contains a type of expressive speech act of wishing because there is the netizen’s desire. The netizen wanted Joe Biden to be happy and to help the State of Palestine to be recognized by the rest of the world.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of wishing is to express the netizen’s desire for Joe Biden. Along with his wishes for Joe Biden’s happiness, the netizen expressed another wish. The netizen wanted Joe Biden to stay healthy then he could properly care for
Palestine. As a Muslim, Palestine is an important city because of the Masjid al-Aqsa.

Expressive Speech Act of Attitude

• Datum 19
  @oceans_away69: A vote for Joe is a vote to continue the genocide on the black population with the promotion of tax payer partial birth abortion. Black babies lives matter.

  This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of attitude because there is the netizen's opinion about something happened. Joe Biden encouraged people on Instagram to vote for him and Kamila Harris in the United States presidential election in 2020. The netizen criticized it by saying that voting for Joe Biden was an act of racism against black people. The netizen believes Joe Biden is inadequate in dealing with racism in the United States. As a result, the netizen disagreed with Joe Biden's post and criticized it by commenting on Joe Biden's Instagram post with an opposing opinion from Joe Biden.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act attitude in this datum is to express the netizen's disapproval of Joe Biden's statement that he posted on his Instagram post. The netizen's response was completely contrary to Joe Biden's statement of voting for him as president.

• Datum 20
  @j_acksnape: No, Joe. Protect all men and women.

  This datum is categorized as an expressive speech act of attitude because there is the netizen's disagreement with Joe Biden's statement. Joe Biden post on his Instagram that he and Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) would fight for all women if he becomes the president of United Stated. It means that Joe Biden and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) would work to prevent and combat violence against women in areas such as domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking. In this case, the netizen did not agree that Joe Biden should only protect all women. Netizens believe that men also need protection.

  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude is to express the netizen's disagreement of Joe Biden's statement who said to protect all women. The netizen believed that all men and women needed to be protected.

• Datum 21
  @2daisy2: Not just the black Americans but also our precious American Indians. We must respect our native Americans.

  The netizen used a disapproval statement indicating that the netizen criticized Joe Biden. The netizen would rather agree if Joe Biden made a statement condemning racism against Native Americans as well as black Americans. This datum is included in a type of expressive speech act of attitude because it expressed a point of view on the Joe Biden’s statement.
The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude on this datum is to express the netizen’s criticism toward Joe Biden’s statement on his Instagram post. In the netizen’s opinion, racism not only happened to Black Americans but also all of the Native Americans.

• Datum 22
@loveneedsachance: No, it should not.

This datum implies that the netizen did not agree with Joe Biden’s statement in his Instagram post about the black lives matter in America. This datum includes the expressive speech act of attitude because there is the netizen’s opinion about black lives issue in America that contrast with Joe Biden’s opinion. The netizen criticized Joe Biden’s statement that America should not have black racism, but the netizen stated that it should not be removed.

The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude in this datum is to express the netizen’s criticism toward Joe Biden’s statement on his Instagram post about black lives issue in America.

• Datum 23
@proffaqb: It doesn’t steal our joy, it tempers it with pain and teaches us to use darkness as a way to better define the light. Yes. Let us hold on to hope! (2x survivor, mother of 3, cancer coach and proud community college prof).

This datum includes a type of expressive speech act of attitude because it contains an opinion about Joe Biden’s statement in his Instagram post on October 31, 2020. Joe Biden stated about breast cancer that steals everyone joy that has cancer.

The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude in this datum is to express the netizen’s disagreement with Joe Biden’s opinion. The netizen believed that cancer teaches people to be more grateful and resilient in their daily lives.

• Datum 24
@dj_blaccc: It’s not a war, it’s a health crisis; the military vocabulary does not federate a country whose culprit is invisible, and yet it is here.

There is the netizen’s disagreement with Joe Biden’s statement that people should focus on fighting the Covid-19 virus rather than fighting each other. For the netizen, the phrase “a war” is not suitable for the Covid-19 virus because the military vocabulary does not federate a country whose culprit is invisible. Because this datum contains an opinion about the something, this datum contains a type of expressive speech act of attitude.

The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude in this datum is to express the netizen’s criticism of Joe Biden. The netizen that he disagreed with Joe Biden in the comment and criticized that it is not a
war like what Joe Biden wrote in his Instagram post, but it is a health crisis.

- Datum 25
  @christinehovliaras: No, it is not a new day!
  This datum contains the expressive speech act of attitude because there is the netizen's opinion about Joe Biden's statement on his Instagram post on January 20, 2021. The netizen criticized Joe Biden's statement, which claimed that it was a new day, but for the netizen, it is not a new day because the United States is still dealing with a Covid19 pandemic and an economic crisis.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech attitude in this datum is to express the netizen's disagreement with Joe Biden's statement that stated about a new day in the United States but actually the United States still has the same problem as before.

- Datum 26
  @susanbadapaints: No, it shouldn’t but you are exploiting this situation to get votes which is beyond disgusting. Trump 2020.
  This datum is a type of expressive speech act of attitude because it contains a statement expressing her disapproval of Joe Biden. In the netizen's opinion, Joe Biden is taking advantage of the situation to gain votes. On October 29, 2020, Joe Biden posted about the racism that was going on in the United States at the time.
  The purpose of using the expressive speech act of attitude in this datum is to express the netizen's criticism toward Joe Biden's statement on his Instagram post. The netizen has criticized Joe Biden's statement, claiming that it was Joe Biden's work to exploit the situation as if he cared to gain the people's sympathy and be elected President of the United States.

**Discussion of the Research**

The expressive speech act expresses the speaker's feelings and attitudes. It will be able to express psychological states based on the feelings of the speakers, such as pleasure, pain, dislike, joy, or sorrow (Tamam, 2020). Based on the findings of the research, the netizens expressed some of the types of expressive speech acts. The netizens expressed an expressive speech act of thanking toward Joe Biden because Joe Biden often posted his opinion about something and showed that he was pro to the citizen. Joe Biden announced his future plans, stating that he wants to assist citizens and the United States in dealing with all of the bad issues that arise.

The netizens respond to Joe Biden's posts with their complaints and criticisms of Joe Biden's opinions that he shared on his Instagram posts. Although many people support and agree with Joe Biden's plans that he shared on Instagram, many others oppose him through his Instagram comments column. The expressive speech act of attitude is an utterance
uttered by the speaker to express the speaker's opinion, such as disagreeing or complaining about something. People who disagree with Joe Biden's opinion criticize him in the comment column of Joe Biden's Instagram post. They voiced their displeasure by criticizing and complaining about Joe Biden's opinion on Instagram.

The netizens also express their hope and with comments on Joe Biden's Instagram post. The netizens also express their hope in comments on Joe Biden's Instagram post. The expressive speech act of wishing is an utterance uttered by the speaker that expresses the speaker's desire for something to happen. Based on the data that was analyzed, netizens stated an expression of desire that refers to expressing their wish toward Joe Biden. Some of them want Joe Biden to win the presidential election in 2020, some of them want to vote for Joe Biden to become the presidential election in 2020, and some of them want the United States to be better than it is now. Those desires were expressed by netizens in the comment section of Joe Biden's Instagram post using the expressive of wishing.

Because the data were taken from the presidential campaigning period until the inauguration of the presidential election 2020, there are some netizens' comments that contained the expressive speech act of congratulating. Since Joe Biden's election victory, many netizens have expressed their joy by commenting on Joe Biden's Instagram posts. The expressive speech act of congratulating is an expression expressed by the speaker to show the speaker's happiness and joy at someone's success. In this case, the netizen expressed happiness for Joe Biden after he won the 2020 presidential election and became President of the United States.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Since Joe Biden was elected as a candidate for President of the United States, he has been attempting to attract the public's attention by posting his activities, opinions, and plans on Instagram. Joe Biden frequently posts his thoughts on current issues in the United States, as well as his plans for dealing with the issue if he is elected president. Various responses from netizens appeared in Joe Biden's post. The writer used netizen's comments on Joe Biden's Instagram account as the object of the research. Those comments were analyzed used Searle’s theory of expressive speech acts.

Based on the data analysis, there are a total of 26 expressive speech acts in this expressive speech act analysis found on Instagram comments of Joe Biden's account that are related to the topic based on the limitations that have been determined. There are 10 types of expressive speech acts of thanking. Expressive speech act of thanking is an expression of gratitude expressed by the speaker. Based on the findings of the research, the speakers (the netizens) expressed an expressive speech act of thanking toward Joe Biden because Joe Biden often posted his opinion about something and showed that he was pro to the citizen. Joe Biden announced his future plans, stating that he wants to assist citizens and the United States in dealing with all of the bad issues that arise. The speakers (the netizens) want to express
their feelings to Joe Biden because they are grateful for Joe Biden's future plans. The second most common type of expressive speech act in the comment column of Joe Biden's Instagram post is the expressive speech acts of attitude that is as many as 8 data. Although many people support and agree with Joe Biden's future plans that he shared on Instagram, many others oppose him through his Instagram comments column. Expressive speech act of attitude is an utterance uttered by the speaker to express the speaker's opinion, such as disagree or complaint about something. People who disagree with Joe Biden's opinion criticize him in the comment column of Joe Biden's Instagram post. They voiced their displeasure by criticizing and complaining about Joe Biden’s opinion on Instagram. The third most common type of expressive speech act in the comment column of Joe Biden's Instagram post is the expressive speech acts of wishing. There are 5 data that contain the types of expressive speech acts of wishing in the research. Expressive speech act of wishing is an utterance uttered by the speaker that express about the speaker's desire for something to happen. Based on the data of that was analyzed, netizens stated an expression of desire that refers to express their wish toward Joe Biden. Some of them want Joe Biden to win the presidential election in 2020, some of them want to vote for Joe Biden to become the presidential election in 2020, and some of them want the United States to be better than it is now. Those desires were expressed by netizens in the comment section of Joe Biden's Instagram post using the expressive of wishing. The last type of the expressive speech act found on Instagram of Joe Biden’s Instagram post is the type of expressive speech act of congratulating. There are 3 types of expressive speech acts of congratulating. Expressive speech act of congratulating is an expression expressed by the speaker to show the speaker's happiness and joy at someone's success. In this case, the speaker (the netizen) expressed happiness for Joe Biden because he won the presidential election in 2020 and became President of the United States.

REFERENCES


