

Function of Negative Imperative Sentences Found in *Disney's Mulan* Movie 2020

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Abstract— This study was conducted to analyze the functions of negative imperative sentences found in *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020. The data that used in this study taken from *Disney's Mulan* movie which have been downloaded from Telegram application. This movie tells the story of a young Chinese woman who disguises herself as a male warrior in order to save her father. The data were collected through observation method by watching the movie repeatedly, taking a note and making the list of negative imperative sentences. The theory used to classify the functions of negative imperative sentence proposed by Quirk *et. al* (1985). There are three functions of negative imperative sentences were found in this article. First function is prohibition. It is used to forbid someone to do something. Second function is warning. It is used to warn someone to stop doing something. The last function is suggestion. It is used to give a suggestion to someone in doing something or stop doing something.

Keywords— negative imperative, function, movie

1. Introduction

The most important aspect in a communication is language. Through language, people can deliver their message to other people. As an International language, English is generally acknowledged to be the world's most important language (Quirk *et al.* 1985). As a non-native speaker, English learners have to spend a lot of time studying the structure of English sentence. A sentence is a group of word that consisting of a subject and predicative which propose an idea (Yuniarsi, *et al.* 2019). Sentence in accordance with its function is divided into four such as interrogative, declarative, exclamatory, and imperative (Erlin and Andayani, 2015). Imperative sentence is a sentence that request to the person that we are speaking with to do or not to do something (Putri, *et al.* 2018). Imperative sentences are generally terminated with an exclamation mark instead of period (Simorangkir and Passandaran, 2016). Imperative sentence usually occurs in a conversation. The imperative sentence is classified into five forms, as follows; imperative without a subject, imperative with a subject, imperative with let, negative imperative, and do with positive imperative (Quirk *et al.* 1985:827-833). Negative imperative sentence is the command sentence which is used to prohibit (Hidayatullah and Nur, 2019). This sentence was chosen as the topic of the article because the writer wants to enlarge the knowledge of negative imperative sentence and apply it in the real life. In addition, this study can help the readers to have deeper understanding about negative imperative sentences. According to Quirk *et. al* (1985), a negative Imperative Sentence can be made by adding an initial Don't or Do not. It can negate the first three classes of imperative and also replacing assertive by nonassertive items where necessary. There are fifteen functions of imperative sentences, such as command/ order, prohibition, request, plea, advice/recommendation, warning, suggestion, instruction, invitation, offer, granting permission, good wishes, imprecation, incredulous rejection, and self-deliberation (Quirk *et al.* 1985). From the background above, this article aims to identify and analyze the functions of negative imperative sentences in *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020.

2. Literature Review

A. Function of Negative Imperative Sentence

According to Quirk et.al (1985) theory, there are fifteen functions of imperative sentence. Meanwhile, this article were found three functions of negative imperative sentence, as follows:

1. Prohibition

Prohibition is used to stop something from being done or used. The speaker uses this sentence to forbid someone to do something. Prohibition usually uses the word such as *don't*.

2. Warning

Warning is the function of imperative sentence that is used to warn someone to stop doing something. It is a statement that indicates that something bad or danger may occur in the future. So, the speaker tries to avoid it.

3. Suggestion

Suggestion is an idea or plan that is delivered by the speaker to the hearer which is mention about what they think. Suggestion is an optional function. It means the hearer have an option whether they will receive or refuse it.

B. Movie

Movie is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at the cinema/ movie/ theater (*Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 2015:983*). Movie is becoming the most famous entertainment media around the world. There are many kinds of movie such as action movie, comedy, horror, etc. The data source of this study is categorized as the action movie. Therefore, a lot of imperative sentence used in this movie that delivered by the characters.

3. Method

The data of this study were taken from *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020. This movie was produced by Walt Disney Pictures company and published firstly on 04 September 2020 in the United States of America through the Disney+ streaming platform. This movie is directed by Niki Caro. The duration of this movie is two hours. The main character of this movie is played by Yifie Liu as Hua Mulan. This is the adaptation movie from Disney's 1998 animated film of the same title based on the Chinese folklore "The Ballad of Mulan". There are three different functions of negative imperative sentences used in this movie which are interesting to be analyzed. There are three steps that applied in collecting the data. The first step is watching the movie carefully and repeatedly to find out the negative imperative sentences. The second step is taking a note of negative imperative sentences which are uttered by the characters. The third step is classifying the functions of negative imperative sentences. The writer applied the theory proposed by Quirk et.al (1985) which was used to analyze the functions of negative imperative sentence. The data were qualitatively analyzed and presented descriptively based on theories adopted in this study. In presenting the data, the writer used the description and show the picture of each data.

4. Result and Discussion

As stated Nurmislih (2017) negative imperative sentence used to command the addressee not to do something. Adults do not usually give each other commands, unless they have a position of authority. The intonation of the speaker is important when they delivered the imperative sentence. The speaker should know where the words are stressed or when the tone should be falls. It aims to avoid misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer. In addition, there are some words that indicate to spesific type and function of imperative, such as request function usually used the word "please" in order to show the politness. The word please can be place either at the front or at the end of the sentences. Besides, negative imperative usually used the word "do not or don't" which is located in the beginning of a sentence. The result of this article shows that there were 9 data which consists of three functions of negative imperative sentence found in Disney's *Mulan* movie 2020, such as Prohibition function, Warning function, and Suggestion function. This negative imperative sentence was delivered by all characters of the movie. All of the data can be seen clearly in the table below:

TABLE 1.
DATA FINDINGS OF NEGATIVE IMPERATIVE SENTENCE FOUND IN DISNEY'S MULAN MOVIE 2020

Functions of Negative Imperative	Occurences
Prohibition	4
Warning	4
Suggestion	1
Total	9

A. The Analysis of Prohibition Functions in *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020

Prohibition function is used to forbid someone in doing something. This function usually uses the word "don't" or "can't" before the sentences. It is concerned as the marker of negative imperative. When the speaker said this function, it might be similar with the command function. However, prohibition is the term of the ban. It means the speaker give a command to the hearer to do not to do something. The data will be supported by a picture in each data. There are 4 data were found in Disney's *Mulan* Movie 2020, as follows:

1. The Analysis of Data 1 : Don't panic! (00.03.35)



Figure 1
Picture of data 1 in Disney's *Mulan* Movie 2020

As stated by Quirk et.al (1985), prohibition usually uses the word such as *don't*. In data 1, there is a sentence that uttered by the main character to her sister. She forbid her to panic because at that time there was a spider crawling in her hair. This sentence is categorized as the prohibition function because there was the word "don't" occur in the initial position of the sentence. Therefore, this negative imperative sentence is belong to it. In this case, the speaker tried to calm down the hearer. It can be seen clearly on the picture above. The picture show a little girl who was delivered the prohibition funtion to her sister. The prohibition was delivered by the main character, named *Mulan*.

2. The Analysis of Data 2 : Don't worry! (00.03.44)



Figure 2
Picture of data 2 in Disney's *Mulan* Movie 2020

Negative imperative sentence in data 2 is categorized as prohibition function. The speaker used the word "don't" to indicate the prohibition. We can see that the function of imperative sentence above is concerned to negative imperative because the hearer is not allowed to do something. Similar with data 1, this prohibiton was delivered by the main character of the movie. The picture above showed that at that time she was pranking her sister and said there was a spider crawling in her hair. She asked her sister to do not

worry about that because she will help her and squash the spider.

3. The Analysis of Data 3 : Don't stop! (00.34.56)



Figure 3
Picture of data 3 in Disney's *Mulan* Movie 2020

According to Quirk et.al (1985), prohibition is used to stop something from being done or used. In data 3 is categorized as the prohibition because the speaker give a command but in the contents of the ban. This sentence uses the intonation like command sentence and show the authority of the speaker. This sentence was delivered by Sergeant Qiang when he was trained all the young man from the village to become a great warrior. He forbids them to stop during the training. It can be seen from the picture above, there was a young men was stop and sit down. Therefore, he said this sentence for him and commanding him to continue the training.

4. The Analysis of Data 4 : You can't leave! (01.37.29)



Figure 4
Picture of data 4 in Disney's *Mulan* Movie 2020

Thomson (1986) state that the word "can" can be used as an informal alternative to may here but it can also be used to express the idea of having permission. The case in data 4, shows that the speaker express that he or she did not give the permission by using the word "can't". It describes a ban for the hearer. This prohibition was delivered by Honghui to Mulan. He did not give a permission for her to leave from the kingdom. The picture showed that at that time Mulan wants to back home with her horse. Then, the speaker said the prohibition to stop her.

B. The Analysis of Warning Functions in *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020

Warning function is used to warn someone of danger. All the words of warning function are stressed. The speaker usually use the higher tone to show the urgency situation. This function used the negative marker in the initial position or in the middle of the sentence. In here, the speaker know that something bad or danger that might be happen in future if the hearer do that things. The speaker usually has a relationship with the hearer such as their family, friends, etc. Therefore, the speaker did not wants they get in trouble because they care and expect the hearer will safe. Each of the data will support by a picture. There are four Warning function were found in Disney's *Mulan* movie 2020, as follows:

5. The Analysis of Data 5 : You cannot eat! (00.16.07)



Figure 5
Picture of data 5 in Disney's Mulan Movie 2020

The data above is categorized as warning function due to the speaker tries to remember the hearer that she or he cannot eat. It can be seen clearly from the picture, there were three women who were walking fast because they must be on time to meet Matchmaker. This sentence was delivered by Mulan's mother to Mulan. She warns her daughter because at that time she was dressing, full of make up and using the traditional cloth of China. She wearing all that cloth because that day was her day. She would meet the Matchmaker and her future in-laws. Then, Mulan's mother told the consequences if she eating it will ruin her make up.

6. The Analysis of Data 6 : Don't let them bother you! (00.38.08)



Figure 6
Picture of data 6 in Disney's Mulan Movie 2020

The negative imperative above is categorized as the warning function due to the speaker tries to warns the hearer to do not let them bother the hearer. The word "them" here is means their friends. At that time, they were enjoying their lunch and joking about what's ideal women that they like. Then, Mulan was laughed at because her characteristic women are smart and courageous. The warning above was delivered by Honghui to Mulan. He said this sentence because he just realized that she was thinking about that. Therefore, he followed her to the camp and said this sentence in order to calm her down and cheer her up. It can be seen clearly from the picture above. Honghui was walking behind Mulan while Mulan sit down on the bed.

7. The Analysis of Data 7 : Don't run! (01.07.04)



Figure 7
Picture of data 7 in Disney's Mulan Movie 2020

As stated by Quirk et.al (1985), warning function is delivered by the speaker to avoid something bad or

danger that might be happen in the future. In data 7, it categorized as warning because the speaker tried to save the hearer. As you can see the picture above, this sentence was delivered by Honghui to all his soldiers. He warns them to stand out and do not run because at that time they were hold the formation in order to protect themselves from enemy's attack due to the enemies attack them by throwing the fireballs. Therefore, they decide to make a formation to save themselves.

8. The Analysis of Data 8 : Don't leave her side! (01.22.51)



Figure 8
Picture of data 8 in Disney's Mulan Movie 2020

Similar with the data 7, this negative imperative is used because the speaker know that something bad happen might be occur if the hearer do that thing. Therefore, the speaker tries to avoid it. This warning was delivered by Commander Tung to the others soldiers to protect Mulan. Based on the picture above, at that time Mulan was on her mission to save The Emperor of China because the enemy ambushed into the kingdom and kidnapped The King. Meanwhile, the others soldiers clear her path and Commander Tung was delivered a warning to do not leave her side because she must get through to protect the Emperor of China.

C. The Analysis of Suggetion Function in *Disney's Mulan* movie 2020

Suggestion is used by the speaker when the speaker gave suggestion or ideas to the hearer. In this case, as the hearer, she or he can accept or refuse the suggestion because the speaker just deliver about what the speaker's think and based on their perception. This function is optional which means the hearer can decided either they will follow what the speaker's suggest not. It depend on hearer.

9. The Analysis of Data 9 : Do not turn your back on them! (00.43.35)



Figure 9
Picture of data 9 in Disney's Mulan Movie 2020

As stated by Quirk et.al (1985), suggestion is an optional. It means the hearer have an option whether they will receive or refuse the suggestion. Based on the picture above, this suggestion was delivered by Honghui to Mulan. He was suggested her that she cannot turn her back on them. The word "them" here refers to the enemy because at that time Mulan and all the young man of China were prepare themselves for the war between Imperial Army and Rouran Army. However, Mulan looks unwilling to cooperate with Honghui to fight the Rouran Army. Then, Honghui reminds her that they have one purpose and suggests her to do not turn her back for the enemy.

5. Conclusion

There are four types of sentence in English. Those are Declarative, Interrogative, Imperative, and Exclamative. Each of them has their own characteristics and functions. This article was analyzed the negative imperative sentence found in Disney's Mulan movie 2020. The imperative sentence was analyzed because this type usually uses in daily life especially in conversation. As social human, we often need others help or vice versa. Therefore, we usually used an imperative sentence such as command, request, prohibition, etc. According to Quirk et. al (1985), the imperative sentence is classified into five forms, as follows; imperative without a subject, imperative with a subject, imperative with let, negative imperative, and do with positive imperative. There here are 15 functions of imperative sentence such as the following, command/ order, prohibition, request, plea, advice/recommendation, warning, suggestion, instruction, invitation, offer, granting permission, good wishes, imprecation, incredulous rejection, and self-deliberation (Quirk et. al 1985). However, this article only found three functions of negative imperative sentence. Those are prohibition, warning, and suggestion function. All of those functions were delivered by all the characters of Disney's Mulan movie 2020. This movie became useful because there are a lot of imperative sentence used in this movie. In addition, this movie is new. Therefore, no one that do the same analysis as this article. The prohibition function was occurred four times, the warning function was occurred four times, and suggestion function was occurred one times. Those functions showed the negative sense of imperative sentence due to all the sentences contained the marker of negative sentence which is the word "do not or don't". Most of the data showed that marker are places in the beginning of the sentence.

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