

**A pragmatic Study of Implicit Expressive Speech
Acts in Shakespearean Tragedy 'Romeo and Juliet'
With Reference to Their Comprehension in Arabic**

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Abstract

This paper is an attempt to investigate and analyze the speech acts of implicit expressives in Shakespearean tragedy 'Romeo and Juliet' from the pragmatic point of view with reference to their comprehension in Arabic taking into account that implicit expressives are context bound. The study shades light on the problems: whether speech act theory can be applied to literary texts. Translating English dramatic text involves many difficulties because of the non- existence of the one-to -one correspondence between English dramatic text and the Arabic one .

The current study aims at confirming that speech act theory is applicable on the literary texts, setting some felicity conditions to determine whether the act is genuinely performed, indicating how implicit expressive speech acts are realized in Arabic and showing the effective and informative translation used.

In order to achieve the aforementioned aims the following hypotheses are suggested: Speech act theory can be applied on the

literary texts in the same way as those non-literary, implicit expressives are frequently used in both English and Arabic. There is no one- to - one correspondence between English and Arabic and the intention and the force of the source text can only be rendered if only the translator aware is of the basic characteristics and norms of the implicit expressive speech acts .

1. The Notion of implicit Expressive Speech Acts

Although, implicit expressive speech acts constitute profound issues in language. They have received less attention compared with their counterparts of assertives, commissives, directives, and declarations. Expressives have been discussed by many language philosophers and linguists. Originally, they are discussed by Austin (1962) under the term of 'Behibitives'. Austin (1962:151) considers ' behibitives' as those acts that have more to do with the social behaviors and attitudes. They are also used to modify the other response to the expressions and attitudes of someone's else past as well as present conduct. They are closely connected with both 'stating' and 'describing' feelings, attitudes, or emotions and constitute the performance of such acts as apologizing, condoling, congratulating, cursing, commending, and challenging.

Searle (1979 : 13) points out that implicit expressives are those utterances in which the speaker expresses his psychological state of affairs, emotions , feelings, or pleasure. The criterion include such acts as thanking, congratulating, apologizing , condoling , rejoicing , complaining and welcoming, reproving etc.

Allen (1986 :199) elucidates that implicit expressives as those interpersonal acts that normally directed at individuals. They require the hearer's reaction to the speaker's illocution in order to predicate their effects. The mere understanding of the illocutionary point is insufficient to take their effects.

2.Characteristics of Implicit Expressive Speech Acts

In general implicit expressive illocutionary acts require a valid representation of a certain psychological state of affair. Implicit expressives are characterized by certain characteristics that set them apart from other speech acts. These characteristics are discussed by many linguists and language philosophers . They are as follows :

- 1-Implicit expressives report feelings regardless of whether we really have them or not.(Austin ,1962:78)
- 2- They are usually attributed to infelicities; besides they are submitted to a special scope of insincerity, because the speaker can express a state of affaire that he does not have (Austin ,1962:159).
- 3- Implicit expressives can also occur with interjections and discourse markers like wow , oh Ay me etc .
- 4- They are either speaker's oriented or hearer's oriented that they have proposition content that describes some propriety which belongs either to the speaker or the hearer (Searle, 1979 : 16).
- 5-They are intrinsically subjective . They have nothing to do with the world for instance , the utterance 1- "Excuse me " as it is

uttered in the context of stepping on a person toe. This utterance says nothing about the world and does not change anything , and both the speaker(stepper) and the hearer (steppe) will have to live the consequences and the outcomes of such action (May,1993:165) .

6-They can be performed via performative or constative utterances for example :

2- I am sorry for not attending your lecture .

The above sentence is both constative and performative ,the speaker both states that he is sorry and performs the act of apologizing (Bach and Harnish, 1979 :122) .

7- They are more commonly adopted in the literary discourse of characters within fiction than in narratorial voice (Black ,2006: 20).

3. Conditions For The Successful Performance of Implicit Expressive Speech Acts

There are normally two types of contextual conditions which must be obtained in order to determine that a specific utterance has been probably performed as a certain kind of implicit expressive speech act. These are linguistic conditions and felicity conditions (happiness conditions). Linguistic conditions are in fact essential conditions on any sort of linguistic communication such conditions are: the hearer and the speaker can hear one another, understand each other, usually speak the same language and so on. Felicity conditions are certain contextual rules that must be fulfilled for the

act to be carried out probably, such conditions define the circumstances under which the act can be performed successfully (Searle, 1969 :57).

Searle (1969 : 67) explicates a set of necessary and sufficient conditions which are extracted from a set of semantic rules for the successful execution of implicit expressive speech acts . They are as follow :

1-Propositional Content Conditions : These conditions include that the speaker expresses the propositions of implicit expressive throughout the illocutionary act of his utterance which can be implemented by a past course of action .

2- Preparatory Conditions : These conditions involve that the speaker conveys what is good for the speaker and the hearer as well as the expression of attitudes

3- Sincerity Conditions : These involve those conditions that commit the speaker at having an emotional , attitudinal , and sensory state .

4- Essential Conditions : These conditions involve the speaker's attempts in which he intends to make the hearer recognizes and believes the event expressed in the sincerity conditions .

Thomas (1995 : 99) posits the following felicity conditions as an attempt to clarify how felicity conditions rules can be implemented to the implicit expressive speech act of apologizing :

3 – I am terribly sorry for breaking your nose .

1- Propositional content rule: the speaker expresses his regret for past act that he has done that is for breaking the hearer's nose .

2- Preparatory Condition rule : the speaker believes that breaking the hearer's nose was not beneficial and was not in the hearer's best interest .

3- Sincerity Condition rule: the speaker feels sorry that he breaks the hearer's nose . 4-Essential Condition rule: in uttering the expression " I am terribly sorry for breaking your nose" , the speaker apologize to the hearer .

4.The Syntactic Formula of Implicit Expressive Speech Acts

Generally speaking ,when the speaker produces an implicit expressive speech act, he performs an illocutionary force. The illocutionary force of an utterance can be indicated by a variety of grammatical forms and depending on the context these grammatical utterances have the same sort of function that the performative verbs do. Therefore the grammatical forms of the utterance have some effects on heightening the performative aspects of the sentence .Thus, implicit expressive speech acts can be performed by a wide range of grammatical forms as follows :

(1)Implicit Expressives Based on Declarative structure

Declarative structure is the sentence type that typically functions as an expression of statement, or to inform someone of the fact, or to commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition. Declarative structure has a wide range of application and can encode any sort of implicit expressive speech acts for example :

4- I am afraid that I have broken your vase .(apologizing)

(curse :2000 ,337)

(2)Implicit Expressives Based on Interrogative structure

Interrogative is the form of the sentence that represents a missing piece of information that the speaker wants the hearer to supply. But different implicit expressive speech acts can be carried out in interrogative structure depending on contextual appropriateness and speakers' intention for example :

5- How are you ?

Grammatically, this sentence is an interrogative English sentence used as a question to ask about someone's health, but in the appropriate context serves as greeting ritual. (Greenbaum and Nelson , 2002:121)

There are two main types of interrogative sentences . They are :

A) Wh – questions : for example :

6-How do you do ? (expressing Greeting)

B) Yes – no questions : for example :

7- Do you eat this ? (to express disapproval)

(3) implicit Expressives Based on Imperative Structure

Imperative can be defined as those sentences whose main component is to get someone to do or not to do something .They usually have no subject. Imperative construction can serve to carry out illocutionary force of implicit expressives for example :

8- Have a nice holiday ! (to express good wish)

(Greenbaum and Nelson ,2002 :123-124)

(4).Implicit Expressives Based on Exclamatory Structure

Exclamatory sentences are those utterances that express strong feelings . More specifically , they indicate the existence to which the speaker is impressed by something .They cannot be performed by any performative verb , although there are many verbs that can serve to describe such actions for example:

9- How sad she died ! (to express condolence)

(Greenbaum and Nelson ,2002 :123-124)

5.Classification of Implicit Expressive Speech Acts

1-Reproving

It is used as an expression with strong feelings of disapproval. It occurs in the course of the speaker's reactions to some wrongdoing action having been done by hearer. Reproving actions are designed as actions with the intention of condemnation and reproof (Vanderveken , 1990 : 217).

2-Rejoicing

Rejoicing is an expression of psychological state used to express a high degree of joy, gladness , and pleasure about a certain state of affairs that is judged to be very good for the speaker or in his best interest . (Vanderveken , Ibid).

3-Complaint

Complaint is an expression of a psychological state of being dissatisfied or unhappy about something . Complaint occurs when

the speaker reacts with displeasure or annoyance to a situation that has affected him or her in an unfavorable manner . Such bad situation does not necessarily mean that the hearer is held to be responsible for . Since one can complain about a state of affairs which independent is of the hearer such as bad luck , poor health as well as about something that the hearer responsible is for (Vanderveken , 1990 : 216).

4-Apologizing

It is an act in which the speaker expresses his sorrow , regret , or sadness for having done something or at least for being responsible for something judged to be really bad or harmful for the hearer (Vanderveken , 1990 : 219).

6- Data Analysis

SL Text (1): Reproving :

What , are thou drown among these heartless hind ?(Shakespeare :1964, 15)

Context : Servants of Capulet and Montague quarrel, enter Benvolio (Romeo's cousin) draws his sword to separate between them , meanwhile Typalt (Juliet's cousin) arrives .

TL Texts

١. عجا ! أشاهر سيفك بين هؤلاء الأوياش المنخوين ! (Bakatheer ,1977 : 10)

٢. يا عجا ! سيفك مسلول وسط الخدم الجبناء ؟ (Ennani , 1993 : 60)

٣. أشاهر سيفك بين هؤلاء الضعفاء ولا حامي لهم ! (Hussain,2004:14)

٤. ماذا أتسحب سلاحك لهؤلاء الخدم البسطاء. (Nasserallah , 2008 : 10)

Discussion

The above interrogative English sentence is encoded to carry out implicitly the execution of the expressive speech act of reproving. It shows that the speaker reproves the hearer for past wrongdoing that he has committed which is drowning the sword among the servants. However, using the interrogative construction in this context gives certain importance to the meaning of the sentence. The utterance also seems to have the following felicity conditions :

- 1- propositional content rule: Typalet produces the propositional content of his utterance in which he expresses his disapproval and condemnation to Benvolio for drawing the sword among the servants.
- 2- Preparatory condition rule : Drawing the sword among the servants is wrongdoing and is not in Typalet's interest .
- 3- Sincerity conditions rule: Typalt expresses his reproof and condemnation faithfully.
- 4- Essential condition rule : in uttering the expression Typalt reproves Benvolio .

All the above conditions constitute the necessary and sufficient conditions for executing the speech act of reproving. In conclusion, the above utterance is performed as a genuine implicit act of reproving .

A close inspection of the text and its renderings shows that translators (1) and (2) have rendered the selected text by adopting the semantic method of translation. They only adopt what is originally conveyed by the propositional content of the utterance. While translator (3) has rendered the text communicatively. He uses the construction (ولا حامي لهم) in which he changes the propositional meaning of ST that there is no (ولا حامي لهم) in the ST. As for translator (4) he has rendered the text semantically to convey the most satisfactory translation that faithfully gives an equivalent TT as it is used in ST.

Comprehension of the Implicit Expressive speech act of Reproving						
Title	Comprehension	SL Text	TL Text			
			Text1	Text2	Text3	Text 4
type of Utterance	Constative					
	Performative	+	+	+	+	+
	Both					
Type of Illocutionary force	Reproving	+	+	+	+	+
	Other					
Class Of Act	Explicit					
	Implicit	+	+	+	+	+
person	First					
	Second	+	+	+	+	+
	Third					
Tense	Past		+		+	
	Present	+				+
	Future					
Voice	Active		+		+	+
	Passive	+		+		
Form of sentence	Declarative			+		+
	Interrogative	+				
	Imperative					
	Exclamatory		+		+	
Type Of Implicit Expressives	Speaker's Oriented					
	Hearer's Oriented	+	+	+	+	+
Type of Translation	Semantic	+	+	+		+
	Communicative				+	

SL Text (2) Rejoicing :

Right , glad I am he was not at this fray . (Shakespeare ,1964 : 8)

Context : Romeo's mother expresses her feeling towards the fact that her son is not there when the fray has took place between Capulet and Montague.

TL Texts

١. يا رب لك الحمد إذ لم يكن حاضر اليوم . (Baktheer , 1977 : 15)

٢. إنني جدا سعيدة إذ تحاشى الموقعة . (Ennani , 1993 : 64)

٣. أنني لجدا سعيدة إذ لم يشهد هذه الموقعة . (Hussain , 2004 : 17)

٤. إنني لمسرورة جدا لأنه غير موجود في هذا القتال . (Nassirallah , 2008 : 36)

Discussion

The implicit expressives speech act of rejoicing is carried out implicitly by the declarative construction (Right , glad I am) in which the illocutionary force is encoded by the adjective (glad) that is typically used to express delight. It also seems that there are felicity conditions and semantic rules that included :

1-Proposition content condition rule : Lady Montague(Romeo's mother) produces the propositional content of her utterance in which she expresses her cheerfulness that her son was not in the fray .

2- Preparatory condition rule: the fray is really bad and is not in Rome's best interest. 3-Sincerity condition rule : she really feels cheerfully .

4- Essential conditions rule : in uttering the expression, she expresses her rejoicing .

The above felicity conditions and semantic rules constitute the essential and sufficient conditions for the execution of the speech act of rejoicing. In conclusion, it is true to say that the above utterance is properly performed as an implicit act of rejoicing .

Concerning the translation, It seems that the translators 2 and 3 have rendered the declarative construction semantically by the equivalents nominal constructions (أُنني جدا سعيدة). Since, they give an equivalent meaning to the utterance content. Translator (1) has used the expression (الحمد لله) in which he deviates from ST because such expression belongs neither to the proposition nor to the context. As for translators (4) he has transferred the text semantically by the equivalent nominal construction (أُنني لمسرورة جداً). It is worthy noting that the lexical item (Glad) does not mean (سعيد) but (مسرور) . Furthermore, the lexical item (مسرور) is commonly used to convey cheerfulness and delight. Therefore, by using the construction (أُنني لمسرورة جداً), translator (4) gives the precise and informative translation.

Comprehension of the Implicit Expressive speech act of Rejoicing						
Title	Comprehension	SL Text	TL Text			
			Text1	Text2	Text3	Text 4
type of Utterance	Constative					
	Performative					
	Both	+	+	+	+	+

Type of Illocutionary force	Rejoicing	+		+	+	+
	Other		+			
Class Of Act	Explicit					
	Implicit	+		+	+	+
person	First	+	-	+	+	+
	Second					
	Third					
Tense	Past					
	Present	+	+	+	+	-
	Future					
Voice	Active	+	+	+	+	+
	Passive					
Form of sentence	Declarative	+	+	+	+	+
	Interrogative					
	Imperative					
	Exclamatory					
Type Of Implicit Expressives	Speaker's Oriented	+		+	+	+
	Hearer's Oriented					
Type of Translation	Semantic			+	+	+
	Communicative					

SL Text (3) Complaint :

Ay me , Sad hours seem long . (Shakespeare , 1964 : 9)

Context : Benvolio tells Romeo that the time is too early. In replies Romeo feels that hours are so long and slow because of his sadness for his bad luck when he knows of Rosaline's disagreement to marriage .

TL Texts

١ . ويح لي ما أطول الساع على العاني الكتيب ! (Baktheer : 1977 , 18)

٢ . كم تبدو ساعات الحزن طويلة ! (Ennani , 1993 :67)

٣ . ويحي إن ساعات الحزن لطوال . (Hussain , 2004 : 18)

٤ . يا لشقائي الساعات الحزينة تبدو طويلة . (Nassirallah , 2008 42)

Discussion

The implicit expressive speech act of compliant is encoded by the declarative construction. In this example the interjection (Ay me) and the adjective (sad) carry out implicitly the illocutionary force of complaint. There are also felicity conditions and semantic rules for establishing the status of compliant. They are as follows:

1-Propositional content rule: Romeo expresses his displeasure and annoyance for his bad luck

2-Preparatory condition rule : Rosaline's disagreement to marriage is really bad and effects him into bad state and unfavorable manner .

3- Sincerity condition rule: Romeo really feels sad and annoyed for his bad luck .

4- Essential condition rule: In uttering his utterance, Romeo expresses his complaint.

It is worth noting that all the above conditions satisfy the necessary and sufficient conditions of the implicit speech act of complaint. Since, the above utterance is performed as a genuine act of complaint

In regard to translation, the implicit expressives speech act of compliant has been rendered semantically by translators (2) and (3) by giving an equivalent meaning of the utterance content rather than the utterance force. Translator (1) has rendered the text communicatively in which uses wrongly the construction (ويج لي). While translator (4) has rendered the text semantically. He succeeds to convey the meaning of the utterance besides its illocutionary force. Since translation (4) seems to be the most precise translation.

Comprehension of the Implicit Expressive speech act of Complaint						
Title	Comprehension	SL Text	TL Text			
			Text1	Text2	Text3	Text 4
type of Utterance	Constative					
	Performative					
	Both	+	+	+	+	+
Type of Illocutionary force	Complaint	+	+	+	+	+
	Other					
Class Of Act	Explicit					
	Implicit	+	+	+	+	+
person	First	+	+	+	+	+
	Second					
	Third					
Tense	Past					
	Present	+	+	+		+
	Future					
Voice	Active	+	+	+	+	+
	Passive					
Form of sentence	Declarative	+	+		+	+
	Interrogative					
	Imperative					
	Exclamatory			+		
Type Of Implicit Expressives	Speaker's Oriented	+	+	+	+	+
	Hearer's Oriented					
Type of Translation	Semantic	+	+	+	+	+
	Communicative					

SL Text (4) Apologizing :

O Pardon me for bringing these ill news . (Shakespeare , 1964 : 62)

Context: Balthazar, Romeo's servant tells him about Juliet's death.

TL Texts

١. أغفر لي يا مولاي لمجيئي إليك بأسوأ خبر . (Baktheer , 1977: 188)

٢. أرجوك سامحني لحملي إليك ذلك النبأ الرهيب . (Ennani , 1993 : 246)

٣. عفوك ان حملت إليك هذا النبأ الحزين . (Hussain , 2004 : 123)

٤. أعذرني لجلبي هذا الخبر المحزن (Nassirallah , 2008 : 365)

Discussion

The imperative construction "O pardon me" is carried out to convey implicitly the illocutionary force of apologizing. The interjection "O " is also adopted as a performative indicator of the expressives illocutionary force . It is also apparent that the expression has the following felicity conditions :

1-Propositional content rule: Balthazar produces the proposition of his utterance in which he regrets for telling Romeo about Juliet's death .

2-Prepartory condition rule: Balthazar believes that Juliet's death is harmful to Romeo and is not in his best interest .

3- Sincerity condition rule : Balthazar really feels regretful for reporting such ill news.

4-Essential condition rule: in uttering the expression, Balthazar expresses his apologizing .

All the felicity conditions for the speech act of apologizing are successfully met . Since, it is true to say that the utterance under investigation is a real act of apologizing

As for translation, It can be noticed that the imperative construction "O pardon me " has been rendered differently; translator (1) has adopted the construction "اغفر لي" translator (2) has used the construction "سامحني" , translator (3) has used the construction "عفوك عني" , while translator (4) has used the explicit construction "أعذرني" to turn the expression from implicit speech act of apologizing to an explicit one in which he deviates from the norms and characteristics of implicit expressive speech acts. Translators (1) ,(2) and(3) have rendered the text semantically. It is worthy noting that translators (2) and (3) adopt the most effective renderings. Since, succeed to convey the contextual force and the content of the utterance respectively.

Comprehension of the Implicit Expressive speech act of Apologizing						
Title	Comprehension	SL Text	TL Text			
			Text1	Text2	Text3	Text 4
type of Utterance	Constative					
	Performative	+	+	+	+	+
	Both					
Type of Illocutionary force	Apologizing	+	+	+	+	+
	Other					
Class Of Act	Explicit					+
	Implicit	+	+	+	+	
person	First	+	+	+	+	+
	Second					
	Third					
Tense	Past					
	Present	+	+	+	+	+
	Future					
Voice	Active	+	+	+	+	+
	Passive					
Form of sentence	Declarative					
	Interrogative					
	Imperative	+	+	+	+	+
	Exclamatory					
Type Of Implicit Expressives	Speaker's Oriented					
	Hearer's Oriented	+	+	+	+	+
Type of Translation	Semantic		+	+	+	
	Communicative					+

Conclusions

The current study has come up with the following basic conclusions :

1. The study indicates that speech act theory is applicable to the dramatic text in the same as those non- literary texts . This fact can be constituted by the felicity conditions that establish the status of the utterance as a genuine speech act .
2. The study shows a high degree of translatability of the illocutionary force of the implicit expressives despite of cultural and structural divergence between the two languages .
3. In some cases there are cases of deviations between implicit expressive speech acts in English and Arabic. But in most cases there are more than one correspondence between the two languages.
4. Implicit expressive speech acts are exhibited by a variety of different syntactic constructions in both English and Arabic .
5. Implicit expressive speech acts marker is rendered into Arabic by adopting either Verbal or nominal constructions. This is due to the nature of Arabic language which allows the use of both of these constructions .
6. Both Semantic and communicative translations are adopted in eliciting the illocutionary force of the implicit expressive speech acts .
7. Communicative translation is considered more forceful and effective because it conveys the exact contextual meaning. But

in cases where the contextual meaning coincides with message content semantic translation is both informative and effective .

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