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Understanding Speech Acts: Types, Functions, and Translation Challenges

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Introduction

The theory of speech acts was formulated by J.L. Austin and presented in a series of lectures at Harvard in 1955, later published in his book *How to Do Things with Words* (1962). This concept has since gained significant attention in semantics and pragmatics, with further contributions from scholars like Grice (1968) and Searle (1969).

During the last few decades the concept has evoked a great deal of attention and has been given a place of considerable importance in books on semantics. Grice (1968) and Searle (1969) have proposed certain changes in the formulation of the theory of speech acts but basically the theory remains as it was initially formulated by Austin.

Austin (1962) originally used the term 'speech act' to refer to an utterance and the 'total situation in which the utterance is issued'. Today, the term 'speech act' is used to mean the same as 'illocutionary act'. In fact, we will find the terms 'speech act', 'illocutionary act', 'illocutionary force', 'pragmatic force' or just 'force', all used to mean the same thing although the use of one rather than another may imply different theoretical positions.

Just as the same words can be used to perform different speech acts, so different words can be used to perform the same speech act.

No.	Same words with different speech acts	Different words with the same speech act
1	I <u>promise</u> that I will help you. (promise)	1- Could you shut the door? 2- Did you forget the door? 3- Put the wood in the hole. 4- Were you born in a barn? 5- What do big boys do when they come into a room, johnny?
2	I <u>promise</u> that I will hurt you. (threatening)	

Speech acts are important in communication activities. The speech act in the utterance of a sentence determines the meaning of the sentence being conveyed. The meaning of sentence is not only determined by the action of the word, but always in the principle that it is possible to precisely state the intent of the speaker. Therefore, a speaker might speak a unique sentence in each speech act because he tries to adapt the utterance to the context. In this case, the study of the meaning of sentences and the study of speech acts are two things that are interrelated with two different points of view. Thus, speech act theory here is a study that is more likely to learn about the meaning of sentences and not a theory that is more concerned with analyzing sentence structure in communication.

Austin starts his discussion of speech acts with the observation that there are utterances that do not describe, report, or "constate" anything and are neither true nor false. Making such utterances is not just saying something; it is the doing of an action. When during the ceremony of marriage in a church, a bridegroom, for example, says, "I take this woman to be my lawfully wedded wife", he is not only saying something; he is performing the act of marriage. Similarly, when in a will someone says, "I hereby give and bequeath all my

property to my son", he is not describing, constating or reporting something, he is performing an act, the act of surrendering the ownership of his property to his son. In all such cases the issuing of an utterance is the performing of an action. Austin uses the term "performative" for all such utterances/In Austin's view, utterances are basically of two types: constative utterances and performative utterances

Constative utterances are those utterances that are intended to be declarative statements of fact, i.e., statements that can be ascertained to be true or false, Performative utterances are those by making which the speaker performs an action If we are in doubt about a sentence being or not being performative, we can apply the test whether "saying so makes it so". If for example, I say "I promise" I thereby perform the act of promising. But if I say "I run", I do not thereby perform the act of running. One of the possible tests of performatives is, therefore, the use of the expression hereby. We can insert this expression in a performative without making it unacceptable but we cannot do that in the case of constative sentences.

I hereby declare that ...

I hereby promise that...

Tax evaders are hereby warned that

* I hereby smile.

* Passengers are hereby watched.

As has been pointed out already, another difference between constative and performative utterances lies in the fact that whereas constative utterances can be true or false, the notion of truth or falsity is not relevant to performatives, Performative utterances can only be felicitous or infelicitous. So, certain felicity conditions must be present for a performative to be felicitous. For example, if I say, "I hereby bequeath all my landed property to my nephew", I must have some landed property which I can bequeath Similarly, if I say "I hereby declare war against...", I must have the authority to declare war.

Austin further differentiates **explicit** and **implicit** performatives. Explicit performatives clearly state the act being performed (*I name this ship Queen Elizabeth*), while implicit performatives imply an action through context. This distinction between explicit and implicit performatives -leads to the difference between locutionary and illocutionary acts.

Types of Speech Acts

Speech act is utterance in which there must be action in the utterance. This means that when a speaker says something, the speaker also does something. In communicating by speaking a utterance, the speaker has a goal to be achieved from his speech partner. Speech act is a theory that tends to examine sentence structure in an interaction. Someone who wants to say something to other people, then what he says is the meaning or meaning of the sentence. Austin in Ohmann (1971: 9) distinguishes three main types of speech acts that are usually performed as a speaker. The three types of speech acts are Locutionary acts, Illocutionary acts and Perlocutionary acts.

1. Locutionary Acts

Locutionary speech act is a form of speech act to state something as it is or in other words an action to say something that actually happened without any addition. Baleghizadeh in Ilma (2016: 4) states that the meaning of locus has a literal or proportional meaning of an utterance, which contains the real meaning produced by the speaker, there is no additional meaning outside

the sentence conveyed. In Locutionary acts, someone who needs information and they happen to hear that information, means that the information has automatically been obtained from someone else's speech. That is, the meaning obtained and conveyed is in the form of literal meaning or the basic meaning according to the dictionary without any change from the meaning conveyed. For example:

- I am sick. (simply stating a fact)
- I am sleepy.
- it is raining (reporting a weather condition)

The two utterances mentioned above are local speech acts. In the first speech "I am sick" is refer to the discomfort in the body or part of the body because of suffering something without being meant to take medicine because of the pain suffered. The speech is intended as a statement by the speaker. Likewise in the second speech above, "I am sleepy" means the feeling of going to sleep without any additional purpose such as wanting to go to bed or doing something that can make sleeplessness disappear.

2. Illocutionary Acts

Illocutionary acts is a form of speech act related to the social function. According to Yule (1996: 48) illocutionary speech acts are carried out through the communicative style of speech. This means that in telling something there are several types of functions in the mind that may be spoken to make statements, offers, explanations, or for some other communicative purpose. Apart from that, Illocutionary Actions also mean doing something by saying something. This is in line with the opinion of Hanna and Richards (2019: 3) that illocutionary acts are in the form of conveying the speaker's intent, such as informing, ordering, reprimanding, and doing. Moreover, Austin in Skinner (1970: 118) states that as important in achieving certain illocutionary actions, the power of the speaker's speech is needed which is intended to secure the "absorption" of the listener. Thus, it can be concluded that Illocutionary Acts is a form of speech act where when conveying a sentence or in speaking there is a specific purpose and purpose in the communication which is carried out where the speaker or the interlocutor is expected to be able to do something that is conveyed by the speaker. For example:

- I'm sick. (requesting sympathy or help)
- I am starving. (requesting food)

In the utterances above, the first speech "I am sick" may ask the other person to be given medicine to cure the pain. And the second speech "I am starving" requests the interlocutor to give him food so that his hunger is gone.

Locutionary and illocutionary have a relationship with each other. Austin in Cohen (2019: 175) states that doing localized acts in general can also do illocutionary acts. In this case, in order to determine what illocutionary action to perform we must determine in what way we use the locus. That way, we can determine whether the spoken sentence is included in the locutionary or illocutionary.

3. Perlocutionary Acts

Perlocutionary Acts, namely a form of speech act in the form of results or effects caused by the listener after hearing the sentence heard. Perlocutionary act including the consequences of speech. According to Ilma (2016: 5), the perlocutionary Act focuses on the results or effects that are produced by speech. The utterances that are spoken sometimes have an influence or effect on those who listen to them. The same thing is also expressed by Yule (1996: 48) that in a perlocutionary act, a speaker says something with the assumption that the listener will recognize the desired effect. In this case, the effect or power of influence can arise either intentionally or unintentionally. Thus, it can be concluded that perlocutionary acts are speech acts that are conveyed with the influence that can be generated by saying what is said. Or in other words, perlocutionary acts are forms of speech acts whose utterances are intended to influence the interlocutor.

For example:

- I'm busy. (listener may stop bothering the speaker)
- I am starving. (listener may offer some food)

Based on the example of the speech above, it can be concluded that the first sentence was said by someone while doing many tasks and the second sentence was said by someone while eating food. Those are several types of speech acts that are usually conveyed by speakers along with their aims and objectives.

Classification of Illocutionary Acts

1. Verdictives

The verdictives are, to quote Austin's own words, "typified by the giving of a verdict, as the name implies, by a jury, arbiter or umpire"/ Some of the examples given by Austin of verbs characteristic of verdictives are as follows:

acquit	assess
convict	diagnose
rank	value
rate	estimate
grade	reckon
take it	read it as

A verdictive as defined by Austin is essentially a judicial act, To indulge in a verdictive is to give one's appraisal or assessment of one's character or to convey one's finding regarding a situation or an event.

2. Exercitives

Exercitives are typified by the giving of a decision in favour of or against a course of action. Austin's concept of exercitives in this sense comes very close to his concept of verdictives. Austin is aware of the resemblance between verdictives and exercitives but he thinks that they are basically different and so describes them as two different families of illocutionary acts. By way of explaining the difference between the two he says that an exercitive is typified by "a decision that something is to be so, as distinct from a judgement that it is so: it is advocacy that it should be so, as opposed to an estimate that it is so; it is an award as opposed to an assessment; it is a sentence as opposed to a verdict". The following are some of the verbs often used in exercitives in English.

appoint	fine
dismiss	pardon
order	advise
sentence	announce
levy	name
warn	direct
pray	grant
command	give
claim	veto

As is clear from this list of verbs, exercitives typify the execution of a decision. Verdictives tell us about the speaker giving a verdict about something whereas exercitives tell us about the implementation of that verdict into action. "I find him suitable for appointment" is an example of a verdictive whereas "I appoint him" of an exercitive.

3. Commissives

Commissives involve assuming an obligation or committing to a course of action. In other words, commissives either tell us that the speaker has undertaken to do something or they tell us that the speaker has declared his intention to do something/Some of the verbs used in commissives will help us to conceptualize Austin's notion of commissives more clearly.

promise undertake mean to propose to vow guarantee intend	plan to give my word consent side with favour oppose consent
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

As is evident from this list of verbs, commissives include two distinct categories of performatives. Verbs like promise, vow and undertake tell us that the speaker has undertaken to do something whereas verbs like mean to, propose to, intend and plan to tell us that the speaker has not undertaken to do something but has only declared his intention to do something

4. Behavitives

Behavitives are used in communication activities like welcoming, thanking, apologizing, congratulating, condoling, blessing and cursing. The following is a list of some of the verbs used in behavitives.

Capologize thank condole felicitate sympathize applaud	welcome bid farewell bless curse toast drink to
-----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------

As is clear from this list of verbs, behavitives are those linguistic modes of behaviour in which the speaker responds to people's past or present conduct or to their fortune, misfortune, etc.

5. Expositives

As the name implies, expositives are used in acts of exposition like defining, elaborating, illustrating, explaining and the like. To quote Austin's own words, expositives are "used in acts of exposition involving the expounding of views, the conducting of arguments, and the clarifying of usages and of references". The verbs often used in expositives include the following:

state describe illustrate formulate classify	define analyse explain deduce report
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Austin sums up his description of these five families of illocutionary acts as follows:

The verdictive is an exercise of judgement, the exercitive is an assertion of influence or exercising of power, the commissive is an assuming of obligation or declaring of an intention, the behavitive is the adopting of an attitude and the expositive is the clarifying of reasons, arguments and communications.

Austin is aware of the fact that there are marginal cases and also cases of overlap as in the case of many other classifications but he thinks it worthwhile nevertheless to list the numerous speech acts under certain groups or "families".

Searle's Classification of Speech Acts

Learning pragmatic, in this case the speech act is an important thing to be studied more deeply by the learners, especially those who are involved in the language field. This is as stated by Koike (1989: 282) that speech acts are actually a demanding task for novice learners because in many cases speech increasingly leads to actions where it is important to be interpreted by the listener or speaker, unless someone chooses not to make the same request once. Learn the speech act means that we also need to study the classification contained in it. Speech acts are classified into several sections. Searle in Hidayat (2016: 5) classifies speech act into five parts, namely representatives, directives, commissives, expressive, and declarations.

1-Representatives

(Statements that convey beliefs about reality)

Representative speech act is a speech act that can be examined and judged whether the utterance is right or wrong. Mega in Ilma (2016: 5) states that when a speaker tells or conveys something, he makes the word according to the word or belief he has. Meanwhile, Hidayat (2016: 5) states that in representative speech acts, the speech produced by the speaker must be based on observations of certain things then followed by conveying facts or opinions based on previous observations. This representative illocutionary speech act includes how a person defends, say, doubts, deny, reports, describes, and tells stories when communicating with the interlocutor. Representative speech act speech is to define or explain what and how something happens as it is. This means that representative speech is a speech that binds the speaker to the truth of the speech. Here it can be said that representative speech seems to make the speaker responsible for what he says. In addition, the type of speech that is included in representative speech is speech stating, demanding, acknowledging, reporting, showing, mentioning, giving, testifying, speculating, and so on. All of them are a form of one's expression in conveying meaning when they want to speak. For example, 'Bandung is a very beautiful city'. The sentence represents the speaker's statement about Paris and thinks Paris is beautiful.

more examples:

- *The Earth revolves around the Sun.* (Stating a fact)
- *I believe that this book is interesting.* (Expressing a belief)
- *It's raining outside.* (Reporting an observation)

2-Directives

(Commands, requests, or suggestions)

Bach and Harnish (1979: 47) found that directive is a speech act in which the speaker expresses his attitude towards several prospective actions by the listener. This directive type of speech act is used when the speaker wants to get someone to do something. Several types of speech acts that are included in this type of directive include requests, questions, orders, orders, and suggestions. For example, in the sentence 'Can you borrow me a boat, please?'. The speech represents the speaker asking the listener to do something, namely to borrow him a boat for the speaker to use.

For example:

- *Please close the door.* (Request)
- *Can you pass me the salt?* (Polite request)
- *Study hard for your exams.* (Advice)
- *Stop talking!* (Order)

3-Commissives

(Commitments to future actions)

Commissive speech is a speech in which the sentence uttered by the speaker binds the speaker to a future. This means that when someone speaks commissively, it means that the speech functions to encourage the speaker to do something such as the act of promising, swearing, obliging or vowing. Or in other words, this commissive speech is a speech that binds the speaker to perform the actions mentioned earlier in the speech.

Searle and Van der Veken in Smith (1991: 95) found that the commissive verb involves the obligation of the speaker and one measure for the commissive verb is the level of commitment strength. Several types of speech are included in commissive, namely promise, refuse, offer, swear, threaten, declare commitment, and make vows. For example when someone says 'I will leave you', it represents the speaker's vows that he is going.

more examples:

- *I promise to call you tomorrow.* (Promise)
- *I swear I will never lie to you.* (Oath)
- *I guarantee that you will get a refund.* (Commitment)
- *I will help you with your project.* (Offer)

4-Expressive

(Expressing emotions, attitudes, or psychological states)

Expressive speech is a speech in which the speaker is intended so that the speech that was previously uttered is interpreted as an evaluation of what is mentioned in the speech.

Santoso and Affini (2019: 97) reveal that expressive speech is a speech that is intended to express a psychological state that is determined in a condition of sincerity about a situation that is determined in propositional content. In other words, expressive speech is speech that concerns the feelings and attitudes or actions of a speaker in conveying something such as the act of apologizing, thanking, complaining, expressing gratitude, criticizing, giving appreciation, praising and others. So expressive speech is a speech act

that is intended so that the speech is interpreted as an evaluation of what is mentioned in the speech. For example, in the sentence 'Thanks for your dedication'. This statement represents the speaker's expression that he is very happy to get attention from others. More examples:

- *Thank you for your help.* (Gratitude)
- *I apologize for being late.* (Apology)
- *Congratulations on your promotion!* (Praise)
- *I'm so sorry for your loss.* (Condolence)

5-Declaratives

(Statements that change reality when spoken in the right context)

Declarative is a form of speech act in which the speaker when uttering his speech has the character of directly affecting changes in circumstances or places and tends to depend on language that is complicated to interpret. Declaration is a type of speech act that changes the word through its utterance (Ilma, 2016: 5). Declarative speech acts bring several changes to the status or condition of the object or subject in question. These speech acts are usually difficult to interpret or have no real meaning. The words used have the character of influencing the interlocutor by expressing subtle sentences or in the form of subtle sarcasm. Speech acts that are included in declarative speech acts include excommunication, declaring war, baptism, and dismissal from work. For example 'You're nothing for me'. In the sentence or speech, the speaker tries to isolate the interlocutor with the intention that the speaker is unmatched or the interlocutor is nothing compared to the speaker.

More examples:

- *You are fired.* (Employment termination)
- *I now pronounce you husband and wife.* (Marriage declaration)
- *This meeting is adjourned.* (Official closure)
- *I sentence you to five years in prison.* (Legal ruling)

Direct and Indirect Speech Acts

In carrying out speech acts, it cannot be done as we wish or in other words speaking without considering what the aims and objectives are to be achieved in the speech. In speech, there are rules and they must be done politely so that the interlocutor can catch the meaning conveyed and not misinterpret the sentences being uttered. Speaking is a skill. Siritman and Meilantina (2020: 3) state that speech acts are a complete language unit consisting of skills and components. The component in question is the presence of speakers and interlocutors so that speech acts can occur in communicating. Speech acts are also divided into two, namely direct and indirect speech acts.

1-Direct Speech Act

Direct speech acts are a form of speech that is conveyed directly to the interlocutor. This speech act's meaning and purpose can be immediately understood by the interlocutor

because the utterances are in the form of sentences with straightforward meanings. Hernández (1972: 44) states that a speech act is called direct when the receiver has enough information available to be able to recognize the power of illocution. Direct speech acts, namely speech in declarative, interrogative and imperative modes are conventionally spoken to each state information, ask questions, and order speech partners to do something. As for the characteristics of direct speech acts contain performative verbs, it tends to be concluded that speech is an action that the verb wants. Thus, it can be concluded that direct speech acts are speech acts in which the expression is carried out directly without the presence of implied words such as parables, proverbs or words that contain figurative in a sentence or something that is conveyed. For example:

- Please, open the window!
- What's that box?
- The gallon water has run out.

The three sentences above are direct speech acts because they are used conventionally or are aimed directly at the interlocutor. The first sentence, 'Please, open the window!' is mean as a command to open the window. In the second sentence 'What is the box?' asks the contents of the box, and the speech 'The gallon water has run out.' Informs that at that time the water in the gallon has run out. All of these are forms of direct speech that have clear meanings and are easily understood by the listener or interlocutor.

2-Indirect Speech Act

Indirect speech acts are speech acts whose meaning can only be understood if a speech partner listens to the speech and the context of the situation. Hernández (1972: 44) also reveals that speech acts are indirect if the information provided is not rich in meaning or information. Lack of information, whether contextual or linguistic, is required to imply existing cognitive meanings, as well as a higher risk of misinterpreting intended speech delivery. To understand indirect speech acts, the speaker must communicate with listeners more often and convey the true meaning of what is said by relying on them to share information with common meanings that are logical and rational to get conclusions from the listener (Searle in Smith, 1991: 187). Indirect speech acts can be identified from the speech itself, so it must pay attention to the context of the speech. In addition, the meaning of the utterance may be reversed from its true meaning. In this case, direct speech acts are the same as locusive speech acts while indirect speech acts are tantamount to illocutionary speech acts.

Thus, it can be concluded that an indirect speech act is a speech act which is expressed indirectly to the listener and in the speech contains implied words such as using proverbs, figures of speech, or parables in speaking, so that the speech partner cannot immediately catch direct meaning of speech from speakers, let alone conclude the meaning unilaterally without any desire to find out the true meaning of the speech conveyed by the speaker. For example:

- I was tired.
- The house is so creepy.

The first speech 'I am tired' is meant by the speaker to ask the other person to stop his steps because he is already tired. Meanwhile, the second speech, "The house is so scary" is meant by the speaker to prohibit someone from going out with the speaker. From these

explanations, it can be concluded that in speech acts there are direct and indirect speech acts, each of which has a different function, purpose and purpose and is also used under certain conditions. Direct and indirect speech acts must be used appropriately so that the intent and purpose that the speaker wants to convey is not misinterpreted by the listener.

Speech acts in translation

The act of translation is not merely a process of substituting words between languages but involves conveying meaning, intent, and pragmatics. Speech act theory, originating from Austin (1962) and developed further by Searle (1969), provides a framework to understand how language performs actions. Translation complicates this process, as different languages encode speech acts uniquely. This paper aims to bridge the gap between translation studies and pragmatics, examining how speech acts function across linguistic boundaries.

Speech Acts and Their Categories According to Austin, speech acts consist of three levels:

- **Locutionary acts:** The literal meaning of an utterance.
- **Illocutionary acts:** The intended function behind an utterance (e.g., requesting, promising, commanding).
- **Perlocutionary acts:** The effect an utterance has on the listener.

Searle further classifies illocutionary acts into five categories:

1. **Representatives** (statements, descriptions, assertions)
2. **Directives** (commands, requests, advice)
3. **Commissives** (promises, threats, refusals)
4. **Expressives** (apologies, congratulations, thanks)
5. **Declarations** (announcements, baptisms, verdicts)

Challenges in Translating Speech Acts Translation poses several challenges concerning speech acts:

Maintaining Illocutionary Force The illocutionary force of an utterance does not always have a direct equivalent in another language. For example, polite requests in English ("Could you please close the window?") may have a different structure in Arabic. In Arabic, indirect politeness strategies are often used, such as "هَلْ يُمَكِّنُكَ إِغْلَاقُ النَّافِذَةِ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ؟" (Can you close the window, please?), which mirrors English politeness structures but may vary in tone depending on the context.

Direct vs. Indirect Speech Acts Direct speech acts are explicit, whereas indirect speech acts rely on context. A phrase like "It's cold in here" could imply a request to close a window, but this indirect meaning may not be apparent in translation. Arabic, for instance, tends to use more explicit requests, so "It's cold in here" might be translated as

"أشعر بالبرد، هل يمكنك إغلاق النافذة؟" (I feel cold, can you close the window?), making the request clearer.

Cultural Variability Different cultures use speech acts differently. For instance, refusals in English are often softened with indirect phrasing ("I don't think I can make it"), while in Arabic, it might be more direct but still polite ("أنا آسف، لا يمكنني الحضور" – "I'm sorry, I cannot attend"). Translators must navigate these sociopragmatic differences to avoid miscommunication.

Speech Acts and Translation: Key Insights from The Routledge Handbook

The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Pragmatics discusses the role of speech acts in translation, particularly the challenges in preserving illocutionary force and contextual meaning across languages. Some key points from the chapter on speech acts and translation include:

- **Context Sensitivity:** Speech acts are highly context-dependent, and translation must ensure the intended meaning is preserved.
- **Structural Differences:** Some languages rely on different syntactic structures for the same illocutionary force.
- **Cultural Norms:** Politeness strategies, requests, and refusals vary significantly between languages.
- **Literal vs. Pragmatic Meaning:** Translators must decide whether to retain a literal translation or adapt the text for pragmatic accuracy.

Additional Examples of English-Arabic Speech Act Translation:

- **Representative Speech Acts (Statements of Fact)**

- *The sun rises in the east.* → تشرق الشمس من الشرق
- *I will be there soon.* → سأكون هناك قريباً

- **Directive Speech Acts (Commands & Requests)**

- *Please turn off the lights before leaving.* → يرجى إطفاء الأنوار قبل المغادرة
- *Can you pass me the salt?* → هل يمكنك مناولتي الملح؟
- *Turn off the lights.* → أطفئ الأنوار

- **Commissive Speech Acts (Promises & Commitments)**

- *I swear I will help you.* → أقسم أنني سأساعدك
- *I promise to help you with your project.* → أعدك بأن أساعدك في مشروعك

- **Expressive Speech Acts (Emotions & Feelings)**

- *I sincerely apologize for the mistake.* → أعتذر بصدق عن الخطأ
- *Thanks for your help.* → شكراً لمساعدتك
- *I deeply regret what happened.* → أنا نادم بشدة على ما حدث

- **Declarative Speech Acts (Changing Reality through Speech)**

- *I now pronounce you husband and wife.* → أعلنكما الآن زوجاً وزوجة

- **Other Common Speech Acts**

- **Refusal:** *I don't think I can attend.* → لا أعتقد أنني أستطيع الحضور
- **Warning:** *Be careful with that.* → كن حذراً مع هذا
- **Suggestion:** *You should rest now.* → يجب أن ترتاح الآن
- **Invitation:** *Would you like to join us for lunch?* → هل تريد الانضمام إلينا لتناول الغداء؟

These examples highlight how **translators must preserve the illocutionary force** of speech acts while adapting them to cultural and linguistic contexts. The **choice of words and expressions** plays a crucial role in maintaining **accuracy and intent** across languages.

Brief Summary of Speech Acts and Translation The intersection of speech acts and translation highlights the complexity of language use across cultures. Translators must navigate linguistic and cultural barriers to maintain the intended illocutionary force of utterances. The Routledge Handbook of Translation and Pragmatics provides in-depth discussions on these challenges, emphasizing the need for context awareness, cultural sensitivity, and pragmatic adaptation. By considering these factors, translators ensure effective and accurate communication across languages.

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