CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

Dialogues of *Instant Messenger* chat are a kind of spoken language in written form. The most interesting thing is although there is no physical context, the conversation in *Instant Messenger* chat creates its own context by using some expressive characters, such as, smileys (*emoticons*), alteration of spelling, use of interjection, use of laughter, use of nonstandard form of language, and use of punctuation. In short, *Instant Messenger* chat is about text and talk in context. Discourse analysis is fundamentally concerned with the relationship between language and context of its use (Mccarthy, 1991: 10). Furthermore, language use is not limited to spoken language only, but also involves written language, communication, and interaction (Dijk, 1991: 2). Therefore, *Instant Messenger* chat can be regarded as discourse and the object of discourse analysis. Usually, the participants or the chatters not only talk about something, but they also make request, promise, or try to convince their interlocutors about what is being talked about. Thus, a theory that is appropriate in analyzing this kind conversation is speech acts theory.

Each utterance actually serves a specific function and can be used to do things. Speech acts can be defined as the study of how we do things with words. In other word, we can say that every time speakers make an utterance, they are attempting to perform speech acts, namely locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts. Of course, what it is meant by the utterances here are not just jumble of words, but words with meaning and intention. For example, when a

teacher said "open your book to page 20"to the students; actually the speaker is performing an act of commanding.

As stated above, there are three kinds of acts that are performed by the speaker in saying an utterance. First, a locutionary act, that is the act of saying something in the full sense of 'say'. Second, an illocutionary act, that is the act performed in saying something. Finally, a perlocutionary act, that is the act performed by or as a result of saying (Coulthard, 1985: 18).

Speech act cannot be regarded as true or false and it is performative in nature. Performative requires not only appropriate conditions, but also the appropriate pattern of language. The basic formula for performative utterance is "I + Present Simple Active Verb". However, any utterance although it does not have " I + Simple Present Active Verb" as long as it has performative sense, it can be analyzed as speech acts. In *Instant Messenger* chat itself, the performative utterance also appears in the form of acronym, for example, BRB or be right back is performed as a promise and ASL which stands for Age, Sex, Location is performed as a request.

There are numerous kinds of illocutionary acts that can be performed by the speaker in saying something. Therefore, Searle groups the illocutionary acts into five basic kinds of action, namely taxonomies of acts. Taxonomies of acts consist of representatives (asserting, concluding, advising), directives (ordering, commanding, requesting), commisives (promising, vowing, pledging alliances), expressives (congratulating, condoling), and declarations (Christening, firing, ex communicating).

Based on the analysis of speech acts in *Instant Messenger* chat spoken by the English Department students of Airlangga University, the writer answered the question in the statement of the problem, that is, the locutionary and illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts are found in each data. Especially for perlocutionary act, the writer found that in some segments of the dialogues, the chatters failed to get the effect of what they said from their interlocutors. This is happen in some segments of chat 5, chat 6, chat 8, and chat 14. The perlocutionary act that failed to be performed in all of those segments has similarity, that is, all come from the act of requesting.

By considering the result of data analysis also, the writer answered the second statement of the problem, that is, in performing speech acts, the addressers use different style of languages. The use of short and informal utterance, acronyms, and also the use of *emoticons* become the main characteristic of the language that is used to perform speech acts. All of these linguistic devices are used to stimulate voices, gestures, tone, and also expression of the participants. Therefore, there is no misunderstanding between the participants although they talk just by typing messages.

The performative utterances that are found in each data, and also function as a base to determine the acts performed by the chatters containing request, promise, assertion, advice, and order. The act of requesting is the dominant one, the total number of the act is 24, and then followed by the act of promising appears 9 times, ordering appears 5 times, asserting and advising, each of it appears once. Based on the taxonomies of acts, there is directive act (requesting

and ordering) which the total number is 29, then followed by commisive (promising), the total number is 9, and representative (asserting and advising) which the total number is 2.

From the data that analyzed, most of the performative utterances do not contain the "I + Simple Present Active Verb", even some of them are in the form of acronym. In order to know that the utterances performed are performative, we should reconstruct the utterances by adding "I + Simple Present Active Verb". By applying this concept and also considering the context of the dialogues, the kinds of actions performed by the chatters, namely locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary act can be determined.

The felicity condition or the parameter that should be met in performing speech acts can be determine by considering utterances that precede and follow the intended utterance. Those utterances help us to see the context of the dialogue and be used as an indication whether the three kinds of felicity conditions, namely locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary act, has already fulfilled or not. In fact, analysis of the data shows that in performing speech acts, the addressers have already fulfilled the felicity conditions.

Considering the result of Speech Acts in *Instant Messenger* chat spoken by the English Department students of Airlangga University, we can see that the interaction in chatting is different from face to face communication. And also on that cyberspace or chat room, speech acts exist in different form of languages, which has become a kind of convention for the chatters. However, in this case we

can say that the participants of *Instant Messenger* chat are succeeding to stimulate face-to-face conversation by using creative features of linguistic devices.

In addition, the analysis of speech acts in *Instant Messenger* chat is expected to help us learn about spoken language in *cyberspace* or chatting. Therefore, we will be able to chat properly, and we can chat with various people in terms of age, education, social background, and cultural background.

BIBLIOGRAPHY