CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents research background, research problem, research objective, research significance, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Language is very important in human life. Language is an instrument of communication. As an instrument of communication, language is used in many ways such as sound (by speaking), sign (by picture), and written symbol (by writing) (Wulandari, 2014). The communications that happen around people must be said clearly so that others can understand. People use language not only to exchange sounds, words, or sentences, but also to bring meanings (Petriandy & Marlina, 2018). Moreover, language can perform an action via utterance. This is known as speech act.

The scope of language is broad. It can be by speaking, writing, etc.. On the other hand, speech act has a small scope which is by speaking. Speech act happens when someone is saying something.

Speech act is defined as an action that the speaker’s performance when making utterance, that is argued by Peccei in (Wulandari, 2014). Moreover, Yule in (Basrah & Thoyyibah, 2017) acknowledges that by performing speech act may effect the behavior of the hearer.

There are several kinds of speech act which are classified by Searle in (Risdianto, 2015). They are declaration, representative, expressive, directive and commissive. This study focuses on the expressive speech act. It can be categorized
such expressive for thanking, apologizing, greeting, congratulating, wishing, and attitude. It is very important to understand what the speaker says about their feeling. This research would emphasize on the use of expressive speech act by John Keating, because he is as the main character in a film and he is also charismatic and energetic teacher who inspires the students with exciting teaching style. Further, the Dead Poets Society movie has many expressive speech acts. It makes the researcher decide to use the movie.

Based on the explanation above, the study takes a title “An Analysis of Expressive Speech Act in Dead Poets Society Movie”.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the research background, the formulated research questions are:

1. What are the types of John Keating’s expressive speech acts in Dead Poets Society movie?
2. What is the most dominant type of John Keating’s expressive speech acts in Dead Poets Society movie?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the research problems, the research objectives are:

1. To identify the types of John Keating’s expressive speech act in Dead Poets Society movie.
2. To dig out the most dominant type of John Keating’s expressive speech act in Dead Poets Society movie.

1.4 Research Significance

Hopefully, the result of this research can be useful both in practical and
theoretical aspects of speech act in the aspect of sociolinguistics and movie in the aspect of literature. In practical aspect, it is expected to give contribution in the form of reference especially in speech act and movie. Therefore, it can be the source of sociolinguistics and literature for the students and lecturers of University of Muhammadiyah Malang. It is provided several examples of types of expressive speech act used by John Keating. In theoretical aspect, it is expected to give fruitful contribution of speech act and movie theory. Thus, it can give additional information about speech act and movie. It is expected this research can broaden their comprehension about speech act.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is the expressive speech acts of John Keating in Dead Poets Society movie. In addition, its limitation is in identifying the types of expressive speech act, and knowing the most dominant type of expressive speech act found in the movie.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding, the researcher provides some terms in this research:

1. *Speech act* is defined as an action that the speaker’s performance when making utterance, that is argued by Peccei in (Wulandari, 2014).

2. *Expressive speech act* is Expressive speech act is related to psychological state which aims to express the speaker’s feeling state toward something (Tauchid & Rukmini, 2016).

3. *Movie*, also called a film, is known as motion pictures. It is a new tool used to
spread entertainment to people by presenting stories, comedy, drama, events, and other technical offerings (Mudjiono, 2011).

4. *Dead Poets Society* is an American drama movie directed by Peter Weir, written by Tom Schulman, and starring Robin Williams. This movie tells how the education has been out of its idea.

5. *John Keating* is the main character in *Dead Poets Society* movie. He is the charismatic, energetic English teacher who inspires the students. He begins teaching and immediately making an impression on his students, who aren’t used such exciting and fascinating lessons.