IDENTIFYING SPEECH ACTS USED BY MUSIC FANS: STREET INTERVIEW BY TRACK STAR SHOW ON TIKTOK

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Abstract:

This research qualitatively investigated the application of speech acts in street interviews done on the Track Star @trackstarshow, a popular TikTok account that connects music fans with other fans in New York. The research aims to determine the most frequent speech acts and learn how these language functions are employed in this virtual, casual setting. Drawing on John Searle's illocutionary act theory, the research examined how speakers perform various linguistic acts through informal interviews, such as requests, assertions, questions, and compliments. Besides, this study looked at the role of speech acts in building rapport, addressing the audience, and managing social interactions. The research discovered that the speakers in the interviews used assertive, expressive and directive speech acts mostly in the selected interviews. The speakers also applied declarative statements. The findings contribute to the growing body of literature on digital communication, offering new insights into the intersection of language, media, and social interaction in digital spaces.

Keywords:

Speech Acts, Illocutionary Acts, Content Analysis, Tik Tok, Music Fans

Introduction

Language is not limited to conveying information and communicating, it can also be used to accomplish things. This linguistic discovery was introduced by John L. Austin in the 1960s as speech act theory and further developed by other linguists such as Searle. It refers to the study of the way both speakers and hearers use language with each other (Yule, 1996). Moreover, the rise of social media platforms has made it easy for people to connect with others and create content. TikTok has become the go-to platform for people to find others who share the same interests as them. It used to be YouTube, where people posted videos and other content. Somehow, the platform can be quite restrictive in terms of not everyone stumbling over the videos. Then, TikTok took over the place, whereby everyone with or without proper recording equipment can create and share their content online. Their content is likely to go viral if there is enough engagement from viewers.

The most popular content on TikTok these days is street interviews, whereby the content creator would go on sidewalks to interview pedestrians on certain topics such as relationships, music and current issues. Based on the observation, most of this type of content takes place in New York, as it is one of the walkable and pedestrian-friendly cities (Forbes, 2024). Street interviews are considered to be informal interviews as they are observed to seek the perspectives, experiences and values of the respondents (INTRAC, 2017). This kind of interview relies on the interviewer's attitude and skill in asking questions because there are no formats (INTRAC, 2017).

One of the various street interviews well-known on TikTok is Track Star @trackstarshow. It is a short music show hosted by Jack Coyne. Presently, the account has more than 476 thousand followers on TikTok, with over 35 million likes. Jack goes around New York streets and interviews selected pedestrians by starting with a question, "*If you name the artist, you win five bucks.*" It can also be considered as a quiz show, as money is involved as a reward for every answer given. The person being interviewed will be given headphones; then Jack will play the songs, and the person will proceed to guess the artist. The interview will be prolonged with questions asked by the host, and interviewees will provide joyful answers. The questions usually cover how these music listeners discover their favourite genre and their opinions on the songs.

Studies on speech acts in real-life interaction are scarce (Al-Owaidi, 2019), especially on new media such as TikTok. Most of the studies found were focusing on films and TV interviews, which are scripted. It is also observed that speech acts studies are dominantly found in speeches by important figures such as Anwar Ibrahim (Shamshul Bahrn, Syed Shaharuddin & Aziz, 2024) and Dr. Mahathir Mohamad (Laengkang, Ab Karim & Haron, 2020) in which their speeches clearly carry power and influence. Moreover, pragmatics studies available focus on text-based digital communication (Eke, Asak & Ayademi, 2025) whereby these studies explore the changes of communication in the digital space rather than the live conversations Thus, the present study aims to contribute to the pragmatic studies of social media context mainly in terms of conversations of two or more people specifically music fans who are just people with normal jobs and everyday life. In other words, it is about understanding how fans interact with each other in unscripted, online environments. In this study, the researchers examine the most used speech acts by Searle and how these speech acts build rapport and, at the same time, entertain the target audience.

Literature Review

Linguistic/Language Features In The Interview
Interviews can be formal and informal to suit different occasions and audiences. There are several different types of interviews, such as individual interviews, group interviews, semi-structured interviews, informal interviews and focus group discussions (INTRAC, 2017).

The most well-established informal interview is the talk show interview. Iobishvili (2023) described the language used on such shows as equivalent to the casual, everyday conversation style found in informal settings. As a result, it often makes use of colloquial vocabulary, expressions and sentence structures that are characteristic of spoken communication. It should be highlighted that most talk shows around the world share the same format: introduction, interview and conclusion (Iobishvili, 2023). Iobishvili (2023) compared Georgian and American talk shows and found that the only difference is the language and culture, in which the Georgian talk show guests were observed to give neutral answers when being asked about their well-being as a way to be modest in the mass media context.

Meanwhile, political interviews are very strategic as both interviewers and interviewees have their own goals to achieve. One of the features of formal language in such interviews is stance-taking, specifically stance adverbs. Based on the evidence by Vignozzi (2022), interviewees who are politicians employ certainty adverbs (*certainly, absolutely*) to express their confidence to the audience and persuade the citizens of their commitments while in service. On the other hand, to avoid sounding confrontational, interviewers use doubt-related adverbs (*possibly, likely*). Politicians avoid such adverbs as they demonstrate the feebleness of one's character. It should be highlighted that power relations also play a part in this type of interview, as usually the interviewees are in the higher social hierarchy compared to the interviewers (Wenjie, 2019).

Speech Act Theory
According to Searle (1969), the speech act theory studies the meaning of language by examining the relationship between utterances and actions done by the speakers and listeners. Speech Act Theory, pioneered by J.L. Austin (1962) and expanded by John Searle (1969), posits that language is not merely descriptive but performative—utterances are actions that accomplish goals like asserting, questioning, or persuading. This framework categorises speech acts into:

Speech acts	Illocutionary acts	Example
Directives	request, commands	"Listen to this album!"
Commissives	commitments	"I'll stream this song daily!"
Declarations	status changes	"This song is a masterpiece!"
Expressives	emotions	"I love this artist!"
Assertives	statements of fact	"This genre originated in the 1980s"

Table 1: Speech acts

Speech Act Theory provides a structured lens to analyse how fans perform identity, affiliation, and persuasion through language (Searle, 1976) for this study.

Speech Act Type	Function in TikTok Fan Discourse	Example from TikTok	Scholarly Insight & Citation
Expressives	Signal emotional affiliation and loyalty; strengthen communal bonds	"Taylor Swift's lyrics speak to my soul!" #SwiftiesForLife	TikTok amplifies expressives via hashtags and duets (Yus, 2023; Dynel, 2021)
Directives	Mobilise fan communities; urge collective action	"Everyone streams Jungkook's new single!"	Directives align with call-to-action trends and participatory culture (Vandergriff, 2016)
Assertives	Share knowledge and validate opinions; establish credibility	"The chord progression here is a direct homage to Queen."	Assertiveness reinforces fan authority and "insider" status (Page, 2021; Androutsopoulos, 2020)
Commissives	Express promises or ongoing commitments; sustain engagement	"I'm never skipping this track on my playlist!"	Commissives drive streaming metrics and social media trends (Baym, 2018; Lee, 2022)
Declarations	Assign symbolic value; canonise artists and shape collective memory	"Beyoncé is the Queen of Pop!"	Declarations construct cultural capital within fandoms (Fiske, 2020; Papacharissi, 2015)

Table 2: Relevance to Music Fan Discourse on TikTok

Speech Act Analysis on New Media

Speech Act Type	Function & Description	Example Utterance	Scholarly Insights & Citations
Assertives	Share opinions or factual claims to assert expertise or influence perceptions.	"BTS's new album is groundbreaking."	Dominant on Facebook; validate expertise (Sadek, 2023)
Directives	Calls to action to mobilise fan engagement	"Follow this artist! #KpopArmy"	Mobilise fans via hashtags; participatory culture (Zappavigna, 2011)
Expressives	Express emotions to foster community bonds	"This song saved my life!"	Amplified by hashtags and duets on TikTok (Yus, 2023; Dynel, 2021)
Indirect Speech Acts	Subtle influence through questions or hints	"Who else thinks Taylor Swift deserves a Grammy?"	Blend of direct/indirect acts; multimodality enhances effect (Sadek, 2023; Brock, 2020)

Table 3: Speech Acts on Social Media Platforms

Speech Act Type	Function & Description	Example Utterance	Scholarly Insights & Citations
Directives	Guide listener behaviour via commands	"Subscribe to our channel!"	Common in instructional podcasts (Putra & Sedeng, 2022)
Representatives (Assertives)	Convey factual information or opinions	"Yes, actually changing the clock doesn't affect anything"	Informational podcasts rely on assertions (Syahidah, Djatmika & Sumarlam, 2023)
Expressives	Build rapport through praise or	"This guest is phenomenal!"	Enhance host-listener connection (Siritman & Meilantina, 2020)

	emotional expression		
Commissives & Declarations	Commitments and authoritative statements	"This policy will change Indonesia!"	Blend used to assert authority (Pratama et al., 2023)

Table 4: Speech Acts in Podcasts

Speech Act Type	Function & Description	Example Utterance	Scholarly Insights & Citations
Directives	Requests for help or action	"Alaya, please remind friends in the group to do a quiz later."	Requertives (Meidini, Suhendi & Izzah, 2023)
Commissives	Commitments to collective goals	"Can you guys give me any opinion or solutions to rectify my problem?"	Support collaborative project work. (Shanthi, Thayalan & Suppiah, 2019)
Expressives	Convey emotions and attitudes	"I would say that in online class it was more stressful than the face to face class."	Understanding peoples' emotional and social engagement (Jaco, 2023)
Assertives & Directives	Sharing resources and peer feedback for learning	"Here's a useful article on this topic."	Scaffold collaborative learning (Siritman & Meilantina, 2020)

Table 5: Speech Acts in Online Discussions and Forums

Speech Act Type	Function & Description	Observed Usage	Scholarly Insights & Citations
Directives	Giving instructions, guiding audience interaction	The most frequently used	Effective for clarifying and engaging

		speech act by presenters	(Abdulsada & Darweesh, 2024)
Expressives	Emotional reactions or praise	Frequently used	Communicate speakers' feelings such as thankful and happiness (Abdulsada & Darweesh, 2024)
Declarations	Statements that shape session flow or topic transitions	Least used	Facilitate topic shifts and authority (Abdulsada & Darweesh, 2024)

Table 6: Speech Acts in Educational Webinars

Platform	Dominant Speech Acts	Primary Functions	Scholarly Sources
Social Media	Assertives, Directives, Expressives	Opinion sharing, mobilising fans, and emotional bonding	Sadek (2023), Yus (2023)
Podcasts	Directives, Representatives, Expressives, Commissives, Declarations	Inform, entertain, persuade, and assert authority	Putra & Sedeng (2022), Pratama et al. (2023)
Online Forums	Directives, Commissives, Expressives, Assertives	Collaborative problem-solving, emotional engagement	Moldovan, Rus, & Graesser (2023), Siritman & Meilantina (2020)
Webinars	Directives, Expressives, Declarations	Instruction, audience engagement, and session management	Abdulsada & Darweesh (2024)

Table 7: Summary: Speech Acts Across New Media Platforms

Methodological Approaches

Methodological approaches	Date collection: Transcribe posts/comments (Sadek, 2023) or podcast episodes (Pratama et al., 2023).
	Coding: Apply Searle's taxonomy to categorise utterances (e.g., directives, assertives).
	Contextual Analysis: Examine platform-specific features (hashtags, emojis) that modify speech acts (Zappavigna, 2011).
	Tools: Automated frameworks (Moldovan, Rus & Graesser,2023) can flag speech acts like requests or complaints in large datasets.

Table 8: Methodological Approaches

Challenges in New Media Analysis
Sarcasm/Ambiguity: Indirect speech acts (e.g., "Great job, Elon") require contextual inference (Yus, 2023).

Speech act analysis reveals how digital communication transcends mere information exchange, shaping identities, communities, and cultural narratives. By integrating tools like automated classifiers and ethnographic coding, researchers can decode the performative power of language in new media.

Methodology
This research employed content analysis using document analysis of conversation transcription to acquire the findings. This method allows for a comprehensive examination of the structure and function of the conversation, providing insights into the interaction styles. Researchers made use of the download feature on TikTok to procure the interview videos for the analysis purpose. Five most viewed interviews posted on @Trackstarshow's TikTok account from 1st October 2024 to 1st March 2025 were downloaded and then, the researchers used Notta, an application that generates transcripts effectively. since the interviews posted consist of people from different backgrounds, the present research data focused on the pedestrians who are fans of music, excluding artists or music producers to achieve the objective of the research. The analysis process took about 10 days to complete. The collected data were presented and categorised according to the categories of illocutionary acts by Searle. For analysis, the interview excerpts were labelled (e.g. Excerpt 1)

Illocutionary acts	Characteristic(s)
Assertive	expresses a state of an event or an affair, states a proposition to be true
Comissive	uses speech acts to commit him/her to do an action in the future
Declarative	uses speech acts that change the state of affairs in the world
Directive	uses speech acts to make H do something
Expressive	uses speech acts to express the attitude about a state of affairs

Table 9: Speech Acts/Illocutionary Acts

Analysis and Discussion
Based on the five videos, the most used illocutionary acts are assertive, directive and expressive. There was also a declarative applied in some interviews. Most directives were followed by assertive illocutionary acts whereby the utterances were statements or replies made by the respondents towards directives asked by the host, Jack.

It is observed that the interviews all had the same opener, which is "*If you can name the artist, you win five bucks*", and the guests would provide the answer based on the first song played by the host. So, people, especially the fans of the show, automatically associate the question with Jack and his famous content on Track Star account. The opener is seen as a directive speech act in which the illocutionary act intends the listeners, who are also the respondents, to answer his question correctly, that is, the name of the artist (based on the songs being played), for the listener to win the prize money. All five selected interviews started with the famous opener that not only works as a great conversation or interview starter but it signifies as an icebreaker to encourage conversation.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Directives as conversation opener	**Excerpt 1** *Jack: If you can name the artist, you win five bucks.* *Tony: I just sang this on New Year's theme from New York, New York, Frank Sinatra.* **Excerpt 14** *Jack: If you can name the artist, you win five bucks.* *Tamar: I love this artist, Neil Young.* **Excerpt 20** *Jack: If you can name an artist, you win five bucks.* *Ben: Bob Dylan.* **Excerpt 27** *Jack: If you can name the artist, you win five bucks.* *Ben: I know the song. Oh, Beatles.*

	Excerpt 31 *Jack: If you can name an artist, you win five bucks.* *Sarah: No, this is Phoebe Bridgers.*

Table 10: Directive Illocutionary Act

Based on the five excerpts, the locutionary effect of the opening utterance is that it requires the respondents to think and guess the artist. It can be deduced that such a speech act not only works as a great conversation starter, but it also gains instant attention from the respondents by testing their knowledge on music, followed by winning money.

Moreover, the most significant utterance (question asked by Jack) whose illocutionary act is considered as a directive as Jack directs the respondents to introduce themselves to the audience by having them look directly at the camera. The purpose of the illocutionary act is to build rapport not only between the host and the respondent but also with the virtual audience. It makes it easy for the speakers to be comfortable with each other, and the viewers at home feel like they are part of the interview or the conversation. The respondents mainly introduce themselves by sharing their names. Some would provide extra information, such as a music nerd and a student at NYU.

Moreover, Jack proceeds with the interview by prompting the respondents to share some information on the artist and music that they are interested in.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Directive as conversation prompts	**Excerpt 3** **Jack: Tell us about Frank Sinatra.** *Tony: My first song that I ever sang in the car with my dad was Summer Wind by Frank Sinatra, so.* *Jack: That's your guy.* *Tony: Just for being Italian, you know, the mafia thing too. I kind of enjoyed that about him a little bit.*

Table 11: Directive As Conversation Prompts

From the above excerpt, Jack applies the directive speech act indirectly, whereby he implicitly asks Tony to share the beginning of his listening to Frank Sinatra and the reason for him being a fan of the artist, which was his father's influence. It is observed that the question is not about the artist, Frank Sinatra but the interview context makes it perceived as a question that focuses on the fan himself in relation to his experience as a Frank Sinatra fan.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Directives as conversation prompter	**Excerpt 15** *Tamar: It's Sly.* *Jack: Are you a fan?*

	Tamar: Of course. My parents listened to a lot of soul. That was their thing, besides the opera, which...bleh. *Jack: I've never really listened to opera or been before, but I'm curious.* **Excerpt 23** *Jack: What do we know about Fleetwood Mac?* *Ben: My mom likes him a lot. They are all right.* *Jack: Did your mom introduce you to a lot of music?* *Ben: Only Carole King. It's all she knows.* **Excerpt 28** *Jack: So you like Pink Floyd?* *Ben NYU: Yep. Kind of dark, but melodic.* *Jack: What do we know about AC-DC?* *Ben: Not too much, actually. I know that AC-DC, like the power currents.*

Table 12: Directive As Conversation Prompts

Meanwhile, excerpts 7, 8 and 9 show directive speech acts in direct questions. The questions seek the respondents' interest in several old musicians such as Sly, Fleetwood Mac, Pink Floyd and ACDC. Similar to the respondent in Excerpt 6, respondents from Excerpt 7 and 8 both claimed that their parents were the ones introduced to most of the old music. The respondents' replies are assertive speech acts in which they tell the truth about matters related to the musicians. Thus, speech acts by asking questions and answering them allow people to learn about each other's background and influences, which in a way helps to build rapport in conversation.

As observed, assertive speech acts were identified after questions were asked because the respondents' illocutionary act was stating truths about themselves.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Assertive as to share about oneself	**Excerpt 12** *Tony: Okay, this is actually Teach Your Children by Crothy Stills and Nash. Cool fact, this song was in a political campaign in 1984, Walter Mondale. He was talking about gun control, I guess.* *Jack: How do you know that?* *Tony: Because I'm kind of a political nerd.* *Jack: That's why you're here in D.C.* *Tony: I mean, I go to the American History Museum like 25 times a year.*

Table 13: Assertive To Share About Oneself

Based on Excerpt 12, Tony shared an interesting fact about the song he just listened to and claimed that he knows history and loves spending time at the American History Museum. This shows that the respondent not only shares his knowledge of music but at the same time he asserts his identity as a fan of history. The viewers also gain information about the interviewee which makes the interview more interesting and well established.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Directives as conversation prompt	**Excerpt 18** *Jack: What are you gonna do if you win?* *Tamar: I'm gonna donate to the L.A. Fires.* **Excerpt 25** *Jack: If you had forty dollars right now, what would you spend it on?* *Ben: I'd probably get next week's bananas.*

Table 14: Directive As Conversation Prompt

Another directive speech act performed by Jack above aimed to discover respondents' plans to do with the money they won. Tamar shared that she was going to fund the L. A fire that happened recently, while Ben, who is a university student, was trying to restock his weekly supply of bananas. Based on the analysis, everyone has their own financial priorities and spending habits, and all such choices are valid and matter.

Another significant directive speech act can do is that the illocutionary act aims to make someone make a choice.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Directive to make a choice	**Excerpt 12** Jack: You can take the money, walk away, or you can risk it all and go for $640. Tony: Let's do it. Jack: Let's do it. **Excerpt 18** Jack: Go again. We'll play an easy one. Actually, I don't know if I have an easy one. Tamar: Give me 80s. Or just play the Pixies. Tamar: Oh, Jack. Jack, Jack, Jack. It's the Pixies.

Table 15: Directive For One To Make A Choice

Based on Excerpt 12, Jack was giving Tony the choice whether to continue the game to win more money or just stop playing. Compared to Excerpt 18, Tamar was the one who made Jack, the host, to pick the next song to play. The illocutionary act applied requires the listeners to make a choice and a decision.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Declarative	**Excerpt 20** *Jack: You just won five dollars.* *Ben: Sweet.*

Table 16: Declarative Speech Act

Meanwhile, Excerpt 20 shows that Jack just declared that Ben just won five dollars because the respondent guessed the correct artist for the song he played. The illocutionary act for this would be considered as declarative act because Jack announced that Ben has won the first five dollars, thus the effect of this utterance is that Ben now has five dollars extra in his pocket, which got him to express his delight with the word "*Sweet*" (expressive speech act). More declarative illocutionary acts can be seen in the following excerpt.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Declarative	**Excerpt 6** *Jack: You're two for two.* *Ben: One more.* *Jack: Only one more?* *Ben: Maybe more.* *(listening to a song)* *Ben: Dan Morrison.* *Jack: That's correct. Twenty dollars.* *Ben: One more.* *Jack: One more, one more. Now you're like addicted to this. You spend a lot of time in casinos?* *Ben: I should, apparently.* *(listening to a song)* *Ben: Cat Stevens.*

Table 17: Declarative Speech Act

Excerpt 6 shows that Ben was deeply engrossed in the game that whenever Jack announced the money he had been winning, Ben continued the guessing game to win more. Thus, the announcement of winning something can be perceived as a declarative speech act in which it is a statement of an important event in one's life, which improves it for the better. It can also be deduced such speech act makes this particular interaction lively and exciting to participate and watch.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Declarative	**Excerpt 19** *Jack: $320 donated on your behalf.* *Tamar: Thank you.*

Table 18: Declarative Speech Act

Table 18 shows an excerpt that is also another example of a declarative speech act in which Jack made a donation on behalf of Tamar with the money she just won. The donation was made to the L.A. fire, as previously mentioned by Tamar. The money was then sent to the people who were affected by the fires. Thus, it can be seen that declarative in this type of interview is employed to make certain actions known to the public.

On the other hand, expressive speech acts can be observed at every early part of the interview when respondents showed their enthusiasm and excitement by greeting the viewers with phrases like *"How's it going?"* and *"What's going on, guys?"*. Such utterances are interpreted to be expressive speech acts as they are informal greeting phrases that people use to implicitly connect with their audience. It expresses one's emotions and personality in a social setting. In terms of the current study, which focuses on online interaction, such utterances establish the speakers' identity and set up the context within the virtual world. Viewers are given a chance to perceive the respondents' personality by how they interact with the host and in front of the camera. Although the viewers are absent from the interview place, they could still have the opportunity to be familiar with the respondents through their sharing.

Furthermore, the expressive speech acts applied by the respondents were identified throughout the interviews and were most prominent at the end of the interview, as Jack and the respondents express their happiness and excitement to participate in the interview/game.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Expressive	**Excerpt 13** *Tony: Oh, this is Love's theme, right? Oh, God, no. Oh, I know what this is, though. It's just not Smokey. I'm going to say Smokey. Oh, no. Not Smokey Robinson.* *Jack: Any other guesses?* *Tony: I don't got it. No! I gave it up. I gave it up.* *Jack: It's The Righteous Brothers. Unchained Melody. Okay, Tony, next time you're on a date, whip out the Unchained Melody.* *Tony: That's my Irish stubbornness coming at me again, I got to tell you. You're the frickin' man.*

Table 19: Expressive Speech Act

Based on the above excerpt, it can be inferred that Tony had difficulty guessing the song and he kept expressing his frustration and eventually gave up. Jack, then, took the cue and shared the name of the artist. Tony exclaimed that his Irishness was the reason he did not give up easily. It is generally known that people tend to control their emotions when they are with others who they are not familiar with. However, this interview demonstrates that Jack has successfully created a friendly atmosphere whereby one feels free to express himself in the interview. Tony then complimented Jack for being the best person he ever met by using the slang "frickin' man" to show the close relationship they have developed throughout the interview.

Illocutionary act	Excerpts
Expressive	**Excerpt 26** *Jack: You might recognize this artist for his movie soundtrack.* *Ben: No.* *Jack: Ben, it's Randy Newman. You know you've got a friend in me.* *Ben: I was actually looking at Randy Newman. I was going through all like my like childhood Jungle Book playlist.* *Jack: I'm sorry you didn't win, but thank you for having me.* *Ben: Great to meet you.*

Table 20: Expressive Speech Act

Excerpt 26 shows that the illocutionary acts applied here are sympathising, thanking and showing pleasure at meeting the host. Jack was sharing the disappointment with Ben, who had just lost the game. However, he still thanked Ben for participating in the game. Ben proceeded to express his pleasure at meeting the host. Despite not winning the game, both speakers appreciated the presence of each other in front of the camera.

All of the above analysis exhibits that speech acts are fundamental in driving communication forward. The interactivity relies on the utterances produced by language speakers which are not just strings of words but they are also actions done with specific intentions (questioning, requesting) which elicit responses or actions from the listeners. The host of Track Star is committed to the role by asking questions and interest his show guests to share details and information in regards to the music they are familiar with which leads to the success of the account as a short but impactful music show online. Music shows are no longer belongs to the broadcasting system but with the camera setup and impressive hosting skills, anyone who is inspired are free to create one.

Conclusion and recommendations

In conclusion, Track Star is one of the street interviews that thrive on the real-time synergy between host and interviewee, whereby unscripted exchanges initiate authenticity and audience connection. The host's directive speech acts—questions, prompts, or playful challenges—invite candid responses. Conversely, the interviewee's expressive reactions (surprise, humour, or vulnerability) add raw and relatable energy. This two-way dialogue transforms simple Q&As into compelling narratives, as unpredictability and spontaneity keep viewers engaged. Whether it is a viral moment or a heartfelt story, the magic lies in the collaborative performance: the host guides the flow while the interviewee brings the personality. This reason makes the content become lively, human, and endlessly shareable and relatable to the viewers.

The most used speech acts found in the five interviews examined are assertive, directive, expressive and declarative. Directive speech acts are applied by the host to seek information and answers from the respondents. Moreover, assertive speech acts refer to the utterances to communicate the respondents' opinions and relate their experience to the music they listen to. Meanwhile, expressive speech acts are found mainly in thanking the respondents for joining the show and expressing sympathy for losing the money. Lastly, declarative speech acts signify the change of one's situation based on utterances made by any of the speakers.

These findings hope to contribute to the pragmatic field in terms of live interaction on social media, especially street interviews that are a significant and effective medium for people nowadays to learn and gain information. It should be acknowledged that language that people use have impacts on people, directly or indirectly. Further studies may adopt the methodology used and try to conduct comparative studies of speech acts used by people in different settings. Examples of those settings are such as formal versus informal settings. Moreover, more studies should be done on the speech acts specifically used in live interactions on social media.

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