

A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

# Identifying and producing the persuasive speech act by Iraqi EFL university students: a pragmatic study

#### Shaimaa Faiq Abood

Department of Business Administration, College of Economic & Administration, Salahaddin University, Erbil, Kurdistan Region, Iraq

Shaimaa.abood@su.edu.krd

#### **ARTICLE INFO**

#### **ABSTRACT**

#### **Article History:**

Received: 25/8/2020 Accepted: 20/10/2020 Published: Winter 2020

#### **Keywords:**

Pragmatics, Speech acts theory, EFL, Persuasion, Fact, Value, policy, locutionary act, illocutionary act, perlocutionary act.

Doi:

10.25212/lfu.qzj.5.4.29

This study investigates the identification and the production of the persuasive speech act by the Iraqi university students who study English as EFL. The paper aims at examining the frequencies and the percentages of the students' correct and incorrect answers. In the theoretical part of the study, the concepts such as pragmatics, speech act theory, speech act of persuasion, techniques of persuasion and its types are clarified briefly. In the practical part, the students' responses are statistically analyzed. It provides an analysis for the frequencies and the percentages of the correct and incorrect answers in both recognizing and producing each type of the persuasive speech act to know which of these types is the easiest, and which one is the most difficult to be identified and produced. To give a clear idea of the frequencies and percentages of each type, tables and figures are used. A comparison is made between identifying and producing each type of persuasion to recognize whether the performance of identification



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

or production is difficult for the ibn students. Finally, the study reveals the general findings observed through the analysis of the data.

#### 1. Speech Acts Theory

It is well-known fact that one of the main issues in modern pragmatics id the speech acts theory. This theory has been firstly introduced by J.L. Austin in 1962. This theory is firstly published in his famous book How to Do Things with Words. The main purpose of Austin in his theory is to prove that language has more functions rather than only the production of correct and incorrect statements (Lyons,1981, p. 173). In his theory, Austin (1962, p. 23) claims that a speech act is an utterance used by a speaker to perform an action through language. Thus, Austin proves that language can have more functions than merely the above one. After inventing this theory, it became the cornerstone for most of the researchers who follow Austin. Later on, in 1970, the speech acts theory is developed by the Searle, Austin's student who adds some important concepts such as the idea of indirect speech act.

Consistent with this theory, A speech act consists of three acts: locutionary act is the action of making a meaningful utterance; illocutionary act is performing an intentional utterance; while perlocutionary act is producing the effect of the meaningful, intentional utterance. Firstly, locutionary acts are essentially the literal meaning of an utterance which is transferred throughout the use of words and structures. Secondly, illocutionary acts are actually the purpose that is thought to be transferred by the utterance. It is also termed as the speaker's intention. Thirdly, perlocutionary acts are the effect production, intentional or not, realized by the receiver as a result of a speaker's words. It is worth noting that there are different types of speech acts presented in this theory. However, the present study limits itself to the investigation of the speech act of persuasion (ibid).

#### 2. The Speech Act of Persuasion



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

In fact, persuasion is the process of modifying or changing the beliefs, the vales or the actions of someone. The speech act of persuasion has been tackled by many scholars and researchers. Victoria O'Donnell and June Kable (1982, p. 9) define persuasion as "a complex, continuing, interactive process in which a sender and receiver are linked by symbols, verbal and nonverbal, through which the persuader attempts to influence the persuade to adopt a change in a given attitude or behavior because the persuade has had his perceptions enlarged or changed". Similarly, Perloff (2003, p. 14) defines the speech act of persuasion as the process in which a "communicator attempts to induce a change in the belief, attitude, or behavior of another person or group of persons" by conveying a message in a context where the persuader has certain degree of force. This definition involves that a persuasive message needs some of the requirements concerning the sender, the means and the receiver to be persuasive. It is not an accidental activity, but it is intentional.

In addition, persuasion is in fact a kind of power used by someone to make another one does something. It is worth noting that persuasion does not depend on promises or threat of punishment. It really depends on influencing the cognition of someone. Therefore, persuasion is an art of communication in which someone expresses his\her opinion and tries to change the thinking of others or make them agree with what is said. Actually, persuasion is the process by which someone tries to move others by using persuasive reasoning, evidence and information to a new value, attitude and performance or even changing their beliefs.

## 2.1. Types of Persuasion

As a matter of fact, there are three types of persuasive speech act which are used to persuade someone of something. The three types are stated in the following:

1. Factual persuasive speech: This type is dependent on the fact that whether some issue or topic is factual or not. This type is usually used to persuade people whether something is existed or not, whether something happened or not etc. This type "addresses whether something is verifiably true or not" (Griffin, 2018, p. 309).



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

- 2. Value persuasive speech: In this type, the speaker tries to persuade the audience that something is evil or humane, good or bad, moral or immoral, right or wrong, etc. In this type the speaker needs to verify his\her point of view. It "addresses the merit or morality of an object, action, or belief" (ibid).
- 3. Policy persuasive speech: In this type, the speaker tries to persuade the audience either to reject or support a rule, policy or candidate. This type "addresses the best course of action or solution to a problem" (ibid, p.310).

#### 2. 2. Techniques of Persuasion

Different types of persuasion strategies are used to achieve the persuasive speech act. Johnstone (1989, p. 145) clarifies that there are three different strategies of persuasion which are quasilogic, presentation and analogy. In the first strategy, the persuaders usually use the structures and vocabulary which indicate the formal logic for creating a kind of rhetorical impression for their arguments to be considered as logical. In the second strategy, the persuader tries to persuade the audience through the use of rhythmic words and sentences. In the third strategy, the persuader usually uses a kind of comparison between the current issues and the past ones.

There are other types of persuasion strategies which are introduced by Aristotle and are used by researchers and scholars up to date. He proposes three strategies of persuasion. The first one is called as *Ethos* (character) which refers to the character of the speaker. The persuasiveness of speech act is tied very much to the sincerity and credibility of the persuader. It is related to the perception of the audience to how much the persuader or the speaker is trustworthy. This strategy is about how the speaker is persuasive to speak to audience about particular subject and how s\he tries to convince them. According to Lucas (2009, p. 353), *Ethos* points to the credibility of the speaker and it is related to two factors. The first is the speaker's competence which refers to the expertise, intelligence, knowledge and sincerity which the second



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

refers to the speaker's character which denotes the audience's considerations to the speaker's trustworthiness, reputation, sincerity, and physical appearance.

The second strategy is called *Pathos* (passion). In this strategy, the persuader tries to convey his\her feelings or passions to others. The speaker has to be committed to or has faith in what s\he is speaking about, otherwise; the audience will not be committed to. The persuader attempts to make the audience receipt his\her ideas. In brief, this strategy involves the engagement or the invasion of the emotion of the readers or listeners by the persuader or speaker (Thompson, 2014, p. 9).

The third strategy is called *Logos* (Logic). This strategy refers to the use of evidence and reasoning to convince the audience of what is said. The elements of reason and evidence are what Aristotle called as 'logos'. These two elements may work together to make what is said by the persuader looks so persuasive. A speaker can use evidences to support, prove or disprove a claim. Furthermore, evidence can be considered as a complementary part to reasoning because the latter is regarded as a conclusion which is dependent on evidence (Lucas, 2009, p. 357). Therefore, the 'logos' can be used to refer to the facts that can be used by a speaker to support or enhance his\her claim.

# 3. Methodology

This section is entirely devoted to the practical part of the study where the researcher investigates the identification or recognizing and the production of the persuasive speech act by the Iraqi EFL university students. The total number of the students involved in the test are fifty. They are all of the fourth year, from the department of English, college of education Ibn Rushd for humanitarian sciences, University of Baghdad. The samples of the study are chosen randomly during the academic year of 2018-2019. The subjects of the study are not native speakers of English and none of them have spent whatever a period of time in an English-speaking community. The subjects of the study are asked to identify the speech act of persuasion as it is presented in the test of appendix 1, and also to produce the speech act of persuasion as in the test provided in the test of appendix 2.



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

#### 4. Data Analysis

After collecting the required data for conducting this study, the responses of the subjects involved are analyzed in detail to show the frequencies and the percentages of each type of persuasive speech act. It is worth noting that the analysis of the data is divided into two parts. The first part is devoted to the identification or recognition of the speech act of persuasion and the second part is dedicated to the analysis of the production of the speech act of persuasion. Through the analysis of the collected data, the frequencies and the percentages of both the correct and the incorrect answers are clarified thoroughly to realize the ability of the university student in identifying and producing the speech act of persuasion.

#### 4. 1. Identifying the Speech Act of Persuasion

Concerning the recognition of the speech act of persuasion, the following table shows the number of the items, the frequencies and the percentages of the correct and incorrect responses.

No. of	The correct	The	The incorrect	The percentages
item	responses	percentages	responses	
1	37	74%	13	26%
2	25	50%	25	50%
3	41	82%	9	18%
4	33	66%	17	34%
5	40	80%	10	20%
6	30	60%	20	40%
7	41	82%	9	18%



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

8	29	58%	21	42%
9	35	70%	15	30%
10	29	58%	21	42%

Table 1: Frequencies and percentages of the correct and incorrect responses

The above table shows the frequencies and the percentages of the students who succeeded and those who failed in identifying the speech act of persuasion. Concerning item number 1, (37) of the students succeeded in identifying the speech act of persuasion which represents (74%) of the total member of students. The number of the students who failed to recognize the speech act of persuasion is (13), and this represents (26%) of the students. In item number 2, (25) of the students identify the correct answer, and this stands for (50%) of the total number of the subjects of the current study. The same is true for those who failed to identify the correct answer. In both of items number 3 and 7, the number of the students who recognized the speech act of persuasion is (41), and this represents (82%) of the total number of students whereas the number of the who failed to identify the speech act of persuasion is (9) students and this represents only (18%) of the total number of the students. In item number 4, (33) of the students answered the item correctly, and this stands for (66%) of the students who answered this item, while (17) of the students failed to recognize the speech act of persuasion which represents (34%) of the students.

The students' responses to item number 5 show that (40) of the students identified the speech act of persuasion correctly which stands for (80%) of the total number of the students while those who failed to identify it are (10) which represents (20%) of the total number of students. In item number 6, the number of the correct responses is (30), which represents (60%) of the students while the incorrect responses are (20), and this represents (40%) of the students. In both of the items 8 and 10, the number of the correct responses is (29), and that stands for (58%) of the total number of the students, while the number of the students who failed to make the correct responses



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

is (21), and this represents (42%) of the students. In item number 9, the correct responses are (35) of the total responses and this represents (70%) of the students' responses whereas the incorrect responses are (15) which represent (30%) of the total number of the responses.

For more clarification, the percentages of the correct and incorrect are well-represented in the following figures. Figure 1 represents the percentages of the correct responses.

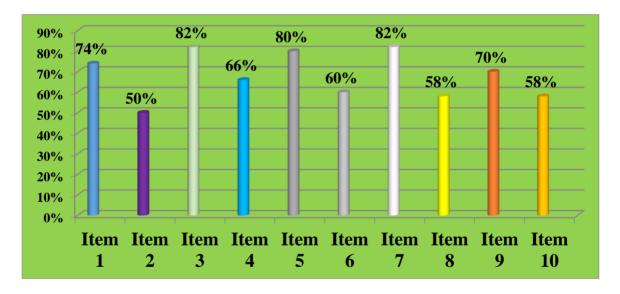


Figure 1: The percentages of the correct responses

The incorrect responses are represented in the following figure:



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

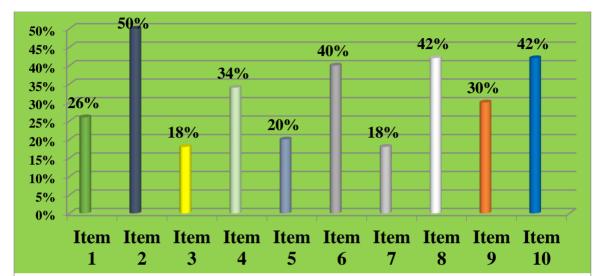


Figure 2: The percentages of the incorrect responses

Considering the frequencies and the percentages of identifying and failing to identify the speech act of persuasion, one can notice that the total number of the students who were able to identify the speech act of persuasion in the ten items was (34), and this represents (68%) of the students who recognized this type of speech act. On the other side, the number of the students who failed to identify the persuasion speech act is (16), and this represents only (32%) of the students who participate in the test. The frequencies and percentages of the number of students who succeeded and those who failed to recognize the speech act of persuasion are well-summarized in the following table:

The students	Frequencies	Percentages
Succeeded to identify the speech act of	34	68%
persuasion		



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

Failed to identify the speech act of	16	32%
persuasion		

Table 2: The frequencies and percentages of the students who succeeded and those who failed to identify the speech act of persuasion

It is worth noting that though table 1 reflects the frequencies and the percentages of both the correct and the incorrect responses to the items, it does not reflect the frequencies and the percentages of types of the persuasive speech act whether it is factual, value or policy. Therefore, it is important to clarify the frequencies and the percentages of each type to show which of them represents the most difficult ones to be recognized. It is also important to clarify the frequencies and the percentages of the incorrect responses for the sake of comparison. These issues are well-summarized in the following table:

Persuasion	No. of	Frequencies	Percentages	Frequencies	Percentages
types	students	of correct	of correct	of incorrect	of incorrect
		answers	answers	answers	answers
Fact	50	32.3	64.6%	17.7	35.4%
Value	50	30.6	61.2%	19.4	38.8%
Policy	50	37.75	75.5%	12.25	24.5%

Table 3: The frequencies and percentages of identifying the types of persuasive speech act (fact, value and policy)

The above table shows that the most highly recognized type of the persuasive speech act by the university students is the policy type. This type is identified in (37.75) of the total number of items devoted for this type, and this represents (75.5%) of the total answers. However, the students failed to identify this type in (12.25) of the items which represents only (24.5%) of the answers. The least identifiable type of



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

persuasive speech act is the value type. It is identified in (30.6) of the answers and this represents (61.2%) of the total answers whereas the incorrect answers for this type are (19.4) which forms (38.8%) of the total answers concerning this type. Concerning the fact type of the persuasive speech act, it is identified in (32.3), and this represents (64.6%) of the total answers while (17.7) of the answers were incorrect, and this stands for (35.4%) of the answers.

It is obvious that though the students succeeded in identifying the speech act of persuasion in some situations, they failed to identified it in other situations. This can be attributed to different reasons. Firstly, they do not understand the situation well. Secondly, they do not have any training in this respect. Thirdly, the meaning and the grammatical structures of the items may be difficult for them. The percentages of both the correct and incorrect answers of each type of the persuasive speech act are presented in the following two figures:

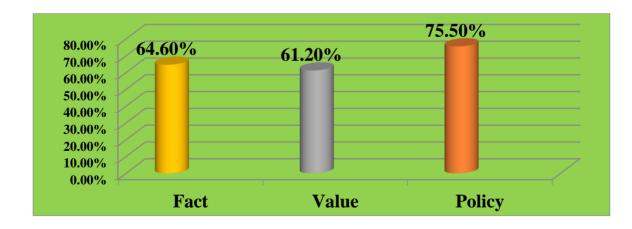


Figure 3: The percentages of the correct answers of the types of persuasion (Fact, Value and Policy)



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020

ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

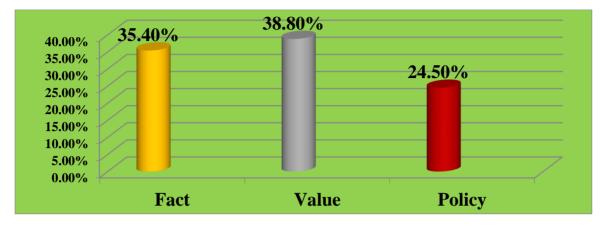


Figure 4: The percentages of the incorrect answers of the types of persuasion (Fact, Value and Policy)

It is clear from the above diagrams that the percentages of the correct answers of each type of persuasion is more than the ones of the incorrect answers. This shows that the number of the Iraqi EFL learners who have the ability to identify the speech act of persuasion more than the ones who are unable to identify it. After investigating the frequencies and the percentages of identifying the speech act of persuasion by Iraqi EFL learners, it becomes necessary to move to the other part of the study which is devoted to the production of the persuasion speech act.

## 4. 2. Producing the Speech Act of Persuasion

This section is devoted to the analysis of the student's responses where they are asked to produce suitable answers for certain situations. The students are asked to produce each type of the persuasive speech act in five different situations. This section investigates the frequencies and the percentages of both the correct and the incorrect answers produced by the students for each situation. Concerning the frequencies and percentages of the production of fact persuasion type, consider the following table:



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

Item No.	Correct responses	Percentages	Incorrect responses	Percentages
1	18	36%	32	64%
2	20	40%	30	60%
3	28	56%	22	44%
4	17	34%	33	66%
5	22	44%	28	66%

Table 4: The frequencies and percentages of correct and incorrect responses to the fact type of persuasion

The above table shows the frequencies and percentages of both the correct and the incorrect production of fact type of the persuasive speech act. In item number 1, (18) of the responses are produced correctly which represents (36%) of the responses, while (32) of the answers provided on this item are incorrect which represents (64%). Concerning item number 2, (20) of the answers are produced correctly, that is (40%) of the students answered correctly whereas (30) of the answers are incorrect, that is, (60%) of the students answered incorrectly. In the third item, (28) of the answers are produced correctly and this represents (56%) of the students while (22) of the answers are produced incorrectly and this indicates that (44%) of the students failed to produce the correct response. In the fourth item, only (17) of the answers are produced correctly, and this represents (34%) of the students, whereas (33) of the answers are produced correctly. That is, (66%) of the students failed to produce the speech act of persuasion in this situation. Finally, in item number 5, the correct answers are (22) which means that (44%) of the students produced this type of speech act correctly while (28) of the answers are incorrect which stands for (66%) of the students who answered this situation.



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

However, it is important to know the overall number of the students who produced the fact type of the persuasive speech act as well as the number of those who failed to produce it in order to compare the production of this type with other types of persuasion. This issue is well-summarized in the following table:

Fact type of persuasion	Students No.	Frequencies	Percentages
Successful production	50	21	42%
Failed production	50	29	58%

Table 5: The frequencies and percentages of successful and failed production of fact type of persuasion

The above table shows that the number of the students who succeeded in producing the fact type of persuasion is lesser than the students who failed to produce this type. By considering the table, it appears that (21) of the students produced the speech act of persuasion successfully, and this represents (42%) of the students. On the other hand, (29) of the students failed to produce this type, which in turn represents (58%) of the total number of the students.

Moving to the other type of persuasion which is value, one can find out different frequencies and percentages in both the correct and the incorrect responses in each situation concerning this type. These differences are considered in the following table:

Item No.	Correct responses	Percentages	Incorrect responses	Percentages
1	19	38%	31	62%



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

2	14	28%	36	72%
3	18	36%	32	64%
4	18	36%	32	64%
5	16	32%	34	68%

Table 6: The frequencies and percentages of correct and incorrect responses to the value type of persuasion

The above table shows the frequencies and percentages of both the correct and the incorrect production of value type of the persuasion speech act. In item number 1, (19) of the answers are produced properly which means that (38%) of students' responses about the first item were correct, while (31) of the responses provided on this item are incorrect which represents (62%). Concerning item number 2, (14) of the responses were correct, that is (28%) of the students responded correctly whereas (36) of the responses were improper, that is, (72%) of the students responded incorrectly. In the third and the fourth items, (18) of the responses are produced correctly and this represents (36%) of the students while (32) of the answers are produced incorrectly and this indicates that (64%) of the students failed to produce the correct response in both items. Finally, in item number 5, the correct responses were (16) which indicates that (32%) of the students produced this type of speech act suitably while (34) of the responses were incorrect which represents (68%) of the total number of the students.

The overall number of the students who succeeded and those who failed to produce the value type of persuasive speech act is presented in the following table:



Failed production

50

## **OALAAI ZANISTSCIENTIFIC JOURNAL**

A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

Value	type	of	Students No.	Frequencies	Percentages
persuas	ion				
Success	ful		50	17	34%
product	ion				

33

66%

Table 7: The frequencies and percentages of successful and failed production of value type of persuasion

The above table displays that the student's number who failed to produce the value type of persuasion is more than the number of the students who succeeded to produce this type. It is clear that (33) of the students do not produce the speech act of persuasion successfully, and this exemplifies (66%) of the students. Alternatively, only (17) of the students produce this type successfully, which represents (34%) of the total number of the students.

Concerning the policy type of persuasion, the following table shows the differences in the frequencies and the percentages of both the correct and incorrect answers for each of the five items:

Item No.	Correct responses	Percentages	Incorrect	Percentages
			responses	
1	25	50%	25	50%
2	29	58%	21	42%
3	26	52%	24	48%



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020 ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

4	36	72%	14	28%
5	29	58%	21	42%

Table 8: The frequencies and percentages of correct and incorrect responses to the policy type of persuasion

The above table displays the frequencies and percentages of both the correct and the incorrect production of policy type of the persuasion speech act. In item number 1, (25) of the responses are produced correctly which represents (50%) of the responses about the first item, while (25) of the answers provided on this item are incorrect which represents (50%). Concerning both of the second and the fifth item, (29) of the answers are correct, that is (58%) of the students answer correctly whereas (21) of the answers are incorrect, that is, (42%) of the students answer incorrectly. In the third item, (26) of the answers are produced correctly and this represents (52%) of the students while (24) of the answers are produced incorrectly and this indicates that (48%) of the students failed to produce the correct response. In the fourth item, only (36) of the answers are correct, and this represents (72%) of the students, whereas (14) of the answers are produced in correctly. That is, (28%) of the students failed to produce the speech act of persuasion in this situation.

The total number of the students who answered correctly and those who failed to produce the policy type of persuasive speech act is presented in the following table:

Policy type of	Students No.	Frequencies	Percentages
persuasion			
Successful production	50	29	58%
Failed production	50	21	42%



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

Table 7: The frequencies and percentages of successful and failed production of policy type of persuasion

The above table shows that the number of the students produced the policy type of persuasion is bigger than the students who failed to produce this type. It appears that (21) of the students failed to produce the speech act of persuasion successfully, and this indicates (42%) of the students. Conversely, (29) of the students succeeded to produce this type, and this represents (58%) of the total number of the students.

To clarify the percentages of both the successful and failed production of the three types (fact, value and policy) persuasive speech act, and also to make a kind of comparison between the percentages of these types, they are well-represented in the following two figures. The first figure shows the percentages of the successful responses for the three types of persuasive speech act.

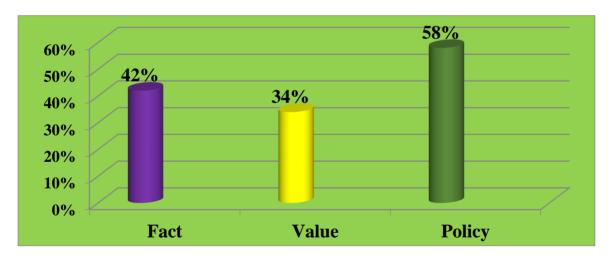


Figure 5: The percentages of the successful answers for fact, value and policy persuasion

While the second figure depicts the percentages of the failed answers for the three types of persuasion.



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq
Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020
ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

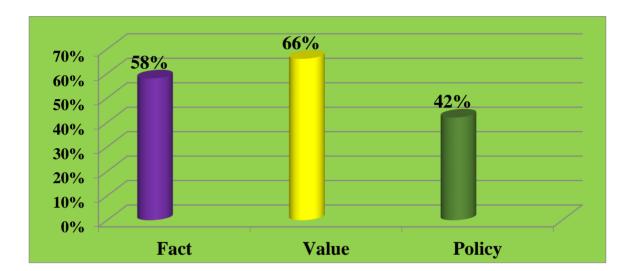


Figure 6: The percentages of the incorrect answers for fact, value and policy persuasion

It is obvious from the above two figures (5, 6) that the students' ability to produce the speech act of persuasion is too low. The percentages in both of the figures reveal that the value type of persuasion is the most difficult for the students to produce where (66%) of the students failed to produce this type, and only (34%) produced correct answers. The other difficult type of persuasion to be produced is the fact type where (58%) of the students produced incorrect answers while (42%) of the students produced correct responses. Concerning the policy type of persuasion, it was the easiest for the students to produce where (58%) of the students succeeded to produce correct answers while (42%) of the students failed to produce the correct answers.

#### Conclusions

The analysis of the students' answers shows that the knowledge of the fourth stage students in identifying the speech act of persuasion is better than their knowledge in its production. Moreover, identifying and producing the correct answers are



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020 ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

compared and it is found that the correct answers in the fact type the other types. Thus, it can be said that the value type of persuasion is the most difficult one for the university students to identify and recognize. Concerning the policy type, the students' ability to recognize the policy type of persuasion is better than the one of recognizing the other types. Concerning the production, similarly, the policy type of persuasion is the easiest for the students to be produced. While this type is identified in (75.50%) of the answers, it is also successfully produced in (58%) of the total answers. However, these percentages are still very low if they are compared to the percentages of the incorrect answers of both the recognition and the production. This reflects the students' inability to distinguish the different types of speech acts. The answers of the students reflect that the university students lack the linguistic knowledge of producing the correct answers. Another reason of the inability to recognize the speech act of persuasion is the influence of their mother tongue, that is, Arabic language.

#### References

Austin, J. (1962). How to do things with words. Oxford: Oxford University Pres.

Crystal, D. (2008). A dictionary of linguistics and phonetics. Malden: Blackwell.

Griffin, C. L. (2018). Invitation to public speaking. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning.

Johnstone, B. (1989). "Linguistic Strategies and Cultural Styles for Persuasive Discourse". In: Ting-Tomey, Stella, and Felipe Krozenny (eds.). Language, *Communication and Culture: Current Directions* (pp. 139-156). Beverly Hills: Sage.

Levinson, L. C. (1983). *Pragmatics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Lucas, Stephen E. (2009). The Art of Public Speaking. The McGraw-Hill Companies.

Lyons, J. (1981). Language and Linguistics. Cambridge: Cambridge University press.

Morris, C. (1938). Foundation of the theory of signs. Chicago, Ill: Chicago University Press.

ODonnell, V., & Kable, J. (1982). *Persuasion: an interactive-dependency approach*. New York: Random House.

Perloff, R. M. (2003). The dynamics of persuasion. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

Searle, J. R. (1979). *Expression and meaning studies in the theory of speech acts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University. Press.

Thompson, P. (2014). *Persuading Aristotle The Timeless Art of Persuasion in Business Negotiation and the Media*. Sydney: Allen & Unwin.

Yule, G. (1996). Pragmatics. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Appendix 1 (Identification test)



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq

Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020

ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

#### Q1\ Which of the following expressions indicate the persuasion speech act?

- 1. a. One person to another "Can you tell me the advantages of saving money in the bank?"
- b. One person to another "It is better to save your money in the bank".
- 2. a. One student to another "Do you think it is better for me to wear this blue T-shirt?"
- b. One student to another "This blue T-shirt suit you very well".
- 3. a. A policeman to a driver "You must not drive so fast, here"
- b. A policeman to a driver "Can you give me your license, please?"
- 4. a. One friend to another "You have to stop smoking".
- b. One friend to another "It would be better for you to stop smoking".
- 5. a. One student to another "The university has to offer free internet for students"
- b. One student to another "The free internet at the university is so fast".
- 6. a. One friend to another "The Iraqi food tastes very good".
- b. One friend to another "What about having dolma?"
- 7. a. A father to his daughter "You have to stay at home today".
- b. A father to his daughter "It is better for you to stay at home today".
- 8. a. A mother to her son "You have to read for the exam".
- b. A mother to her son "You will have a high mark if you read for the exam tomorrow".
- 9. a. A seller to a customer "You should buy this product".
- b. A seller to a customer "This product is a very good one".
- 10. a. A doctor to a patient "You have to have this medicine".
- b. A doctor to a patient "If you have this medicine, you will certainly be better". Appendix 2 (Production test)
- Q2\ Give a meaningful sentence to the following situations:

L	١.	
•		

1.	You	want	to	persuade	your	your friend		give	you	his
came	ra					•••				
2.	You	want	to	persuade	your	father	to	give	you	his
car										
3.	You	want	to	persuade	your	our friend		o go	to	а
resta	urant									
4.	You	want	to	persuade	your teacher		to po		stpone	the
exam										
5.	You	try	to	convince	your	friend	to	give	you	his
book										
B:										
1.	You	want	to	persuade	e you	r frien	ıd	not	to	drive
fast										
2.	You	want	to	persuac	le yo	ur bro	other	to	go	to
school										



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University – Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020

#### ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

		want						ıstome	ers	to	buy	the
produ	ıct											
4.	You	wan	t	to	persu	ade	you	r	sist	er	to	study
hard												
5.	Α	nurse	tries	to	persu	uade	a	patie	nt	to	drink	his
medio	ine											
C:												
1.	You	tries	5	to	persua	ide	som	eone		to	give	up
intruc	ling											
2.	You	want	to	con	vince	your	frie	nd	to	do	his	daily
exerc	ises											
3.	You	want	to	)	persuade	,	your	frier	nds	to	go	to
cinem	na											
4.	You	war	nt	to	persi	uade	pe	ople		to	give	up
smoki	ing											
5. You	ı want	to persua	de peo	ple to	vote to t	he mo	st appr	opriate	e car	ndidates	in the c	oming
electi	ons											

# يوخته:

ئەم توێژینەوەوەیە لە دەست نیشان کردن وبەرھەم ھێنانی کرداری قسەکردن دەپێچیتەوە لەلایەن قوتابیانی زانکو عیراقیەکان ئەوانەی بە زمانی انگلیزی وەک زمانێکی بیانی دەخوێنن. ئامانجی ئەم تویژینه وە پشکنینای راستی و ناراستی شەپۆلەکان و رێژەی سەدی بۆ وەڵامەکانی قوتابیانی لە بەشی تیۆری توێژینەوەکە. بەشێوە یەکی کورت روونکردنەوەی زاراوەکانە وەک (براغماتیه، تیۆری کرداری قسەکردن باوەپھاتوو، تەکنیکەکانی باوەپھێنەر وجۆرەکانی وھەروھا شیکردنەوەی بەشێوەی ئاماری کاردانەوەکانی قوتابیان لە بەشی پراکتیک.

کەھەڵدەستێت بە پىشكەش كردنى شىكردنەوەيەك بۆ شەپۆلەكان و رىژەكانى سەدى بۆ وەلامە راستەكانى وناراستەكان بۆ ھەر يەك لە دەست نىشان كردن وبەرھەم ھێنانى ھەر جۆرێك لە جۆرەكانى قسەكردنى باوەڕھاتوو بۆ زانىنى كام لەم جۆرانە ئاسانترىنە ، وكاميان قورسترێنە لە دەست نىشان كردن وبەرھەم ھێنانى .وە بەبەكارھێنانى خشتەو وشێوەكارى روونكردنەوەى بۆ پێدانى ئايديايەكى روون لەسەر شەپۆلەكان و رێژەكانى سەدى بۆ ھەر جۆرێك. ھەڵدەستێت بەكردارى



A Scientific Quarterly Refereed Journal Issued by Lebanese French University - Erbil, Kurdistan, Iraq Vol. (5), No (4), Winter 2020

ISSN 2518-6566 (Online) - ISSN 2518-6558 (Print)

جیاوازی کردن لەنێوان دیاری کردن وبەرھەم ھەرجۆرێک لەجۆرەکانی باوەر پێھینان بۆ ناساندن يُەگەر هاتوو کرداری دیاری کردنی باوهرپێهینان یان بهرههم هێنان قورس بوو بوٚ قوتابی زانکــــوٚ. له کوٚتایی وا ئەم توێژینەوە ھەڵدەستێت بە كەشف كردن دەرئەنجامە گشتیەكان تێبینی كراوە لە شیكردنەوەی داتاكان

## الملخص:

تتحرى هذه الدراسة تحديد وانتاج فعل الكلام المقنع من قبل طلاب الجامعة العراقيين الذين يدرسون اللغة الانكليزية كلغة اجنبية. تهدف الدراسة إلى تفحص الترددات والنسب المئوية لإجابات الطلاب الصحيحة وغير الصحيحة. في الجزء النظري من الدراسة، تم التوضيح وبشكل موجز مفاهيم مثل البراغماتية، نظرية افعال الكلام، فعل الكلام المقنع، تقنيات الإقناع وأنواعه. وتم تحليل استجابات الطلاب إحصائيًا في الجزء العملي. حيث يقدم تحليلاً للترددات والنسب المئوية للإجابات الصحيحة والغير الصحيحة في كل من تحديد وإنتاج كل نوع من أنواع الكلام المقنع لمعرفة أي من هذه الأنواع هو الأسهل، وأيها الأكثر صعوبة من حيث التحديد والإنتاج. وتم استخدام الجداول والاشكال التوضيحية لإعطاء فكرة واضحة عن الترددات والنسب المئوية لكل نوع. وتم إجراء مقارنة بين تحديد وإنتاج كل نوع من انواع الإقناع لمعرفة ما إذا كان اداء تحديد الاقناع أو انتاجه صعبا بالنسبة لطلاب الجامعة. وأخيرًا، تكشف الدر اسة عن النتائج العامة التي تمت ملاحظتها من خلال تحليل البيانات.