

A Speech Act Analysis of Trumps's Second Inaugural Speech

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Abstract:	The study mainly focuses on analysing speech acts as they manifest in President Donald Trump's second inaugural address. The aim is to investigate the various speech acts, with particular emphasis on illocutionary speech acts performed by President Donald Trump. A qualitative method is employed, utilizing a descriptive analysis design. The data for this study were collected by downloading the video of the inaugural speech from YouTube. Subsequently, the data were transcribed into written form and classified according to the types of illocutionary speech acts. The findings indicate that President Trump utilized five distinct types of illocutionary speech acts throughout his speech, with representative speech acts being the most frequently used. This study may prove advantageous for researchers interested in the interplay of language and political discourse, and it could also be of value to English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners, as it seeks to elucidate the various types of speech acts.		
Keywords:	Speech act theory, illocutionary acts, Pragmatics, Inaugural speech, Political discourse, President Donald Trump		

1. Introduction:

Language serves as an essential tool for human communication, playing a crucial role in allowing individuals to convey messages, share information, and engage in dialogue. In the field of linguistics, Speech Acts theory holds a significant position, recognized as a foundational aspect of pragmatic analysis, as much of the research in pragmatics depends on or references to this theory. This study employs a comprehensive analysis of speech acts as presented in the inaugural address delivered by President Donald Trump. An inaugural speech is a crucial element of political discourse, serving as a

formal address by a newly elected president during a ceremonial event to convey their intentions as a leader to the public. The research aims include a detailed examination of the five categories of speech acts proposed by Searle (1969): assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Furthermore, the study seeks to assess the prevalence of various types of speech acts within the selected political speech and to investigate the sequences in which these acts are articulated, thereby illuminating any potential impact these sequences may have on the types of speech acts employed. It is anticipated that assertive and commissive speech acts will prominently feature in political speeches, with assertions anticipated to be particularly prevalent, as they often serve as justifications for other act types, such as commissives and directives. The first section provides a concise overview of pragmatics, speech act theory, and the context of inaugural speeches. The second section elaborates on the methodology, which includes the research design, data collection processes, and the analytical framework employed in the study. Finally, the third section presents a comprehensive data analysis and discussion regarding the frequency and distribution of speech act categories as utilized by American President Donald Trump in his second inaugural speech. This study aims to answer the following research questions:

- 1) What types of speech acts were employed in Donald Trump's second inaugural speech?
- 2) How many types of illocutionary acts are most frequently employed in President Trump's inaugural speech?

2. Literature Review:

2.1. Pragmatics:

Pragmatics is a crucial area of study within linguistics, focusing on the role of context in the interpretation of meaning during communication. Wales (1989, p. 368) noted that the term "pragmatics" is derived from the Greek word "pragma," which denotes concepts such as activity, act, and situation. This discipline serves to connect linguistic structures with real-world interactions by exploring how speakers and listeners engage with and comprehend language in a context-sensitive manner. By considering the intentions behind communication, the situational context, and societal norms, pragmatics offers a refined understanding of language use in everyday scenarios. It highlights the idea that effective communication transcends mere words, emphasizing the intricate relationship among language, context, and human interaction. Hence, the study of pragmatics investigates language use and its implications for communication. Its roots can be traced back to the philosophy of language, with American linguist Charles W. Morris laying foundational concepts in the early 19th century, thus contributing significantly to the field of semiotics (Morris, 1938). According to Bussmann (1998) defines pragmatics as the scientific study of the relationship between natural language expressions and their context-specific usage. Crystal (1991) indicates that pragmatics has experienced significant advancements, encompassing the various factors that influence a speaker's selection of language during social interactions. Additionally, it examines the implications of this linguistic choice on the responses of others. While Mey (2001) argues that pragmatic meaning is assessed based on how individuals utilize language to convey messages. He defines pragmatics as "the study of the use of language in human communication as influenced by societal conditions" (p. 6). Yule (1996) offers a comprehensive view of pragmatics, suggesting it consists of two distinct dimensions. On one side, pragmatics is acknowledged as a vital field that enables individuals to articulate their thoughts effectively through language.

Conversely, it poses challenges, as it necessitates an understanding of the emotions and intentions of others. Further supporting this notion, Leech (1983) provides a definition of pragmatics that is in alignment with that of Crystal (2003), emphasizing the examination of how meaning is derived from utterances within specific contexts. This approach highlights the significance of situational factors in the interpretation of communicative meaning. All the definitions provided emphasize that the primary focus of pragmatics lies in the examination of two interconnected aspects. Firstly, it involves the analysis of language use within context; secondly, it pertains to the investigation of the behaviours exhibited by both the speaker and the listener.

2.2. Inaugural Speech:

Presidential inaugural speeches represent a critical component of political discourse, holding significant importance for newly elected leaders. These speeches mark a pivotal moment when the president addresses the nation and, by extension, the global community, articulating fundamental political policies and principles that will guide the country throughout their term. Inaugural speeches are traditionally delivered by heads of state or government during their official swearing-in ceremonies. These addresses not only establish the tone for the leader's tenure but also outline their vision and priorities for the public. The primary objectives of these addresses are to inspire confidence among citizens, uplift their morale, and garner widespread support. To fulfil these aims, presidents meticulously consider their choice of words and refine their messages through various rhetorical strategies and linguistic techniques. Political discourse encompasses more than merely stating public propositions; it fundamentally involves the practice of politics itself. Language serves as a powerful tool in shaping the political landscape, whereby words are strategically employed to influence the political body. The selection of lexical items is often guided not only by established standards of decorum but also by their effectiveness in highlighting political attitudes, swaying public opinion, generating political consensus, and legitimizing political authority. The American Presidential Inaugural Addresses warrant distinction as a unique category of political discourse, given their significant relevance. As noted by Liu (2012, P. 2407), these addresses are widely regarded as exemplary representations of English political speech. The inaugural address, first delivered by George Washington, invoked divine guidance and set a precedent for future leaders. These speeches play a crucial role in establishing the tone for the incoming administration and can carry persuasive intentions or address pressing national concerns. For instance, in 1861, Abraham Lincoln's address called for reconciliation among the southern states to avert conflict. In this context, inaugural addresses provide insight into the new President's vision for the nation and the world (The White House, 2021). Notably, Kaufer (2004, P. 221) contends that the presidential inaugural address is "one of the most carefully crafted textual genres in politics." While not mandated by the American Constitution, the inaugural address has become a longstanding tradition since George Washington's first delivery in 1789, serving as a ceremonial means for the newly elected President to mark the commencement of a new administration (Al-Saeedi, 2017). Moreover, political discourse is inherently linked to the language utilized within professional and political institutions, some of which are analysed through discourse-analytical frameworks (Chilton, 2004, p. 14). The efficacy of a political speech is not solely determined by the

accuracy of its content; rather, it is often contingent upon the strength and presentation of its arguments (Beard, 2000, p. 18). In this context, political speech functions as both a text and a dynamic process that can be conveyed through spoken or written forms. It is noteworthy that many politicians may not fully recognize the intricate relationship between their statements, the underlying meanings, and the actions that their words may invoke. Consequently, it has become evident that politicians are increasingly adopting a more personalized rhetoric that emphasizes choice and lifestyle values to effectively communicate their political messages to the public (Simpson & Andrea, 2010, p. 42-43). According to the work of Campbell and Jamieson (1990), epideictic, or demonstrative discourse, primarily aims to engage the audience and articulate the speaker's ideas without the intention of inciting immediate action. An analysis of presidential inaugural addresses reveals that these speeches are a prime example of epideictic rhetoric. Delivered during significant ceremonial events, they effectively connect the past to the future through a reflective lens on the present, while simultaneously reaffirming the shared principles that are essential in guiding the incoming administration. The characteristics of epideictic rhetoric, particularly in the context of presidential inaugurations, give rise to five interrelated elements that distinctly define inaugural addresses and set them apart from other forms of epideictic discourse (Moore, 2016):

- i) Promote unity among the audience.
- ii) Reflect on shared values rooted in historical context.
- iii) Articulate the guiding political principles of the new administration.
- iv) Address the responsibilities and limitations inherent to the office.
- v) Utilize effective strategies for epideictic discourse.

The inauguration is regarded as a significant event in the United States, as it reflects the nation's historical legacy and draws considerable attention from global media. During this occasion, the American president delivers a prepared speech designed to engage the audience and effectively communicate key messages and intentions. The inaugural speeches delivered by American presidents are distinct forms of discourse that serve primarily to persuade and convey ideological positions. These elements significantly influence the political landscape of the nation.

3. **Speech Acts:**

The foundational principles of speech act theory were first articulated by the distinguished Oxford philosopher John L. Austin in his influential work, "How to Do Things with Words" (1955). This theoretical framework was further developed by American philosopher John R. Searle in 1962. According to Austin (1962), a speech act is an action executed in the process of saying something. George Yule (1996, P. 47) further elaborates that speech acts can be categorized into specific labels, such as promises, requests, invitations, or apologies. These acts encompass a range of communicative behaviours, including making statements or inquiries, issuing commands or orders, refusing, complimenting, and apologizing. Speech act theory meticulously categorizes utterances into three distinct types: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. In the context of communication, speakers engage in actions that extend beyond simple verbal expression; they also perform

actions through their utterances. Austin (1962, P. 108) classified speech acts into three distinct categories. Furthermore, Grundy (2008) noted that when individuals communicate, they may engage in three dimensions: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts. Language serves not only as a medium for conveying information but also as a powerful instrument for influencing the listener. These actions, executed through speech, are recognized as speech acts. As noted by Yule (1996, P. 47), speech act theory offers a profound framework that significantly enhances our understanding of human communication. Yule (1996) emphasizes that when individuals perform speech acts, they do not simply articulate statements in isolation; rather, they possess intentions and motivations that inform their utterances, which can subsequently influence the behaviour of the listener.

3.1. Locutionary Act:

A locutionary act refers to the fundamental utterances produced by individuals, which are crafted with appropriate grammar and comprehensible vocabulary. As noted by Yule (1996), an essential condition for executing locutionary acts is that both the speaker and the listener share a common language; otherwise, there is a risk of misunderstanding, and the intended meaning may not be conveyed accurately. Austin (1962, P. 108) further elaborates that a locutionary act signifies the specific sense and reference established by the speaker about the intended meaning. Additionally, this type of act comprises the explicit or precise meanings that are articulated whether spoken or written, by the communicator.

3.2. Illocutionary Act:

An illocutionary act refers to an utterance that conveys a specific communicative force, such as informing, ordering, warning, or committing (Austin, 1962, P. 109). This concept is further supported by Yule (1996, P. 48), who defines illocutionary acts as being executed through the communicative force of an utterance. In essence, an illocutionary act can be understood as the underlying meaning of a word or statement. As previously discussed, the utterance may reflect a literal meaning, yet it may also possess a concealed significance depending on the context. For instance, a statement may serve as an invitation to share a meal. Illocutionary acts can be categorized into five main types: assertive, directives, commissive, expressive, and declaratives (Searle, 1979). Assertive acts pertain to the speaker's belief in the statements being articulated. Directive acts reflect the speaker's intent regarding the listener's actions. Commissive acts denote the speaker's commitment to undertaking a specific action. Expressive acts convey the psychological state of the speaker in relation to the situation at hand. Finally, declarative acts refer to speech utterances that create a correspondence between the propositions expressed and the reality they depict.

3.4. Perlocutionary Act:

According to Yule (1996, P. 49), a perlocutionary effect refers to the assumptions made by the listener regarding the speaker's intended meaning, which prompts the listener to

take action. This concept pertains to the impact of the speaker's utterances on the listener and the subsequent reactions that emerge. For instance, when a listener hears that the speaker expresses a desire to eat, the listener may respond by preparing money for food on behalf of the speaker. In utilizing perlocutionary acts, speakers aim to influence the behaviour of their audience. This influence extends beyond simply prompting physical actions; it can also involve altering the listener's established habits.

3.5. Speech Acts Classification:

In his 1999 work, Searle identified five distinct categories of illocutionary acts: assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Complementing Searle's theoretical framework, Yule (1996) provided a detailed table that aligns these five classifications of speech acts. This table serves as a valuable reference for understanding the nuances of each category within the context of speech act theory.

a. Assertive Force in Speech Acts

Assertive force refers to speech acts through which the speaker conveys a belief regarding the situation. According to Yule (1996), assertive force is employed to represent the speaker's perception of reality. Below are examples of speech acts that exemplify assertive force:

- "The Earth is flat."
- "Roses smell a pleasant fragrance."

These statements highlight the function of assertive speech in expressing beliefs about the world.

b. Expressive Force

Expressive force refers to the capacity to convey psychological states, such as preferences, emotions, and various sentiments including joy, sorrow, and pain. For example:

- "I sincerely apologize."
- "Congratulations on your achievement."

c. Directive Force in Speech Acts

Speech acts with directive force are those in which the speaker intends to prompt or persuade the listener to take specific action. Examples of such speech acts include commands and orders, where clear guidance is provided regarding the desired behaviour.

- Go away!

d. Commissive Force

Commissive force in speech acts pertains to the speaker's intentions. According to Yule (1996), speakers employ commissive illocutionary speech acts to convey promises, threats, refusals, or pledges. This aspect is closely related to the intention of the speaker to influence future actions. For example, one might say, "I promise to bring you flowers."

e. Declarative Force

The concept of declarative force emphasizes the principle that language has the power to effect change in our world. Specifically, it highlights how speech acts can alter the speaker's circumstances or environment. For instance, when a police officer declares, "You are under arrest!" this utterance has significant implications for the individual involved. It transforms the person's status from that of a free individual to one subject to legal consequences, thereby changing their situation. This illustrates how authoritative speech acts are tied to the roles and rights of those delivering them. Conversely, if a teacher were to make a similar declaration to a student, the impact would differ substantially. In this context, the teacher's utterance would not possess the same power to effect change, as the authority to enforce such statements lies exclusively with law enforcement officers. This distinction underscores the importance of the context in which declarative speech acts are made and the inherent authority associated with them.

4. Methodology:

This research endeavours seeks to identify and analyse the speech acts commonly employed by Donald Trump in his inaugural speech. A qualitative methodology has been utilized to examine the data. The data source was obtained by downloading the video of Trump's speech from YouTube, after which the researcher meticulously viewed the recording. In the data collection process, the researcher transcribed the spoken content into written form. Following this, the transcription was typed, printed, and subsequently edited. The finalized data was analysed based on various types of illocutionary speech acts by Searle.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

5.1. The Analysis of Donald Trump's Inaugural Speech:

1. Representative (Assertive)

Representatives are utterances uttered by the speaker that are perceived to be factual. This category of communicative action encompasses a range of activities, including stating, asserting, proposing, boasting, bragging, demanding, suggesting, notifying, reporting, expressing grievances, and sharing opinions. There are 33 representative utterances in Trump's speech. Below are several examples for further illustration.

Table (1). Representative utterances and their meaning

No.	Utterance	Analysis
1.	“The Golden Age of America begins right now. From this day forward, our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world. We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves to be taken advantage of any longer. And our top priority will be to create a nation that is proud, prosperous and free. America will soon be greater, stronger, and far more exceptional than ever before”	The speech is classified as representative due to the speaker's ability to evoke strong statements, including bragging, pride, optimism, and a sense of unity among the audience during the rally.
2.	“We are one people, one family and one glorious nation under God. So, to every parent who dreams for their child and every child who dreams for their future, I am with you. I will fight for you, and I will win for you. We are going to win like never before”	The speech is categorized as representative, the speaker effectively conveys a sense of unity and solidarity, adeptly bridging generational divides. As a result, the speech can be categorized as representative, as the speaker articulates a range of beliefs while positioning himself as a champion of unwavering support and determination. Ultimately, the speaker conveys confidence and exemplifies the qualities of a committed leader.
3.	“My proudest legacy will be that of a peacemaker and unifier. That’s what I want to be, a peacemaker and a unifier”	The speaker articulates a clear vision for the legacy he wishes to leave behind, emphasizing his dedication to personal responsibility and highlighting the significance of creating a meaningful and lasting impact that is why it is classified as representative.

2. Expressive

Expressive speech is a type of communication that conveys the speaker’s emotions regarding a particular situation through carefully chosen words. This category of utterances encompasses expressions of gratitude, regret, apologies, praise, condolences, congratulations, and criticism. Notably, 9 instances of expressive speech were identified in President Trump's statements and classified within this framework. Below are several examples for further illustration.

Table (2). Expressive utterances and their meaning

NO.	Utterance	Analysis
1.	“It is my hope that our recent presidential election will be remembered as the greatest and most consequential election in the history of our country”.	The speech is classified as expressive as the speaker conveys a vision of hope and expresses a desire for his presidential term to be regarded as a transformative period of significant impact.

2. "Those who wish to stop our cause have tried to take my freedom, and indeed to take my life. Just a few months ago, in a beautiful Pennsylvania field, an assassin's bullet ripped through my ear. But I felt then and believe even more so now, that my life was saved for a reason. I was saved by God to make America great again"	The speaker in this speech expresses a profound sense of patriotism, resilience, and conviction. Additionally, he criticizes those who wanted to murder him and conveys his personal experience of physical harm, which underscores his identity as a survivor with a distinct purpose and mission. The speaker positions himself as a defender of liberty, resolutely asserting that nothing will deter him from this commitment.
3. "Thank you to the autoworkers of our nation for your inspiring vote of confidence. We did tremendously with their vote"	The speech is expressive since the speaker is thanking and showing gratitude and profound respect for the auto workers, recognizing their invaluable support as a pivotal factor in the recent election. This acknowledgment serves to celebrate their dedication and contribution to the collective effort.

3. Commissive

In this category of utterances, the speaker articulates intentions or demonstrates a commitment to future actions, which may include offering, threatening, refusing, vowing, pledging, promising, and providing guarantees. A total of 15 such utterances were identified in the speech.

Table (3). Commissive utterances and their meaning

No.	Utterance	Analysis
1.	"That is why each day under our administration of American patriots, we will be working to meet every crisis with dignity and power and strength. We will move with purpose and speed to bring back hope, prosperity, safety, and peace for citizens of every race, religion, colour and creed. For American citizens, Jan. 20th, 2025, is Liberation Day"	In this speech, the speaker utters a strong commitment to future initiatives, aiming to rally support while conveying a message of empowerment and transformative change. The emphasis on unity and hope serves to inspire collective action as we move forward. The term "Liberation Day" represents a significant turning point and marks the beginning of a new administration.
2.	"First, I will declare a national emergency at our southern border. All illegal entry will immediately be halted and we will begin the process of returning millions and millions of criminal aliens to the places from which they came. We will reinstate my 'Remain in Mexico' policy. I will end the practice of catch and release and I will	In this speech, the speaker commits to taking decisive action and identifying effective solutions to address current challenges. The intention is to announce a state of emergency at the borders, implement strict border controls, and adopt a firm immigration policy to underscore the significance of this issue as a national crisis.

send troops to the southern border to repel the disastrous invasion of our country”	
3. “Like in 2017, we will again build the strongest military the world has ever seen. We will measure our success not only by the battles we win, but also by the wars that we end and, perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into”	The speaker commits to implementing significant changes within the military framework. This plan is geared toward enhancing national capabilities while promoting a robust national policy. Furthermore, the speaker emphasizes a commitment to exercising wisdom and restraint in matters of conflict, thereby prioritizing peace and diplomacy in international relations.

4. Declarative

In this kind of utterance, the speaker changes the state of the affairs by firing, blessing, legitimizing, resigning, dismissing, sentencing, naming, arresting marriages and baptizing. There are 14 declarative utterances in Trump’s speech. Below are several examples for further illustration.

Table (4). Declarative utterances and their meaning

1. “Next, I will direct all members of my Cabinet to marshal the vast powers at their disposal to defeat what was record inflation and rapidly bring down costs and prices”	The speaker in this speech declares a clear commitment to altering the current economic landscape in a meaningful way. Demonstrating decisiveness, he seeks to instill confidence in the public by openly acknowledging the issue of inflation. He emphasizes the urgency of taking immediate action to address this challenge and to implement measures aimed at reducing costs and prices.
2. “After years and years of illegal and unconstitutional federal efforts to restrict free expression, I will also sign an executive order to immediately stop all government censorship and bring back free speech to America”	The speaker declares and emphasizes the urgent need to address concerns regarding the limitations placed on free speech. He suggests that the current state of free speech is under threat and has been diminished. Additionally, the speaker positions himself as a defender of constitutional rights.
3. “This week, I will also end the government policy of trying to socially engineer race and gender into every aspect of public and private life. We will forge a society that is colourblind, and merit based. As of today, it will henceforth be the official policy of the	This speech can be classified as declarative, as the speaker articulates a vision for addressing various issues. It reflects a distinct ideological perspective. The concept of colour-blindness promotes the idea of treating individuals without consideration of race or ethnicity,

United States government that there are only two genders: male and female”	advocating for equality under the law. Furthermore, the statement "There are only two genders" presents a view that directly associates gender with the sex assigned at birth, while also engaging in the discussion about gender identity as a social or cultural construct.
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5. Directive

In this context, the speaker expresses a clear intention for the addressee to undertake actions. This may encompass a variety of communicative objectives, including commanding, inviting, requesting, suggesting modifications, expressing opposition, issuing directives, or presenting challenges. Notably, there are only two directive utterances in Trump’s speech.

Table (5). Directive utterances and their meaning

1. “Together, we will end the chronic disease epidemic and keep our children safe, healthy and disease-free”	This utterance can be categorized as a directive, as it appeals to collective assistance and emphasizes the importance of individual contributions. It serves as a compelling motivational call to action, encouraging a shared commitment to addressing chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and obesity, while also prioritizing the safety of children.
2. “With your help, we will restore America’s promise, and we will rebuild the nation that we love, and we love it so much”	This speech can be classified as a directive speech act, as it conveys an invitation to the American populace to rally behind the president. The strategic use of the word "we" fosters a sense of collective responsibility and unity among citizens. Furthermore, the speech articulates the vision of restoring America to a more prosperous time with the support and involvement of its people.

The analysis indicates that representative utterances constitute approximately (45%) of Donald Trump's inaugural speech. This prevalence can be attributed to his use of assertive statements, which serve to declare, affirm, express, brag and evaluate the truthfulness of his proposed policy. The examples provided above illustrate how Trump's utterances characterize both the current state of the nation and his vision for its future. Furthermore, he positions himself as a strong and decisive leader, highlighting his intentions for the country during his term in office. Commissive and declarative speech acts are closely related and constitute nearly the same proportion of the total

number of speech acts identified. Specifically, commissive speech acts represent 20% of the total. In the utterances analysed, President Trump makes clear commitments and pledges to instigate transformative change across various frameworks. The use of the word "will" serve as a definitive indicator of his intention to undertake decisive actions. In the inaugural speech delivered by Trump, declarative statements constituted approximately (19%) of his remarks. Within this framework, he seeks to legitimize various policies while clearly articulating his vision for addressing a range of critical issues. In examining the expressive utterances utilized by Donald Trump, it is evident that he employs a variety of such statements to convey his emotions, attitudes, and values. The examples provided illustrate his expressions of gratitude, happiness, solidarity, acknowledgement, criticism, and disappointment, among others. As noted by Yule (1996), expressive speech acts are those that communicate the speaker's feelings. In Trump's speech, nearly (12%) of the total speech acts are categorized as expressive, demonstrating his thanks to supporters, critiques of the policies of previous presidents, and expressions of frustration with the political establishment. Directive utterances represent only 4% of the overall speech. President Trump utilizes this form of speech acts to extend invitations, make indirect requests, and mobilize support for his policies aimed at revitalizing the nation and advancing the "Make America Great Again" agenda. His deliberate choice of inclusive language, such as "we," "together," and "with your help," fosters a collective sense of commitment and responsibility. Through these expressions, he seeks to encourage public support, energize his constituents, and promote a vision of immediate transformation. The table presented below outlines the findings from the analysis of speech acts utilized by President Donald Trump. It indicates that representative speech acts are the most frequently employed, comprising 45% of the total. In contrast, directive speech acts were found to be the least utilized, accounting for only 2%.

Table (6) The frequency of speech acts in Trump's speech

Speech Acts	Frequencies	percentages
Assertive	33	45%
Expressive	9	12%
Commissive	15	20%
Declarative	14	19%
Directive	2	4%
The number of acts	73	100%

6. Conclusion:

Based on the research findings and discussions presented in the previous section, it can be concluded that four types from Searle's classification of speech acts are identified in the speech: Assertive, Commissive, Declarative, Expressive, and Directive. Among these, Assertive and Commissive speech acts rank highest in frequency, with Assertive being the most predominant in Donald Trump's second inaugural speech. Of the 73 total utterances, 33 were categorized as Assertive, accounting for approximately 45% of the

overall distribution of speech acts. This analysis highlights the significant role of Assertive speech acts in conveying the intended messages within the speech.

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