

I. of II: Infelicitous Speech Acts

In your reader read the chapter entitled “The Structure of Illocutionary Acts” by Searle and Vanderveken . Then do the following written exercise.

Each of the following illocutionary acts (cited between quotation marks) is deviant--that is, it is *infelicitous* in some way, due to the accompanying circumstances (described in parentheses). State exactly what makes the act infelicitous.

1. "I request that you be in class on time next Tuesday."
(You have never been late to class yet.)
2. "Thank you for dropping by to see me."
(I really was thoroughly bored with your visit and would have preferred to have spent the time alone.)
3. "For the final exam I advise you all to study carefully this material on speech acts."
(I have already made up the exam and there are no questions whatsoever on speech acts.)
4. "I congratulate you on the suicide of your cousin."
(I approach you as you are weeping at the funeral.)
5. "What is a speech act?"
(I ask this question of any member of our class, where it is not intended as an exam question.)
6. "I promise that if you get a passing grade on the final exam, I will give you a passing grade for the course."
(I say this to a student who has done passing work in the course all quarter.)
7. "UCSD is located in La Jolla and not in San Diego."
(I mention this during a conversation I am having with UCSD's chancellor.)
8. "Be careful when you crossed the street yesterday."
(I issue this warning as you leave the house.)
9. "I will take you to the movies next Tuesday."
(Next Monday I plan on leaving for Paris for three weeks.)
10. "I order you to begin class 10 minutes later next time."
(This command is given by a student to his professor.)

II. Consideration I

Do the following offers constitute *promises backed by consideration*?

For each answer, give a brief explanation for your choice of "yes" or "no".

1. One UCSD student says to another: "If you come to the Pub with me, I'll buy you a beer."
2. Again one UCSD student to another: "If you speak German with me for an hour, I'll buy you a beer."
3. A father, who is delighted that his daughter has broken up with her fiancé, says: "I'll send you to Europe because you have broken off your engagement to Philip."
4. An uncle promises his sick nephew: "If you live to be twenty-one, I'll send you to Europe."
5. A father says to his daughter who is about to apply to various law schools: "If you get into Harvard Law School, I'll pay your tuition for the three years there."
6. A says to B: "I'll cook you an exquisite gourmet dinner if you come to my apartment to plunge my stopped-up toilet."
7. A says to B: "In recognition of your faithful service to me all these years as my housekeeper, I will give you a substantial Christmas bonus if you stay with me until January 1."
- 8 A owes B \$25. B says: "I'll give you this concert ticket that's worth \$30 if you pay me the \$25 you owe me plus \$5 more." Is A's payment of \$30 consideration for B's promise to give A the concert ticket?
9. A offers to sell B as many widgets at \$2 each as B cares to buy. B replies: "I'll take 4 dozen."
10. A offers to sell B as many widgets at \$2 each as B cares to buy. B replies: "Okay."