



AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE IN *TOP GUN: MAVERICK* MOVIE

THESIS

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BY

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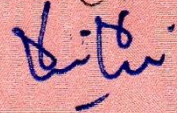

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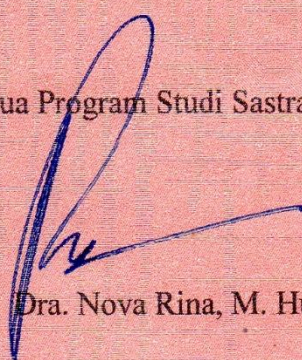
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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify the originality of this thesis I submitted to fulfill a requirement for an S1 degree in the English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Bung Hatta. This thesis is entirely mine and there are no works or opinions written or published by other people except as references or quotations by following the usual scientific writing procedures.

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the types of language styles found in the movie *Top Gun: Maverick* using Martin Joos' (1976) theory. The study aims to identify the different language styles employed by the characters and to examine the social factors influencing these styles, as explained by Holmes (2013). The writer used a qualitative method to categorize the language styles and explore their contextual usage within the movie. The findings reveal four language styles: formal, consultative, casual, and intimate, with casual style being the most frequently used, reflecting the emphasis on personal relationships and friendships among characters. The study also notes the absence of frozen style, likely due to the lack of formal or highly ritualistic contexts in the movie.

Keywords: language styles, social factors, qualitative.

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Padang, 30 Agustus 2024

Febrio Eka Putra

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

In social life people use language in their daily conversation to share information, ideas and knowledge. Language is the one important parts of human life. According to Holmes (2013), human usually use language to ask for and give information to each other. Which means language is the product of communication has several forms, such as for requesting something, giving information and others. With language human can express their thought and feeling. Language is one tools of people communication. By language people are able to interact and communicate with another for whatever they do. As cited in Wardhaugh, (2006) Fishman argues that the science that studies language in relation to society is called sociolinguistics, which consists of two words: socio means social or related to society, and linguistics means the science of language. Therefore, sociolinguistics can be defined as the detailed study of social language. According to Wardhaugh (2006), there are several possible relationships between language and society. One is that social structure can influence or determine linguistic structure and/or behavior.

Language has an important and crucial role in human life and also has many benefits from various aspects of human life. Humans can interact with other people through language and people have different ways of speaking, even though they talk about the same topic it doesn't mean that they have the same speaking style.

Holmes (2013) says, people may use different pronunciations, vocabulary, grammar, or styles of a language for different purposes.

There are many styles in communication, such as language used in meeting is more formal than language used in daily communication with friend. If someone is in different situation and it is going to be a different language style. According to Meyerhoff (2006), language style also described the mindset, personality and condition of people. The condition of human can create language style. Such as when someone has normal condition it will be different from casual condition. It is related to different variations of language used in different situations and needs. The participant has to apply the right style depends on the situation and condition.

Language style expresses human feelings and through their language use, both orally and written form. Based on Martin Joos (1976) in his *The Five Clocks*, Joos described that language style have five styles, those are Frozen, Formal, Consultative, Casual and Intimate. All types have different characteristics and functions, such as when the president administers the oath of office to his ministers, a frozen style will be used. It actually occurs because the context and conditions are in formal settings and in situations where the language is ritualistic or has a ceremonial function. It is different when a father talks to a mother, the context of their interaction plays a significant role. Typically, a father will use intimate style when speaking to a mother, choosing words that reflect their close relationship. Intimate style is common between people who have close relationship. For instance, partners might use terms of endearment like "honey" or "darling," which are influenced by their environment and relationship. Style refers to the manner of

speaking, which is shaped by the situation and context. Thus, language style encompasses the variety of expressions someone uses to communicate, depending on the circumstances and their relationship with people. That is happen in movie and novel when we see in language style perspective.

One effective method to study language styles is by watching movies. In movie, characters exhibit different styles of speech based on whom they are interacting with and the situational context. This can be clearly observed in the dialogues between the characters. For this study, the writer choose "Top Gun Maverick" as the object of the study. This choice is due to several reasons: "Top Gun Maverick" is a popular US Navy fighter pilot movie written by Ehren Kruger, Eric Warren Singer and Christopher McQuarrie from stories by Peter Craig and Justin Marks and directed by Joseph Kosisnki release on 2022. It is a sequel to the 1986 movie "Top Gun", which starred Tom Cruise as the main character. It tells the story of a top navy aviator who must confront the trauma of his past when he leads TOP GUN's elite graduates on dangerous missions. After watching the movie, the writer found out that all characters employ diverse language styles. Additionally, there seems to be no previous research that has focused on the social factors that influence the characters' use of language styles in this movie. This study aims to explore the different styles using Joos' theory and Holmes' theory to identify the social factors affecting the characters' speech patterns. The writer chose Holmes' theory because it is particularly relevant as it addresses the social aspects of varying language styles. By analyzing the dialogues in "Top Gun Maverick," the writer

closely examines the utterances of all characters to understand the range of language styles present in the movie.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the following of problems of the study are formulated below:

1. What type of language style is used in “Top Gun Maverick” Movie based Martin Joos theory?
2. What are the social factors influence the use of language styles in “Top Gun Maverick” movie?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this research that represent what this research wants to accomplish are described as follows:

1. To describe the type of language style based on Martin Joos in “Top Gun Maverick” Movie.
2. To identify the social factors influence the use of language style in “Top Gun Maverick” Movie.

1.4 Limitation of the Research

The writer focuses on analyzing what type of language style is used in the movie script "Top Gun", the writer applies theory by Martin Joos (1976). The writer wants

to apply the use of language style and to know the factors influence the language is used in the movie by analyzing in depth some of the movie script, the writer also use some theories by Holmes (2013) which explained about factors that affect the language style.

1.5 Significances of the Research

The study of language style in this thesis can provide significant contributions to readers in several ways to increase their knowledge. Readers will find out what types of language style are and the reasons why these language style are used in “Top Gun” movie. And the reader can understand that language style can be applied in many script. In addition, the writer hopes that the readers have enough learning about language style to know how to use it in other texts. This is also expected to be a useful reference for English Department students who are interested in conducting further study on language styles and how use in different situations.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Review of Related Literature

2.1.1 Sociolinguistics

When human interaction in society they use language, if there is no language there is no good communication and then humans will find it difficult to explain their ideas and emotions, the study between language and society called sociolinguistic. According to Holmes (2013), sociolinguists study the relationship between language and society. They aim to understand why people speak varies in different social contexts and seek to identify the social functions of language and its role in conveying social meaning.

Wardhaugh (2015) states that sociolinguistics is the study of how language functions in our everyday lives, in the informal conversations and media we encounter, and the existence of social norms, policies, and laws related to language. In other words, sociolinguistics studies how social structures influence speech patterns and how language variations correlate with social attributes such as class, gender, and age. Holmes (2013) said, people who study linguistics will probably concern on describing people's different ways of speaking in different social contexts. That's mean the use of language may change in different social contexts, sociolinguistics is interested in the changes and variations of language, In sociolinguistics, language is the means by which groups of people articulate themselves and describe themselves from others.

Sociolinguistics, as defined by several experts, is a branch of linguistics that focuses on studying language in relation to community, diversity, function, and language users.

2.1.2 Language Variation

Everyone communicates using at least one language, and many people are fluent in multiple languages. However, no one speaks in exactly the same manner all the time. Differences in speech are evident between men and women, and between older and younger generations, demonstrating that even within a single community, language usage varies.

This variation in language is influenced by both its users and the context in which it is employed. Factors such as the location of the interaction, the participants involved, and the purpose of communication all play a role. Our choice of code or variety—be it a specific language, dialect, or style—depends on the addressees and the situational context. Typically, people alter their speech when addressing children versus adults, and some individuals adjust their speech style, or ‘accommodate,’ more than others.

Furthermore, the familiarity between speakers significantly impacts language use. The better people know someone, the more casual and relaxed our speech becomes. Conversely, we tend to use more standard forms when speaking to strangers and more vernacular forms with friends (Holmes, 2013). This phenomenon highlights the importance of social relationships in shaping our linguistic choices.

In addition to these social dynamics, the concepts of register, genre, and style further explain language variations. Register refers to the level of formality or informality in language use, genre pertains to the type of communication event, and style indicates individual language choices that reflect personal or group identity. Understanding these concepts helps us see how language adapts to different social settings and purposes.

Janet Holmes (2013) said language scale provides a framework for understanding these variations. The solidarity scale measures how well we know someone and our social closeness; the status scale reflects the relative social standing of the participants; the formality scale indicates the degree of formality of the interaction; and the function scale assesses the purpose

of the communication, whether referential or affective. By considering these scales, we gain deeper insight into the complexities of language variation across different social contexts.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

This study focuses on Language style that is used in the Top Gun Movie. The writer uses the movie's dialogue as its source. The study in the film employs language and a film script to communicate their ideas. Everyone is aware that language is used by individuals in both spoken and written forms. The writer explains the framework in the sections that follow, starting with the theoretical underpinnings and ending with the data analysis, however this study just focuses on language style.

2.2.1 Language Style

Language can be found everywhere and it has many variations. People express their thoughts and ideas through different language styles. According to Holmes (2013), language variation depends on the contexts in which it is used and the characteristics of its users. Holmes explains that language use is determined by factors such as setting, topic, and function, while the characteristics of the language user include the addressee's age, gender, social role, occupation, and ethnic background. These differences in language use and user characteristics lead people to adjust their language according to their situation. The manner in which people communicate in legal proceedings, educational settings, corporate environments, and ceremonial events is influenced by and simultaneously contributes to the formality of these contexts and the social roles individuals assume within them.

According to Joos (1962), as referenced by Wardhaugh (2015), suggests that the choice between formal and informal styles of communication within a society is influenced by the specific circumstances and context in which the communication occurs. This dichotomy can

be observed in various settings. For instance, in a courtroom, the language is highly formal to maintain the gravity and decorum of legal proceedings. Lawyers and judges use specific terminology and adhere to strict protocols, reflecting the seriousness and authority of the legal system. In contrast, casual conversations among friends in a relaxed setting, such as a café, tend to be very informal. Slang, colloquialisms, and relaxed grammar rules dominate, highlighting the comfort and familiarity among the participants. So the level of formality chosen to a variety of factors such as the kind of occasion, the various social, age, and other differences that exist between the participants.

Joos (1976) emphasizes that language style refers to the degree of formality in the language used by a speaker. He identifies five distinct levels of formality: frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. Each level is suited to different contexts and social interactions, with frozen style being the most formal and intimate style being the least formal. The choice of language style depends on the specific situation and the nature of the interaction. The style employed also guides the listener's interpretation of the message, affecting how it is perceived—whether seriously, ironically, humorously, or otherwise. Holmes (2013) highlights that speakers often adjust their style when addressing elderly individuals, using simpler vocabulary and grammar similar to how they might speak to children. Additionally, speakers might use "we" rather than "you" to refer to the addressee, which can convey a sense of inclusion and support.

Consequently, it can be concluded that language style significantly influences how messages are conveyed and received. Awareness of the speaker's style and the context can enhance the clarity and effectiveness of communication. People do not always speak in the same manner; as we move from one situation to another, we constantly change the way we speak. Style is subjective and refers to the expected behavior associated with a specific status. People's communication styles differ depending on the situation and context in which they are

speaking. By choosing the appropriate style, speakers can ensure their communication is effective and respectful, enhancing mutual understanding and building stronger relationships. Whether engaging in a formal debate, providing professional advice, chatting with friends, or sharing intimate thoughts, the style chosen reflects and reinforces the nature of the social interaction. Understanding and mastering these various styles is a key aspect of communicative competence, allowing individuals to navigate different social situations with ease and confidence.

2.2.2 Type of language style

The writer uses the theory put forward by Martin Joss (1976) which discusses five styles of language: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The explanation of these styles is as follows:

1. Frozen style

The most formal and elegant communication style, known as the "Frozen style" (oratorical style), is one that is reserved for very significant or symbolic moments, such as those that take place in a church, palace, or at a state ceremony. Frozen style lacks of two things, participant and intonation. This style uses the complex grammatical sentence structure and vocabulary known only to experts in a particular field. Such as specialist, professional orators, lawyer and preachers. Example: Excuse us, please.

Quiet, Miss Fiddicth.

Quiet, Miss F; the children are studying.

Quiet, There! These are people, studying for exams.

Quiet there, Miss F. these are people are studying.

Quiet there, Miss F. These are people preparing for examinations.

2. Formal style

Formal style is typically used in formal settings like the office and meetings with strangers, it is less formal than frozen style. Formal style is defined as the style of language used for important or serious situation. Then, this style usually combines maximum explicit utterances, and complexity of sentence. This style is used in a formal situation such as in graduation ceremony. Formal style can also be used when addressing a single individual, such as when interacting with strangers, the elderly, professionals, or those in authoritative positions. One of example is the leading code-label in formal style is 'may' any message requiring either 'might' or 'can' in other style. For example '*May I present Mr. Smith?* or petrify a child by saying '*No, you may not*'.

3. Consultative style

Consultative style is one that every speaker use and is typically used in semi-formal communication situations, such as between military members of different ranks. This approach emphasizes utilizing the knowledge, expertise, and concepts of others. Beside that consultative style is that shown our norm for coming to term with strangers who speak our language but whose personal stock of information may be different.

In addition, it is the typical way of speaking to strangers, chance acquaintances, and small groups. This style can used in formal and informal situation. It is also use orally to conduct everyday business. Language used in negotiating with strangers, distant acquaintances, or colleagues of unequal rank. First, the speaker provides background information rather than assuming that the listener already understands the context. Second, the addressee actively participates often interacting with the speaker through questions or feedback. While one is speaking, the other periodically responds with brief statements or common signals like "yes," "no," "uhhuh," "Mmm," "That's right," "I think so," "oh," "I see," "yes, I know," etc. such as

conversation between teacher with students, doctor with patient. In consultative, the patterns of clause connection are typically straightforward. This example from Martin Joos book, this conversation happened on telephone line:

A: elite type varies sometimes it's quite small and sometimes it's almost as large as pica

B: *yes I know*

A: he suggested that he we go down and get Mrs. Royce and tell her who we are and that he sent us and try the fourteen inch typewriters and see if our stencils would work with such type

B: *I see*

A: and if we can use them to get them right away because they have those in stock and we won't have to wait

B: *that's right*

A: we're short one typewriter right now as far as having adequate facilities for the staff is concerned *yes* we're short and we want to get rid of those rentals

B: *that's right*

4. Casual style

Casual style is a style that is used for the conversation in our relaxed or informal situation. That is appropriate for conversation with friends, coworkers, family, and other people, such as when students are chatting outside of class.

Casual style is also simply defined as a style that is used for the conversation in our relaxed or normal situation. Like when addressing one another, one casual style trait is to use the other's first name or even a nickname rather than their full first and last names. Casual style is characterized by use of slang. Slang is something that nearly everyone uses and recognizes, but nobody can define, Fromkin (2007). Example: *thanks* is standard-form supposed to be *many thanks*, slang *skidoo* is meaning to *go away or depart*, and '*come on!*' means anything

from '*consider yourself among friends*' to '*you're invite*'; while '*come on, cheer up!*' means nothing but '*cheer up because you are among friend*'.

5. Intimate style

Intimate style is a language that has only been developed within families, between lovers, and among the closest friends. In his book *Five Clocks*, Joos asserted that an intimate style is one that is completely devoid of social restraints. Dear, darling, honey, and even mom, dad, or other nicknames may be used in this situation to refer to the intimate group of two people.

In this style, intonation is more important than grammar. The goal of using an intimate style is to communicate feelings and intimate phenomena between the speakers. The most casual environment can be created by using an intimate style, which also eliminates distance and fosters easy communication. Example: "*Engh*" represents an empty word, one that has no dictionary meaning but serves as a code-label for intimate style (the parallel word in casual style, spelled "unh," has a different vocal quality). There is, however, a message meaning; this is conveyed by intonation, the melody, with which "*engh*" is spoken, allowing the listener to interpret the speaker's emotions or intentions beyond the literal content of the word. So in intimate communication, this non-verbal aspect can be crucial for expressing feelings or nuances that words alone might not fully capture. Essentially, the meaning of "*engh*" comes from how it's said rather than what it literally means.

2.2.3 Social Factors

The use of various languages during the communication process can convey the social context in which the individuals are communicating. The formality or informality and social function inside can vary depending on the context. For instance a formal business meeting may

necessitate the use of formal language with specific terminology, while informal language is more common in personal conversations, casual gatherings, and relaxed situations.

Holmes (2013) states there are some relevant factors which influence the language choice:

1. The participants

“who is speaking and who are they speaking to?”

It can be visible in terms of social distance and social status.

For example, teacher and student, boss and worker, customer and shopkeeper.

2. The setting and the social context of interaction

“where are they speaking?”

It can tell that if we are in a formal situation, we use high formality and if we are in an informal situation we can use a low formality. For example, in formal situations at court, it can be used frozen style or formal style, and in informal situations at home, it can be used casual style or intimate style.

2. The topic

The topic explains about “what is being talked about?”

For example, the participant is talking about taxes in a parliament meeting.

3. The function

The function refers to “why are they speaking?” or the interaction purpose.

For example, “I am sorry” represents the function of apologizing and “Good to see you” represents the function of greeting.

2.3 Previous research

The previous study reveals that there have been many studies of language style, such as Rosida (2008) her study “An Analysis of Language Style Used in Traveling Gear Advertisement of “Outside” Magazine”. That study also focuses on the supporting language style in the magazine. She is used the language style theory by Mc Crimmon Theory. There are only two language styles that she found: informal and colloquial style. Additionally, among those styles, colloquial style is the dominant is used in the "Outside" magazine advertisement for travel gear. The language style in "Top Gun Maverick" is different, the writer used Martin Joos' theory to explain this.

A thesis by Sulistiyawati (2014) her study An Analysis the Speech Style used by main character in "Freedom Writer" movie by Richard Lagravenese”. In her study, she analyzes the types of speech style used by main character and factor that influence main character speak in different style through Martin Joos theory. She discovered that there are five types of language style: formal, frozen, casual, consultative, and intimate. Given that most of the conversation in this movie takes place in informal settings, casual style is frequently used in this study. In addition, the author of this previous study only focused on the type of speech style used by the main character in Freedom Writer. She examined the speech style using the descriptive approach method.

The following thesis by Hapsah (2008). The study is "The Analysis of Language Style in Headline of English Magazine's Advertisement", he analyzed using the theory of stylistics and the figure of speech approach about language style, he is founded a classify the language styles that are about personification, alliteration, hyperbole, ellipsis, and simile. The author of this previous study take a different style according Martin Joos. Because the author of this previous study take speech approach about language style.

The last one is Sapriani (2013) with his thesis “Analysis of Language Style Found in Novel the Last tycoon written By F.Scot Fitzgerald”. From English Department faculty of letters and humanities State of University of Padang. She uses Martin Joos theory in his study. She found that the dominant style uses in novel “The Last Tycon” is casual style and factor that influences the type of language style.

Top Gun: Maverick is a new movie, the writer only found two studies that had examined this movie before. The first study, conducted by Yuniar, Ningrum, Rahmah and Saad (2023), analyzed the semiotics of the film under the title "Semiotics of Top Gun: Maverick as an Inspiration for Indonesia to Rise up from the Covid-19 Pandemic". This study shows the semiotic analysis of Top Gun: Maverick is presented as a method to understand the communicative intent of filmmakers. By examining characterizations, scenarios, soundtracks, and cinematography, the analysis uncovers layered meanings and the relationship between visual signs, creating a multi-layered narrative. The second study by Riyadi (2023) is titled 'Speech Act Analysis in Top Gun: Maverick.' this study categorizes and identifies three distinct types of speech acts in Top Gun: Maverick: expressive, perlocutionary, and directive, illustrating the film's use of language to convey emotions, influence others, and direct actions.

This study is different with the previous study. This study analyze Language style in “Top Gun Maverick” movie, used Martin Joos theory to find what type of language styles used in the movie and factor that influences the type of language styles used. The first previous study use different theory and different object. The second use the same theory proposed by Martin Joos as main theory which classifies language style into five types, those are frozen, formal, intimate, casual, consultative style. But she only focused on the type of speech style used by the main character. The third use different theory and different object. The last one use the same theory proposed by Martin Joos but she applied this theory in different field, she use in novel.

