

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The correlation between language and gender is one of the most intriguing subjects. Gender appears to present a language with distinct qualities in its use, despite gender being the same as the separation of humans into men and women with all of their variances. Human construction of gender is based on the sociocultural characteristics of men and women. Other ways that language contrives to skewed gender representations involve the way its inherent qualities seep into the conceptions of men and women. Outside of reality, language expressions and gender can also be explored in a range of literary mediums, including novels, movie, and short tales.

Differences between the gender have existed for a long time, as important facts, differences, non-physical, or we can say challenging or decaying sex. Each individual is created by different aspects such as society, historical or cultural background etc. Gender differences between men and women certainly play different roles in society. Women are seen as passive or feminine and men as active or masculine.

Women and men are speaking differently from the way they express words to others. It differs from women who are not strict and open (to use a metaphor). They often use more complex and polite words. Lakoff (2004) pointed out that women language has ten characteristics, lexical hedges, tag question, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjective, precise color terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, avoidance of swear words and emphatic stress. Lakoff (2004) pointed out that there are many reasons behind the difference in language between men and women.

The movie *BIRDS OF PREY* (And the Fantabulous Emancipation of One Harley Quinn) was directed by Cathy Yan. The movie, starring Margot Robbie, is one that provides a deeper exploration of the character of Harley Quinn, also focuses on strong women characters and their ability to overcome obstacles. The movie is based on the previous *Suicide Squad* film where Harley Quinn is romantically involved with the Joker played by Jared Leto. In *BIRDS OF PREY* itself, it is said that Harley Quinn broke up with the Joker.

There are several researches about the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie found that feminism appears in various scenes in the movie. Fitrotun & Karima (2022) found that in *BIRDS OF PREY* movie the main character, Harley Quinn, shows her struggle to fight her enemy. Even though everyone gives resistance and shows distrust of her because she has been labelled as a figure protected by the Joker. At the end of the movie in the end Harley Quinn

has proven herself to have successfully escaped from the shadow of the Joker by becoming independent and having many new friends. Based on this research, researchers found language features that also stand out from the cast of this *BIRDS OF PREY* movie. This movie also showed several men language features that used by women. The researcher wants to identify the language features of men that used by women.

To study and analyze movie by using Lakoff theory about language features in his book entitled “Language and Women’s Place” (2004) and Coates (2004), researcher assumed many differences in language features in this movie. The language that reflect on the different features uttered by characters in the movie. There are two major reasons that make this movie is justifiable to select: First. It contains linguistic feature language of women characters. Second, language feature by men characters in the movie. Third, language features of men that used by women.

B. Limitation of study

This study is subject to several limitations. By using Lakoff (2004) in his book entitled “Language and Women’s Place” (2004) and Coates (2004) about Men’s language as the theory for this research, this study focuses on the use language features of the women and men characters in the movie *BIRDS OF PREY* when the characters played their roles in the movie.

C. Problem of the Study

This research is provided to answer the following questions

1. What kind of language features do Women and use in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie?
2. What kind of language features do Men use in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie?
3. How do Women use language features of Men in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie?

D. Objectives of the study

In accordance with the problem of the study, the objectives of this study are intended to achieve:

1. Describing the language features used by Women in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie.
2. Describing the language features used by Men in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie.
3. To identifying the language features of Men used by Women in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie.

E. Significances of the Study

There are two significance of this research; they are theoretical significance and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

This research can be used as references for other researchers who want to do research about language features, especially language features that used by women and men. It also about language features of men that used by women in the movie.

2. Practical Significance

Beside the theoretical significance, the researcher hopes this research is able to give practical significance to the readers. The researcher hopes that this study gives readers any information about language features that used by women and men in movie also language features of men that used by women. It also can improve their knowledge about it.

F. Literature Review

1. Language

Language is the means humans use to communicate in the form of sounds and words. Language can be described as one of the essential entities that play numerous roles in human life. Furthermore, language is one of the traits that distinguishes humans from other organisms. The study of language is still being debated in the context of human social existence. Language is frequently associated with politics, the media, gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and identity. Sociolinguistics is an interdisciplinary field that studies linguistic issues related to social concerns. An interesting

example of a discussion of language and relationships is the discussion of language and gender.

2. Speech Community

Through careful observation and notation of lexical forms, grammatical construction, and habitual actions like good manners, speech communities have been studied using linguistic approaches. Other techniques used to gather information on speech communities include written internet messages, historical texts, questionnaires, interviews, and direct participant observation. Bloomfield (1933) stated that a recognizable group of people who communicate in a particular way is referred to as a speech community. "A group of people who interact through means of speech" is how he characterized a speech community. Speech communities differ based on their members' demographics. Bloomfield identified other characteristics, including age, gender, network size and density, member proficiency, and profession (e.g., physicians and painters). Other examples are speech communities defined by national or ethnic origin (ranging from Sydney, Australia residents to Mexican Americans). A speech community may include diverse demographics, including fans of various ages. Alternatively, a single demographic attribute can reflect a speech community, such as teens speaking clearly (age) or women speaking differently from men (gender).

3. Language Features

According to Lakoff (2004), women and men have different ways of conveying their information in conversations or discussions, which shows their social status in society. This is because women are believed to have no power in society and their opinions are considered ineffective due to their lack of power. It also stressed that most women have no power in society. Therefore, women are considered inferior to men. Men are more aware that the way they speak can determine their social status. Women are taught to cover and emphasize their speech to capture the audience's attention. In addition to hedging and enhancing, women must have a voice in economic terms and as guardians of social norms. On the other hand, men tend to be more obnoxious, nasty, mean, and nasty than women when it comes to communication.

3.1 Women Language

Lakoff (2004) describe the habits of women language features which are lexical hedges, tag question, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjective, precise color terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress.

A lexical hedge is a brief pause in conversation in the form of a sentence, word, or filler due to lack of confidence, imprecision, uncertainty, doubt, or confusion. Hedging function is to indicate doubt or confidence in

what has been said. For example: you know, somewhat, like, I think, I guess and it seems. By looking for the examples, it can be explained that women used this kind of language features when they feel uncertain and lacks confidence in expressing their intention or content.

Tag question is midway between an outright statement and a yes-no question or a question followed by a statement and declarative sentence. It is less assertive than the former one, although more confident than the latter. Tag question is a kind of polite statement that does not force the agreement or belief on the addressee. This kind of language features are not always used to express uncertainty, nevertheless it can be function as facilitative tools. For example: aren't you, isn't he.

Rising intonation on declarative is used to answer question typically has a rising intonation similar to yes-no question intonation. the use of rising intonation indicates that there is unwillingness to be very assertive in carrying an opinion. Through this feature, the women provide a confirmation since she is unsure if her opinion will be agreed by the addressee so that rising intonation in declaratives is used to show that the speaker leaves the decision open to the addressee in a non-forceful way. The intonation tone that appears in a sentence becomes an interrogative sentence because the tone rises at the end of the word. For example, it's really good?

Empty adjective is the language features that only concerns emotional reactions rather than specific information. The women that used this language features wants to show the emotional connection between her and the listener. In addition, it is also used to indicate approval or admiration speaker on something. There are many adjectives that can be used in either the feminine or masculine, or neither. There are also adjectives that women use. Examples of neutral adjectives: great, neat, cool, terrific. Examples of adjectives that are only used by women: adorable, charming, sweet, lovely, divine, gorgeous, cute. While women are free to use neutral adjectives, men are more likely to not use feminine adjectives. Feminine adjectives can tarnish the reputation or shame men who consider themselves masculine.

Precise Color Term is function as the ability to interpret colors differently from men. Women are more accurate about color than men. Words such as beige "tan", lavender "blue-violet" and "dark maroon" are examples of words that are common in women's vocabulary and are not used by most men.

Intensifier is a step back from the truth to an opinion, similar to symbolic questions and the purist's attitude towards women's speech is stronger than men's, but in scholarly language. Intensifier is a word used to reinforce what the speaker is saying so that the listener believes it. The following are examples of intensifiers: incredibly, exceedingly, topping-

extremely well, extremely, truly, really, very, utterly, absolutely, perfectly, and sublimely.

Hypercorrect grammar is the consistent use of standard verb forms. This includes avoiding words that are considered offensive or offensive, such as "no," and correct pronunciation, such as pronouncing the final "g" in words such as "go" instead of just "go" or double negatives. This includes the use of, in other words, women should speak polite than men.

Super polite form is a linguistic feature that requires women to behave and communicate in a correct and very careful way. Women use this beautiful image to communicate in different ways. For example, use fewer words, make indirect requests, use euphemisms and be precise in your grammar. A woman speaks differently than a man. When it comes to women, women are better, and so it should be, because women are the ones who uphold customs and traditions.

Avoiding strong words suggests that women's statement is different from men. Women use "oh my god" more often than "fuck". Women tend to avoid violent curses. Men and women have different preferences when it comes to using negative information. Men tend to use offensive words such as "fuck, damn, shit", which are found in the men statement, while women are more likely to use forms such as "Oh dear, you my God".

Emphatic stress is known as speaking slant. This refers to how to express uncertainty with our own expression. The words that women use with emphasis to enhance their speech, such as "What a beautiful dress!", show that they use it insistently because they feel but they and other people ignore them. The women use tones to emphasize certain words such as fabulous, very, and enough. Also, the type of statement tells people how to respond because the speaker's message is less persuasive than suggesting that the listener would rather make double the effort to understand what the woman is talking about.

From many researchers found that women language features are more verbally intelligent because they were supposed to talk politely than others. It also found that women talk more often to gain communication by using language. Woman's purpose in using language when speaking is to communicate feelings and relationships between people. They are more cooperative, reflecting their desire for balance and harmony.

3.2 Men Language

Coates (2004) describe men language features as the habits of conversation. There are minimal responses, command and directives, swearing and taboo language, compliments, the theme, question. Minimal responses are mostly use this kind of language features to assert dominance of the conversation. For example: mhm, yeah, and right. Commands and

directives, especially men, often use clear commands in same-sex groups, for example: gimme, gonna, and gotta. Swearing and taboo language is the way that men use to express emotion. Men tend to say more swear words than women. According to psychological science swearing words can achieve several outcomes when used positively for joking or storytelling. Compliments is men language features that use to complement each other based on skill and possessions. For example, it's cool, good boy, good job. There are linguistic features that sometimes include talking about current events, travel, or sports in man-to-man or man-to-man conversations. Questions are a form of speech in which men ask questions for information, sometimes in a different pattern than women who ask questions using question marks. They asked directly.

From many researchers found out that men language features appear in many forms. Men talk more assertively than women. They are not building communication for feelings and relationships. The men talk very direct to the statement that they want give to others. Taboo words like swear words is one of the language features that many of men used in their statement.

7. Previous Research

There are several studies about the language use in gender. Ramadina et al., (2022) studied about Women's language used by characters in movie "Brave" which are used Lakoff (2004) and found that there are five types of women's language in the movie. There are only five types of language

features found in the movie brave, namely rising intonation, intensifier, empathic stress, lexical hedges, and super polite form.

Then, Putra (2019) investigated the language features by women and men in American's got talent's judges in 2018 which found that 6 languages feature which are lexical hedges, intensifiers, and emphatic stress. As for the male language features, men use all the language features found in the data. The most frequently used language feature is the direct form.

Hidayati (2016) by using Lakoff's gender linguistic theory, she examined men and women's language characteristics in the movie Cars, Barbie, and 12 Dancing Princesses. Male and female characters used linguistic elements provided by Lakoff in 2004: empty adjective, hedge, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite form, tag question, avoidance of swear words, and emphatic stress, according to the findings. Overall, the movies "Barbie" and "12 Dancing Princesses" demonstrated that girls have more formal language differences, whereas "Cars" demonstrated that boys have more informal language variations.

Kurniawati (2021) investigated about the expression of language and gender in the movie "Imperfect: Karier, Cinta & Timbangan" by using Qi Pan's theory found that the main female character uses 11 language characteristics according to Qi Pan's theory in dialogue. On the other hand, the men character does not use these linguistic features. In the two lines only

high-correction features are not used and (b) the linguistic differences in the characters' lines are influenced by the socio-cultural factors that shape their characters in the film, the differences between the two genres appear in the character.

Hutabarat al., (2020) investigated about the value of Harley Quinn masculinity in the movie *BIRDS OF PREY*. In this research, found that Harley is a tomboy woman features who always showing an orientation like a man which called masculinity. In this study, masculinity was divided into three masculinity categories: courage, strength, and wisdom. Many people know Harley from Gotham City because the main character played a big role in the movie. Harley is brave and strong, able to fight fearlessly and very skilled at using any weapon she can find.

Fitrotun & Karima (2022) Investigate about feminism that shown in the *BIRDS OF PREY* movie. This research has found that the movie version of The Emancipation of One Harley Quinn shows the hardships in the life of Harley Quinn, a hero who is underestimated by many. Because she was freed from the Joker's powers that protected him before. But in the end, she can prove her independence to get out of trouble and start a new life project. The message of women emancipation in *BIRDS OF PREY* is shown from the strength of the main character that is Harley Quinn who tries to free herself from the influence of the Joker and decides to live independently.

Juwita et al., (2018) investigated research from Devil Wears Parda movie found that the women character has all of the women's language features. They were lexical hedges or fillers, avoidance of strong swear words, empty adjectives, intensifiers, tag questions, precise color terms, and super polite forms.

Dinata et al., (2023) in "The Ellen Show", most used features are Lexical Hedges and Emphatic Stress. While man speakers on "The Ellen Show" only use 4 language features, the most used language features" are Swearing, Taboo Language, and Questions. The discussion revealed that both women and men show certain characteristics in the way their voices sound when speaking.

Fardiah et al., (2023) found that in the Joy movie there were nine types of women's language features based on Lakoff's theory, namely lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjective, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. Intensifiers are the most used features by the main character.

From the previous research above, this research uses the same theory. Those who carried out by Ramadina. Hidayati and Dinata. This research aims to elaborate the language features of the women and men characters in BIRDS

OF PREY movie based on Lakoff and Coates (2004) language features theory and also identify the language features of men that used by women.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Research

1.1 Approach

This research is a qualitative descriptive research. It describes the language features that viewed from different gender character in movie *BIRDS OF PREY* by Cathy Yan. Qualitative research is an inductive approach whose purpose is to gain a deeper understanding of individual or group experiences. The data source used in this research are “*BIRDS OF PREY*” movie, article and theory by Lakoff and Coates. The data is analyzed in the form of word, word phrase, and sentence containing types of women and man speech features which is related to the topic.

1.2 Type

This research is used document research. It contains the text of movie subtitle. This also requires data by examine and interpreting for gaining the meaning, understanding and developing the knowledge. By using this document research, it is easy to collect the information that researcher needs.

2. Source of the Data

The data for the study consisted of the statement and conversations of women and men characters in the movie. The researcher takes the data by looking on English subtitle. This research focused on women and men language features that use in *BIRD OF PREY* movie. Meanwhile, the data is

words, phrases, clauses which contain by women and men language features proposed by Lakoff (2004).

This study the researcher used the document research, this type of research of language features by women and men that used in movie “*BIRDS OF PREY*” by Cathy Yan. Second, the researcher uses journals or previous studies that related to language features build on the Lakoff theory and concept.

3. Data Collecting Technique

Data collection is an important aspect of any research study. It can determine the result of the study to get accurate, relevant, and qualified data as the result of the research. Therefore, in complying the right method, the researcher can tell the readers the process of the research and how it concluded. According to Coates (2004) collecting the data in dealing with any real-life problem it is often found that data are inadequate and hence, it becomes necessary to collect data that are appropriate.

Based on Kothari (2004) the researcher uses content analysis collecting technique. This kind of collecting data is the way researcher analyzing the content of all verbal materials which can be either spoken or printed. The analysis of content is a central activity whenever one is concerned with the study of the nature of the verbal materials. A review of research in any area, for instance, involves the analysis of the contents of

research articles that have been published. The analysis may be at a relatively simple level or may be a subtle one. It is at a simple level when we pursue it on the basis of certain characteristics of the document or verbal materials that can be identified and counted.

4. Data Analysis Technique

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the results of the study data. The method used in this study for data analysis is interaction model analysis based on Miles and Kothari (1994). This analysis involves three process, there are reducing data, displaying data, and conclusion/verification.

4.1. Data Reduction

In this study, data reduction is one steps analyzing the data. The following that researcher use to conduct data reduction are, First, the researcher observes the conversation in the movie. Second, she compares between the subtitle and the conversation in the movie to make the data more effective. Third, she selects the utterances produced by the women and men characters in order to ease the researcher when it comes to analyses the data. Then, she makes sure that the list of utterances is not repeated. Finally, the data are reduced to analyses further. This step the researcher marks selected utterances based on Lakoff (2004) and Coates (2004) theory.

4.2. Data Display

The second step is to display the data. After reducing the data, in this step the researcher shows or displays the data which contains language style based on Lakoff (2004) and Coates (2004) theory. The researcher uses the table to organize each type of utterance that has already been transcribed as the table below.

4.3. Verification

According to pace, after completing reduction of the data and display of the data, the final step in this research data analysis is verification or drawing conclusion, it is frequently predicted inductively. Build upon on the research problems based on language features theory, the researcher draws conclusions about the research findings on this research.