

Language Style Analysis in “Downton Abbey: New Era” Movie

Prihatin Puji Astuti¹

Ria Antika²

Adissa Putri³

¹²³ Universitas Pamulang, Indonesia

¹dosen01119@unpam.ac.id

²dosen01053@unpam.ac.id

³adissaputrii@gmail.com

Abstract

Language style is a way of people talking and expressing messages, thoughts, or ideas to others. Everyone will use a different style of language when speaking. This happens for various reasons, including: the interlocutor factor, the purpose of the conversation, the context of the conversation, the time and place where the conversation was carried out, and so on. This study aims to analyze the types of language style and the factors of the use of language style spoken by the actors in the film “Downton Abbey: New Era”. In this study, the writers used the theory proposed by Joos (1967) in his book *The Five Clocks* about types of language style and Holmes (1992) about the factors that influence them. The theory about the style of language that are explored in the utterances spoken by the actors in the film are frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. While the factors that appear are setting, participant, topic, and function. This study applied a qualitative method with literature study as the approach.

Keywords: *conversation, interlocutor, language style*

Introduction

Language has a very important role in our life. Language is used to convey ideas, thought, or feelings to others. There are two types of language that people use to convey ideas, namely spoken and written language. Spoken language is also called oral or verbal language and it happens when people express ideas or feelings verbally. Using verbal language means that language is conveyed using words. In speaking, people often use different ways when they communicate with others which are called language style.

Style is referred as a way of doing something (Coupland, 2007). In line with the language style, Chaika (1983, p. 29) in Haggio (2016, p 7) explains that language style is the way people use language in communication whether written or spoken. It means that language style is a manner used by people to communicate with others to convey their message. In communication people use a variety of language style because of some specific purposes. It is in line with Brown (200, p. 260), “... a style is not a social dialect or regional dialect, but language style is used for specific purposes.” In other words, language style is a variation of language used by people to communicate with others. The variation of the use of language is because of a specific purpose.

Joos (1976) classifies the types of language style into five levels. The first is oratorical style (frozen style) which is the most formal language style that is used by people in public speaking in which the words are carefully planned before, such as document of history or law. The second is deliberative style (formal style) which is used in addressing audience. Usually, the audience are too large to permit effective interchange between the speaker and the hearer although the forms are normally not polished at those in an oratorical style. The lecturing in the university classroom is the example of the use of

this style. The third is consultative style which is a typical dialogue that words are chosen with some care. The examples of this style are used in business transactions and doctor patient conversation. The fourth is casual style which is conversation between friends, colleagues or sometimes family member. The context words need not be guarded and social barriers are moderately low. The last is an intimate style which is characterized by complete absence of social inhibitions. The example is talk with family, loved ones, and very close friends.

Language style has a very important role in conveying messages to others. The use of language style will be influenced by several things, among others: with whom people talk, what topics are discussed and in what situations a matter is discussed. The choice of a certain language style in communicating and conveying ideas or ideas will be influenced by several things called social factors. One of the social factors is the environment. In this case the environment refers to: social stratification, age, gender, and social status. Furthermore, the factors that influence the use of language styles are based on the background of the community in a country or also called the civilization context. Style of speaking includes the way in which speakers negotiate their positions and goals in a system of difference and possibility (Emma, p. 375).

Language style becomes an interesting topic to be discussed and researched because it is something that people encounter in their daily lives; even everyone experiences and uses different language styles depending on the place, topic, and interlocutor. Joos (1976) classified the types of language style into five levels using criterion of formality, which tend to subsume: subject matter, audience, and occasion. Joos categorized the level of formality into five types: oratorical style, deliberative style, the consultative, casual style, and intimate style.

Language style is something that is directly experienced by every individual in real life. Style of language is also found in literary works. The forms of works are literature books, films, and social media. Language style is an interesting topic to study because the language style used in a community group will be different from the language style used in other community groups. Moreover, the style of language used by someone will be different from the style of language used by other people for certain reasons and certain factors. Besides, it is an interesting topic to examine because this provides a variety of information and knowledge about the style of language used by a group of people on a particular occasion.

In this study, the researchers intend to explore further about the variations in the use of language styles found in the film. Film is a human work that has a very diverse purpose. Film can be used as a means of spreading a certain social message to the public. Film can also provide entertainment to the public. In the study of linguistics, film can also be investigated in terms of the use of language style. One of the most famous films that is argued to contain various language styles in its dialogue is "Downton Abbey: New Era."

As an interesting topic, there have been some colleagues that investigated about language style, such as Rosyida (2021), Supriyani, Syarif, & Ardy (2020), and Fitriana (2020). The first study was conducted by Rosyda (2021) entitled "An Analysis of Language Style Used by the Main Character on *Wonder* Movie." The purposes of this study were to analyze the type of language style used by Auggie in "Wonder" movie and to describe the factors that affected Auggie in "Wonder" movie to speak in a different style. The researcher used qualitative descriptive methods to collect the data. The primary source data for this study was the movie dialogue that has been transcribed into a textual form. In this study researcher only focused on the conversations that contained 5 types of language styles. The result of the research found four types of language style

used by Auggie in the movie: formal style, casual style, consultative style, and intimate style, while the frozen style was not found in the "Wonder" movie. Second, the researcher found 2 factors that influenced the differences in the use of language styles. The first was social factors; they were the participant, the setting and social context of the interaction, the topic, and the function. The second was a psychological factor; they were fulfilling the speaker's personal need, the feeling and closeness to someone, and the desire to show intimacy.

The second study was conducted by Supriyani, Syarif, & Ardy (2020) entitled "Analysis of Language Style Found in Novel *The Last Tycoon* Written by F. Scott Fitzgerald". This study described the factors that influenced the choice of language in the novel *The Last Tycoon*. The data source was collected from the conversations of each character in *The Last Tycoon* novel. From the results of the analysis, this novel used 7 types of language styles namely, formal, informal, casual, colloquial, consultative, intimate, and slang style. Then in this novel, several factors that influenced the use of language selection in *The Last Tycoon* novel were also found, namely the topic, relationships, setting, and participants factors. In this novel there were 104 conversations found by the researcher with the highest frequency of language style which can be sorted as follows, informal 29.80%, colloquial 23.7%, formal 14.42%, slang 11.5%, consultative 10.5%, intimate 6.7%, casual 3.8% and 0 % frozen styles. Then the factors that influenced the choice of the word with the highest frequency were topic 40.38%, setting 21.15%, participants/relationships 35.35%, 10.5%. So the use of language with the highest frequency was informal style and the influencing factor was topic factor.

The third study was conducted by Fitriana (2020) entitled "A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Language Style in *The Conjuring* Movie". This study aimed to analyze the types of language style used and the dominant type used in "The Conjuring 2" movie. The research design was descriptive qualitative research. The analysis was based on the five language styles adopted from Martin Joos' (1967) theory; they are Frozen Style, Formal Style, Consultative Style, Casual Style, and Intimate Style. The result showed that there were one hundred fourteen (114) data from the conversation in the movie to perform the language styles. The data collected concluded that the type of Style that occurs dominantly in the movie was Casual Style. The cases comprise of casual (forty nine-cases), consultative (thirty-two cases), intimate (seventeen cases), formal (fifteen cases), and frozen (one case). It meant that Casual Style was prominently proved to be used in communication within family and friends.

Method

This chapter explains about research methodology in detail. This includes approach of the study, data source, technique of collecting data, and method of data analysis. This study uses a qualitative study which analyzes the types of language style found in "Downton Abbey: New Era" and the factors that influence them.

Approach of the Study

The correct approach must be chosen when conducting this research. The approach used in this study is descriptive qualitative as the data were obtained from movies and analyzed in an essay format. Qualitative researchers study things in their natural environment and try to understand and interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people attach to them (Denzin, 1994). Descriptive Qualitative Research is the

activity of collecting, analyzing, and presenting data that is systematically and objectively performed to solve problems based on quality.

Data Source

The data of this research taken from the movie script “Downton Abbey: New Era” in the form of utterances or conversation. The movie was released in the United Kingdom on 29 April 2022 by Universal Pictures and was released in the United States on 20 May by Focus Features. It was directed by Simon Curtis and written by Julian Fellowes. The data were in the form of script and taken from the internet on www.scripts.com. The writers chose randomly a half of conversation in the movie. The reason of choosing this movie to be analyzed is because some variations of language styles are supposed occur in the conversation of this movie. Besides, this movie got the nominee as best international film in the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films, USA.

Technique of Collecting Data

In collecting the data, there were several techniques that were done by the writers to make an accurate data analysis as follows:

1. The writers watched the movie and listened carefully to the conversation.
2. The writers downloaded the movie script on the internet and read it carefully.
3. The writers listed down the data that contain language style found in the “Downton Abbey: New Era” movie.
4. The writers classified and identified them based on language style theory from Joos (1976). He classified the types of language style into five levels: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, informal style or casual style, and intimate style.
5. The data were analyzed.
6. The writers interpreted the result of the analysis to make the conclusion.

Method of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writers followed some steps conducted by Dornyei (2007), such as transcribing the data, pre-coding and coding, growing ideas, and interpreting the data and drawing conclusion. In the first step, the writers did not need to transcribe the data because they were already in the forms of written script downloaded from the internet. In the next step, the writers thought about the suitable codes that could have been used. After that, in the coding process, some significant data were labeled before being analyzed. In this step, the data were labeled based on the time conversation or dialogue in the movie. The next step is growing ideas. In this step, all possible ideas about the data that appeared were noted.

Results

The movie lasted for 2 hours 4 minutes. From the conversation on the film the data were taken randomly. There were about 90 data that were analyzed. The analyses of the data were classified into its type of the language that were uttered by the speakers or characters and the factors that influenced the use of certain language styles.

Oratorical Style/ Frozen style

Datum 1

The Priest: "Serve the lord, rejoicing in the power of his spirit. And the blessing of god almighty, the father, the son, and the holy spirit be upon you, and remain with you all forever. Amen."

The film began with a scene of a wedding ceremony in a church. The priest gave a wedding prayer to the bride and groom namely Tom Bronson and Lucy Bronson. The blessing prayer said by the priest is the official standard language which will always be spoken by the priest to the bride and groom. So it can be concluded that the language used is classified as the frozen style. It is in line with the theory proposed by Joos (1976), about the language style that is used in a kind of ceremony is categorized as oratorical or frozen style.

The factor which influences of the use of a certain style is the setting. The setting of the conversation above is a formal ceremony which is a wedding ceremony. What the priest says is the official and standard language that is already in the scriptures. So, if the words are changed, the sacredness of the event will decrease.

Deliberative Style/ Formal style

Datum 10

Mrs. Crawly : "I never thought he was serious, so I didn't pay any attention."
Edith : "But it wasn't a joke. It seems not."
Mr. Murray : He died recently, and to his widow's alarm, the villa they've been using every winter for years was registered to Lady Grantham. He never changed it. Now, I'll need some signatures.

Mrs. Crawly had a family meeting. She gathered all her sons and daughters-in-law to discuss a very important matter about the property she had. The treasure was in the form of a very luxurious villa given by her boyfriend when she was young. On this occasion she also invited a family counselor who knew about the past and about the treasure given to Mrs. Crawly. The lawyer's name was Mr. Murray. Mr. Murray explained about the villa to the family members present at the meeting. As a lawyer and family adviser, he provided information and explained matters related to Mrs. Crawly's inheritance in official language.

The language used by Mr. Murray is categorized as a formal language. The use of formal language can be known from the type of sentences. He speaks in complete and long sentences which are composed neatly. He does not use language slank. In line with the theory; one of the characteristics of formal language is that speaker uses complex sentences and noun phrases that are well structured, logically sequenced, and strongly coherent.

In line with the factor of using the certain language style, Holmes (1992) mentioned that there are four factors: setting, participant, topic and function. Based on the factors mentioned, topic and function are the appropriate answer. The topic of the conversation from the data above showed that they are talking about the important case. Mr. Murray needs to talk about the case seriously and needs to give the information carefully and completely, so he needs to use formal language. Besides, the function of Mr. Murray speech is to give and explain about a big deal, therefore the information must be delivered completely using formal language.

Consultative Style

Datum 67

Lady Mary : Is everything in order?
Jack Barber : Well, once we've recorded sound for the scenes we've already shot, we'll need new material for what's left.

The data above is about the conversation between acquaintances. The situation starts with Lady Mary asking "if everything is in order?" and Mr. Barber responds with an update on the progress of their work. This conversation reflects the business-like tone between the casts. The language style of the conversation is characteristic as a consultative style which is a business discussion. The conversation happens with the expertise and it includes the need to exchange information. So, the conversation indicates a consultative style of language.

The factors that influence the conversation in a consultative style are the speakers' relationship and the topic. The professional relationship between Lady Mary and Jack Barber shows the influence in the conversation. Besides, the topic they talk about also influence the tone and vocabulary of the conversation since the topics of their conversation are about work which requires a professional and consultative style.

Casual style/ Informal style

Datum 2

Edith : If you could all look this way, please.
Her Husband : I have never seen a wedding like it. It's a bit grander than ours.

The conversation above is between Edith and her husband. They are the family of the married couple. They are talking about the party which is very merry and interesting and they compare with their own wedding party a long time ago. As they are family, they use informal language. The topic of their conversation is something that relate to their own life, so they use informal language.

Regarding with the factor which influences the language style which is proposed by Holmes (1992), topic and participant are the answer. Although they are husband and wife, they do not use an intimate style. However they talk each other in informal style or casual style, because their topic of the conversation is about something that is familiar in their life especially relate to their own past.

Intimate style

Datum 12

Mrs. Crawly : Now, Denker, don't steer me. I'm not a racing car
Denker : More's the pity

After the family meeting, Mrs. Crawly, who is very old, got up from her seat and tried to keep her balance to leave the room. Denker as the maid of the family wanted to help Mrs. Crawly to walk, but Mrs. Crawly looked unhappy with Denker's action. Mrs. Crawly answered, "*Now Denker, don't steer me. I'm not a racing car.*" Mrs. Crawly expression with unhappy face shows that they have very closed relationship. The answer of Denker, "*More's the pity*" shows her feeling of empathy and love to her Mistress. The conversation between Mrs. Crawly and Denker can be categorized as intimate style. Their relation is very close. It can be seen when Mrs. Crawly showing her feeling of unhappy clearly and Denker showed her feeling of empathy to her Mistress. The expressions that came out from the speakers above is intimate style.

The factor which influenced them to use intimate style is their relationship: between the Mistress and the maid. Regarding the factor which influences the use of certain language type of this conversation above is the participant. Both speakers have very closed relationship so they communicate by using intimate style.

Conclusion

The purpose of this research is to analyze the language style used by the characters in the "Downton Abbey: New Era" film and the factors that influence the characters in using the certain type of language and expressions. Joos classifies language style into five categories, namely: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, informal style or casual style, and intimate style. Besides, Holmes mentions that there are some factors that influence the use of language style such as setting, participant, topic, function, and so on.

From the results of the analysis it is known that the five language styles can be found in the conversations contained in the film. The first is frozen style which is only one data. Frozen type is used by the priest when giving the wedding blessing which is carried out by Tom Bronson and Lucy Bronson. The second type is the formal style that is also quite a lot to find in the film. Formal style is used by the characters in the film according to their roles. This formal style is usually done by several characters in the film such as when addressing matters of social hierarchy. The next style is consultative style that appears in professional interactions, particularly between the estate's staff and their superiors, like Mr. Carson addressing Lady Mary with deference but clarity. The other type is the informal style which is also found in the film. Informal style is mostly used by the characters in the film. The family members of Mr. Crawly usually speaks to each other using informal language, for example between: Edith and her cousin. Besides, the informal style is also used between friends, for example: Lady Mary and her friends, Mr. Molesly. The fifth style is intimate style. There are many uses of intimate style found in this film because basically this film tells the story of a family with all its problems. The characters in this film are, of course, family members including helpers and caretakers. The example is the conversation between Tom Branson and Lucy Bronson who are a married couple. So, that many conversations in this film are found using intimate style.

The second objective of this study is to find out the factors used by the characters in choosing the certain language style. From the results of the data analysis, it can be concluded that there are several factors that influence the characters in the film "Downton Abbey: New Era" in using different language styles. Factors that influence them in using different language styles are setting, participant, topic, and function factors. It is in line with theory proposed by Holmes (1992).

From this study, it is known that there are five types of language style, namely: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. For other researchers, they can use a different theory to analyze language style, and/or compare between two theories about language style. For future researchers, they also need to look at the factors that influence the choice of language style used by characters using different theories. In this study, the theory from Joos and Holmes were used. Further research can use the theory proposed by other experts because different theories will produce different points of view.

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