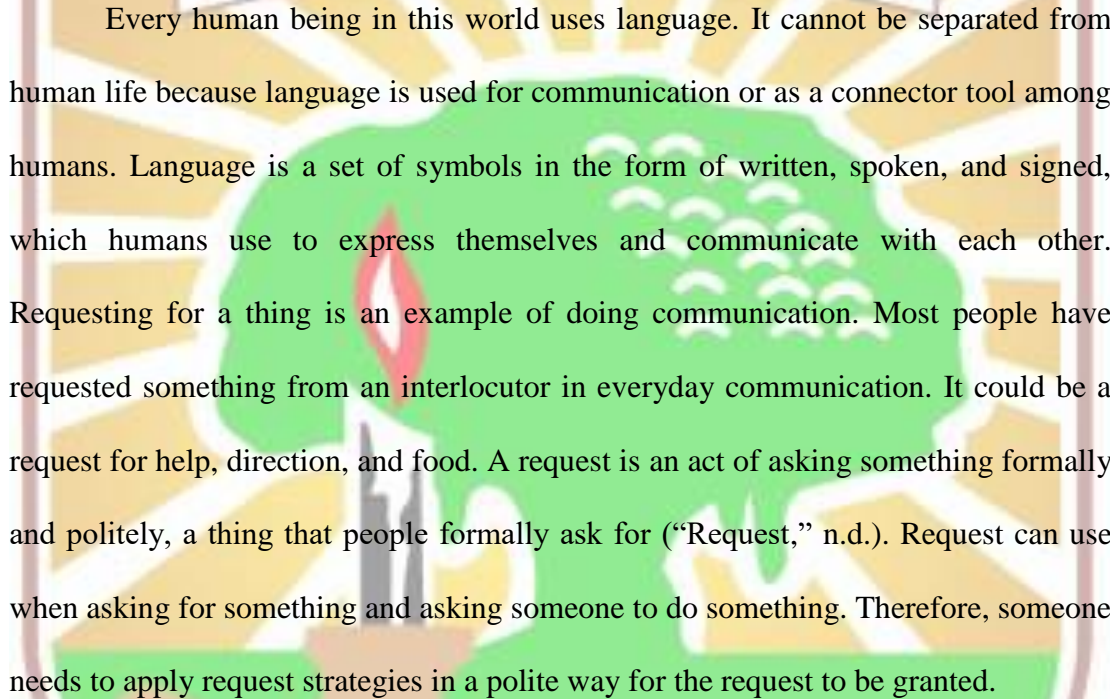


CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research



Every human being in this world uses language. It cannot be separated from human life because language is used for communication or as a connector tool among humans. Language is a set of symbols in the form of written, spoken, and signed, which humans use to express themselves and communicate with each other. Requesting for a thing is an example of doing communication. Most people have requested something from an interlocutor in everyday communication. It could be a request for help, direction, and food. A request is an act of asking something formally and politely, a thing that people formally ask for (“Request,” n.d.). Request can use when asking for something and asking someone to do something. Therefore, someone needs to apply request strategies in a polite way for the request to be granted.

The relationship between language and society discuss in Sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics also deals with the differences between men and women. Sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies how people use language in their social context. Both men and women use language to communicate with each other. However, they have several differences when doing communication, even though they use the same language.

According to Gu (2013, p. 248), males tend to speak directly and take transferring information as the first thing; meanwhile, females speak indirectly,

implicitly, and mildly. It becomes clear that men talk more to the point, and women talk more politely than men. Women do not use off-colour or delicate expressions; women are the experts at euphemism (Lakoff, 1975, p. 55). Holmes (2013, p. 2) states that men's reason often focuses on the content of the talk or its outcome rather than how it affects the feelings of others. It means that every person has their language feature, which can represent their social status in society. Women tend to use several numbers of linguistic features when doing communication.

According to Lakoff (1975, p. 8), women's language features are the different choices in the frequency of lexical items and grammars between men's and women's speech that characterize the women's language. Lakoff (1975) proposed that women's speech is characterized by linguistic features such as lexical hedges, tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, precise colour terms, intensifiers, 'hypercorrect' grammar, 'superpolite' forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress.

Women's language features are using in daily communication, and we can find it in the movie. Nowadays, watching movies becomes a delightful thing to do since the *Coronavirus* outbreak has spread worldwide. Since the work from home enactment, most people spend the whole day at home doing fun things such as watching movies. In this research, the researcher only focused on women's language features when making requests on *Pride and Prejudice* movie. *Pride and Prejudice* is a British romantic drama film released in 2005 based on Jane Austen's novel *Pride*

and Prejudice. This movie is about five sisters from an English family who deals with marriage, morality, and misconception issues.

The *Pride and Prejudice* movie has a Victorian-era background; therefore, the movie viewer will be carried away to the atmosphere of the Victorian-era. The typical Victorian-era societies were materialist, loved to party, and recognized marriage as one that was financially profitable, as we can see in this movie. Furthermore, women in the Victorian-era have adhered to customs that always want to look beautiful, so they wore crinoline and tight corsets. Moreover, many people in this era lived with a double sexual standard (Steinbach, 2019). It means that they thought women were weak. Reproduction was central for women and sex only to please their husbands.

The writer chooses *Pride and Prejudice* movie because the women casts in the movie were frequently asked for requests. There were eighteen women characters in the movie. Those women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie use British English when having a dialogue. The writer observes that their language contains women's language features and its functions as proposed by Lakoff (1975) and Holmes (2013). It can be seen in the following example a dialogue took from the *Pride and Prejudice* movie:

(1) Elizabeth: Liddy, Kitty, what I have told you about **listening** at the door?

The writer found a woman's language features and its functions in the *Pride and Prejudice* movie dialogue from the example above. Elizabeth uses 'hypercorrect'

grammar “listening” in her utterance. She pronounced the final sound /g/ in “listening.”

This research aims to find the types of women’s language features in the women movie characters when making requests. The phenomenon of using women’s language features by women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie is interested in being analyzed to know how women used language features and the function besides it when making a request. The writer wants to explain the types and analyze the functions of women’s language features when making requests focuses on women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie. Therefore, this research helps to improve the understanding of women’s language features and their functions.

1.2 Research Question

This research is aimed to find the types and functions of the women’s language features used by all women character in *Pride and Prejudice* movie in request. Based on the research background above, the writer formulates research questions as follows:

1. What are the types of women’s language features used by the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie when making requests?
2. What are the functions of women’s language features used by the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie when making requests?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research are to identify and analyze the types and functions of the women's language features used by all women character in *Pride and Prejudice* movie in request. Based on the problem statements above, the objectives of this research can be formulated as follows:

1. To identify the type of language features used by the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie.
2. To analyze the function of women's language features used by the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie.

1.4 Scope of the Research

This research focuses on analyzing the types and functions of the women's features of the language used by women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie when making requests. In this research, the writer would like to find out and analyze women's language features when women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie were making requests. This research is conducted using Lakoff's theory (1975) about women's language features and Holmes's theory (2013) about women's language features.

1.5 Method of the Research

According to Kurniawan and Puspitaningtyas (2016, p. 78), data have no meaning for the recipient yet. Therefore, it still needs some processing to change it into information. The data have to be accurate, relevant, and up to date. The data for

this research are the utterances of the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie that contains women's language features in requests.

The source of data is an object where the data can be obtained (Kurniawan & Puspitaningtyas, 2016, p. 78). The source of data in this research is the *Pride and Prejudice* movie. *Pride and Prejudice* movie is chosen as the source of data in this research because this movie got 86% ratings from Rotten Tomatoes and 7,8/10 from IMDb, which can provide this movie are excellent and worth watching. Rotten Tomatoes and IMDb are movie rating websites. Moreover, the movie is representative of the social environment. Then, many casts are female, and the characters frequently make requests in their dialogue. Therefore, the researcher can analyze the type of women's language features, and the function of the women's language features uttered by the women casts in the movie. Furthermore, three research steps will be used to conducting this research. They are collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of the analysis.

In this research, the observational method with non-participant by Sudaryanto (1993, p. 134) is used to collect the data. According to Sudaryanto (1993, p. 134), the observational with non-participant method is an observational technique where the researcher is not involved in the data's dialogue or source. There are several steps in collecting the data. First, watch the *Pride and Prejudice* movie. Second, write all utterances that contain women's language features when making requests. Third, re-watch the movie until getting the relevant data. Then, all statements that contain

women's language features when making requests are grouped into the categorization of types and functions of women's language features.

The data are analyzed by referring to Lakoff's theory (1975) of women's language features and Holmes's theory (2013) about the functions of women's language features. The first theory identifies the types of women's language features used by the women characters in *Pride and Prejudice* movie. Then, the second theory is used to explain the functions of those linguistic features.

The result of the analysis is presented descriptively. Words or statements are used to explain the type and the function of women's linguistic features. Moreover, a table is also used to show the occurrence and the percentage of women's language features. The ratio is calculated by dividing all utterances by the total amount of the data and then multiplied it by 100%. The formula to find the percentage of women's language features is writing down below:

$$\text{Data} = \frac{\text{Number of the utterances}}{\text{All Data}} \times 100\%$$

