

**Women's Language Features Used by the Female Characters
in Wonder Woman Movie**

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini dilakukan dalam analisis deskriptif kualitatif. Deskriptif kualitatif digunakan selama penelitian, karena penelitian ini menggunakan semua ucapan pemain wanita dalam Film *Wonder Woman*. Ini berarti bahwa fokus penelitian dipersempit hanya secara bertahap dan kategori atau konsep analitik ditentukan selama proses penelitian.

Data disajikan dari bentuk kata dan ucapan pemain wanita dan lawan bicara dalam adegan tertentu dalam "Film Wonder Woman". Data dianalisis berdasarkan teori Lakoff. Selain itu, bagian ini terdiri dari hasil tipe-tipe fitur bahasa wanita, alasan menggunakan fitur tersebut, dan akibat yang terjadi terhadap lawan bicara yang digunakan oleh pemain dan lawan bicara dalam film "Wonder Woman". Ada beberapa jenis fitur ucapan yang ditemukan dalam penelitian ini. Penulis menemukan 13 data tentang ucapan pemain wanita dan lawan bicara yang terdiri dari fitur bahasa wanita. Dari data yang telah diambil, semua data akan dianalisis. Data itu juga sudah disortir dari film "Wonder Woman" karena jumlah datanya.

Abstract

This study was conducted in a descriptive qualitative analysis. The descriptive qualitative was used during the research, because this study used all the female characters utterances in *Wonder Woman* movie. It means that the research focus in narrowed down only gradually and the analytic categories or concept are defined during the process of the research.

The data are presented from the form of word and the utterances of female characters and other the interlocutor's in a certain scene in "Wonder Woman". The data was analyzed based on Lakoff theory. Moreover, this part consist of the result of the types of women's language features, reasons why they used it, and impact toward the interlocutors which is used by female characters and the interlocutor's in the movie "Wonder Woman". There are several types of speech features that found in this study. The writer found 13 data about female characters and the interlocutor's utterances that consist of the speech features. From the data that has been taken, all data will be analyzed. The data were also already being sorted out from the movie "Wonder Woman" because the amount of the data.

INTRODUCTION

Language is something significant for human being as social creatures. People need language in

order to deliver what are in their minds, express their feeling, share any kinds of information, and other action to provide interaction with one another. However, Nasr (1980: 140) said that language is not only the process of communicating information, but

also the essential thing which purposes to maintain relationship with the other people. Yet, people's way of communicating varies for every single person especially, how the way woman speaks is not identically same as man.

There is slightly way to differentiate men and women's speech. Women speaks more polite than men and men always speak by using vernacular. As Holmes said (2013: 166) that women use more standard speech form than men because they are more conscious about their status rather than men do. Thus, women normally speak one level higher up the politeness scale and use prestige pronunciation. They speak in prestigious form to show their social status and avoid vernacular form because it associates with promiscuous women and "loose moral" (Holmes, 2001: 178-179). In addition, women prefer speak in standard language to vernacular language because it reflects as feminist language. It is also the reason why women are more linguistically polite than men.

Nonetheless, even though women and men speak in different way, they are still able to speak with each other in a communication, which is the tool either used by women or men in order to make connection with each other. It is used for conveying or sharing information among people. Since a long time ago, communication has been used by people in real life. They talk to each other and have a conversation in human's daily life. It also can be found in the movie which captures either daily or imaginative life in an audio-visual screen. It consists of a lot of conversations between one character to another purposely to deliver information as means of communication. Moreover, it is possible that women characters in the movie will also use their language features as it happens in real society.

Women and men are absolutely using different language when they are communicating to other people. They speak the same language but they have different frequencies when they communicate. As Coates says (2004: 3) "Gender differences of all kinds fascinate people, and so it is not surprising that there is curiosity about the way women and men talk and whether there are linguistic gender differences".

Women and men use language differently in communicating with another people. women tend to be aware that their ways of speaking refers their social status. Standard speech form usually refers to high social status and it makes women use standard speech more to claim their status. Women are designated the role of modeling correct behaviors in community. Society expects women to speak in a more correct and standard way in order to protect their "faces" (Holmes, 2013: 167). Meanwhile, men tend to use vernacular

form because they carry the terms of macho, masculinity, and toughness. Holmes also stated that standard speech form usually refers to female and femininity. (2013: 175).

Women language features demonstrates their lack of power and weakness. if they do not want to speak like a Lady, they will be categorized as not feminine. On the other hand, if they speak gently and politely, they will likely to be identified as a person who cannot speak about serious stuff and think rationally (cited in Cameron, 1990:222). In other words, the way how to speak is dilemma for women. One side, they must speak in calm and polite but it is assumed as child-like. The other sides, if they do not speak politely as means of roughly they are assumed as unfeminine women who has act as bad-girls. In order to highlight in gender perspective, Lakoff proposed the term *women's language features*. Based on her intuition and observation, Lakoff proposed women's language feature with 10 categories. Hedging is also one of characteristics of woman's language. The basic of hedges is to signal that the speaker is not committed to what she is saying (Coates, 1996:152). According to Lakoff, women often add tag question to statement. They do this because they are less sure about themselves and their opinion women use question in declarative statements by raising the pitch of their voice. Other than the form of declarative answer to a question, it also has the sense of a yes/no question and it looks like to be hesitant

Janet Holmes elaborates the three reasons why women use the women's language features when they are speaking. It is very different with what men used. The first appeals to social class and its related status for an explanation, the second refers to women's role in society, and the third to women's status as a subordinate group. (Holmes, 2013:167-169).

a. Status Conscious

Women are more status conscious means that women believe about the way they speak is reflection of their social class background or social status in the community. It is assumed that linguistic features are generally associated with high social status. So, women significantly use women's language features in order to claim the prestige or high status in society.

b. Role / Guardian of the Society

Commonly women use the standard forms because society tends to expect better behavior and attitude from women. women are supposed to be model of correct behavior in the society instead of to be a good example for their children. Definitely, a woman is the figure who is nurturing the children. Therefore, it is assumed that women as a guardian of society's value.

c. Subordinate Group

The reason why women use linguistic features is women as subordinate group. Practically, it can be

known in the family name which is only used the name of male parent or father. It shows that a woman is inferior in the family or as subordinate group. It is also the reason why women use the standard form to respect the superior one. Therefore, it is called as subordinate group which has the lower status than superior one. Based on Holmes' opinion, intimate is a high solidarity condition while distant is a low solidarity condition. The status relationship between the characters also has the important point whether they are high status or low status. The formality scale also influences the language. For example, in a formal transaction with the bank manager in the office, the language will be very formal. On the other hand, when chatting with friends, people use colloquial language (Holmes, 2013: 8-10).

Significantly the three reasons of why the speaker is using the kinds of women's language feature are applied by the writer in her study. The writer uses these three reasons in analyzing the source of data from *Wonder Woman* movie. Thus, the utterance that is produced by female characters in the movie will be analyzed refers to the Holmes theory in her book, *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* (2013).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research, three research questions of this study were related with the usage of women's language features appeared when the speaker and the interlocutor committed the conversation. This study focused on female characters utterances dealt with the impact of speaker's utterances toward the interlocutors responds. The data of this study was not numerical but description of the data relating to research questions.

A qualitative approach made knowledge claims based on primarily on constructivist perspective, for example, multiple meanings of individual experiences in social and historical constructed which intent to develop a theory. Besides that, this approach also used strategy of making a narratives, phenomenology, ethnography, grounded, and case study. In short, this study sought to establish the meaning of phenomenon from the view of participants based on the theory and the fact (Creswell & Creswell, 2017).

According to Marshall (2006:97), there were four techniques for gathering data in qualitative researches, those were: *participating in the setting*, *observing directly*, *interviewing in depth*, and *analyzing documents and materials culture*. This study used *analysis documents and materials culture* to collect the data because the data were collected by analyzing the movie and the script as the form of female characters utterances. In answering every research questions, this study used different aspect to collect the data related to the research question. Based

on the aspects which were provided, it could help to find out the appropriate data for every research question in this study. Here the table which showed specific aspect to get the data for answering Research Question (henceforth RQ)-1, RQ-2, and RQ-3:

Table 3.1 Specific aspects to answer each of RQ-1, RQ-2, and RQ-3

For Answering Research Question	The Specific Aspect
RQ-1 What kinds of women's language feature are used by the female characters in <i>Wonder Women</i> movie?	1. Utterances (word, phrase or sentence) 2. Women's features : Lexical Hedges or filler, Empty adjective, Tag Question, Intensifier, Avoidance swearing word, Rising Intonation or Declaratives, Precise Color Term, Hypercorrect Grammar, Superpolite Forms, Emphatic Stress.
RQ-2 Why does the female character in <i>Wonder Women</i> movie used women's language features?	1. Status Conscious 2. Standard Forms 3. Subordinate Group
RQ-3 What are the impacts of using women's language features toward the interlocutor's respond?	1. Ambiguity 2. Telling an experience /Information 3. Positive attitude and Negative attitude

Therefore, the researcher is employed as the tool in seeking the answer for the research question. As Fraenkel and Wallen in Creswell (2009:195) stated that the researcher is the primary instrument in data collection rather than some inanimate mechanism. As Dornyei (2007:246) stated that qualitative data consist of recorded spoken data which needs to be transcribed, and turning recording into transcripts already contains interpretive elements. The script was collected by downloading from the internet. Therefore, all the transcripts of *Wonder Woman* movie are also collected

and printed in order to make the data easier to be analyzed.

The data were taken from conversation but not all of the sentences during the conversation are used. Only the sentence which fulfilled the aspect for answering every research question was applied. It only focused on the conversation between female characters and another character; they were *his mother, Steve, Antiope, Ares/Sir Patrick Morgan Ludendorff, Dr. Poison, Candy, Sameer, Charlie and Chief Napi*. Those were classified depending on types of woman's language features which were proposed by (Lakoff 1975, Holmes 2013). In this study, research question number 1 and 2 were related each other and it was formed in one point. In order to provide the proper answer for the first and second research questions, the writer used the theory by (Jennifer Coates, 2004; Janet Holmes, 2001, 2103; Lakoff, 1975). Then, the data collected was served in the form of table and descriptive. In this study, research question number 1 and 2 were related each other and it was formed in one point. In order to provide the proper answer for the first and second research questions, the writer used the theory by (Jennifer Coates, 2004; Janet Holmes, 2001, 2103; Lakoff, 1975). Then, the data collected was served in the form of table and descriptive. The examples are below:

Table 3.4 The example of drawing and verifying conclusion for research question 1 & 2

N O	Features	REASON
1.	Lexical Hedges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm sure I see 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guardian of the Society Status Conscious
2.	Tag Question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haven't we ? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinate Group
3.	Rising Intonation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> War? What war? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status Conscious
4.	Empty Adjective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fantastic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status Conscious

The third research question of this study was answered used the theory of Holmes (2013) about the impact of using language features because the answer for previous questions was connected each other. Sometimes in a conversation, the utterances that speaker produced made the interlocutors feel ambiguity but some people might feel doubt or did not know how to replay the speaker utterances. In order to

answer RQ-3, the writer presented the answer in descriptive form from the interlocutors said or done with.

(02)	Steve: I will put my arms around you like so and we just, what you call it? Sway. We just sway. Diana: You're obviously close Steve: That's all the rhythm about Diana: I see <i>(They keep dancing in silent)</i>	01:06:09
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I see is one of the types of women's language features. As the impact of Diana's speech in datum (02) above, Steve thinks that Diana had already understood about dancing so that he kept dancing with Diana in silent. This act of Steve was characterized as positive attitude. Steve did not say anything to Diana but kept doing what he did.

FINDING AND

DISCUSSION

FINDING

In this movie, there are 8 types of women language features which are used by female characters. Those types are lexical hedges and filler, tag question, rising intonations, empty adjective, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite form, and emphatic stress. Nevertheless, not all of the female characters in this movie use women language feature. The female characters who apply the speech features are Diana, Hippolyta Queen, Antiope, General, Dr. Maru, and Etta Candy.

Female characters used different types of speech features when they say something. From their utterances will have a reason why she used that features. In order to answer research question 1 and 2 about the types and reasons of women's language features, the finding served in the table below:

Table 4.1 The kind and reason of women's language features used by female characters

N O	Features	REASON
1.	Lexical Hedges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm sure I see 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guardian of the Society Status Conscious
2.	Tag Question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haven't we ? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinate Group
3.	Rising Intonation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> War? What 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status Conscious

	war?	
4.	Empty Adjective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fantastic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status Conscious
5.	Intensifiers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Really So much 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status Conscious Subordinate Group
6.	Hypercorrect Grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forgive me 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subordinate Group
7.	Superpolite Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> She is a child Would you... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role in the society Subordinate Group
8.	Emphatic Stress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most precious so terrible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guardian of the Society Subordinate Group

From the table above, we can see that one type of women's language features have more than one reasons. Therefore, the detail explanation of the study is on below:

Lexical Hedges

Lexical hedges is generally the mark of uncertainty, doubt, and unconfident. It frequently used by women in their conversation. Several words that indicate lexical hedges are 'well', 'you know', 'kind/kind of', 'sort of', 'you see', 'like', etc. The other hedges features are use of 'I guess', 'I think', 'I wonder'. The word sort of classified as hedges, while 'well' and 'you see?' are categorized as "meaningless particles" and assumed as pause fillers such as 'uh', 'um', and 'ah'.

1.) I'm sure as Guardian of the Society

(01)	(on the ship to London)
Diana	:How long until we reach the war?
Steve	:The war, which part? The Western Front in France is 400 miles long, from the Alps to the North Sea.
Diana	:Where the fighting is the most intense then. If you take me there, I'm sure , I'll find Ares.
Steve	:Ares as in the God of War?
Diana	:The God of War is our responsibility. Only an Amazon can defeat him. With this. And once I do...the war will end..
	00:39:06

This datum above occurred on the ship to London where Diana and Steve have conversation about how to find Ares. This datum is categorized as lexical hedges and fillers. It means that the words convey that the speaker is uncertain about what she is saying or cannot guarantee for the accuracy of the statement based on Lakoff theory. In this situation, Diana says to Steve that she wants to find Ares and kill him. The first statement means that Diana is only feeling able to her own self that she can do it, although she does not know what her ability to contribute is. Diana convinced her own self that she can do that. The statement '*I'm sure*' show it is lexical hedges. Steve knows that Diana is a strong woman but Diana do not know that life outside is very different from her life before she goes to London. In addition, she hedges her statement to signal that she is not committed to what she is saying. Hedge is used to show the expression of doubt.

In this case, the reason Diana uses lexical hedges to show herself as the guardian of the society. She has the thought that she is responsible for people's security since she is the princess of Amazon and she has the unknowingly strong power. She is aware that she has to be the good example for other people to be bravely defeat the enemies, especially Ares, the strongest villain.

Tag Question

Tag question is kind of feature which is used by women more, rather than men. The syntactic rule in tag question itself is that settled by social context (as it can be seen in society when one speaker with addressee give respects each other).

1.) Haven't we? as Subordinate Group

(03)	(In the Steve office)
Steve	: It's Etta Candy.
Etta Candy	: I secretary am Steve Trevor's.
Diana	: What is a secretary?
Etta Candy	: Well, I do everything. I go where he tells me to go and I do what he tells me to do.
Diana	:Well, where I am from, that's called slavery.(00:49:05)
Etta Candy	: I really like her. Fantastic.
Steve	: Ladies after you.
Etta Candy	: Oh.. I do, I like her. We have to finish our work, haven't we?
Steve	: (Leave her with Diana)
	(00:49:05)

The utterances "Oh.. I do, I like her. We have to finish our work, haven't we?" is spoken by Etta Candy as the response of Steve's utterance. The utterance 'haven't we?' can be identified as a **tag**

question. It is a kind of women's language features which reflects uncertainty related to something unknown by the speaker to enactive that she will get who she want. She want to say that she like Diana and ask about their job. She uses tag question to express his uncertainty and need confirmation from Steve for the work that had done yet. She is encouraged to ask it related to her doubt to get Steve answer honestly as the reason of her tag question *haven't we?* Then, the tag question 'haven't we?' also reflects hesitancy that means Etta Candy tries to get the information about her job whether it will be work or not. Therefore, Etta Candy is trying to ask Steve but Steve uses different way for answering her question. Etta Candy, here, becomes the one who lack of knowledge about Steve intention as her boss, and she courage that her unknown will be answered and responded by Steve because she has already waited with a whole work for him on a week after he lost.

In this case, Etta Candy just ensure to do her job as Steve's secretary. She asked him to inform whether they must finish his work now or later. She knows her status lower than Steve as her boss. She must be honor to Steve. She tries doing her job as well as possible. She want show to Steve that she be able to be a good secretary for him.

Rising Intonation

In women speech, this feature is usually used. Women use this kind of features when they lack of certainty toward something that have been said. Here declarative function also as statement seeking for confirmation from the addressees.

1). War? What war? as Status Conscious

(04)	<p>Steve :But if I can get these notes back to the British Intelligence in time.. it could stop millions more from dying. It could stop the war.</p> <p>Diana : War? What war?</p> <p>Steve : The War. The war to end the all wars. Four years...27 countries...25 million dead...Soldiers and civilians. Innocent people.Women and children slaughtered. Their homes and their villages looted and burned. Weapons far deadlier than you can ever imagine. It's like nothing I've ever seen. It's like the world's gonna end.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(00:10:05)</p>
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The utterance in datum (04) "War? What war?" is applied the *rising intonation* as the one of women's speech feature. Rising intonation is a sentence intonation pattern which is usually used by women and reflects hesitancy. Diana in this moment absolutely has known the facts about the rest of the story but she tends to be not sure about herself. She

looks lack of certainty in conveying her utterance to the Steve.

Diana's behavior and attitude as women must not be rough and strong exclusively in the way of speaking instead of smooth and polite. In this case, Diana is the princess of the island and Steve who is the prisoner. The sentence that she produces must be relevant to the status scale. The polite interaction must be done by Diana refers to ask for Steve's utterance.

DISCUSSION

Based on results above, we can see the fact that the female characters employ eight types for ten types women's language features proposed by Lakoff (1975) and Janet Holmes (2013). They are introductory lexical hedges, tag question, rising intonation, empty adjective, precious colors and term, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, superpolite form, avoidance of strong swear word, and emphatic stress. Each of them have words, phrase or filler that indicates of the type.

However, after organizing the data, the reasons why the data uttered are clarified. This study finds out that there are three main reasons why the female characters decides to use women language feature. Those are guardian of society/role in the society, status conscious, and subordinate group. (Holmes, 2013)

There are three language features which caused the guardian of society/ role in the society, namely lexical hedges, emphatic stress, and super polite. The lexical hedges used is '*I'm sure*' which shows the sureness. The emphatic stress used is '*She is a child*' which shows emphasis. The super polite used is '*most precious*' which shows good manner to the interlocutor. Women are designated the role of modeling society expects women to speak in a more correct and standard way than men and it makes women to use standard language only to protect their own "faces" (Holmes, 2013: 167). In society, women tend to be the guardian or likely to be a good example for their surroundings. Women are not always related to weak, powerless creature. They also have to be independent one time and another. As the use of lexical hedges by Diana which show sureness to make everything clear explicitly. Diana has no doubt about her statement and she knows that it is something certain.

Based on the result of the data analysis and conclusion, the writer proposes some suggestions as follows:

A. For the reader

- 1) The application of various kinds of speech features on campus in daily learning activities can help other students to be more familiar with the influence of women's language features.
- 2) The researcher hopes that this study can improve their knowledge about women's speech features, reason, and impact in the social situation.

B. For the next researcher

The researcher hopes that this study can lead them to find other reasons and other impact that occur when people use women's speech features. In addition, the other researcher has to considering this study as their help to improve their researcher in the future. And for the next researcher has to correcting this study because this study is also had the shortage and make the improvement in his or her research that has the same topic or subject with this research.

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