AN ANALYSIS OF WOMEN'S LANGUAGE
USED IN THE MOVIE *ENCANTO*

THESIS

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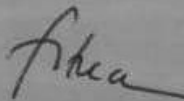
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ABSTRACT

This study concerns with women's language used in the movie *Encanto*. The aim of the study were to find out the use of women's language features and language functions of women's language used by female characters in the movie *Encanto*. The utterances of female characters were analyzed by using Lakoff's women's language theory and Jakobson's language function theory. Qualitative method used in this study to analyzing the data and describe the findings. There were 70 utterances from eight features of women's language features that occurred in the movie *Encanto*. They were 17 lexical hedges or fillers, 15 intensifiers, 11 rising intonations, 6 'empty' adjectives, 8 emphatic stress, 3 tag questions, 2 hypercorrect grammar, 5 'superpolite' forms, and 3 avoidance of strong swear words. Lexical hedges or fillers came out as the most dominant feature of women's language features used in the movie *Encanto*. Then, the kinds of language function used by female characters in the movie *Encanto* were expressive function, directive function, referential function, metalinguistic function, and phatic function. The most dominant language function used by female characters in the movie *Encanto* was expressive function.

Key Words: Gender, Women's Language, Women's Language Features, Language Function, *Encanto*.

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji tentang bahasa perempuan yang digunakan dalam film *Encanto*. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui penggunaan fitur bahasa perempuan dan fungsi bahasa dari bahasa perempuan yang digunakan oleh karakter perempuan dalam film *Encanto*. Ujaran para karakter perempuan kemudian dianalisis dengan menggunakan teori bahasa perempuan dari Lakoff dan teori fungsi bahasa dari Jakobson. Metode kualitatif digunakan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis data dan mendeskripsikan hasil temuan. Terdapat 70 ujaran dari delapan fitur bahasa perempuan yang muncul dalam film *Encanto*. Fitur-fitur tersebut adalah 17 *lexical hedges or fillers*, 15 *intensifiers*, 11 *rising intonations*, 6 *'empty' adjectives*, 8 *emphatic stress*, 3 *tag questions*, 2 *hypercorrect grammar*, 5 *'superpolite' forms*, dan 3 *avoidance of strong swear words*. *Lexical hedges or fillers* menjadi fitur yang paling dominan dari fitur bahasa perempuan yang digunakan dalam film *Encanto*. Selanjutnya, jenis-jenis fungsi bahasa yang digunakan oleh para karakter wanita dalam film *Encanto* adalah *expressive function*, *directive function*, *referential function*, *metalinguistic function*, and *phatic function*. Fungsi bahasa yang paling dominan digunakan oleh para karakter perempuan dalam film *Encanto* adalah *expressive function*.

Kata Kunci: Gender, Bahasa Perempuan, Fitur Bahasa Perempuan, Fungsi Bahasa, *Encanto*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1.   Background of the Study

Gender is one aspect of the study of sociolinguistics, which is the character or behavior of men and women that are formed culturally or socially (Eckert, 2003). Cameron (2014) stated that the social condition of being a man or woman is gender. Humans have only two genders: men and women. Gender means type in Latin, which is the difference in values between men and women. Gender has been used to explain the linguistic variation, including pronunciation, grammar, and communication styles. It describes how every individual or two genders in this world have a different approach to expressing something. Men and women are widely distinguished by their style of language.

Chandra (2018) mention that Lakoff already stated there are some distinctions between male and female language styles. Women tend to speak in the correct way when they speak and are more careful than men. Females or women are also believed to be more revealing about what they think and how they feel. Therefore, the number of words produced by women was higher than that of men every day. According to Lakoff (cited in Mary, 2004), from the character, the male language is more masculine and the female language is more feminine. Men's discussion topics usually tend to focus on politics, sports, games, and technology. The scope of women's discussions is more diverse, such as work life, fashions, trends, food, lifestyles, diets, and holidays. Women also discuss sensitive matters such as family and finances.

The language used by women is called women's language, which the language claimed to lack confidence in speaking. Women tend to think about their words before starting a conversation. Lakoff (as cited in Aini, 2016) said that women's language shows weakness and powerlessness. She also stated that women also claimed to be more polite when speaking. This is because women must maintain politeness in speaking which must be illustrated by choosing polite words. Lakoff (1975) said women tend to have doubts, are unsure, or are afraid in expressing their opinions, so they often say "*Umm...*", "*I think*", and "*I mean*" before delivering their sentences. These expressions are commonly used in everyday conversation. However, it is not only found in everyday conversation, but it also can be found in those related to women in it, such as books, novels, song lyrics, or movies, even in animated movies.

The movie is one of the artworks that is created in every country with different languages and is favored by many people. The movie has the main function, which is as entertainment. But movies have other functions such as educational, persuasive and informative functions. Wibowo (2006) said that movies are a means of conveying messages through a story. The point explains that movies can be studied through linguistic approaches, one of which is the analysis of women's language.

Several studies have been done previously on this topic. One of them is a study written by Yosep Sanjaya (2018), which analyzed the Women's Language in Moana Movie. This research used Lakoff's theory and the theory to analyze the context of the situation according to Halliday and Hasan. Another study was Women's Language in Tangled Movie: A Sociolinguistic Study, which was conducted by Assari Wulan Safitri (2017). This research used the descriptive qualitative method and used Lakoff's theory.

Then, Natasha and Barli (2021) analyzed Women's Language Features Used by a Woman Who Masquerades as a Man in Mulan Movie by using qualitative methods to analyze and answer the research question.

Based on the above research, it can be concluded that women's language is still a popular topic in recent years. Therefore, this study focused on the women's language used by characters in another animated film titled *Encanto*. The movie *Encanto* is one of Disney's animations that tells the story of the Madrigals family who live on a mountain in Colombia. In Addition, this movie is one of the famous Disney movies.

Several studies have been conducted using *Encanto* as the object of their research. One of them was Expressive Speech Acts Used by the Main Character in *Encanto* Movie Script written by Niken Kurniasih and Sri Mulatsih (2022), which analyzed *Encanto* based on the types of expressive speech acts uttered by the main character. Another study was written by Elsa Sandra Eprilia and Gita Rahmi (2022) entitled Subtitle Strategies in A Movie Entitled Encanto. This study analyzed the strategies of translation in Indonesian subtitles used in *Encanto*. Next, Ni Wayan Rusminiati and Ni Wayan Suastini conducted The Main Character's Conflict and Personality Analysis in "*Encanto*" Movie (2023), which analyzed the main character's internal conflict and her personality. Based on previous studies, the researcher sees a gap. The researcher is interested in analyzing women's language features and the language function of women's language features by using the same object, which is the movie *Encanto*.

The movie Encanto contains more female characters than male characters. This movie was set in Latinx culture. One of the characteristics of Latinx culture shown in

this movie is gender expectation, which means that women have responsibilities for the roles that are expected of them. However, this makes the female characters in the movie strong and empowered, and some female characters, such as Abuela Alma and Louisa, defy traditional gender roles. Hence, the movie shows gender equality where women can also hold positions that are usually filled by men. In addition, the movie also shows the insecurity and hesitancy of women in some of its characters, such as Isabela and Mirabel. Based on these explanations, it can be seen that the movie Encanto has content that can be researched concerning women's language. To analyze women's language features, the researcher will use theories from Lakoff (1975). In addition, to examine the language function of women's language features, the researcher will use Jacobson's theory (1960).

1.2.   Focus of the Problems

The aims of this study were to determine the use of women 's language features and the language functions of women 's language used by female characters in the movie Encanto. Therefore, this study focuses on the utterances of the female characters in the movie. By limiting the research data only to the utterances of female characters, the researcher can identify specifically and provide a more accurate representation of how female characters communicate in the movie.

1.3.   Research Questions

Based on the formulation above, the problems of this study are:

1. What are women's language features used by female characters in *Encanto* movie?

2. What are language functions of women's language used by female characters in *Encanto* movie?

1.4. Purpose of the Study

Based on the study problems above, the objectives to be achieved from this research is:

1. To describe the use of women's language by female characters in the *Encanto* movie related to the features of women's language.

2. To describe the use of language functions by female characters in the *Encanto* movie related to women's language.