



Language Style of The Main Character in A Little Princess Novel

Putu Patrisia Sinta Dewi¹, I Komang Sulatra²

patrisiaisnta@gmail.com¹, komang_sulatra@unmas.ac.id²

^{1,2} Faculty of Foreign Languages, Mahasaraswati University, Denpasar, Bali

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Abstract

The language style analysis were the main subjects of this study. This study mainly aims to find out the types of language style used by the main character and also analyze the factor influencing language choice in "A Little Princess Novel". The arrangement of the utterance in the novel is the focus of the language style. Joos (1967) and Holmes (1992) theory was implemented into the data in order to examine the language style and the factor influenced language choice. The data was analyzed using descriptive qualitative method in this study. The data were collected by reading the whole novel, then underlining of each utterance, next classifying the language styles used in each utterance, last step is counting the percentage of the data. According to the findings of the analysis formal style is the high number. The most dominant was formal style 30% percentage that is mostly influenced by the topic factor.

Keywords: *Novel; Language Style; A Little Princess*

Introduction

Language styles are usually used with the context of the situation, communication and language style is important to convey the message effectively, according to the audience. This helps in creating clear, targeted, and purposeful communication. Language style relates not only to the choice of words, but also to the manner of delivery and the context of communication. Tomasello (2008) stated human communication evolved from shared intentionality and cooperative social interaction, with the linguistic dimension being cultural conventions created and passed on within cultural groups. Language style is typically exploring the context, significance, and existing knowledge related to how language is used and perceived in communication. Language as an instrument for communication, and social

context is frequently involved in communication.

The importance of language style in communication is very significant, because language style not only affects how the message is conveyed, but also how the message is received and understood by the receiver. This is the reason that a comprehension of the relationships that exist between a language and its users is necessary for good communication. (Cambridge University Press 2009). Based on Wardaugh (2002) language style is a way of choosing by giving the code that want to say in a particular state.

Language style is considered into five style according to Joss (1976) frozen style which the more formal style, the frozen style often occurs in court, ceremonies, and conference. Formal style used in the formal event, school meeting, and official meeting, then consultative style utilizes aspects of group discussion, conversation in daily life, and in the work place. Furthermore, casual style occurs when speaking casually and informal, with friends or partner. Intimate style employed in communication situations that involve personal and emotional closeness between speaker and listener. This style is usually characterized by personal, and empathetic language.

The language style used can be found in literary works, such as novel where the utterances of the characters in the novel can be found. A novel is a creative work that depicts a full representation of a character's or group of characters' issues. (Kosasih 2012:60) cited in Dewi, et al (2023). Novels are currently encountered with many new genres, as well as the utterances used to depend on the context of the situation. One of them is *A Little Princess* novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett which uses a lot of language style in the novel. In "*A Little Princess*" the novel depicts social class differences through the language used by the characters. Characters such as Sara Crewe, the main character, speaks with polite, formal, and educated language, reflecting her wealthy and respectable family background. In contrast, characters such as Becky, who come from the working class, use language that is ruder and more informal, reflecting their lower social status.

In a sociolinguistic context, this distinction is very crucial as language can reflect and reinforce social class structures in society. This analysis can show how language is not just a means of communication, but also a marker of a larger social identity, as well as a mechanism of power and domination in society. However, this research focuses on analyzing the language style of novels. In this study, the novel "*A Little Princess*", which is a children's novel around 1994.

The aims of this study are to find and analyze the language style used of the main character in "*A Little Princess*" novel and the dominant style in the novel. This study applied Joos (1968) theory in classify the language style in the novel.

The significance of this study is to understand of the language style used in the main character and the context as well as that is implication for sociolinguistic and literary study.

This topic has been observed by the researcher. The study uses two articles as an overview and comparison of how to analyze language. Salsabila, et al (2023) wrote an article about Language Style Used by The Main Character in Hala: A Sociolinguistic Study. This study investigates at the main character's language style in the film Hala as well as the factors that influenced Hala's position of different language types. Holmes' theory of social factors influencing language use and Joos' theory of language style, which comprises five styles frozen, formal, consultative, informal, and intimate form the basis of the analysis. This study gathered information from the film itself using a qualitative descriptive method. The results show that the primary characters' language styles depend differently on a number of criteria. Particularly, 49 instances of language style were identified, including 7 consultative language styles, 18 casual language styles, 11 familiar language styles, 13 formal language styles, and no instances of frozen language styles. In addition, 62 social factors were found to influence Hala's language choice, consisting of 28 factors related to the participants, 7 factors related to the setting, and 27 factors related to the context.

Then the article from Adiari and Sulatra (2023) are similar to this study with the topic Language Style Used by the Main Character in Wednesday Series. The data source of this study is Wednesday series. This study used a qualitative method in analyzing the data. Theory by Joss (1967) was used in this study in categorizing the type of language style and the theory from Holmes (1993) to find out the factor that influenced the use of language style. From 136 main data, this study discovered that the main character used four different language styles the most dominant 53 data points (39%) were in the casual style.

This study has similarity to the previous study which the topic being discussed. The differences between these studies are the previous study focused on Wednesday series and Hala movie as the data source. In this study focused in a novel, the object of this study is a novel entitled A Little Princess. While the previous study delivering presentations on series and movie, however this study utilized the novel as the data source.

Approaching the novel from the broader concept of language style to its application in the novel, it can see that language style in "A Little Princess " is not just a means of communication between characters, but also a means of exploring major themes such as social inequality, identity change, and resistance to injustice. An understanding of language use in social and character contexts can enrich our analysis of how literature and sociolinguistics interact to illustrate larger social dynamics in society.

Method

The data source in this research was taken from novel "A Little Princess". This novel released by Gramedia Pustaka on 12th of December 2016 and by Wordsworth Edition on 6th May 1994. This research used qualitative method to analyze language style. Punch (1998:29) arguments qualitative research does not use numerical data then the research question and method are more general at the beginning and become more focused as the study progress. This method is used because it is in accordance with the existing data collection techniques, in analyzing descriptively. The data was applied by Joos (1967) theory to analyze language style namely frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style.

The Five Clocks, as defined by Joos (1967) are the five categories into which style those are frozen style, formal style consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. Then Holmes (1992) theory to find the factors influencing an individual's language style choice including topic, participant, setting and factor. This research examines each and every utterance in novel "A Little Princess", the researcher underlines each sentence and classified into the five types of language styles. There were two aims of this study those are to find out the language styles and the factors influencing individual's language choice in this novel. In this study to get the main result the researcher used some steps to analyses the data. First reading the whole novel, second underlining of each utterances, next classifying the language styles used in each utterance, last step calculates the percentage of the data.

Results

This study was conducted with the aim to find out the types of language style that used by the main character in "A Little Princess Novel". Five categories of language style exist, according to Joos (1967) frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. Total data of this study was found 70 data. The study was found four categories of language style, then this study was classified the categories of language style, formal style is dominant used in the novel entitled "A Little Princess". Formal style is mostly used by the main character because Sara Crewe always communicates with people who are new and older than her. The results of language style of each utterances present in the following of table below:

Table 1. language Style Used by The Main Character Of "A Little Princess" Novel

Types of Language Style	Frequency	Percentage
Formal Style	21	30%
Consultative Style	16	23%
Casual Style	18	26%
Intimate	15	21%
Total	70	100%

Discussion

The Types of Language Style according to Joos (1967)

Formal Style

Sara: **"Couldn't you go to that place with me, papa? couldn't you go to school too? I would help you with your lesson".** (Page 10)

Captain Crewe: "But you will not have to stay for a very long time, little Sara"

Formal communication is typically one-way and receives a minimal reaction from the audience. It is typically employed in formal settings with a small amount of sharing context (Joos, 1976). From the data bolded the formal style used by the main character Sara Crewe, this context is about Sara Crewe had asked to her father. This sentence is showing the formal words "could and would" refer to typical, historical occurrences and behaviors. This is typically a formal usage that shows up in narratives, which are more polite to use when someone needs help and is also supported by the context of the conversation, where Sara Crewe asks her father if he is coming to the dorm. The emotional dynamic between Sara and her father focuses on her desire for him to stay with her as she faces a new chapter in her life. The factor contained in the utterance above is a participant, family members are obviously the usual participation. This context Sara Crewe asked her father if he went to the dorm with her. Sara Crewe talked to Captain Crewe who is older than her. The participant of Sara Crewe used formal language in ways intended to convey a question for Captain Crewe.

Sara Crewe: **"I feel as if we ought to have someone to introduce us. You must introduce me and I will introduce you, but I knew her the minute I saw her so perhaps she knew me too".** (Page 16)

The type of language style in the utterance above is the formal style. A study by Joos (1967), formal style is usually used in formal settings, like graduation ceremonies or speeches to medium-sized or large groups, when there is not much of a shared previous and communication is essentially one-way with little to no response from the audience. In the beginning of the sentence Sara mentions the word “ought to” and follows with the word “must” which is more often used to express obligations in formal writing. Sara Crewe expressed her opinion politely the sentence used also complete. Setting is the factor influencing in Sara Crewe’s utterance. She was in a new situation and place, where it was in the dorm that she was going to live in, Sara Crewe and her father met Miss Minchin for the first time.

Sara Crewe: **“Oh, she got back to her seat before we could see her. Of course, they always do. They are as quick as lightning”.** (Page 27)

Based on Joos (1976), formal style is typically applied in formal situation with little to no previous understanding provided and one-way communication that receives little to no audience input. This indicates that a formal style of speech uses from the utterance made by Sara Crewe, because this part Sara talked with Ermengarde who is older than Sara Crewe, in the use of formal language there are word choices used, such as the word “could” mentioned by Sara Crewe. Using a formal language style with older people shows respect and politeness, and often helps maintain a good relationship. Factor that influencing the language style is topic, this part Sara Crewe discussed about the doll before with Ermengarde. Sara Crewe revealed the doll's previous existence where it sat on a chair in a quiet dark room. She was with Ermengarde and asked about the existence of the doll. Therefore, the topic factor made Sara Crewe use formal and long sentences.

Consultative Style

Miss Minchin: “You ought to have told me”

Sara Crewe: **“I tried; I suppose I did not begin right”** (Page 23)

According to Martin Joos (1967) cite in Setyowati and Setiawati (2021), consultative style is what we employ to get along with people who speak our language but have a different information reservoir. Consultation is the method used in the majority of spoken daily business transactions, especially those involving random individuals it is the most popular form of communication among small groups, with the exception of close friends. The data mentioned above reveals the consultative style in a semi-formal situation, in this utterance, there are the characteristic of formal style shows in the sentence the level of formality, however still allows or relatively relaxed. The used of words “I tried; I suppose I did not begin

right” contain of semi-formal utterance. Sara Crewe mention phrase “I suppose” Sara Crewe feels doubt, but Sara Crewe knows that she does not feel right. The sentence above categorized into consultative style. The setting that influence the main character used consultative style, because in this dialogue Sara Crewe talked with Miss Minchin in the dorm, when Miss Minchin told Sara Crewe her response was very polite and she had tried to tell Miss Minchin.

Ermengarde: “My name is Ermengarde St Jhon”

Sara Crewe: “**Mine is Sara Crewe. Yours is very pretty. It sounds like a story book**”. (Page 25)

The utterance above made by Sara Crewe in this sentence belongs to the consultative style. So, in this part Sara Crewe introduces herself to Ermengarde the words “mine is Sara” she mentions her name. The words “yours is very pretty” gave a compliment to Ermengarde, in giving this utterance Sara Crewe uses the right and semi-formal sentence. Sara Crewe also mentioned an inclusive language “it sounds like a story book” when Ermengarde mention the full name, this include the audience in the conversation and employing words “like” which equates a positive thing. A factor that can be found in the utterance above is topic Sara Crewe said a compliment to Ermengarde, in this section Sara Crewe uses sentences that are connected and in accordance with Ermengarde's speech when introducing. The topic focuses on the person and language, not only focusing on the information exchanged but also how they perceive each other. This interaction, though simple, reveals their initial approach to each other and the social space they occupy.

Casual Style

Captain Crewe: “Oh, little Sara. What shall I do when I have no one to say solemn thing to me? No one else is quite as solemn as you are”

Sara Crewe: “**But why do solemn things make you laugh so?**” (Page 12)

Casual style is a colloquial manner that is ideal for informal settings, such as when speaking with family members. Using one another's first name or even a nickname instead of a first and last name while addressing one another is one of the traits of casual style (Joos 1967). Based on the Sara Crewe's utterance is a relaxed spoken where Sara Crewe talked with her father used casual style. So, in this context Captain Crewe is joking with his daughter with his expression. Sara Crewe gave a simple and clear response. Sara Crewe uses the word "you" as a casual word when talking to Captain Crewe and Sara Crewe does not call Captain Crewe “papa”. As the definition of Casual Style which this style is typically used in informal settings such as conversation with family, Sara Crewe reflect a comfort response. The tone is friendly and making the interaction less formal. The factor that influence the language style used in the quotation above is participant, the

relationship between family member and they are known each other already. Hence Sara Crewe mention the utterance bolded.

Sara Crewe: **“She is actually waiting for us! Let us go in to her”**

Captain Crewe: “Dear me. I feel as if we ought to have someone to introduce us”. (Page 15)

The conversation above is in casual style, Sara Crewe conveyed an information to Captain Crewe. The sentence is more flexible and less strict, the phrase “let us go” is represented the action of approaching a situation Sara Crewe the vocabulary is simple and suited for the conversation. The conversation there are two people in which case these characters have a close relationship. The sentence in bold contain of setting factor, Sara Crewe talked with her father in that time and it has a close relationship. The setting is most likely a semi-formal social environment, perhaps a living room or other space where the meeting takes place. The use of terms like “introduce” indicates a more structured social context, perhaps a situation where proper etiquette or manners are expected. The fact that Sara and Captain Crewe are talking about meeting someone suggests that they are in a new or unfamiliar social environment. This could be a situation where Sara is introduced to new social norms, perhaps at her school or during a social visit. She told Captain Crewe in a casual style of language that they would be approaching Sara Crewe’s new friend.

Intimate Style

Sara Crewe: **“Is this the place? is it papa?”**

Captain Crewe: “Yes, little Sara, it is” (Page 10)

Based on Joos (1967) a style that is intimate is one in which social inhibitions are completely absent. Intimate groupings are typically pairs, and terms like "dear," "darling," "honey," and "parents nickname" can be used in this context. Grammar is less significant in this style than intonation. However, from the data above there is an intimate style as it used in the conversation above, when Sara Crewe asked to Captain Crewe about the location, the words “papa” is highly personal language it involves use of nickname. In this style intonation takes precedence over grammar. In this situation the reason using intimate style is show the relationship between family. The phrase “is it papa” create the most relaxed atmosphere and create comfortable communication. The bolded text above have a setting factor. Sara Crewe with her father talked about the dorm as the new place, where this situation factor uses the setting according to the circumstances when they speak.

Captain Crewe: "Here we are, Sara"

Sara Crewe: "**I don't like it papa**". (Page 11-12)

From the utterance above the short response from Sara Crewe is describe the intimate style, the intimate style defined by the deep personal connection it often includes slang or terms of endearment. Sara Crewe deliver her argument to Captain Crewe which her father. Sara Crewe uses short and to the point words, where he puts the whole content of his argument in those words. As well as making jokes with queer speech. This style is typically used in close personal relationship and interactions, where Sara Crewe express the emotional expression based on the phrase "I don't like it papa". From the conversation above it can be concluded that the factor of this conversation is setting. The setting seems to be a new, possibly intimidating place, which could be a school or an unfamiliar neighborhood. Captain Crewe's statement, "Here we are," suggests that they have arrived at a specific location, and Sara's response reveals that she does not feel comfortable there. The setting may be physical, but it also has emotional implications, Sara is thrust into a situation that makes her feel uncomfortable, and her father's role in this new environment is crucial. It could also represent a moment of transition for Sara, moving from a familiar and protected world to an unfamiliar and more challenging one.

Conclusion

The result of the analysis the study revealed the formal style used. The analysis of language style above through the novel. Sara Crewe as the main character in this novel, there were four language style used including formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The arrangement of the utterance in a novel is the focus of the language style. The two problems in this research are to identify the types of language style and the factors influenced language choice. The effectiveness of Joos (1976) model in various novel, kinds may be further investigated to shed light on and validate the results of this study. There were 70 utterances in the novel "A Little Princess", the used of formal style is the most dominant. After analyzing the utterances, can be seen that the result is formal style 30%, casual style 23 %, consultative style 26%, and intimate style 21%.

This novel used formal style of the main character Sara Crewe because of Sara Crewe is a little girl live in a dorm in London and fostered by adults and parents the strict surroundings was affected. Hence Sara Crewe uses formal language when speaking at the dorm for greeting with the people there. In addition, in connection to the study's second goal, the factors that influenced the main character's utterance were identified by Holmes (1992) four of them as follows: setting, participant, topic, and function. The most dominant factor is influencing the main character was the topic, because relate to the utterance that the main character talking about and the main discussion of a conversation between main character

and the other character. It is expected that this research can provide benefits for readers and future researchers who want to discuss about language style. The hope for future research is to be able to examine more deeply the differences in language styles used in various data sources, to see how the characteristics of each field affect the use of language styles and social factors. Therefore, the researcher suggests to future researchers to conduct research on other literary works such as prose and poetry. As well as using more diverse language style theories.

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