



AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE OF TEENAGERS FOUND IN FACEBOOK STATUS

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ABSTRACT

The research aimed to find the types of language style and the frequency of the style used by facebook users in Indonesia. The source of data in this research is facebook users in Indonesia. This research focused on language style used by facebook users from the teenager to pre adult users in Indonesia. The writer used descriptive method which is describing the phenomenon based on the source of data. This research analyzed the status of the facebook users to find the types of language style and the most frequency style used by facebook users in Indonesia. On the analysis, the writer found that there are four language styles namely formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. Then, casual style is the mostly language style used by the speakers with percentage is about 70%. Furthermore, the writer found that the causes of casual is the mostly used by facebook users.

Keywords: Language Style, Facebook, Status

A. INTRODUCTION

Language is primarily an instrument of communication among human being in a community. Everyone believes that language is universal, it means everyone possess to express their feelings, emotion, sign, and others in communication through language. According to Crystal (2013) communication refers to the transmission of information (a message) between a source and a receiver using a signalling system; restricting this notion to “human communication”. In communication, people have manyways to communicate with other people. People use language as a tool of communication to say their wants, messages, information, and ideas to other people. Communication also influenced by style between speaker and hearer. It can be concluded that relationship has big impact to people in understanding communication.

In society, people have variation in using language that can be called as language variation. Language variation is a language phenomenon that occurs in

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speech community. One type of language varieties is style. Moore (2004) states that styles in speaking involve the ways speakers, as agents in social (and sociolinguistics space), negotiate their positions and goals within a system of distinction and possibilities. Style influenced by some factors such as educational background, social status, age, and sex of the speakers. In language style, a speaker speaks differently with other people according to the situation and the context when they communicate. A speaker will note to the choice of the words, grammar, and structure of the sentences according to the context and with whom the speaker speaks.

The usage of different language style can also be found and observed in social media. Social media is the collective of online communications channels dedicated to community-based input, interaction, content-sharing and collaboration. In this research focus on the types of language style found in facebook status of teenager (12-21 years old). The researcher choose the topic because people use facebook to show their existence and identity in language through their status. Facebook is a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues.

Nowadays, people can get the latest update information from anywhere, it is because the development of technology. In this case, facebook as the most popular social media in the world will make communication easier to other people. So, it will easier to get new friend through facebook. So, it should be a good reason to be sources in finding language style related to people's status in facebook.

According to Joos (1998) in Zulaekho (2010), language style is classified into five types based on the degree of formality. Those types of language style are frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate style.

1. Frozen Style

Frozen style or oratorical style, is the most formal style. It is usually used in situation that is very formal and has symbolic value. For instance: informal ceremonies, and court, and state documents. This style is recognized by having no participation of the reader. The reader cannot protest the writer.

2. Formal Style

Formal style is used in formal situation in general. Richard (1985) states that formal style is the people use the language carefully about pronunciation, choice of words, and sentence structure. The characteristics of formal language are careful and standard speech, low tempo speech, technical vocabulary, complex and divergence grammatical structure, use of full name address, avoidance of main word repetition and using of synonyms.

3. Consultative Style

Penalosa (1981) states consultative style is the most neutral or unmarked of the styles. It is a style that is used in semi-formal communication situation and this is the type of language which is required from the everyday speaker. Consultative is used in some group discussion, regular conversation at school, companies, trade speech conversation, etc.

4. Casual Style

Casual style is a language style which is usually used in casual situation by those who have the same background such as age, sex, education, social status, ethnic, and some other factors. Casual style can also be traced by the appearance of the informal words such as colloquial, slang, even taboo words, etc.

5. Intimate Style

According to Penalosa (1981) intimate style is characterized by extraction and jargon. The characteristics of this style are the use of private codes, the use of words signalling intimate relation, the use of rapid and slurred pronunciation, the use of non-verbal communication, and the use of non-standard forms.

A. Discussion

The data of this paper were taken from several facebook users in Indonesia. In this case, the writer analyzes the data based on Joos (1998) theories. The analysis is focused on type of language style on the facebook and the most frequent style used in the facebook. The data is taken from status of the facebook user. The writer collected total 100 data from the facebook user.

Here are some samples of the analysis of the data of Language Style used by Facebook users:

1. Frozen Style

There is no data belonging to this style. It is because writer search the data from facebook user. Frozen style is the most formal style. It is usually used in situation that is very formal and has symbolic value. In addition, Facebook is a social media that used by people to express themselves freely. That's why the writer can not find frozen style in Facebook.

2. Formal Style

There is a sample that can be classified into formal style used by facebook user. The writer only found one datum belonging to formal style. Formal style is used in the formal situation. Formal style is the

people use the language carefully about pronunciation, choice of words, and sentence structure.

Datum 1: This is the datum that can be classified into formal style. This datum comes from Mimi's statement.

Mimi: *Jangan mengeluh atas masalahmu, karena Tuhan punya tujuan untuk perjuanganmu saat ini. Pelajarilah apa yang hendak Tuhan ajarkan.*

From the sample above, it can be categorized into formal style. Mimi as a facebook user expresses her statement clearly. The sentence is also pay attention to the grammar of the sentence. In this sentence, Mimi tries to give statement related to motivate and it is from God kindness. Another reason is Mimi mentions word "God" that means emphasize it.

3. Consultative Style

There are several samples that can be classified into consultative used by facebook user. The writer found 9 data belonging to consultative style. The data come from several facebook users.

Datum 2: This is the first datum that can be classified into consultative style. This datum comes from R. Agustin.

R Agustin: *Ketika seseorang lelaki mengorbankan dirinya demi kebahagiaan orang yang dia cintai, maka dia telah menjadi lelaki yang sesungguhnya, lebih mempesona dari seorang pangeran.*

From the sentences above, it can be categorized into consultative style. The sentences contain facebook user feeling that reflected himself at that time. It can be seen from the word "lebih mempesona dari seorang pangeran". Also the facebook user seems to be subjective from his sentences. Those are the reasons why the datum can be categorized into consultative style.

4. Casual Style

There are several samples that can be classified into casual style used by facebook user. The writer found 70 data belonging to casual style. Casual style is the mostly style found in facebook user. The data comes from several facebook users. The writer collect the data between teenager users to pre adult users, it has average between junior high school student until people who are 26 years old as users.

Datum 11: This is the first datum that can be classified into casual style. This datum comes from the facebook user namely, Jefri Z.

Jefri Z: *Disaat hal yang sangat luar biasa menjadi hal yang biasa. Apakah kamu akan tetap seperti yang dulu.*

From the datum above, it can be categorized into casual style. The sentences reflect his feeling as facebook user. Then, second sentence of the facebook user do not have good structure. It can be seen from the interrogative word “apakah” and it doesn’t relate to the first sentence. Those are the reasons why this datum is categorized into casual style.

Datum 12: This is the second datum that can be classified into casual style. This datum comes from Jefri Z.

Jefri Z: *Hari yang cerah untuk jiwa yang sepi.*

In the second sample, the sentence is also categorized into casual style. The sentence contains short sentence. Then, the sentence takes from a quotation, from a song’s title. Those are the reasons why this conversation is categorized into casual style.

5. Intimate Style

There are several samples that can be classified into intimate style used by the facebook user. The writer found 20 data belonging to intimate style. The data comes from several facebook users. Intimate style is the second mostly style found in facebook user.

Datum 81: This is the first datum that can be classified into intimate style. This datum comes from the facebook user namely, Meitha Indah.

Meitha Indah: *Belom sarapan udah cuz. Alhasil karaokean deh ni perut.*

From the datum above, it can be categorized into intimate style. The sentence contains the characteristics of intimate style, it is jargon and private code. It can be seen from the facebook user uses word “cuz”. That’s why this conversation is categorized into intimate style.

The following table is displayed to report frequency of language style. It is purposed to describe the dominant language style used by facebook users.

Table 1.1: Frequency of language style used by facebook users

No.	Types	Total	Percentage
1.	Frozen	0	0%
2.	Formal	1	1%
3.	Consultative	9	9%
4.	Casual	70	70%
5.	Intimate	20	20%

100	100%
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Table above describes the total percentage of language styles; frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style and intimate style which are found in the facebook user's status. From 100 data that is found, casual style is a kind of language style that is mostly found in the facebook status, with the percentage is for about 70% from 100 data. Then, the second is Intimate style that is 20 data from 100 data, with the percentage is for about 20%. Next is Consultative style that is 9 data from 100, with the percentage is for about 9%. Last, formal style that is 1 data from 100 data, with the percentage is for about 1%. From the table above, it can be seen that Casual Style is the most frequent style used by Facebook users with 70 data from 100 and with the percentage is about 70%.

Casual style is the most language style found in the facebook user's status. Casual is mostly used in the facebook user because it is related to the function of facebook as media social and also related to background of the facebook status made. In addition, the facebook users have various background such as teacher, student, musician, college student and etc. Besides, facebook as media social used by the users to express their feeling because lifestyle has changed.

Intimate style is the second place of language style that is found in the facebook user's status. The facebook user uses intimate might be because they tend to use many slang and switch the language to express what they feel without consider the structure and words of choice of the sentence. It usually used by teenager and pre older that want to show their existences.

Then, consultative style is the third mostly in the research. The data shows 9 data for intimate style. This language style used in the facebook user because people tend to consider what they write in order to understood by other people. They are not only thinking about what they feel, but also the content of their status. But, they also use slang word to combine with other in consultative style.

Then, formal style is the last language style found in the research. The data shows only one data for formal style. It is because the facebook user mostly use facebook to express their feeling freely. Besides, people do not want to express something that related to serious thing.

B. Conclusion and Suggestions

Having finished with this paper, the researcher draws conclusion that language styles reflected the background of education and age of the user. Research findings showed that the facebook user have close relationship among them through language style. Casual style is the mostly used by the facebook user in Indonesia. It means that the facebook user enjoyed facebook as a media social. Facebook made the user expressing what they feel even though it is related to privacy for themselves.

Besides, language styles of the facebook users are influenced by age and education. The facebook users have different background of age and education. It is related to the facebook users' status tendency in expressing what they feel

immediately. By knowing and understanding language style, people would know the characteristic other people.

Through the research about language style has been finished, the researcher expects that this research would make the readers understand the types of language style. In addition, the researcher would like to give suggestion for the reader who interested in relevant research theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the researcher suggests the other researchers who want to conduct relevant research to get the data from other sources such as novel, movie, or magazines. Practically, the researcher suggests the English department students, especially linguistic students who are interested in relevant research to read this paper as additional information.

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