

Language And Gender In Short Films: Re-Dream (A Sociolinguistic Study)

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Abstract

Re-Dream is a short film that focuses on Jessica's role as the central character who dreams of studying at Oxford University. The use of language in short films is also a focal point in this study. The purpose of this study is to describe the language and gender spoken by the actors who play a role in this film. Describe the social and cultural factors that influence the use of their linguistic features and describe the gender representation that is reflected in the film. This research is a descriptive qualitative research. The data source of this research is the short film Re-Dream which is viewed randomly. The data was collected by means of observation and note-taking techniques were collected. The results of the study 1) analyze the linguistic characteristics of the main male and female characters in the short film Re-Dream (2) describe the social factors that influence the use of these linguistic characteristics; and (3) describe the gender representation that is reflected in the film regarding linguistic characteristics.

Abstrak

Kata Kunci:

Bahasa, Gender,
sosiolinguistik, film
pendek.

Re-Dream adalah sebuah film pendek yang berfokus pada peran Jessica sebagai tokoh utama yang bermimpi untuk melanjutkan studi di Universitas Oxford. Penggunaan bahasa dalam film pendek ini juga menjadi fokus dalam penelitian ini. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan bahasa dan gender yang dituturkan oleh para aktor yang berperan dalam film tersebut, mendeskripsikan faktor sosial dan budaya yang memengaruhi penggunaan ciri-ciri linguistik mereka, serta menggambarkan representasi gender yang tercermin dalam film tersebut. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Sumber data penelitian ini adalah film pendek Re-Dream yang ditonton secara berulang. Data dikumpulkan melalui teknik observasi dan pencatatan. Hasil penelitian ini meliputi: (1) analisis karakteristik linguistik tokoh utama laki-laki dan perempuan dalam film pendek Re-Dream; (2) deskripsi faktor sosial yang memengaruhi penggunaan karakteristik linguistik tersebut; dan (3) deskripsi representasi gender yang tercermin dalam film terkait karakteristik linguistik.

1 Introduction/Pendahuluan

As a work of art, film has become a phenomenon in modern life. Currently, film is not only a projected work, but can be studied in depth. According to Sumarno, film is a cutting-edge art from the 20th century that can entertain, educate, engage feelings, stimulate thoughts, and can provide encouragement to the audience. Film is one of the most important media used to convey messages and ideologies to the public, films are able to represent several events in the real world because films have a strong reality (Nur Chici Paramita, 2018:1).

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On the other hand, the construction of gender relations is composed of religion, culture, economy, politics, or the physical circle of a place that is interrelated. So that if there are not all elements forming gender relations, there will be an imbalance in the pattern of gender relations. Gender is a cultural issue that governs the social construction of men, women, and social relations between them. Even from that, gender equality has become one of the issues considered in sustainable development where gender equality is the main requirement for realizing an existing and sustainable world (Nurul Mutia Diansyah, 2016: 354-355).

Talks about language and gender have recently become something interesting. In language, whether we realize it or not, there are differences between men and women. These differences, of course, occur as a result of the social and cultural factors that surround them. In a patriarchal culture, for example, men have a higher position than women. In that position, it appears the dominance of men over women. Men can speak openly, while women can't. Men may interrupt the conversation, using words that tend to be harsh, while women are not. Women in this context must show politeness and gentleness (Wahyudi, 2016: 18).

This Re-Dream film tells about gender, as we know that gender issues are very warm and interesting, so UK students Petra or commonly known as Champz Production are interested in making short films. This film has a duration of 14 minutes 54 seconds, telling the story of a woman who fights for her dream to continue her education abroad. However, many of his friends did not support him, he struggled on his own and was helped by the support of his family so that he could achieve his goals.

This film also tells about gender equality where women and men have equal rights, have equal degrees, especially in terms of work, because it is not always the stigma of women who after graduating from college have to marry and become housewives. Women can also achieve high goals.

Petra Surabaya Christian University (UK) student team was named Champz Production, and consisted of Johaness Yudi Prihadi (Business Management Program), Geraldo Vincent Chandra (Hospitality Management Study Program), Nicholas Jason Santosa (Visual Communication Design Study Program), Jerico Sasmita Adi (International Program Business Management), Josephine (Communication Study Program), Natasha Amabel (Business Information Systems Program) and Stanley (Business Management Program).

In the dialogues of the short film Re-Dream, there are several focuses, namely the language spoken by the players and all of them have characteristics and peculiarities between male and female speakers. There are many factors that influence these differences that need to be studied in this analysis. Men and women have different languages when they speak, it's depicted in the film Re-dream, when the male and female actors in the scene certainly have differences in both language and perspective. The same research was conducted by Haira Rizka (2017) who studied language and gender in the cartoon films Go Diego Go and Dora the Explorer. Haira Rizka concluded that the two cartoons showed a unique linguistic phenomenon because of the gender difference between the two. Meanwhile, socio-cultural factors clearly influence the use of different languages from the two figures. Different social status and roles cause the use of different language in both. Then, the same research was also conducted by Niswatin Nurul Hidayati (2016) which examined language and gender: a study of the linguistic characteristics of men and women in children's films. Niswatin Nurul Hidayati concludes that both male and female characters use the characteristics proposed by Lakoff, so it can be said that animated films with target audiences of girls are prepared in formal language, while animated films targeting boys are presented with variations. informal speech. The same research was also conducted by Wahyudi (2016) who examined language and gender in the use of children's language in the city of Padang. Wahyudi concludes from the linguistic aspect, there are linguistic differences between male and female students.

Based on the description above, the writer is interested in raising the topic of linguistic and gender characteristics in the short film Re-Dream by Champz Production. The phenomenon of language and gender is the formulation of the problem in this study. By analyzing the film, the author aims to understand the use of language and understanding of gender. Therefore, the research topic is “Language and Gender in the Short Film Re-Dream (Sociolinguistic Studies)”.

2 Methods/Metode

The research method: the data source in this study is the Short Film: Re-Dream. The research data is in the form of utterances or dialogues of the characters in the film that reveal speech acts. This research includes qualitative research defining qualitative research with a study that intends to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by the research subject. Qualitative research can refer to research on people's lives, history, behavior, as well as about the functionality of an organization, social movements and so on.

This research is also descriptive which means that the data is collected by analyzing signs in the form of written and spoken words as well as pieces of pictures of people and observed behavior. Descriptive method is a procedure of problem solving to be investigated by describing the current state of the subject or object of research based on the facts and also an attempt to express complete signs or symptoms in the aspects that will be used as research material by providing an interpretation of the facts. found.

Given that this research is a descriptive qualitative research, the data of this research is in the form of language, such as words, phrases, clauses, or sentences. The data collection technique used in this research is the listen and note method. This listening method is manifested in a technique to obtain data, the author uses a listening technique. The next data collection technique is the note-taking technique which is an advanced technique. The data is collected through the utterances spoken in the dialogues of the characters in the film. Researchers watch the film carefully to get a good and correct understanding of the film. The researcher also identified linguistic units related to male and female speakers. The researcher wrote down the data in the data collection table and classified the data according to the sociolinguistic approach.

3 Findings/Hasil

The findings of this study show that language use in the short film Re-Dream reflects clear differences between female and male linguistic characteristics. These differences are influenced by social roles, emotional expression, communication purposes, and cultural expectations related to gender. The analysis focuses on the dialogues of the main female character, Jessica, and the male characters, especially Robert and Andre.

Female Language

The female language represented by Jessica is characterized by emotional expression, empathy, openness, and supportive communication. Jessica frequently uses expressive language to convey her feelings, dreams, and concerns.

At minute 00:44, Jessica expresses her happiness after hearing that she achieved the highest score in her class. She enthusiastically says that she wants to apply to Oxford University immediately. This dialogue demonstrates women's tendency to express emotions openly and communicate their feelings in detail. Jessica not only responds to the news but also elaborates on her personal dream of studying abroad.

Similarly, at minute 01:29, Jessica explains to her friends that studying at Oxford has been her dream for a long time and that her parents support her decision. This scene reflects how female speakers tend to share personal experiences and emotions with others. Jessica's dialogue reveals determination, hope, and emotional attachment to her aspirations.

Another example appears at minute 03:54 when Jessica's sister says, "Congratulations, I'm proud of you." This statement reflects women's tendency to express affection, emotional support, and interpersonal closeness. Female communication in this context emphasizes relationships and emotional solidarity.

At minute 07:29, Jessica comforts Andre by saying that she hopes he and his coworkers will not suffer from the consequences of the company's problems. This utterance demonstrates women's empathetic and caring communication style. Jessica uses soft and supportive language to reduce Andre's anxiety.

Furthermore, at minute 13:21, Jessica discusses marriage and economic security with her sister. She expresses her concerns about depending entirely on a husband and emphasizes the importance of education and independence for women. This dialogue shows that female language in the film also reflects critical thinking and emotional awareness regarding social realities.

Overall, the female characters in Re-Dream use language that emphasizes feelings, relationships, emotional expression, support, and personal experiences.

Male Language

In contrast, male language in the film is characterized by directness, logical thinking, factual communication, and problem-oriented discussion.

At minute 00:55, Robert tells Jessica that she will definitely be accepted at Oxford because she has the highest GPA in the class. His statement is brief, factual, and focused on the main point. This reflects men's tendency to communicate directly without unnecessary elaboration.

At minute 06:19, Andre says, "I have a surprise for you." This short statement demonstrates how male speakers often communicate with a clear purpose and action-oriented intention. Andre focuses on delivering information efficiently while creating a meaningful moment.

Another important example appears at minute 06:31 when Andre asks Jessica, "Will you marry me?" The proposal is direct and goal-oriented, showing men's tendency to use language to achieve specific objectives.

At minute 07:05, Andre discusses problems at work, explaining that his boss suddenly became angry and that the company might go bankrupt. His dialogue focuses on facts and practical concerns rather than emotional elaboration. Similarly, at minute 07:59, Andre talks about financial burdens such as house installments, car payments, and school fees. His language reflects anxiety about responsibility and economic stability.

Overall, male characters in Re-Dream tend to use concise, logical, and solution-focused language. Their conversations are primarily related to work, responsibility, and practical matters.

4 Discussion/Pembahasan

The findings indicate that gender differences strongly influence language use in the short film Re-Dream. Female characters tend to use expressive and emotional language, while male characters prefer direct, logical, and goal-oriented communication. These differences support sociolinguistic theories stating that language reflects social roles and gender expectations within society.

Jessica's language reflects characteristics commonly associated with female communication, such as emotional openness, empathy, and relational interaction. Her dialogues frequently involve sharing feelings, discussing dreams, and providing emotional support to others. This finding supports Gray's theory that women are more emotionally involved in communication and tend to express their feelings more openly.

The film also portrays women as individuals who value relationships and emotional connections. Jessica often discusses personal experiences and seeks understanding from others. Her communication style emphasizes cooperation and emotional intimacy. This representation aligns with sociolinguistic perspectives suggesting that women's language is closely related to maintaining social harmony and interpersonal relationships.

In addition, Jessica's dialogue about education and economic independence reflects a modern representation of women. The film challenges traditional patriarchal assumptions that women should depend entirely on men. Instead, Jessica believes that women should pursue higher education and maintain economic independence to support themselves and their families in the future. This indicates that language in the film not only reflects gender differences but also conveys social criticism regarding women's roles in society.

On the other hand, male characters such as Robert and Andre demonstrate linguistic characteristics associated with masculinity. Their communication is more direct, concise, and focused on information or problem-solving. Andre's conversations mostly revolve around work, financial responsibilities, and practical concerns. This finding supports the idea that men tend to prioritize logic and efficiency in communication.

The film also reflects cultural constructions of gender. Male characters are portrayed as providers and decision-makers, while female characters are associated with emotional support and interpersonal care. However, the film simultaneously presents a more progressive image of women through Jessica's ambition and independence.

Overall, *Re-Dream* illustrates that language use is deeply connected to gender identity, social expectations, and cultural values. The linguistic differences between male and female characters are not merely individual speaking styles but also representations of broader social constructions regarding masculinity and femininity.

5 Conclusion/Simpulan

Language and gender are things that are very often discussed both in life and in research. From this, we know that language and gender are strongly influenced by one's social factors. Different gender means different language spoken. The two are interconnected. Every language spoken has characteristics and specificity. So that we can distinguish which speakers are male and which are female speakers. all are also influenced by cultural and social factors of a speaker.

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