

Women's Language in "500 Days Of Summer" Movie

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Abstract: This undergraduate thesis was conducted to identify the women language feature and types of speech function used by Summer in the movie by using theory conducted from Robin Lakoff and Janet Holmes. The method that used in this undergraduate thesis is qualitative and quantitative research. The method that used to collect the data is Documentation method and note taking technique and for the used to analyzed the data is Qualitative and Quantitative method. To presented the data, the method that used is formal and informal method. The results of the data that has been found are eight out of ten features of woman language. Lexical hedges or fillers were the most used features by Summer (23%). There are found four out of six types of speech function. Referential function were the most used types by Summer (36%).

INTRODUCTION

Sociolinguistics referred to the study of the features of language variation, the functions of language variations, and the usage of language since these three aspects always interact, alter, and modify each other through communication in society. Thus, it can be claimed that Sociolinguistics is an interdisciplinary discipline of research that analyzes language in connection to the usage of that language in society (Zuraida et al., 2021).

Language can have an impact on the language variations that people from diverse community group exhibit. Gender is a natural notion that is grounded on birth traits. Gender is viewed physically by both men and women. In the 20th century there were some clear differentiations between genders. Gender inequalities in language use have been discovered in recent studies on the subject. Women in a male-dominated society are pressured to illustrate feminine qualities of weakness and are frequently subordinate in status to men (Lakoff, 1973).

There are certain widely held beliefs about gender differences in the interaction styles of men and women: women are expressive, responsive, supportive, and concerned with intimacy and connection, whereas men are task oriented, dominant, and concerned with status and independence. Many have drawn attention to the opposition between male and female styles, and gender differences in interaction have been portrayed as absolute differences (Aries, 1996). The way of speaking between men and women is quite different though the position between men and women is now equal. Men tend to use simple and straightforward language about the points they want to express, while women are more expressive than men to express their points by giving gestures, emotions, and polite expressions in their utterances.

Based on the data, the movie *500 Days of Summer* is used as a source of data. In addition, because there is no further research, this movie also has a female main character named Summer Finn. In modern society like nowadays, Summer as a female character seems to still use the features of woman language and speech function seen from that She is an unpredictable character in this movie. She is the type of person who memorizes song lyrics and incorporates them into her life, but she isn't one to romanticize her experiences. Summer is comfortable sharing her thoughts with others and listening to what they have to say. Summer has a wonderful

sense of humor. She enjoys social gatherings and being the center of attention. Summer is entertaining and engaging, and there is never quiet moment when she is around (Thweatt, 2018).

Based on the explanation above, to find out more about women's language and speech function, the study of women's language proposed by Robin Lakoff and Janet Holmes is interesting to conduct, especially on female main character "Summer Finn" in the movie *500 Days of Summer*.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theory of Sociolinguistic, theory of Woman Language purposed by Robin Lakoff (1973), and theory of speech function purposed by Janet Holmes (2013) are used

Sociolinguistic

Sociolinguistics is the study of our everyday lives how language works in our casual conversations and the media we are exposed to, and the presence of societal norms, policies, and laws which address language. Sociolinguistics is inherently interdisciplinary; people working on sociolinguistic research as we define it may come from a diverse range of disciplines, including linguistics, sociology, anthropology, psychology, and education (Holmes, 2013).

Women Language Features

There are 10 features of Women's Language features put forward by Robin Lakoff (1973) such as:

1. Lexical hedges or fillers

Women employ lexical hedges or fillers to indicate their hesitation about what they say. It is also utilized to value the speakers' face needs and to motivate the speakers regarding the issue being discussed (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *umm, I guess, I think, I wonder*

2. Tag Question

Tag questions or also known as a yes-no question is used when the speaker states a claim but is not confident enough about its claim. It demands confirmation of facts about which the speaker is unsure (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *Don't you?, isn't there?, isn't she?*

3. Rising Intonation on Declarative

This unconventional use of a syntactic rule is linked to a common variance in women's intonational patterns. According to (Lakoff, 1973), you are looking for clarification, yet the only speaker who has the proper information may also be the speaker (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *stay away from me!, Look! It is so nice.*

4. Empty Adjective

Empty adjectives are adjectives that describe a feeling rather than detailed information. It is intended to express the speaker's respect or approval of something (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *adorable, charming, and sweet*

5. Precise Color Terms

When it comes to choosing terminology, men and women employ distinct color categories. "Women should develop the correct color names more than men," (Lakoff, 1973) stated

For the example, *maroon, beige, navy, lavender*

6. Intensifier

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, an intensifier is an adverb or a small-scale adjective used to increase strength. The usage of intensifiers tends to be associated with women rather than men, however it does emerge in later talks in the men academy (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *just, so, really, and very, much*

7. Hypercorrect Grammar

Women utilize standard language to change their social position since it is associated with high social status. Women are more than merely pronounced in specific sentences. Finally, women utilize 'hypercorrect' language to indicate their social position (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, women usually add *-ing* in the end of their sentence, *doing, cooking, working*, etc.

8. Super Polite Forms

According to Lakoff, a request or a suggestion is more courteous than a straight order. Super polite' forms are usually used as a polite command and polite language. 'Super polite' form is also an imperative statement but women use it in a more polite way (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, women usually use *please* in the end of the sentence

9. Avoidance of Strong Swear Words

Based on Robin Lakoff, but it depicts the social sense of communication and the relationship of the speaker to what he is talking about it. Usually, phrases such as fudge, my goodness, oh my, oh sugar, and shoot will come from their mouth when they are surprised of something without saying the swear words (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *oh dear, my dear, my goodness, goodness, etc.*

10. Emphatic Stress

This feature is used when women try to convince their message and their intended meaning to the interlocutor. Women frequently employ words to communicate the importance and strength of their speeches (Lakoff, 1973).

For the example, *"what a beautiful skirt!", "You are so Genius!"*.

Speech Function

There are six types of speech function that purposed by (Holmes, 2013), they are:

1. Expressive Function

Expressive function is a function of speech with a purposed to express personal feeling, though, and opinion declaration of the speaker's ambience. The example of expressive function is (Holmes, 2013):

"I am very sad today"

"I really love this dress"

2. Directive Function

This type of speech function is an utterance that is attempting to get someone to do something. Basically, there are several methods to communicate commands. The example of directive function is (Holmes, 2013):

"Close the door!"

"Sit down please?"

3. Referential Function

Referential function is the types of speech function that has a purposed to delivered things or information. This type is oriented to the context of the utterance. The example of referential function are (Holmes, 2013):

"The capital city of China is Beijing"

"We will have a science exam next day"

4. Metalinguistic Function

This type is focus on the code of the language to make sure the listener really understands the meaning of the utterance or code. The example of metalinguistic function are (Holmes, 2013):

It's like a whole theory of short fiction and of the novella.

There are two kinds of noun, countable and uncountable noun.

5. Poetic Function

This type focused on the aesthetic feature of language in the utterance. This type of speech

function can be found mostly in a poem, a rhyme, etc. The example of poetic function are (Holmes, 2013):

Make hay while the sunrise.

A baby lion as a cub, that likes the tub.

6. Phatic Function

Phatic function of speech is utterance that express the empathy with the other. It can be as a greeting a complement about something. Phatic communication, instead of referential communication, delivers an emotional or social message. The example of phatic function are (Holmes, 2013):

"Hi"

"Are you okay?"

RESEARCH METHOD

The type of data that used in this undergraduate thesis is primary data. Primary data is an original which is directly collected from a source such as observations, surveys, questionnaires, case studies and interviews according to his requirements. The data of this undergraduate thesis is *500 Days of Summer* movie. The movie is directed by Marc Webb and released on July 17th, 2009.

The method that used to collect the data in this undergraduate thesis is Documentation method and note taking technique. In this undergraduate thesis, the data collected from the film with title *500 Days of Summer*.

The method that used to analyzed the data in this undergraduate thesis is Qualitative and Quantitative method. To assist in answering the first and second research question in qualitative method, The utterances spoken by Summer were separated, grouped, and the categorizing the Summer utterance that referred to women's language features theory by Robin Lakoff and Speech Function theory by Janet Holmes. To find out the percentage of the most frequent types of speech functions and features of women's language in Summer's utterance, quantitative method is used. Summer's utterances that have been categorized into tables are then calculated and the percentages are determined.

Table 1. Women Language Features

Women Language Features	Amount	Percentage
Lexical hedges		
Tag question		
Rising intonation on declarative		
Empty adjective		
Precise color terms		
Intensifier		
Hypercorrect grammar		
Super polite forms		
Avoidance of strong swear words		
Emphatic stress		
Total		

Table 2. Types of Speech Function

Types of Speech Function	Amount	Percentage
Expressive		
Directive		
Referential		
Metalinguistic		
Poetic		
Phatic		
Total		

To find out the total percentage of each feature collected from the analysis results, using a formula. To clarify, the formula is shown below.

$$\frac{F}{TF} \times 100\%$$

F = feature

TF = total feature

The method that used to presenting the analysis of the data in this undergraduate thesis is formal and informal method. The data that has been analyzed then present in the form of paragraphs containing narrative explanations, tables, and pie chart of the data collected.

RESULT AND DISSCUSION

Woman Language Features used by Summer

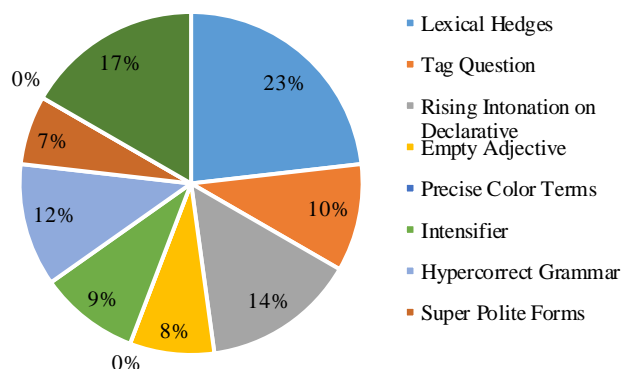
This undergraduate thesis only focuses on the utterances spoken by Summer as a main character in the movie 500 Days of Summer. After watching the movie, collecting, and analyzing the data, the results have been collected. Eight out of ten features of women language features were identified in Summer's utterances. Women language features used by Summer were lexical hedges or fillers, tag question, rising intonation on declarative, empty adjective, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, and emphatic stress. While the woman language features that are not found in Summer utterance are precise color terms and avoidance of strong swear words. Following are the explanation of the analysis.

Table 3. Women Language Features Used by Summer

Woman Language Feature	Amount	Percentage
Lexical Hedges	32	23%
Emphatic Stress	23	17%
Rising Intonation on Declarative	20	14%
Hypercorrect Grammar	16	12%
Tag Question	14	10%
Intensifier	13	9%
Empty Adjective	11	8%
Super Polite Forms	9	7%
Precise Color Terms	0	0%
Avoidance of Strong Swear Words	0	0%
Total	138	100%

The total utterances that have features of women language spoken by Summer are 138 utterances. From the data that has been analyzed, Summer uses eight out of ten features of women language features. There are 32 (23%) utterances of lexical hedges or fillers, 14 (10%) utterances of tag question, 20 (14%) utterances of rising intonation on declarative, 11 (8%) utterances of empty adjective, 13 (9%) utterances of intensifier, 16 (12%) utterances of hypercorrect grammar, 9 (7%) utterances of super polite forms, and 23 (17%) utterances of emphatic stress.

Women Language Features



Picture 1. Women language Features

According to the data analysis results in the table and pie chart above, the women's language feature that are mostly used by Summer in her utterances in the movie, these are lexical hedges or fillers (23%). Summer mostly uses lexical hedges and fillers in her utterances because she is often in situations where she feels skeptical or unsure of the validity of her utterances when she wants to express an opinion or information to her conversational partner.

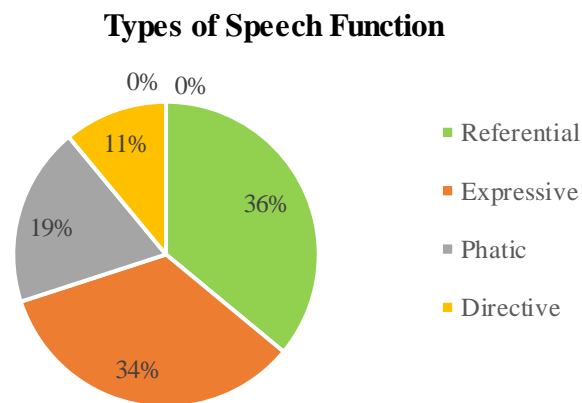
Types of Speech Function That Used by Summer

This undergraduate thesis only focuses on the utterances spoken by Summer as a main character in the movie 500 Days of Summer. After watching the movie, collecting, and analyzing the data, the results have been collected. four out of six types of speech function were identified in Summer's utterances. Speech function types used by Summer were expressive, directive, referential, and phatic. While the types of speech function that are not found in Summer utterance are metalinguistic and poetic. Following are the explanation of the analysis.

Table 4. Types of Speech Function That Used by Summer

Speech Function Types	Amount	Percentage
Referential	35	36%
Expressive	33	34%
Phatic	19	19%
Directive	11	11%
Metalinguistic	0	0%
Poetic	0	0%
TOTAL	98	100%

The total utterances that have types of speech function spoken by Summer are 98 utterances. From the data that has been analyzed, Summer uses four out of six types of speech function. There are 35 (36%) utterances of referential function, 33 (34%) utterances of expressive function, 19 (19%) utterances of phatic function, and 11 (11%) utterances of directive function. The two types of speech function that are not found in this movie, which are metalinguistic and poetic function.



Picture 2. Types of Speech Function

According to the data analysis results in the table and pie chart above, the type of speech function that are mostly used by Summer in her utterances in the movie, these are Referential Function (36%). Summer mostly uses referential function in her utterances because she is often providing information or opinions to the other person so that the other person understands about things in Summer's life.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the data that has been analyzed, a conclusion that eight out of ten features of women language features were found in the 500 Days of Summer movie. The features that were found were, lexical hedges or fillers, emphatic stress, rising intonation on declarative, hypercorrect grammar, tag question, intensifier, empty adjective, and super polite forms. Nevertheless, there are two features that are not found in this movie, which are precise color terms and avoidance of strong swear words. The features of woman language that most used features by Summer were, lexical hedges or fillers with a percentage of 23%. This is based on how she is often in situations where she feels skeptical or unsure of the validity of her utterances when she wants to express an opinion or information to her conversational partner.

From the data that has been analyzed, Summer uses four out of six types of speech function. There are referential function, expressive function, phatic function, and directive function. The two types of speech function that are not found in this movie, which are metalinguistic and poetic function. The type of speech function that are mostly used by Summer in her utterances in the movie, these are Referential Function (36%). Summer mostly uses referential function in her utterances because she is often providing information or opinions to the other person so that the other person understands about things in Summer's life.

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