CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Problem

Human is social creature. They need to interact with each other to build meaningful interaction and communication. Consequently, language is needed as a tool of communication to construct meaning, produce sounds, create gestures and signs. Sapir stated that language deals with human and non -instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desire by means of produced symbols. It means that language plays essential role to construct and build up communication and interaction among human beings. In other word, people can interact and communicate by using language as media of communication.

Humans require interaction with each other to build meaningful relationships. In these interactions, they use language to convey emotions and ideas. Language is the application of patterns and meanings to sounds, gestures, and signs. Sapir stated that Language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of voluntarily produced symbols. From this statement, it can be understood that language plays a crucial and significant role in human life. Through language, people can interact and communicate with each other in various activities they engage in. (Syinthia Sari & Thamrin, n.d.)

Language is a conventional system of symbols that can be spoken, signed, or written. Humans use language as members of social groups and participants in culture to express themselves. The functions of language include communication, expression of identity, play, imaginative expression, and emotional release. Moreover, language allows humans to share environmental experiences, both personal and collective. Effective social interaction through language facilitates human relationships, which in turn enhances the quality of life in society. (taufik, n.d.)

According to Fishman in Wardhaugh, the study of language in its relation to society is called Sociolinguistics. This term consists of two words: "socio," which means social or related to society, and "linguistics," which means the science of language. Sociolinguistics encompasses various aspects of language use in social

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contexts, including questions of who speaks what language, to whom, when, and for what purposes.(Arif & Kuswandari, 2019)

Language varies not only based on the social characteristics of speakers, such as social class, ethnic group, age, and gender. The same speakers also use various language variations for different purposes and situations. Language always reflects and shapes the situation or context in which it is used.

A communicative social interaction situation consists of several interconnected components or aspects. First, the semiotic aspect includes "sign systems" such as language, body movements, images, or other symbolic systems and the relevant forms of knowledge. Second, the activity aspect involves specific social activities performed by participants, consisting of a series of actions. Third, the material aspect includes the place, time, body, and objects present during the interaction. Fourth, the political aspect involves the distribution of "social goods" in interaction, such as power, status, and other items considered as "social goods" by participants according to their cultural models and discourse. Finally, the sociocultural aspect includes personal, social, and cultural knowledge, feelings, values, identities, and relationships relevant to the interaction, including sociocultural knowledge about sign systems, activities, the material world, and politics.

Sociolinguistics is a field of study that examines how language is used in social contexts and how social factors influence language use. This study is crucial for understanding the dynamics of language in society and how language contributes to the formation of social identity as well as social structure and relationships.

Language serves various functions, one of which is communication. Language facilitates people to interact in society. When individuals want to express and exchange ideas with each other, language must be efficient and communicative. To ensure that others do not have a negative impression of what is expressed, the use of terms that are easily understood by others is essential. The language used in the exchange of ideas must be easily understood so that the direction of the conversation becomes clear and focused.

In using language in communication, one must be able to know the appropriate usage situation. They need to understand how to position themselves during communication, whether the situation is formal or informal, and so on. This is called

style. Salzman said that "the way individuals speak not only varies according to their native and social dialects but also according to their context." Communicating with good language also must consider the conditions, situations, and contexts discussed. In communicating, all the language variations we encounter daily are all covered in the discipline of sociolinguistics. According to Spolsky (2010), sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society, language variation, and language attitudes. Sociolinguistics studies our daily life, how language works in casual conversation and media that we are exposed to, as well as policies, social norms, and laws that regulate language.(Hikmatul & Yani, n.d.)

Language style refers to how someone influences and interacts with others while communicating, shaping the message conveyed through verbal expression and the way of delivery. According to Azhar and Fitrawati (2023), language style can be defined as "a deliberately designed way of speaking and expression with selected patterns, structured, linguistic and non-linguistic elements related to subjects, intentions, contexts, speaker's intention, or discourse goals." Basically, language style is a method used by someone to achieve a particular effect in communication.(Azhar, n.d.)

Movies are an effective medium for analyzing verbal and contextual communication due to their rich portrayal of diverse language styles, cultural nuances, and interpersonal dynamics. Films present language in authentic settings, showing how verbal expressions align with social contexts, emotions, and relationships. This makes them valuable tools for studying how dialogue can reflect character traits, cultural identity, and narrative progression.

For example, movies are frequently used in language education to help learners understand variations in vocabulary, grammar, and tone in different social contexts. They allow viewers to see how language functions in real-life scenarios, enhancing their ability to adapt communication styles effectively in various settings. This aligns with Pegrum's (2008) argument that films facilitate intercultural literacy and provide critical insights into language use across cultural boundaries. Moreover, their use as pedagogical tools in classrooms demonstrates their potential to foster deeper engagement and contextual understanding.(de la Garza & Maher, 2022)

Casual style is often used in writing tests, informal essays, and reports, although research papers usually adopt a more formal tone. The casual style is in the middle of colloquial and formal style, often ignoring formal or established rules and methods. Instead, the formal style is used on special occasions requiring dignity and seriousness. It avoids contractions and strives for absolute grammatical accuracy. The use of the formal style complies with correct or accepted rules, ensuring accuracy and respect in communication.

In short, understanding and analysing various language styles through media such as films can enhance communication skills and educational practices. Casual and formal styles serve different purposes and contexts, highlighting the importance of adapting language to fit various social and communicative situations.

Film is one of the interesting audio-visual resources for students, especially for younger learners. Moreover, film can be used as a motivational tool in academics. Film has a significant role in motivating learning to speak and creating a teaching and learning atmosphere more attractive. Students can find out how to express their feelings by imitating the movies that have been shown to them. They make their own film visualization and learn to become their own characters based on the given film.

Watching films is an effective technique for learning foreign language particularly on language styles, as many films explore various language styles. For example, in "A Man Called Otto," a film directed by Marc Forster and based on the novel "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman, language plays a vital role in shaping characters and their interactions. The protagonist, Otto, is a grumpy widower whose interactions with his neighbours and community reveal various facets of his personality and his journey from isolation to relationships. This film, an American comedy-drama in 2022 directed by Marc Forster and written by David Magee, is a remake of the 2015 Swedish film "A Man Called Ove," based on Backman's 2012 novel of the same name. The cast includes Tom Hanks in the lead role, with Mariana Treviño, Rachel Keller, and Manuel Garcia-Rulfo in supporting roles. The narrative follows an old bitter man who is reluctant to get involved in his desperate neighbours. However, the world changed when a young and passionate

family moved in next door. He met his match in quick Marisol, who was very pregnant, which led to an unexpected friendship.

"A Man Called Otto" started its limited theatre release on December 29, 2022, before its wide release in the United States on January 13, 2023, by Sony Pictures Releasing. Despite receiving mixed reviews from critics, the film grossed $113 million worldwide against a production budget of $50 million. This film, based on the best-selling New York Times book that is hilarious and touching, tells the story of Otto Anderson (played by Tom Hanks), a grumpy widow who only finds joy in criticizing and evaluating his desperate neighbours. However, his world changed when a young, passionate family moved next door. He meets his match in the quick and very pregnant Marisol, leading to an unexpected friendship.

Language style in "A Man Called Otto" is crucial in depicting Otto's transformation. Initially, his language is sharp, critical, and reflects his grumpy attitude. As the story progresses, his interactions with Marisol and other neighbours become gentler, indicating a change in his language style from antagonistic to more empathetic and engaging. This transformation highlights the dynamic nature of language and its ability to reflect personal growth and changes in social relationships. Through this film, audiences can observe how language style not only defines characters but also evolves to reflect their emotional journey and interactions within their community. This makes "A Man Called Otto" an excellent source for studying the impact of language style on character development and social dynamics.

This research should include an in-depth analysis of the language styles used by the main character, Otto, as well as other characters in the film. This analysis can include word choices, sentence structures, use of dialects, and intonation used to portray the personality and emotions of each character. For example, how Otto's language, initially sharp and critical, changes to become softer and more empathetic as the story develops.

In addition to analysing individual language styles, the research should explain how language is used by characters to interact with each other and how these interactions reflect social dynamics in the film. This includes analysing dialogues

between Otto and his neighbours, and how Otto's changing language style reflects changes in his relationships with them.

This research should also explore how language styles contribute to character development in the film. For example, how changes in Otto's language style reflect his growth from a lonely and grumpy man to becoming more open and connected with his community.

Furthermore, this research should consider how situational contexts influence the language styles used by characters. For example, formal vs. informal situations, emotional situations, and how these contexts influence language choices, and the way messages are delivered.

This research should apply sociolinguistic theories to understand how language in films reflects social factors such as social class, ethnic group, age, and gender. This includes using theories from experts like Fishman and Wardhaugh on the relationship between language and society.

Moreover, this research can explore how films can be used as a learning tool to understand language styles and social interactions. Films as a rich learning resource provide concrete examples of language use in various real-life situations.

In an educational context, research on language styles in films like "A Man Called Otto" can make a significant contribution. By using films as case studies, students can learn how language is used to depict characters, develop social relationships, and communicate emotional changes. Analysing language styles can teach students about the complexity of social interactions and how language influences human perception and interaction in everyday contexts. Through this approach, using films in teaching can stimulate in-depth discussions about how language reflects and shape's social identity, as well as how contexts influence individual communication styles. This not only enhances their understanding of language but also broadens their insights into the complex social dynamics around them.

Therefore, in this research, the researcher conducts research by writing "Exploring Language Style in A Man Called Otto movie"

1.2 Research Focus

Based on this phenomenon, the research aims to investigate:

1. What are the types of language styles used by the characters in "A Man Called Otto" Movie?

2. How are language styles used by the main characters in "A Man Called Otto" Movie?

3. How is the impact of language style in English oral communication?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the focus of the research above, researchers have research objectives:

4. To analyze and describe types of language styles used by the characters in "A Man Called Otto" Movie.

5. To examine and describe language styles are used by the main characters "A Man Called Otto" Movie

6. To investigate and describe the impact of language style in English oral communication.

1.4   Research limitations

This study will focus solely on the dialogue and language styles used in the movie "A Man Called Otto," excluding other forms of communication such as body language and cinematographic techniques.

1.5   Significance Of the Research

1.5.1 Theoretically

This research will contribute to the understanding of language use in film, particularly how language styles can enhance character development and narrative progression. It will also provide insights into the sociolinguistic aspects of language in the media.

1.5.2 Practically

7. Teaching Resources: The findings can be used as teaching resources in courses on linguistics, communication, and film studies. Illustrating practical applications of theoretical concepts.

8. Curriculum Development: Educators can incorporate the analysis of language style in films into curricula to engage students in discussions about language use, media literacy, and cultural representation.

1.5.3 For Participants/student

The results of this study can be a reference or consideration for further research on Exploring of Language Style utilized by "A Man Called Otto" movie.