CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The reasons for people to speak differently in various social contexts, for example, language in multilingual communities, vernacular and standard language, and language used by different genders, are studied in sociolinguistics, as shown by Holmes (2013). In this sub-discipline of linguistics, language style based on gender is one of the most prominent topics. Coates (2013), in her book *Women, Men, and Language* elaborated on how women and men differ in their conversational practice. The aspects that she highlighted are minimal responses, hedges, tag questions, questions, commands and directives, swearing and taboo language, and compliments.

This research aims to examine and compare two characters from two different movies. However, the two characters have something in common, which is their job as a nanny and a manny. According to the Collins' dictionary, nanny is someone who is paid by parents to look after their child or children, while manny is a blend from the words *man* and *manny*. It is a male version of a nanny. The first movie that is going to be analyzed is *The Nanny Diaries (2007).* The story is centered on Annie Braddock, a recent college graduate who struggled to find a job as she feels she does not belong to the corporate job. One day, she met Mrs. X, Grayer's mother. Mrs. X asked Annie to work for her as Grayer's former nanny

recently left. Eventually, Annie accepted the offer. The other movie is *The Pacifier (2005)* which tells a story about Shane Wolfe, a personnel of the US Navy who failed to rescue a scientist, Howard Plummer, who was working on a top-secret project. Not long after, Shane is assigned on a mission to take care of five children of the late scientist while their mother is away.

Despite being two different characters from different movies, Annie and Shane share some similarities, which make them useful objects for this research. To begin with, both Annie and Shane are inexperienced in childcare. They are both assigned to take care of children and experience struggles in taking care of the children for whom they are responsible. However, these characters learned how to take good care of their assigned children as the stories progressed. Aside from the similarities, the differences from Annie and Shane's background and the contexts in their interaction are also being taken into account to see the similarities and differences between their use of gender language features.

While extensive studies have researched the implementation of gender language features in literary works and movies, such as from Dewati (2023), Karunia (2023), and Nabilah (2019), there has been limited research on how the use of gender language features differs between two characters with similar job responsibilities, as seen in the characters of Annie and Shane. This research addresses the problem by employing Jennifer Coates' theory of gender language features to reveal the dominant type performed by Annie and Shane as well as how both characters differ in using gender language features.

1.2 Research Questions

This research aims to reveal the usage of gender language features proposed by Coates (2013) by the characters Annie and Shane in the movies *The Nanny Diaries* and *The Pacifier*. By using Coates' theory of gender language features, this study aims to seek the differences of female and male characters from the same occupation in conversation through the use of gender language features. I translated this background into two research questions:

1. What are the types of gender language features found in Annie and Shane's utterances in the movies *The Nanny Diaries* and *The Pacifier*?

2. Why does the use of Coates' gender language features differ between Annie and Shane in both movies?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

As mentioned in the research questions, this study has two objectives, which are:

1. To identify and describe the language features used by Annie and Shane in the data and sort the analysis from the most frequently occurring gender language features to the least occurring.

2. To examine the differences of Annie and Shane in using gender language features in the data and the differences in background and contexts between Annie and Shane that influence the choice of gender language features.

1.4 Previous Studies

Several studies have been conducted using both the movies in this research as their objects. Sanjaya and Dharma (2018) explored women's linguistic features in the movie and the functions behind using them using the theory proposed by Lakoff. The research describes the data according to the framework of women's language according to Lakoff followed by the context of situation theory proposed by Halliday to explain the function behind the utterances. This study found that the data from this movie is applicable to Lakoff's analytic scheme as there are six types of women's language features found in the data. Another study by Rodiyah (2010) investigated the psychological aspect combined with the theory of character and characterization. This study was conducted using the theory of emotion proposed by Robert Plutchik to analyze the negative and positive emotions of the main character through the dialogues and shots in the movie.

While a previous study about *The Pacifier* by Imama (2013) investigated the speech acts used by the character Shane, the research found that he frequently used directive speech acts as a tool to manage and discipline children. Another research by Nurcahyo (2011) explored the translation of second-person address forms in *The Pacifier*, focusing on subtitling strategies and variations. The result of this research found that the translation was less accurate but generally acceptable. Despite the extensive research on both objects, researchers have not treated differences between male and female language features in much detail. No studies have been found that compare gender language features in both males and females.

The studies of language features performed by men and women have been extensive, and a number of different theories have been proposed to analyze them. For instance, a research by Maulidya et al. (2024) studied the linguistic forms found in gender in the movie *Your Place or Mine.* This research combines Robin Lakoff's theory as a framework for female language types and Jennifer Coates' theory to analyze the male language type. Another research by Aisah and Fatmasari (2021) analyzed the language used by male and female characters in *Jumanji: Welcome to The Jungle*. This research employs Wardaugh's theory to analyze the data. These studies contribute as a reference for research of gender language features and highlight how male and female characters differ in communication through movies.

Coates' theory of gender language features has been found applicable in analyzing both men's and women's utterances. Research by Kiranidewi et al. (2023) investigated Coates' gender language features found in female characters in the movie *Cruella*. This research found that the female characters in the movie used all types of gender language features proposed by Coates. Another research by Agustina and Simatupang (2024) analyzed Coates' gender language features found in male characters from the series *Sex Education*. The findings of this research show that swearing and taboo language dominated the male characters' utterances. Both studies reveal that the use of each gender language features in both genders serves different purposes.

There are also studies using Coates' gender language features theory that aims to compare the use of the features that are used by both male and female characters in literature. First, an undergraduate thesis by Dewati (2023) investigated

the implementation of gender language features found in the male and female main characters in the movie *The Prince and Me*. This study employs Coates' theory combined with Holmes' social factors theory to explain the data. This research found that both male and female characters used the types of language features proposed by Coates. However, the frequency and the dominant type used are different. Another study by Zahra and Prihhartini (2023) analyzed the gender language features found in male and female characters in the *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* novel using Coates' gender language features theory. This study shows that the language features in the novel tend to be shared between both genders. Language features that are respectively used by only one gender were not found. The next study is from an undergraduate thesis by Karunia (2023). This thesis analyzed the two main characters from the movie *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*. The objectives of this thesis are to reveal what types of Coates' gender language features are used between the two characters and reveal the purposes behind them. The results reveal that all types of Coates' gender language features are used by both John and Jane with the question type dominating. The last study that I found is an undergraduate thesis by Nabilah (2019). This study examines gender language features performed by YouTube vloggers, and the data was taken from seven videos from female vloggers and seven male vloggers. This study reveals that in all the vlogs examined, only five features are performed by male and female vloggers, with hedges as the dominant type. The features tag question and minimal response are not found in the data.

Based on the studies mentioned above, most of them analyze gender language features uttered by characters from the same movie. This research compares the gender language features performed by two characters from two different movies with similar job responsibilities, which is working as a nanny or babysitter. Despite Sanjaya and Dharma (2018) analyzed the women's language features in *The Nanny Diaries* using Lakoff's theory, there has been no research that looked into both movies with Coates' theory of gender language features. Especially when comparing the differences between how the use of gender language features differs between two characters.

1.5 Scope of the Study

This study focuses on analyzing the language features using Coates' (2013) analytic scheme. The main objects of this study are the characters Annie from *The Nanny Diaries* and Shane from *The Pacifier* and focuses on analyzing the utterances they spoke while conversing with other characters.

1.6 Writing Organization

CHAPTER I   INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of the study's background, research questions, objectives of the study, previous studies, scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II   THEORY AND METHOD

The research methodology and literature review used to examine the research questions are presented in this chapter.

CHAPTER III   RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the findings from the data and analysis used to address both of the research questions.

CHAPTER IV   CONCLUSION

A summary of the results and discussion based on the research is provided in this chapter.

REFERENCES

APPENDIX