

ABSTRACT

This study analyzes language style variations and social identity construction in Guy Ritchie's *The Gentlemen* (2019) film, focusing on Mickey Pearson, a self-made drug lord in England. Utilizing a qualitative descriptive method, this study examines Mickey's language style using Joos' language style theory (1967) and Holmes' (2013) social factor theory, while analyzing his social identity construction using Holmes & Meyerhoff's (1999) Community of Practice (CofP) framework. The findings reveal four speech styles in Mickey's 225 utterances: formal, consultative, casual, and intimate styles, affected by four social factors with function as the most dominant. Through the distinctive linguistic features of each style, Mickey positions himself outside and inside the drug trade CofP through three positions: a personal-self signified by intimate style, a criminal insider signified by casual style, and a refined drug lord signified by consultative and formal styles. Collectively, these positions construct Mickey's layered identity with the refined drug lord as the most displayed identity through marked linguistic choices. This identity shows sophistication and professionalism of a businessman while remaining integrated within the drug trade community.

Keywords: language style; social identity; community of practice (CofP); style variations and shifts