CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language has an important role in human life, both men and women certainly want to communicate well. According to Wardhaugh (1977:3), Language is defined as a system of vocal symbols used for human communication. Everyone has a different way of communicating. Every person born directly has their own language. Gender is one of the determinants that impact language use. Men and women possess unique language traits when they communicate. The sociolinguistic study of gender and language investigates the distinctions between male and female languages. Sociolinguistics' study of language and gender focuses on the relationship between language and social identities related to gender. This field of study examines how language reflects gender roles and how gender affects language use and variation.

Gender representation in the form of language is essential to analyze because it can be utilized for stereotypical interpretations of gender, especially in literary works. Gender representation can be observed through the use of language that shows the gender identity of men and women. Various social arrangements can describe how we should behave according to gender, so gender and stereotypes consequence the attitude of men and women, especially in the use of language. Gender representation is often associated with language (Lakoff, 2003).

According to Holmes (2013), men and women interact differently, men interacting in ways that gain capability as well as prestige (especially in formal contexts) and women in ways that maintain and strengthen solidarity. Also, women tend to focus more on the emotional function of interactions than men. Lakoff (as cited in Mu'minin 2013), a woman would blame herself if she was hesitant about something and demonstrates a lack of self-confidence. Due to the existence of these different stereotypes, women use characteristics that distinguish them from men. The distinctive characteristics when women speak are called women's language features. According to Coates' book Women, Men, and Language (2013), society takes advantage of women's attitudes about language in how they learn to use general language and how it represents women. Coates (2013) examines the usage of linguistic attitudes in women's speech as they relate to gender and conversational strategies. According to Coates (2013), seven characteristics are proposed: minimal responses, lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, questions, commands and directives, swearing and taboo language, and compliments.

Reedeming Love movie is based on Francine Rivers' book of the same name. The main character of this movie, Angel (played by Abigail Cowen), is a prostitute who has endured years of trauma and abuse. Because of her terrible past, Angel wants to escape her current circumstance and begin a new life. Finally, she met Michael Hosea who was a farmer. Michael Hosea fell in love with Angel and offered Angel to escape from the world of prostitution and live with him. Angel initially refused to live with Michael, but seeing Michael's efforts

to get her heart, she agreed to marry. However, as she adjusts to her new life, her past comes back to haunt her, a man named Duke is determined to catch her and turn her back into prostitution.

The movie Redeeming Love shows a phenomenon in women's language features. This movie describes the characteristic of Angel and shows the language features used by Angel in detail. Angel as the main female character is a prostitute who experiences gender stereotypes. She is often humiliated by society. The existence of these gender stereotypes in the main female character affects women to use a characteristic that distinguishes them from men. In this study, the writer wants to investigate the language features used by female characters in the film Redeeming Love. This study uses Coate's (2013) women's linguistic features as the main theory. The author proposes analyzing language features by using the descriptive qualitative method.

1.2 Objectives of the study

From the problem above, it can be concluded that the objective of this research are:

1. To identify language features used by the main female character in the movie *Redeeming Love* based on Coates' theory.
2. To describe the functions of language features used by the main female character in the movie *Redeeming Love.*
3. To explain social factors that influence the main female character used language features in the movie *Redeeming Love.*

1.3 Previous of the study

Numerous research have explored the characteristics of women's language in both verbal and written communication. Some of them are from movies, tv series, or play scripts. Previous studies have investigated women's language features. The researcher has found ten journals related to language and gender.

The majority of studies discuss women's language features. The writer found five journals that focused on women's language features as the main topic. The journal were "*Women's Language Features Used By Lara Jean In The Movie To All The Boys I've Loved Before*" by Retiningrum (2020); "*Women's Language Used by Female Characters in the Movie How To Be Single*" by Sudewi and Sedeng (2018); "*Women's Language Features Found In Female Character's Utterances In The Devil Wears Prada Movie*" by Oktapiani et al. (2017); "*Women's Language Features Used By The Female Characters In Wonder Woman Movie*" by Anjani and Setiawan (2019); and "*Female language used by the main characters in the movie Mockingjay* "by Ainy (2016). The purpose of these journals is to identify the types of language features displayed by the female characters in the movie. These studies focus on the language employed by female characters in films and emphasizes language features that are utilized by female characters. These studies have different objectives, but the results are the same, not all features are found. These studies used Lakoff's theory to discover women's language features. The finding of this study feature that always appears is lexical hedges. These all studies employ qualitative approaches to analyze the data and

identify specific language features used by the female characters. The result also shows that women's language features reflect their socialization and position in society, as well as cultural expectations and stereotypes about gender roles and behavior.

The five studies above have investigated women's language features used Lakoff's theory to analyze women's language features in real conversations and literature. Meanwhile, this study will examine language features using Coates' theory. This current study will be focusing on language features and the factors that influence the use of language features.

Furthermore, the researcher found three studies that analyze the language features used by male and female characters in the movies. *"Male and Female Language Features in a Star is Born Movie"* by Setyadi et al (2021); *"The Analysis of Men's and Women's Language Features Found in Two Western Movies*" by Farhan et al (2020); and *'The Analysis of Man and Woman Main Character's in Movie ``Music and Lyric"* Based on Women's Language Features Theories" by Wiprayanti (2022). These studies are focused on differences in language use between male and female characters in movies. These studies analyze the differences in characteristics between males and females, as well as their portrayal of gender stereotypes and conventional societal beliefs. These studies use theories and frameworks from linguistics and gender studies to guide their analyses. These studies focus on specific movies as case studies. These studies talk about gender roles and stereotypes that may be affected by these

linguistic variations. The findings of these research showed that female characters tend to use expressive and supportive language, while male characters tend to use more assertive and direct language. The differences reflect social expectations for how men and women should communicate as well as gender stereotypes. Overall, these studies show important to evaluate gendered language and it might reinforce established gender roles and norms. The three studies above focus on differences in language use between male and female characters in movies. Meanwhile, these current studies will focus on language features based on the main female character.

Other journals examined the gender-based language used in the movie. The researcher found two studies were "*Analysis of Gender-Based Language Feature of the Main Characters in the Movie Candy Jar*" by Paramita (2019) and "*Gender Language Used by Main Characters in Hidden Figures Film*" by Husain et, al (2022). All these studies examined gender-based language differences in language use. These studies focus on analyzing the characteristics of gender-based language. The study discovered features of women's language and men's language in the movies. The study also examined the gender language characteristics of the main characters and determined which characters had the most features of the gender-based language. These studies conducted an understanding of how gender is constructed and represented in the movie and how gender-based language features reflect broader societal expectations and norms around gender. The aforementioned journals primarily discuss gender-based language. Meanwhile, these current studies will discuss aspects of women's language and its functions.

This study differs from previous studies. The differences between this study and the previous study are the object of the study. In this study, the researcher wants to examine language features of the main character in Redeeming Love by using Coates theory. Additionally, the researcher will describe the function of language features used by main female character in the movie Redeeming Love. The researcher will also describe factors that influence the main female character used language features.

1.4 Scope of the study

This study focuses to examine the language features used by the main female character in the movie Redeeming Love. The study will gather data from the utterances of Angel as main female character in the movie Redeeming Love. The researchers utilize Coates (2013) theory to examine the attributes of women's language features, specifically focusing on the main female character's usage of these features. The scope of this study is limited to women's language features as described by Coates (2013).

1.5 Writing Organization

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

The first chapter consists of five sub-chapters background of the study, research objectives, previous studies, scope of the study, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II THEORY AND METHOD

This chapter is separated into two sub-chapters. The theoretical framework is the first sub-chapter which includes of language and gender, language features,

language functions, and social factor that influence language. The second sub-chapter is the methodology section which is separated into method of collecting and analyzing data.

CHAPTER III RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the results and discussion based on the analysis of language features used by Angel as main female character. There are two sub-chapters that are appropriate to the objectives of the research, the first sub-chapter discusses the types of language features used by Angel and the second sub-chapter discusses languge functions used by Angel.

CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the conclusion based on the results and discussion