

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Based on my observations and analyses, I found both SE and NSE are used by Mary, Colin, Archibald Craven, Mrs. Medlock, Martha, Dickon, and Ben Weatherstaff in *The Secret Garden* (1911). The utterances spoken in NSE include different grammatical and vocabulary features in comparison to SE. I found that characters who are depicted as being from the lower-class, Martha, Dickon, and Ben, use more NSE than the middle-class and upper-class characters.

Further analysis shows that the possible motives on using NSE are due to environment, poverty and education, as well as solidarity, which I described in section 3.2. Lower class characters might use NSE because they are native to Yorkshire, did not receive decent education, and because they are comfortable enough with the characters of higher hierarchy. Meanwhile, the upper-class characters might use NSE out of solidarity towards the lower-class characters.

The only possible motive for using SE that I found is politeness, as I described in section 3.3. The middle-class and lower-class characters who work in the manor might use SE because they want to maintain the social distance between the master and servants, as well as professionalism in the working environment. They use more subtle directives (in interrogative with requesting modals) and proper address forms. On the other hand, upper-class characters are able to use explicit directives and more straight-forward address forms. However, I found that upper-class characters switch to being more polite when talking to someone who is more superior in age or family hierarchy.

By identifying and describing the NSE and SE the characters use in their utterances, which based is on different motives, I am able to find their relations to the character's social standing. Therefore, this study is able to show that NSE and SE can be used to show characters' social class as a part of their characters' traits.