THE LANGUAGE STYLE OF TWITTER USERS

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Abstract: The research entitled "The language style of twitter users" aims to investigate the types of language style on twitter. The research problem of this study is what kinds of language styles that are mostly used by twitter users on writing status updates. This study used a qualitative approach. The data are taken from the status updates by twitter users with the topic status is #DonaldTrump. In analyzing the data, the researcher compares the theory of language style by Kriszner and Mandell (1978) and Joss (1967); the language styles are frozen, formal, informal, colloquial, slang, consultative, and intimate. In this research, the writer found that there are 40 data related to types of language style, which consist of thirty-eight data as informal, thirteen data as colloquial, eight data as slang, two data as formal style, and one data as intimate. It can be concluded that in the status updates the users often use an informal style because in social media is a casual condition.
Key words: Sociolinguistics, language variation, language style, social media, twitter

Abstrak: Penelitian dengan judul "Gaya bahasa pengguna twitter" bertujuan untuk menyelidiki tipe gaya bahasa yang di gunakan di twitter. Permasalahan pada penelitian ini adalah jenis gaya bahasa apa yang paling sering digunakan oleh pengguna twitter ketika menulis status. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif. Data yang di peroleh dari penelitian ini berasal dari status yang di tulis oleh pengguna twitter dengan topic pembahasan #DonaldTrump. Dalam menganalisa data, peneliti menggabungkan teori dari Kriszner dan Mandel (1978) dan Joss (1967) yaitu frozen, formal, informal, slang, colloquial, consultative dan intimate. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menemukan 40 data yang berkaitan dengan jenis gaya bahasa yang terdiri dari; tiga puluh delapan data informal, tiga belas data colloquial, delapan data slang, dua data formal dan satu data intimate. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa dalam menulis status di twitter para pengguna lebih sering menggunakan gaya informal.

Kata kunci : Sosiolinguistik, variasi bahasa, gaya bahasa, media sosial, twitter

INTRODUCTION

In this world, language is an important thing to interact with other people. By language, human beings express their emotion, opinion, and feelings. According to Kreidler (1998:5), "language is a system of symbol through which people communicate; people use language as a tool of communication". In other words, language is the major base for humans to communicate and socialize with their society.

In a social context, the relationship between language and society is studied in sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics also influencing various forms of language, it is called language variation. According to Holmes (2001:138-276) language variation focuses on two types the first is based on the user they are dialect, gender, age, ethnicity, and language change (Holmes, 2001:139). The second is language variation based on usage they are register, context, and style, speech functions (Holmes, 2001:237). In this research, the writer focuses on language and style.

"The language and style is a pivotal construct in the study of sociolinguistic variation (Eckret, 2001:1)". Language style focused on the differences in spoken language and written language. It can be formed by word choice, grammatical, and it could be changing in situational factors. By language style, humans can use their own words to convey their feelings and desire. In general, people unconsciously have their own characteristics both in speech or writing. The topic of language style has been discussed by several researchers. The writer found works that discussed about the types of language style. The first is style in writing by Alya Farzani (2018) entitled "Language Style in Writing Instagram Caption between Males and Females at SMA Negri 1 Medan". The researcher focuses on analyzed the language style used by males and females in Instagram based on Haas (1979) theory. The second is the research about Language Style "An Analysis of Language Style of Teenagers Found in Facebook Status" By Indra Hamzah (2017). This work focused on language style used by Facebook users from the teenager to pre-adult users in Indonesia. The result of this research shows that education and age affect the usage of language style.

Based on the researcher above, the differences between the previous studies with this work is the object of data and theory. The aim of this study is to find out the language style mostly used by twitter users.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is investigated language styles on twitter. The researcher used the design of the descriptive qualitative method because this research is not focused on numbers but tends to focus on the phenomenon of words, phrases, and sentences.

In this study, the researcher used the written text data. The data source is taken from twitter status with the topic is #DonaldTrump. To conduct this study, the researcher has been selected 40 twitter users randomly as the participants who are active writing

status on twitter every week. The researcher took one data status on twitter from each user since 19th December 2019 – 31st March 2020.

FINDINGS

This part explains about the data findings and discussion of the language style used on Twitter updates. To obtain data, the researcher analyzes status update from 40 Twitter users that have been chosen randomly by the researcher with the topic status is #DonaldTrump. As been discussed in the chapter 2, the researcher answer the problem in this research compare the theory of Kirszner and Mandell (1978: 217-219) and Joss (1967) about the kinds of language style that is frozen, formal, informal, casual, slang, colloquial, consultative and intimate. The researcher analyzes one by one the data found. For more detail, they are explained below

Formal style
Datum 1
@michaelsayman
 "Bernie Sanders is the only democratic candidate that has more donors than Donald trump".

From the data text above, the researcher concludes that this writing as a formal style. The sentence using by user is a polite words, he gives opinion to his followers that Bernie Sanders get the more donors than Donald Trump.

Informal style
Datum 7

@SedSia
"The way @realDonaldTrump is going; Middle East is going to run out of austere religious scholars. Do something Washington Post!"

Based on the data above the researcher concludes this writing as an informal style. In the sentences *"Do something Washington Post!"* the user write casually with firmness to Washington post in order to wrote some news or article about the problems in Middle East scholars.

Slang style
Datum 22
@sneakyzeekee
"At this point America is a legit comic book world, invading the white house, innocents dying and freaking batman showing up in the protest!? But they screw corona right. Destruction first safety later! #DonaldTrump #Anonymous #protest2020 #blacklivesmatter#".

From the text above, it is clear that the writer uses a slang style represented by the word "screw" meaning cheat someone out of something. The user used slang words to expresses disappointment to the American government because several problems occur in that country.

Colloquial style
Datum 35
@dlgcp
"The current political situation in the US reminds me of those olde skool Star Trek episodes where a captain goes nuts and the crew hafta wrestle

control of the ship back before it explodes. #donaldtrump #startrek #spaceforce #uspolitics".

Based on the text above, the sentence consists of colloquial style which is represented by the word hafta (have + to). In this case, the writer telling about politics situation in America is look like a scene in the movie.

Intimate style
Datum 40
@Huntress62
"Dear #Tulsa #Oklahoma: I fear for your city tomorrow. # DonaldTrump wants a riot".

The text above can conclude as an intimate style. In the sentences "*Dear*" the writer tries to explain her empathy to Tulsa and Oklahoma because of Donald Trump.

DISCUSSION

This study discusses the types of language styles. In this case, the researcher compares the language style between Kirszner and Mandell's (1978) and Joss's (1967) theory. According to Joos (1967: 11), language style divided into five styles those are; frozen, formal, casual, consultative, and intimate. Based on Kriszner and Mandell (1978) there are four types of language styles: formal, informal, colloquial, and slang and intimate. Based on the data findings have been analyzed above, the researcher found 40 data related to the kinds of language style. The data consists of 38 data of informal style,

13 data as colloquial, 8 data as slang, and 2 data as formal, 1 data as intimate.

Informal is the language style that most often used by twitter users in writing status because the informal style has a simple structure. In this case, Twitter users used an informal style to express their feeling, idea, spontaneous, firmness, protest, and giving opinions. The second is a colloquial style. Twitter users use a colloquial style because much freer of grammatical and careless to shortened words in writing. Then, the third is a slang style. Slang is a language style more informal than colloquial a style, which is generally used in twitter status to describe something or someone with the words that can be understood by groups of people. The fourth is a formal style; this style used in formal condition and situation, the sentences relatively long and using polite words. The last is intimate style. These styles used between people who are much closed and know each other.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research problem, this study is focusing on identifying the language style on twitter. The object data in this research is the status updates of twitter users with the topic is #DonaldTrump. From the data collected, the researcher found 40 data that are appropriated with types of language styles that are formal, informal, colloquial, slang, and intimate.

In this study, the most dominant language style used by users

is Informal style with the data found 38 data and in the second place is colloquial style 13 data. It could be concludes that the twitter users like to used informal style and shortened words forms in writing status.

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