

# LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY JUSTIN BIEBER AND HILLARY CLINTON GUEST STAR IN “THE ELLEN SHOW” TALK SHOW

*by* Terra Ertanti

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# LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY JUSTIN BIEBER AND HILLARY CLINTON GUEST STAR IN “THE ELLEN SHOW” TALK SHOW

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## Abstract

This research focus on analyzing the language features on men and women in talk shows. It was chosen this way, but the practical program of communication between men and women shows the characteristics of their language. Therefore, the researchers aimed to answer the language features on men and women in talk shows and the purpose of using these features. This research was conducted using a qualitative description method. Data were analyzed by identifying and classifying six language features defined by Coates and ten language features determined by Lakoff. The survey results show that in the talkshow, only 5 options were classified as language features between men and women. Such as Minimal Response, Compliments, Swearing & Taboo Language, Question & Hedges. The

Men's Talk Show program, the total of language features is 25 times. Those are 6 of Minimal Response, 6 of Compliments, 1 of Swearing & Taboo Language, 1 of Question, & 11 of Hedges. In the women's Talk Show program, this research found 87 language features on women in Talk Show program. The language features are 40 of Lexical Hedges or Fillers, 2 of Empty Adjective, 1 of Hypercorrect Grammar, 1 of Superpolite Forms, 5 of Rising Intonation or Declaratives, 36 of Intensifiers and 10 of Minimal Response. But after the researcher did, Justin Bieber can also use the language features used by women, and Hillary Clinton can also use the language features used by men.

**Keyword :** Men's Language, Women's Language, The Ellen Show

## Introduction

Coulmas (as quoted by Wardhaugh in 2006) shows that linguistics studies how systems affect the way people speak, as well as the way language types how to use is related to social attributes (such as level, gender, and age). Holmes (1992), "Gender differences in the language of victims are fair community reflection on other common language differences in hierarchy or power differences".

Nowadays, language features on men and women that are used in real life are found in media; like television, radio, and magazine. One of the television programs which used many differences between language features on men and women is a talk show. One of choosing the talk show is "The Ellen" Talk Show. Researcher interested in using this data source because *Ellen DeGeneres* talk show, show that used many differences between man and women language features. Ellen Lee DeGeneres is a comedian, TV presenter, writer and producer. Lakoff (1975) shows that language features on women have certain language features, such as: lexical hedges (fillers), tag questions, rising intonation or declaratives, empty adjectives, precise colour terms,

intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super-polite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. And Coates (2004) provides the language features on men, like us: minimal response, command and directives, swearing & taboo language, compliments, question, and hedges.

The researcher read a 2018 article by Tri Puspa Juwita, Dyah Sunggingwati, Nita Maya Valiantien 2018, entitled "*The Differences Between Men And Women's Language In The Devil Wears Prada Movie*". The second previous study from State Islamic University, written by Rif'atul Farizati Nabilah in 2019, entitled "*The Use Language Features Between Man and Women on Youtube Vlog*". In their study, they analyzed the characteristics of language between men and women on YouTube, but in this study, the researcher would do it analyze the language characteristics of guest stars at "The Ellen Show" talk show and analyze the relationship between women, men and women. Status or position of guest stars to talk.

## Sociolinguistics

Jendra (2010) sociolinguistics can be the branch of linguistics that creates language as the object of analysis in a very high way, sometimes distinguishes it from grammar, semantics, morphology, and descriptive linguistics. Coulmas (as quoted by Wardhaugh, 2006) shows that microlinguistics studies how systems affect the way people speak, and the diversity and use of language social attributes (such as position, gender, and age).

## Language Features on Women

Certain language features used by women are called language features on women. Lakoff (1975) mentions several linguistic options. Women use language features more specifically than accurately determining uncertainty and lack of confidence. There are 10 language features on women according to Lakoff (1975) Lexical Hedges or Fillers (for the example such as you know, well, kind of, sort of, i mean, i think, probably, maybe, i guess etc, reduce the force of an utterance), Empty Adjectives (Adjectives such as pretty, wonderful, divine, adorable, charming,

are strongly marked as feminine),<sup>10</sup> Hypercorrect Grammar by Lakoff (1975) stated that hypercorrect grammar was the form of grammar usage which was codified as a standard English form according to grammar books, Superpolite Forms (for example, please or would you please), Rising intonation or Declaratives it can cause a variety of emotional changes, such as unity, doubt, surprise, interest, request and advice, politeness, lack of confidence in people who are willing to continue to talk, Intensifiers (e.g : absolutely, really, so, just, very at all), Tag Question (for example *isn't he?*), Precise color terms (the examples of are beige, ecru, aquamarine),<sup>10</sup> Avoidance of Strong Swear Words (e.g *Oh my God*, I lost my wallet again!), and the last is Emphatic Stress (e.g : brilliant).

## Language Features on Men

Coates (2004) gave language features on men. First, minimal response can be collectively referred to as an inverted channel. This includes terms like hmm, yeah and ok. People tend to use this word to dominate. Second, commands and directives tend to use special commands, especially in same-

sex teams, such as: gimme, gonna, and gotta. Third, <sup>17</sup> swearing and taboo language. It is generally believed that men use taboo words than women. Analysis shows that oral communication of men uses more taboo words than women's conversations, and mixed conversation tends to accommodate both parties, such as damn, fuck, suck, shit, etc. Fourth, compliments, Analysis shows that men often praise the abilities and wealth supported by each other in parentheses, a cool, good boy, good job. Fifth is questions, will trigger questions to get information, which is a unique model for girls who usually use question tags to ask questions. Finally, a hedges , they ask questions directly.

## Research Method

### 1. Research Design

<sup>1</sup> This research was conducted use a qualitative description method because the researchers used transcripts as data. Ary (2010) show that qualitative descriptions of words or shots are caused more by diversity of knowledge but the reason why scientists use numbers is because of tools that help researchers gather knowledge. In addition, the

researcher also use the transcript analysis function to assist analysts in answering research questions. In detail, as a result, researchers can certainly accept the types of language features on Justin Bieber and Hillary Clinton and that use language features, such as the research questions in this research.

### 2. Research Instrument

There is no research instrument in this study because researchers only download the transcript available in the video through the link so that no instrument is used.

### 3. Data and Data Source

The data in this research was submitted from transcripts of Ellen DeGeneres Talk show which gathered from Youtube. There were 2 episodes that were used to gather the data. The first episode was on 28th January 2020, it was Justin Bieber as the guest star. The second episode was on 6th February 2020, it was Hillary Clinton as the guest star.

#### 4. Data Collecting Procedure

Researchers download video talk show from YouTube (www.youtube.com). Video shows, and researchers download scripts or transcripts from video shows. Researchers watch videos to understand the language features of Justin Bieber and Hillary Clinton. Then, the researchers came to the conclusion: listening to data related to language features. The researchers collected words, words, clauses or phrases planned by Lakoff and Coates, including the characteristics of language features on men and women.

#### 5. Data Analysis Procedure

Listing the words on both transcripts which contained ten characteristics of women's language features on women and six characteristics of language features on men. Analyzing each of their word using the theory which already provided in the table. The next procedure was writing up the report. Concluding.

### Result and Discussion

#### 1. Result of Hillary Clinton

No	Language Features	Expression	Total
18 1	Lexical Hedges or Fillers	Well	7
		You know	10
		Actually	7
		I mean	6
		Kind of	1
		Probably	3
		I think	5
		Maybe	1
2	Empty Adjective	Wonderful	1
		Pretty	1
3	Hypercorrect Grammar	I am saying the same thing to everybody	1
4	Super Polite Forms	Please	1
5	Rising Intonation or Declarative	/win?	1
		/documentary?	1
		/interviewed?	1
		/that?	1
		/i'll tell you	1
6	Intensifiers	Absolutely	1
		Really	8
		Just	1
		So	16
		Very	4
7	Minimal Respons	Yeah	1
		Yes	2
		Ok	1
		Right	1
		Mmhm	2

### **1.1 Lexical Hedges or Fillers HC**

In the table, lexical Hedges used by HC has a function as a filler, give HC space to think about the next word she wants to say.

### **1.2 Empty Adjectives HC**

In the table, HC uses the word *wonderful* to explain so many people and great things that are going. Based on Lakoff, *wonderful* belongs to empty adjectives which are often used by women. And *Pretty* in that sentence is not the real meaning of doing a clear perspective rather than to describe that the clear perspective she feels like what it is going to take to win about the presidential election. Because HC talk about politic then mention some uncommon adjective that can describes something specific about us, women for example. By often use an adjective that associated with women, it means describing her gender also as a woman.

### **1.3 Hypercorrect Grammar HC**

In the table, HC said *I am saying the same thing to everybody* instead of just made it simple like *I'm saying the same thing to everybody*. Compared to men, women use a more standard form of English because women respect their needs. Because women are considered subordinates, some people think that women should do speak carefully and politely. The reseacher indicated that HC applied hypercorrect grammar to use the right and polite form.

### **1.4 Superpolite Forms**

In the table, HC use word *please* as a super polite form. Because Women are considered euphemistic experts and know how to talk to others properly. There is an idea that shows how polite order is stated so that it sounds more neutral to ask for.

### 1.5 Rising Intonation or Declaratives

In the table, HC uses rising intonation in that statement to convince and to make an emphasize to the listener that she said something serious as well as to make the listener pay attention to her. The content of the sentence above is HC tried to explain about the fact. After she explains those facts, she tried to make such an interaction with the people by asking the question with high intonation on the word *win* to pressure her question. That the meaning of */documentary?* , */interviewed?* , and */that?* the expression is the same explanation as to the data */win*. Commonly, those word is used in the general question.

### 1.6 Intensifiers

In the table, Hc use intensifiers have a function as a filler, give HC agree with the statement, tho show the expression of surprise when it is used with question word or to convenience an utterance, and the express certainty or sureness of utterance that improve the meaning

of other expressions and show the main points.

### 1.7 Minimal Responses

In the table, here it has the function of showing the listener expressed its support for the current speaker.

## 2. Result of Justin Bieber

No	Language Features	Expression	Total
1	Minimal Response	I do/did	3
		Yeah	2
		Thank you	1
2	Compliments	Awesome	1
		Amazing	2
		Great	3
3	Swearing or Taboo	Oh my God	1
4	Question	You sure ?	1
5	Hedges	I think	2
		Like	3
		You know	1
		I'm giving	5

### 2.1 Minimal Responses of JB

In the table, JB uses minimal response. It is clear to express that JB agrees with Ellen's question. Therefore, here it has the function of showing the listener expressed its support for the current speaker.

### 2.2 Compliments of JB

In the table, JB uses those words to weaken the meaning and this adjective to describe which has uniqueness in doing it.

### 2.3 Swearing or Taboo of JB

In the table, JB uses the word God as a swearing. Lakoff (1973: 50) shows that men can also use stronger vulgar language (shit, fuck, damn). The word *God* is usually used by women but, JB uses word *God* because he is talking to a woman who is older than his age. Then their Justin uses a more polite choice of words to respect the woman.

### 2.4 Question of JB

In the table, JB says *you sure ?* to ask the question directly. Furthermore, JB uses questions to weaken the meaning.

### 2.5 Hedges of JB

In the table, JB uses words as hedges to give the space to think about the next word he wants to say.

## The Difference between <sup>1</sup> Language Features on Men and Women

Based <sup>on</sup> the data analysis on for 2 videos found, the researcher identified that Justin Bieber used five out of six men's language features, such as minimal responses, compliments, swearing and taboo language, question and hedges. One feature what is not used by men's language features is command and directives. Based on the data gathering and analysis, the researcher identified that Hillary Clinton used 6 out of 10 <sup>2</sup> language features on women, such as : lexical hedges or fillers, empty adjective, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, rising intonation or declarative and intensifiers. Therefore, the researcher use these features based

on the theory of Coates and Coates (2004) language features on men and Lakoff (1975) language features on women. .But after researcher did, Justin Bieber can also use the language features on women, and Hillary Clinton can also use the language features on men. For example in Justin Bieber used word *God* which is commonly used by women, but Justin used the word to respect his interlocutors that a woman who was older than him. And then, Hillary Clinton also uses the minimal response feature which in Coates's theory should be used by men but in this context Hillary Clinton uses a minimum response because the background of Hillary Clinton is an important person who is talking to an Ellen who is a talk show host. Then Hillary uses a minimum response because it is influenced by social status. On the other hand, men and women. The reason for this difference is that the system influences the way people speak and the variation and use of language related to social attributes (such as our level, gender, and age).

## **Conclusion**

The researcher have completed the analysis, discussion and conclusion. The author concludes that all findings are related to this paper. The thesis under the title "*Language Features Used by Justin Bieber and Hillary Clinton Guest Star in "The Ellen Show" Talk Show*" using the theory of Lakoff (1975) Coates (2004) to focus on the characteristics languages features on men and women in talk shows. This research was conducted using qualitative descriptive methods. In the researcher found several findings related to language features.

According to the conclusions of Chapter 4, can be concluded in *Language Features used by Justin Bieber and Hillary Clinton Guest Star in "The Ellen Show" Talk Show*. It is because every the talk show which contains language features on men and women guest star have fulfilled the elements to forming convincing language differences and linguistic features according to Lakoff's and Coates's theory.

The language features used by Justin Bieber have been collected and may involve the language features of six language features used by men those are

Minimal Responses, Compliments, Swearing and Taboo Language, Question and Hedges. And language features used by Hillary Clinton is collected and draw the conclusion is that women use the ten language feature those are Lexical Hedges or Fillers, Empty Adjectives, Hypercorrect Grammar, Superpolite Forms, and Rising Intonation or Declarative, Intensifiers and Minimal Response.

The conclusion of this study is that Coates (2004) puts forward 5 language features out of 6 features for men and women in talk shows. Such as Minimal Response, Compliments, Swearing & Taboo Language, Question, and Hedges. In men talk shows, languages features is 25 times. Those are 6 of Minimal Response, 6 of Compliments, 1 of Swearing and Taboo Language, 1 of Question, and 11 of Hedges. On women's Talk Show, this research found 87 language features on women in Talk Show. The features are 40 of Lexical Hedges or Fillers, 2 of Empty Adjective, 1 of Hypercorrect Grammar, 1 of Superpolite Forms, 5 of Rising Intonation or Declaratives, 36 of Intensifiers and 10 of Minimal Response.

<sup>2</sup> In the use of language features, women dominate. During this period, the researchers found 25 words that represented language features. In the talk show of men, the researchers found 87 words with language characteristics. In addition, according to analysis, men use Compliments, Minimal Response, and Hedges. While women are dominant in using Lexical Hedges or Fillers, Intensifiers, and Minimal Response. But after the researcher did, Justin Bieber can also use the language features used by women, and Hillary Clinton can also use the language features used by men.

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# LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY JUSTIN BIEBER AND HILLARY CLINTON GUEST STAR IN "THE ELLEN SHOW" TALK SHOW

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