

An Analysis of Language Style in “Baby Driver’s” Movie Script

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Abstract:

Language style has many types, and its use is adjusted to the situation and conditions. Another factor that affects a person's language style is the relationship with other individuals. This study aims to analyze the types of language styles in the script of the film *Baby Driver* released in 2017. The documentary approach is used to collect the data, while the descriptive qualitative research method is used to analyze the data. Martin Joos' style language theory was used to classify the types of style language used in the movie. After analyzing, the researcher found 46 utterances that can be classified into several types of language styles. The language style types include 2 utterances for formal style, 7 utterances for consultative style, 30 utterances for casual style, and 7 utterances for intimate style. The researcher did not find the use of the frozen style in Edgar Wright's movie.

Keywords: Language Style; Movie Script; *Baby Driver*

Abstrak:

Gaya bahasa memiliki banyak tipe dimana penggunaannya disesuaikan dengan situasi dan kondisi yang sedang terjadi. Faktor lain yang mempengaruhi gaya bahasa seseorang adalah hubungan dengan individu lainnya. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa terkait tipe-tipe gaya bahasa yang ada pada naskah film *Baby Driver* yang dirilis pada tahun 2017. Pendekatan dokumenter digunakan untuk mengumpulkan datanya, sedangkan metode penelitian kualitatif deskriptif digunakan untuk menganalisa datanya. Teori gaya bahasa milik Martin Joos digunakan untuk mengklasifikasikan tipe gaya bahasa yang digunakan dalam film. Setelah melakukan analisa, peneliti menemukan 46 ujaran yang dapat diklasifikasikan kedalam beberapa tipe gaya bahasa. Tipe gaya bahasa yang dimaksud diantaranya 2 ujaran untuk formal style, 7 ujaran untuk consultative style, 30 ujaran untuk casual style, and 7 ujaran untuk intimate style. Peneliti tidak menemukan penggunaan frozen style dalam film garapan Edgar Wright.

Kata kunci: Gaya Bahasa; Naskah Film; *Baby Driver*

INTRODUCTION

When using language, someone must adjust their language style according to the situations and conditions they encounter. Wardhaugh n.d. mentioned that the language style someone uses is influenced by the social context and the relationship between the speaker and the listener. This causes an individual's language style to be constantly changing. Changes in language style can be observed through various aspects, such as

vocabulary choice, grammatical structure, tone, and intonation used. Additionally, a person's language style can also reflect their personality and mindset (Meyerhoff, 2018).

Baby Driver is a movie by Edgar Wright that was released in 2017. This action film tells the story of a teenager named Baby who is caught up with a gang of robbers. Baby has a condition he has suffered from since the accident involving his parents. This condition makes Baby's hearing more sensitive than most people. Since the death of his parents, Baby has been living with his stepfather, who is now an old man. Baby has a debt to a bank robber named Doc. To pay off his debt to Doc, Baby has to work as a driver for him. It should be noted that Baby has a talent for driving cars. However, when the debt is paid off, Baby is not released by Doc. Baby is forced to participate in the next bank robbery plan because Doc threatens to kill his stepfather. This time, the robbery does not go as smoothly as before. Many problems arise, such as Baby's betrayal and Baby's decision to leave the robbery gang. The film presents various issues that Baby faces due to being trapped with the robbery syndicate.

In this research, the researcher investigates the use of language style by the cast of *Baby Driver* (2017). The language style theory proposed by Martin Joos is used to classify the types of language styles employed in the film. Additionally, the researcher identifies the language styles that frequently appear in the film. This study is expected to provide deeper knowledge about language style to the readers. The researcher also hopes that readers can differentiate the use of language styles according to the situations that arise.

Several researchers have conducted studies on language style using various objects. The study titled "An Analysis of Language Style Used by The Main Character in *Wonder*" by Rosyda (2021) successfully classified the language styles used by the main character into four types: formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. Additionally, Ramdhani et al. (2020) research titled "Language Style in *What A Girl Wants Movie*" found that casual style and intimate style were used more frequently than others.

In Purba et al. (2021) study titled "Utilizing Instagram Social Media on Language Style: An Analysis of Teenagers as Millennial Generations in Their Captions," it was shown that they successfully classified the captions used by millennial teenagers into all types of language styles. Juliana Dewi et al. (2020) research titled "Language Style in Romantic Movies" demonstrated that intimate style was used more often than frozen style

in romantic movies. The study titled “Five Language Style Analysis of the Host in the Tonight ShowTalk Show: A Sociolinguistic Analysis” by Muziatun et al. (2020) indicated that Jimmy Fallon only used two types of language style, namely consultative style and casual style. This is because the host wants to make the conversation with his guest stars more comfortable. These five previous studies can assist the researcher in understanding how situations influence individuals in choosing the language styles they use.

Although there are many previous studies discussing language style, the researcher chose this research topic using a different object, namely the action-crime movie entitled *Baby Driver*. This genre of movie is rarely used as a subject in studies on language style because the variation in language used by the cast is usually less diverse. However, the researcher successfully found utterances from the actors that can be classified into the types of language styles proposed by Martin Joos.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Language style is a form of variation in language use that a person employs while communicating. The choice of language style used by someone typically depends on the situation at hand. According to Wardhaugh n.d., a person's language style adjusts to situational factors such as the relationship between speakers and the topic of discussion. In its usage, language style is divided into several types, ranging from formal to informal. Joos stated that there are five types of language styles, including frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style.

Frozen Style

Frozen style is the most formal and elegant form of language style compared to others. Stated that the frozen style has a specific vocabulary and a complex structure, which is used to convey respect and authority. This is why this style is only used in certain events. Frozen style is often employed in symbolic moments such as royal ceremonies, religious rites, official state speeches, and so on.

Formal Style

Formal style is a type of language style used in important and serious situations where the explanation must be conveyed clearly. According to Joos (1967) formal style is structured language used in professional contexts. This language style is often found in

academic writing, official documents, and professional communications such as business presentations.

Consultative Style

Consultative style is a semi-formal language style commonly used in professional domains. Wardhaugh n.d. said that consultative style involves interaction between both parties, typically occurring in professional interactions. This style is commonly found in business meetings, educational settings, and customer service.

Casual Style

Casual style is an informal type of language style usually employed in everyday life. This style is used to communicate with close acquaintances without implying a deep emotional bond. According to Joos (1967), casual style represents everyday communication used in relaxed settings. Additionally, this style includes slang language, which makes the communication more familiar.

Intimate Style

Intimate style is a form of language that is the most personal in nature. This style implies a deep emotional bond between its users. Joos (1967) stated that intimate style consists of vocabulary and terms that are known only to people who share close relationships, such as family, partners, and friends.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research used a descriptive qualitative research method. Qualitative research explains social phenomena through various methodologies. According to Dawson (2013), qualitative research explores attitudes, behaviors, and experiences through methods such as interviews or focus groups. In addition, the researcher used a documentary approach to collect data. In this study, the documentary approach was used to read the script and watch the film *Baby Driver* (2017).

The research instruments used in this study are human instruments. This is because the researcher was directly involved in collecting data, analyzing the findings, and drawing conclusions from the data. Additionally, the researcher used the internet to help find the film and script of *Baby Driver* (2017) that were used as data in this research. The theory

by Martin Joos was used to classify the types of language styles used by the cast of Baby Driver (2017).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings

Based on the analysis that has been conducted, the researcher successfully identified a total of 46 data points that can be classified into 4 types of language styles. The types of language styles referred to include formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The researcher did not find any use of frozen style by the cast of Baby Driver movie. The following table shows the number of utterances used by the actors in more detail.

Table 1. Findings

Types of Language Style	Frequency	Percentage
Formal Style	2	5%
Consultative Style	7	15%
Casual Style	30	65%
Intimate Style	7	15%
Total	46	100%

From the 46 data points mentioned in the table above, it is noted that there are only 2 utterances that fall into formal style, 7 utterances into consultative style, 30 utterances into casual style, and 7 utterances into intimate style.

Formal Style

Formal style is a language style used in formal situations, characterized by relatively complex sentence structures. This style is typically used in presentations or when speaking with strangers.

Data 1

The Butcher: Tonight gentlemen, ladies, we have only the finest cuts of pork. Direct from local smokehouse.

Darling: What?

The dialogue above occurs during a meeting between the butcher, who is a weapons supplier, and one of the robbers named Darling. The utterance that demonstrates formal language style in the dialogue is the butcher's statement, "Tonight, gentlemen and ladies." This utterance is considered formal language because it uses standard language and takes place in a business context, which is a formal situation.

Data 2

Doc: Baby?

Baby: You're going to hit an armored truck at Banco Popular in El Monte at 10am sharp. You have the details of the route because someone at the depot has a nasal problem. The bank itself is right by the 10 so we should be able to hit a ramp within 60 seconds of getting out. We also have a diversion crew, who are going to blow up a bread truck a ways away, keep the fuzz busy. Dress code is Michael Myers Halloween masks, but you can't all buy the masks at the same time, looks suspicious. You guys have the switch car all set up, but you want me to go out to the long stay parking structure at a Metrolink and get a ride that stays colder for longer. Boost a commuter car, a family car. Something that will blend into the morning traffic.

Doc: That's my baby.

Based on the dialogue above, shows a formal situation where the robbers are having a meeting to organize a strategy to rob a bank. The utterances said by Baby show a formal style. This is because Baby explains again the strategies that his team will have to do.

Consultative Style

Consultative style is a language style used in semi-formal situations, where the sentence structure is a blend of formal and informal language. This style can be found in business meetings, educational environments, and customer service interactions.

Data 3

Baby: Are you here tomorrow?

Lady Teller: Sure am. Workin' 9 to 5, Just like dolly.

Baby: Oh, Dolly Parton. I like her.

Lady Teller: Who doesn't? Everybody wants happiness, nobody wants pain, but you can't have a rainbow without a little rain'. Wise lady.

Baby: She is.

Based on the dialogue above, it shows a semi-formal situation where the conversation is conducted by a customer and a teller in an American post office. Moreover, the sentence used by the lady teller belongs to the consultative style because she is talking to a customer who is a stranger. She has to be professional.

Data 4

Waitress: You're back.

Baby: I am.

Waitress: Yeah, you are. And you sir are going to be my last customer because I am walking outta that door in precisely 30 seconds.

The data above shows the use of a consultative style. The conversation that takes place in this fast food restaurant shows a semi-formal conversation because it is conducted by a waitress to her customers. In addition, the sentence that shows the use of consultative style is "And you sir are going to be my last customer because I am walking outta that door in precisely 30 seconds".

Casual Style

Casual style is an informal language style commonly used in everyday conversations. Users often employ this style to speak with close acquaintances, such as friends and family.

Data 5

Young Mother: I have a child.

Bats: Get the fuck out of the car lady!

Based on the dialogue above, this conversation takes place on a congested highway. Bats steal a car from a young mother to escape from the police chase. The casual style is demonstrated by the utterance “Get the fuck out of the car, lady!” said by Bats.

Data 6

Buddy: That’s true? You listen to music to drown out a noise in your head?

Baby: Uhm, yeah. And when I don’t want to think about stuff.

Buddy: It’s an escape. I get it.

Baby: It gets me moving, you know. Music makes everything better.

This conversation took place between teammates just before the meeting started. Buddy and Baby are discussing the reason behind Baby listening to music all day. The utterance “Uhm, yeah. And when I don’t want to think about stuff.” said by Baby shows the use of casual style.

Intimate Style

Intimate style is the most private language style, implying a deep emotional bond between its users. This style is typically used with very close individuals, such as romantic partners.

Data 7

Debora: What’s happening, Baby?

Baby: I have to go.

Debora: No, I’ll go with you.

This conversation happened when Baby had just shot his teammate due to a conflict. He had to run away and leave Debora. Debora refused and wanted to come with him. The utterances “No, I’ll go with you.” uttered by Deborah shows an intimate style. In addition, the conversation above also shows the relationship between Debora and Baby who are in a relationship.

Data 8

Debora: Baby, we need to go outta here

Baby: I just need do one thing first. Then it’s just us, music, and road.

Debora: But we don’t have a car or music

Baby: Yeah, we do.

The conversation above took place shortly after Baby made a phone call with Doc to ask for help. Deborah says that they have to leave soon because they have limited time. Baby says that she has to do one more thing before they can leave in peace. This conversation falls into the intimate style, as evidenced by Baby's "Then it's just us, music, and road". The sentence shows that Deborah doesn't need to worry because she and Baby will continue to be together. It also shows that the relationship between the two is getting more serious.

Discussions

Based on the findings above, the researcher found 46 data that can be classified into 4 types of language styles. The types of language styles are formal style as much as 2 data, consultative style as much as 7 data, casual style as much as 30 data, and intimate style as much as 7 data. From the data that has been analyzed, the researcher did not find any use of frozen style by the cast of Baby Driver. This finding has similarities with one of the previous studies, Rosyda (2021) which succeeded in classifying 4 out of 5 types of language style.

The use of language style by the players is adjusted to the situation that is being experienced at that time. The use of formal style is usually used in formal situations where it requires well-structured language. In the movie Baby Driver, a formal style is used when meeting with business colleagues and when making presentations in meetings. In addition, there is a consultative style which is often found in semi-formal situations. In this study, the researcher found the use of consultative style in conversations between waitresses and customers or tellers and customers.

From the four types of language styles found by the researcher, the casual style is often used by the cast of the movie Baby Driver than the other types. This is because the plot of the movie takes place in everyday life where it can be found in conversations with coworkers and friends. In addition, the genre of the movie also affects the use of language style of the players. This finding is different from previous research by Muziatun et al. (2020) who analyzed romantic movies. The language style that appears more often is intimate style because it focuses on the romantic relationship of the players. For the movie Baby Driver itself, the use of intimate style is found in the conversation between Baby and

Debora and Buddy and Darling who are lovers. This proves that the use of intimate style is intended for someone who has a very close emotional bond.

CONCLUSION(S)

This research focuses on identifying and classifying types of language style into five different categories: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style, in accordance with the theory of Martin Joos. The researcher uses the film *Baby Driver* as the object of this study. Based on the analysis, the researcher found 46 data that can be identified and classified into four types of language styles. The data are divided into two conversations for formal style, seven conversations for consultative style, thirty conversations for casual style, and seven conversations for intimate style. The researcher did not find any use of frozen style by the cast of *Baby Driver*. This is because fact that the movie is of the action and crime genre, set in everyday life.

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