

Linguistic Features of Women's Speech Used by Men in Characters of *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) Movie

Merry Rullyanti¹, Kezy Claudia Dohona²

English Literature Department, Universitas Dehasen Bengkulu ,

Email¹: merry.rullyanti85@gmail.com,

Email²: kezyaldiano@gmail.com

Abstract

This thesis examines the linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters from 2016 British-American comedy and horror movie directed by Burr Steers and written by Seth Grahame-Smith and Jane Austen entitled *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*. The objectives of this research can be further detailed as the following; (1) to find the linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie, (2) to find the functions of the linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie and (3) to find the kind of social manners which became the background for the men to use linguistic features of women's speech in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie. With descriptive qualitative as the methodology, the researcher divide activity into three stages: first analyze linguistic features of women's speech using theory from Lakoff (2004). Second, analyze the function of linguistic features of women's speech using theory by Holmes (2001). Third, analyze social manners using the theory by Hoppe (2000). After the researcher analyzed data that is collected from sentence, phrase and word used by men characters in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (20016) movie, the researcher conclude that the dominant kind of linguistic features of women's speech used by men characters is hypercorrect grammar. And the function that dominantly used is function to strengthen (booster devices). And the dominant social manners which became the background for men to use linguistic features of women's speech is men were dominant.

Keywords: Characters of *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016), Linguistic Features, Women's Speech.

Introduction

Research on language and gender studies emphasize the focus on the effect of gender on the use of language. Research on language diversity of men and women have revealed their characteristic differences in language use between men and women. One of it is the difference in communicative abilities is common features of language use. The subject matter of linguistics is a language, it is a social human behavior. Social human behaviors finally shape society; society is any group of people who are drawn together for a certain purpose or purposes.

Based on the statement of Mohammad and Al-Harashseh (2014) the way people speak differently in different social context is learned in Sociolinguistics. Men and women have their own characteristic and behavior in the society so it can make them become different in some aspect, especially in the way they use a language. There are many factors that caused the difference of language that used by men and women. Men and women have different role and status in the society. The way of their thought and then represent it into a language is also different those are difference in the choice of word, vocabulary, and grammar used.

According to Tannen (1990) the roles of gender are contrastive, men like to behave as dominant as talkers, while women are in second place during the process of conversation. Important to realize in this issue, however, is the different perspectives the two sexes have in casual speech. If women speak and hear a language of connection and intimacy, a clash of

conversation styles can occur, when confronted with a men's language concerned with status and independence. Misinterpretation of the use of linguistic functions, thus, often arises.

In this research the researcher used theory by Robin Tolmach Lakoff, she is a linguist who spearheaded the research focused on the study of the relationship between language and gender. She argues in her book: *Language and Women's Place: Text and Commentaries (2004)* about the theory of the existence of women's language. Lakoff (2004) assumed women's speech is politer than men, which is precisely as it must be, since women maintain morality and civility. As language of women who are not assertive, not explicitly (using the word metaphorically) and be careful when expressing something, as well as the receipts are often subtler words and polite or through gestures. In fact, conversation has the form of dialogue on theater or movie. Movie as representative language is used in this research. Because in movie the audio visual is more appealing, to many people a page of text is daunting and dull and they are automatically locked out from accessing the story. Besides, in movie there are music and special effects that plays as one particular character comes on screen, it gives us a slight emotional charge. Then movie have time as the essence, it is quicker in conveying the story, and in movie also there are action sequence and previews.

The researcher is taking the British-American comedy horror movie based on Seth Grahame-Smith's 2009 novel entitled *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (2016)*. Which parodies the 1813 novel *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. The film is directed by Burr Steers and distributed by Screen Gems. The reason why the researcher is taking this movie because in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* the plot of story has the synchronous relation between features of women's speech used by men in characters. The last, this research is concerned with linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters both main characters and supporting characters in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (2016)* movie. This analysis is interesting because one way to learn the language of women is to look at the features that women use to communicate and one example of the real through this movie.

We also find the linguistic features of women's speech used by men reflected by the men characters. It discusses the data clearly, with the plot of five sisters in 19th century England must cope with the pressures to marry while protecting themselves from a growing population of zombies. As we know in 19th century England, men are very dominant and still used standard grammar of language when they are speaking. So, automatically it will be unique to know whether men used women's features of speech neither.

Statement of the Problems

1. What are the linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (2016)* movie?
2. What are the functions of the linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (2016)* movie?
3. What kind of social manners which became the background for the men to use linguistic features of women's speech in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (2016)* movie?

Conceptual Theory

In sociolinguistics, when we talking about the language differences between men and women it is still interesting for talk even though a work containing an assortment of theories about these conditions have emerged. As stated by Coates (1991) the factors that cause the rise of expression forms and the way of speaking is one gender. The factors of gender may is not always possessed by every language.

Related to the linguistics fields, sociolinguistics approach plays a significant role. Sociolinguistics focuses on language use, that is, on what can be said in a particular language, by whom, to whom, in whose presence, when and where, in what manner and under what social

circumstances. The following opinions by various sociolinguists also help in better understanding of the nature of sociolinguistics.

Robin Tolmach Lakoff is Professor of Linguistics at the University of California, Berkeley, she became the first linguist who began the study of the features of female speech. Lakoff (2004) assumed there are a lot of things that build up the differences among men and women in the language. Lakoff (2004) assumed women's speech is intuitive, thoughtful and building style in communicating is politer visible from use of vocabulary. Women synonymous with words or speech must be courteous, full of gentle resignation. Women consistently use standard forms that is more faithful to the grammatically correct. Women better reflect the sentimentality and do not use a swear word special shattered dirty words, words that are not obscene but instead use words of praise as good, excellent, and wonderful, fantastic, etc. Lakoff tried to describe the language habits of women who called Middle America, she did not state that it is someone overview of all women everywhere. Its features are as follows: precise color terms, empty adjectives, tag question and rising intonation, lexical hedges, intensive, hypercorrect grammar, super-polite forms, women don't tell jokes, women speak italics.

Functions of features women's speech consistent in Lakoff's list of linguistic features is their function in expressing lack of confidence. According to Holmes (as cited in White, 2001) divides this list into two groups: function to weaken (hedges devices) and function to strengthen (booster devices).

Kind of social manners according to Hoppe (2000) male is a gentleman, but it does not truly mean he acts appropriately with that term. But the truth is to themselves that has moral strength and thoughtful of others. They regard the rights and feelings towards others sometimes at their own expense. Because of that Hoppe divided these kinds into three groups: men were dominant, men took etiquette so seriously, men conceal their dislikes and disgusts.

Methodology

This research used descriptive qualitative methods. It means that the researcher applies a set of procedures used for problem solving based on the factual data. According to Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong (2006) the study of descriptive qualitative is when data exploring by the researcher in oral or written words forms. If it concerned in non-numerical data, it can be described as qualitative, that it goals to describing the facts of the systematical analysis based on the actual of them. Data sources related to the subject of research from which the data is obtained, Siswantoro (2010) stated that data sources in this research were divided into two, namely primary data source and secondary data source, they are:

1. Primary Data Source

The primary source is the direct data source which relates to the object of research. Primary data source in this research is document form *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie. This movie based on Seth Grahame-Smith's 2009 novel entitled *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) which parodies the 1813 novel *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. Which has duration about 108 minutes. The movie was released by Screen Gems on February 5th 2016 in United States, and by Lionstages on February 11th in United Kingdom.

2. Secondary Data Source

It is a source of data which supports and completes the primary data source. This data use taken from any kinds of book and relevant materials such as books of linguistics theories, value, education, journals, articles, pdf and text contained on media internet (browsing) related to the research conducted.

Finding

After watching and reading every scene and dialogue in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2006) movie, directed by Burr Steers and written by Seth Grahame-Smith and Jane Austen to understand the story line and the using of linguistic features of women's speech used by men characters, cutting the scene that contains linguistic features of women's speech and coding them, classifying the word and phrase in the dialogues in which the kinds of linguistic features of women's speech that using the theory by Lakoff (2004). Analyzing the functions of linguistic features of women's speech used by men characters when they uttered the linguistic features of women's speech using the theory by Holmes (2001) and analyzing the social manners which became the background for the men characters used linguistic features of women's speech in the dialogues using theory by Hoppe (2000) the researcher found linguistic features of women's speech.

It is related to the theory of Lakoff (2004) who had classified the nine kinds of linguistic features of women's speech, they are: (1) precise color terms, (2) empty adjectives, (3) tag question and rising intonation, (4) lexical hedges, (5) intensive, (6) hypercorrect grammar, (7) super-polite forms, (8) women don't tell jokes, (9) women speak italics. The nine kinds of linguistic features of women's speech were analyzed in the script of the *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie.

In the same time, the researcher found the functions of linguistic features of women's speech related to the theory by Holmes (2001) such as function to weaken (hedges devices) and function to strengthen (booster devices).

The last finding that the researcher found about kinds of social manners which became the background for the men characters used linguistic features of women's speech that related to the theory by Hoppe (2000) such as men were dominant, men took etiquette so seriously, men conceal their dislikes and disgust. Then kinds of linguistic features of women's speech, function of linguistic features of women's speech and kinds of social manners will be described below.

1. Empty Adjectives

The first kind of linguistic features of women's speech has been found by the researcher is empty adjectives features in the movie. One of them is uttered Parson Collins. "Before we know it, they'll be running for parliament. Come along. **Fantastic**".

(Parson Collins) (00:37:16 --> 00:37:24).

The word "fantastic" was uttered by Parson Collins is based on empty adjectives part, he spoke like that because he was amazed with Bennett sisters that already killed the zombie in theirs journey to Meryton and suggest to try and make elevenses together to resist and deplete zombies which make many traps unpredictable.

The function of "fantastic" for this utterance is **To Strengthen (Booster Devices)** by the using of empty adjectives features of "fantastic" Parson Collins tried to commend and appreciate the bravery and intelligence of Bennett sisters.

The social manner for this utterance is **Men Were Dominant**. Parson Collins uttered the word "fantastic" to show his anxiety toward Bennett sisters. With used this "fantastic" he tried to argue marriageability.

2. Tag Question and Rising Intonation

The second kind of linguistic features of women's speech has been found by the researcher is tag question and rising intonation features in the movie. One of them is uttered by Mr. Bingley.

"**Library? Is it?**" (Mr. Bingley) (00:14:35 --> 00:14:38).

The word “library? Is it?” as phrase of tag question and rising intonation. It is used that Mr. Bingley unsure about something to state, for Elizabeth Bennett and even like that he still express it.

The function “library? Is it?” for this utterance is **To Weaken (Hedges Devices)** by the using of tag question and rising intonation features of “library? Is it?” to reduce his statement may hurt Elizabeth Bennett’s statement.

The social manner is **Men Conceal Their Dislike and Disgust**. Mr. Bingley uttered the “library? Is it?” to hid his feeling toward Elizabeth Bennett, actually he unsure about Elizabeth Bennett’s statement (I’ve heard the library at Netherfield is one of the finest) but he yet responds it to show his politeness that will be indicates he is man in the high society.

3. Lexical Hedges

The third kind of linguistic features of women’s speech has been found by the researcher is lexical hedges features in the movie. One of them is uttered by Mr. Bennett.

“**Well**, I suppose, if we all go.” (Mr. Bennett) (00:10:42 --> 00:10:44).

The word “well” uttered by Mr. Bennett actually to shows lack of confidence that feel by Mr. Bennett when his wife (Mrs. Bennett) force him to allow their daughters attend the village dance at the night, so the daughters can find rich man to marry.

The function of “well” for this utterance is **To Weaken (Hedges Devices)** by the using of lexical hedges features of “well” Mrs. Bennett show that he cannot refuse the demand of his wife and allow all of them to go to the party together.

The social manner is **Men Were Dominant**. Mr. Bennett uttered the “well” to show the power of him, all decision in their household is depend by him, even to allow or to reject. Then his wife and daughters will obey his decision.

4. Intensive

In *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* movie, the researcher found some examples of utterance that belong to the fourth kind of linguistic features of women’s speech. One of the examples can be seen in the following utterance.

“I’m **very** well. How was the journey from Derbyshire?”
(Mr. Bingley) (00:13:33 --> 00:13:34).

The word “very” uttered by Mr. Bingley is to express about what emotion that he feels at that moment when Mr. Darcy asked him about his condition after long time not see one another.

The function of “very” for this utterance is **To Strengthen (Booster Devices)** by the using of intensive features of “very” Mr. Bingley try to explain to Mr. Darcy that he is in good feeling and condition.

The social manner is **Men Were Dominant**. Mr. Bingley uttered the “very” to show he has good attitude and try to behave polite in front of Mr. Darcy.

5. Hypercorrect Grammar

The fifth kind of linguistic features of women’s speech has been found by the researcher is hypercorrect grammar features in the movie. One of them is uttered by Mr. Darcy.

“Colonel Darcy, Mrs. Featherstone, I'm here on official business. There's been a report that **somebody here has been bitten.**” (Mr. Darcy) (00:03:12 --> 00:03:21).

The utterances have contained one features which is uttered by Mr. Darcy. The words “somebody here has been bitten” as the standard grammar of language, part of hypercorrect grammar (present perfect tense) that contained (subject-predicate-object).

The function of “somebody here has been bitten.” for this utterance is **To Strengthen (Booster Devices)** by the using of hypercorrect grammar features of “somebody here has been bitten.” Mr. Darcy convince the people in Mrs. Featherstone’s place about report that he got if somebody in that place has bitten by zombie.

The social manner for this utterance is **Men Were Dominant.** Mr. Darcy uttered the word “somebody here has been bitten.” to show that men still used standard grammar of language and men also have power to act about something which important to do with all logics reasons.

6. Super-Polite Forms

The sixth kind of linguistic features of women’s speech is found by the researcher that occurred in the utterances and it is uttered by Mr. Darcy.

“**Might I** play a hand?” (Mr. Darcy) (00:03:56 --> 00:03:57).

The words “might I” as polite word to ask something that include part of super-polite forms. It is used as the strategy of politeness in conversation.

The function of “might I” for this utterance is **To Weaken (Hedges Devices)** by the using of super-polite forms features of “might I” Mr. Darcy wanted to dilute the atmosphere as he want to know the righteousness of the news that came to him if there is been a report that somebody at the Netherfield has been bitten by zombie. So Mr. Darcy here tried to join the activity that everyone did at that place.

The social manner here is **Men Conceal Their Dislikes and Disgust.** Mr. Darcy uttered the word “might I” as a personality of men that they will never use direct utterance to knowing another purpose of their speech.

7. Women Speak Italics

The seventh kind of linguistic features of women’s speech has been found by the researcher is women speak italics features in the movie. One of them is uttered by Mr. Darcy.

“And that her arms are surprisingly muscular, yet not **so** much as to be unfeminine.” (Mr. Darcy) (00:19:06 --> 00:19:10).

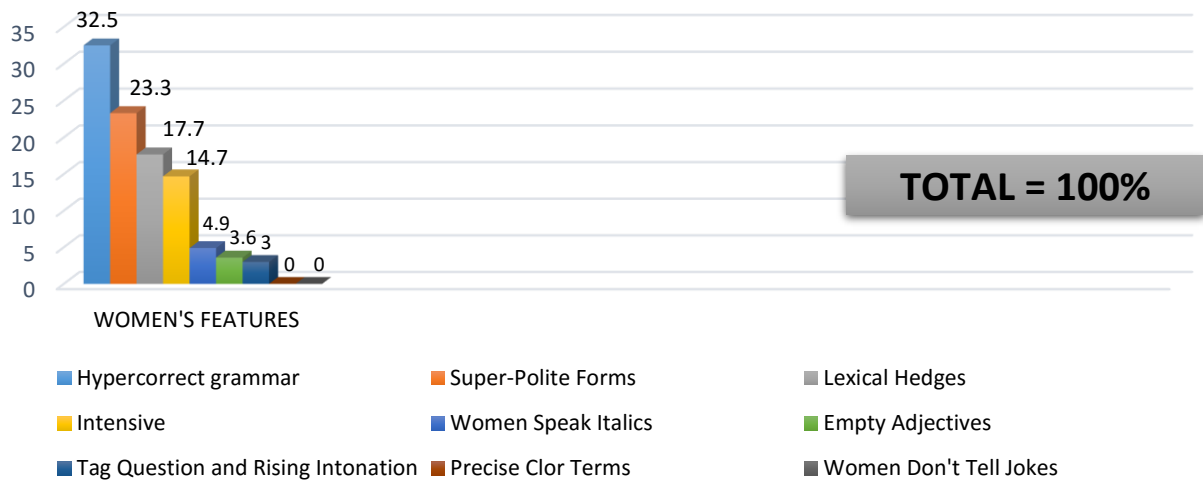
The word “so” as part of women speak italics. It is usually used to state that Mr. Darcy as speaker try to reinforce the meaning of his utterance that really he adored.

The function of “so” for this utterance is **To Strengthen (Booster Devices)** by the using of women speak italics features of “so” to emphasize his speech when he observes and then praise martial arts ability of Bennett sisters.

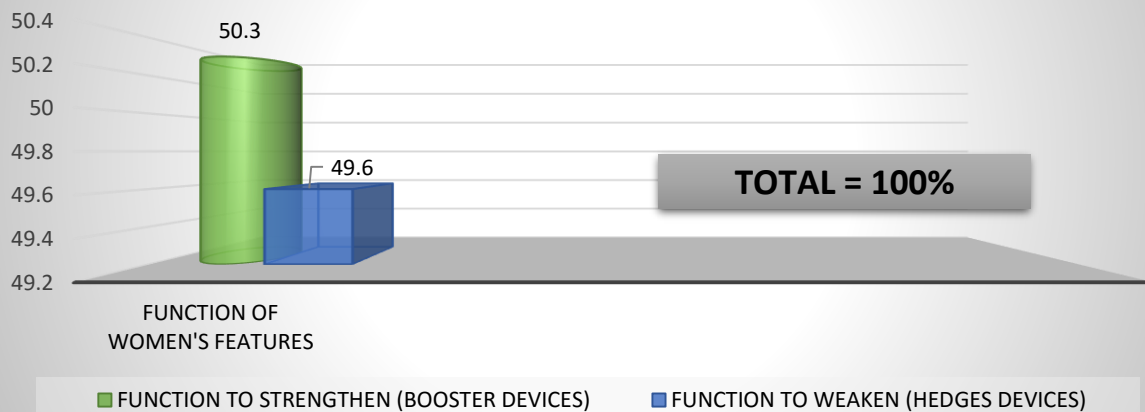
The social manner for this utterance is **Men Were Dominant.** Mr. Darcy uttered the word “so” to express his amazement openly, it is indicating that he has monopoly when he speech in front of some people.

Analysis

LINGUISTIC FEATURES OF WOMEN'S SPEECH in Percent %



FUNCTION OF WOMEN'S FEATURES in Percent %



SOCIAL MANNERS in Percent %



In this research, the researcher is interested to analyze how the linguistics aspect of the movie, specifically the features of women's speech used by men characters. As the most commonly used by men characters, hypercorrect grammar as the first kind of linguistic features of women's speech used in the movie, caused it is related with theory by Lakoff (as cited in Norman, 2006) who stated that the used in accordance with the British standard is because everything is boiled down to the fact that women are not expected to speak rudely or less polite than men.

As the second generally used is super-polite forms features. It is used as the strategy of politeness by the speaker with soften the word so the listener will not disappoint. So, the reason why men characters used super-polite forms features is because they more aware of their background in society and education also where and with whom they spoke in the movie. It is connected with the theory by Holmes (1992) that the reason a woman using language that is politer than man in the conversation is because women is more conscious of status than man.

The third kind of linguistic features of women's speech that commonly used in the movie is lexical hedges. Men characters used this features because connected with theory from Coates (1996) that someone will avoid saying something accurately and keep their options openly when they use lexical hedges. Then, followed the fourth place is intensive, fifth place is women speak italics, sixth place is empty adjectives and the last is tag question and rising intonation.

Based on the finding, function of linguistic features of women's speech that are appeared in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies* movie have relation with theory by Holmes (2001), they are function to weaken (hedges devices) and function to strengthen (Booster Devices). So, it will be understood by the example of utterance that is uttered by Mr. Darcy "With so little endeavored civility, I am rejected?" (01:07:38 --> 01:07:41). Through the using of women speak italics features of "so", Mr. Bingley stated function to strengthen (booster devices). Mr. Darcy wanted to express his disappointment by the word "so" therefore Elizabeth Bennett would know if he was not happy at all with Elizabeth Bennett's reason that rejected his proposal to marry her. Based on the utterance, there is a reason why function to strengthen (booster devices) mostly used in the movie.

The second function of features women's speech that mostly used in the movie is function to weaken (hedges devices). It can be recognized by the utterance that attempts by the speaker to express a lack of confidence and to weaken the power of a speaker's speech, such as requesting, asking, it is related with theory by Holmes (as cited in White, 2001). It can be seen in the utterance stated by Mr. Bingley "Charles Bingley, pleased to make your acquaintance" (00:14:07 --> 00:14:09). The function of features women's speech for this utterance is function to weaken (hedges devices) as requesting expression from Mr. Bingley to request Jane Bennett to be acquainted with him. Mr. Bingley amazed with Jane Bennett and for him she is the most beautiful creature he ever beheld. So that he wanted Jane Bennett to be closer with him.

As the most dominant social manner found by the researcher in the movie, the social manner in men were dominant is men still used standard grammar of British language when they are speaking to show the maturity of men and then here men show their dominance, such as the way they take a decision, they show off their knowledge it is connected to the theory from Hoppe (2000). It can be seen in one of the utterance in the movie. "Well, I suppose, if we all go" (Mr. Bennett) 00:10:42 --> 00:10:44). The utterances had been spoken by Mr. Bennett, the social manner is men were dominant as an expression to show listener about decision. So, Mr. Bennett uttered this statement to show the power of him, all decision in their household is depend by him, even to allow or to reject. Then his wife and daughters will obey his decision.

The second commonly used social context while the characters in the movie uttered the social manner is men took etiquette so seriously and the last commonly used social manner that characters used in the movie is men conceal their dislikes and disgusts.

Conclusion

Based on the result, the researcher would like to conclude that there are only seven from total nine of linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters that discovered in *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* movie suggested theory by Lakoff (2004). They are hypercorrect grammar, super-polite forms, lexical hedges, intensive, women speak italics, empty adjectives then the last tag question and rising intonation. Precise color terms and women don't tell jokes features are not employed by men characters in this movie.

The amount of linguistic features of women's speech used by men characters is 163. There are about 53 hypercorrect grammars that occurred, super-polite form appeared 38, lexical hedges that appeared 29 times, intensive about 24 times, women speak italics 8 times appearances, empty adjectives with the amount of features are 6 and the last is tag question and rising intonation that 5 times utterance.

As the result, the amount of function of features women's speech utterances in the movie is 163. There are 81 utterances that contain function to weaken (hedges devices) and 82 utterances that contain function to strengthen (booster devices) that are found in the movie.

The amount of kinds of social manners in the movie is 163. There are 74 that contain men were dominant, 54 men took etiquette so seriously found in the movie, and the last 35 utterances that contain men conceal their dislikes and disgusts. Based on the three conclusion aspect above, this research has come to primary conclusion. The linguistic features of women's speech that had been spoken by men characters might be the same, but they have different kind of analysis that referred in function features women's speech and kinds of social manners.

Recommendation

Linguistic features of women's speech used by men in characters of *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (2016) movie is an interesting research to be analyzed. However, there are still many issues that can be explore in the next research, for first example is the linguistic features of women's speech analysis from the gender stereotypes side. The second example is analysis in masculine style of verbal conversation used by women. The third example is study about the politeness of man toward woman (comparison from the 18th century with the 21st century). The researcher wish this research can be useful as an additional contribution for the next researchers who have the willingness and curiosity to analyze topic about linguistic features of women's speech.

Refereces

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