



## Language Functions of the Main Character in Spiderman: No Way Home Movie Script

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### Abstract

This study focuses on the language function used by the main character in the movie "Spiderman: No Way Home". The aim is to trace the use of language functions and describe the dominant types of language functions used in the film "Spiderman: No Way Home". The data is the dialogue of the main characters in the movie "Spiderman: No Way Home". This research was conducted using descriptive qualitative research. The findings show that there are six types of language functions used by the main character in the movie "Spiderman: No Way Home". They are expressive, directive, referential, metalinguistic, phatic, and poetic. The most dominant type of language function is metalinguistics. This study aims to determine the grammar used in the film "Spiderman: No Way Home". This film is intended for all ages because it is a family film and it can be seen by children. The theory used is anchovy from Halliday (1978). The study found the context of the function of the message conveyed and the pronunciation of the main character in the movie "Spiderman: No Way Home". It can then be revealed how language works and how to pronounce it.

**Keywords:** *language, character, movie*

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini berfokus pada fungsi bahasa yang digunakan oleh karakter utama dalam film "Spiderman No Way Home". Tujuannya adalah untuk menemukan penggunaan fungsi bahasa dan mendeskripsikan jenis fungsi bahasa yang dominan digunakan dalam film "Spiderman No Way Home". Datanya adalah dialog karakter utama dalam film "Spiderman No Way Home". Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan penelitian kualitatif deskriptif. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa ada enam jenis fungsi bahasa yang digunakan oleh karakter utama dalam film "Spiderman No Way Home". Mereka adalah ekspresif, direktif, referensial, metalinguistik, fatis, dan puitis. Jenis fungsi bahasa yang paling dominan adalah metalinguistik. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tata bahasa yang di gunakan di dalam fil "spiderman no way home".film ini ditujukan untuk semua usia karena memang film ini adalah film keluarga karena boleh di lihat untuk anak – anak. Teori yang digunakan yaitu teri dari halliday (1978). Penelitian menemukan konteks dari fungsi pesan yang di sampaikan dan cara pengucapan dari tokoh utama di film "Spiderman No Way Home". Dari sanalah dapat terungkap bagaimana dari fungsi bahasa dan cara pengucapannya

**Kata kunci:** *bahasa, karakter, filem*

## Introduction

Language is a structured communication system. The structure of a language is its grammar, and its free component is its vocabulary. Language is an acquired of systematic vocal activity representing meanings coming from human experiences (Nasr, 1984: 1). Many languages, including the most widely spoken, have a writing system that allows voice recordings or alerts to be reactivated later. Human language is unique among the known animal communication systems in that it does not rely on a single mode of transmission (sight, sound, etc.), varies greatly between cultures and across time, and provides a much wider range of expression than language. The function of language that can be said to be the most basic is the function of expressive language, which is to express changes in circumstances, fear, and joy. Such an expression is not an intentional or conscious expression but a direct and spontaneous response without direction to an object. In this case, many also work as communication with members of other groups or species. This function is an instinctive function and is also present at the human level, where the dominant communicative role is more important. Language must be investigated in all its various functions. When people talk about the function of language, they talk about the reasons for using language. Basically, the function of language is communication, or so-called language with a speech function; people use language to give and receive messages between themselves and others.

The main character is the main character in the story. He is the most widely known character, both as the perpetrator of the incident and the subject of the incident. The primary function of language is communication; it enables individuals to give and receive messages. In a narrative, the main character who is both the perpetrator and subject of the incident utilizes language to shape relationships and advance the plot, thereby influencing the audience's perception of the unfolding events. This character's role is not only significant in advancing the plot but also crucial for effective communication within the narrative. The primary function of language is to facilitate interaction, enabling the main character to express thoughts, emotions, and intentions that shape relationships and influence audience perception. Additionally, while secondary characters do not occupy central positions, their presence is vital for supporting the narrative and enhancing the main character's journey.

To fully appreciate this dynamic, it is essential to examine the underlying function of language use as articulated by Halliday (1973). He emphasizes the need to analyze how language functions within a narrative context, explore its various purposes, and understand how characters achieve their communicative goals. By recognizing the distinct functions of language, we can better understand how it enriches character interactions and contributes to the overall storytelling process. Therefore, the interplay between the main character's use of language and the functions identified by Halliday reveals a deeper layer of meaning in narrative communication.

This article examines three references that provide critical insights into this topic. These studies explore the language function by an expert, offering diverse perspectives and methodologies that deepen our understanding of language function. By synthesizing these sources, this article aims to establish a comprehensive framework that highlights the significance of language function.

The first article "An Analysis of Language Style in Snowpiercer" was conducted by Asfazaz Rivah and Temmy Thamrin in 2023. In this study, four out of the five recognized language styles are identified, namely formal, casual, consultative, and intimate styles. The casual style emerges as the most prevalent, with 78 instances, while formal style is the least represented, appearing only 4 times. The dominance of casual style reflects the film's emphasis on close relationships and the informal nature of interactions among characters. Conversely, the frozen style is notably absent from the dialogue. Unlike other studies, this research focuses on the language used in a cinematic context, analyzing dialogue to understand how social dynamics influence language choices within the film.

The second article "An Analysis of Language Style in Chilling Adventures of Sabrina" was written by Putri Mardian Sari and Elfiondri in 2023. This study identifies five language styles based on Janet Holmes' theory, specifically frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate styles. Among these, the casual style is the most prevalent, appearing 15 times, which reflects the informal communication typical of the show's teenage characters. In contrast, the consultative style is the least represented, with only 6 instances. The dominance of casual language aligns with the series' modern setting and resonates with its young audience, making the characters' dialogues relatable and authentic. What sets this research apart is its focus on a television series as the data source, using transcripts to explore how different language styles contribute to character development and narrative engagement.

The third article "An Analysis of Language Style Found in Maleficent: Mistress of Evil" was authored by Suci Fhadilah Damayanti and Diana Citra Hasan in 2023. This study employs Joos' theory to categorize the language styles present in the film, examining four types: formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. The findings reveal a total of 50 utterances, with casual style being the most frequently used at 20 instances, reflecting the film's themes of family and relationships. Formal and intimate styles each occurred 11 times, while consultative style was noted 8 times. Notably, frozen style was absent, attributed to the characters' lack of authority. The research highlights social factors, particularly participant dynamics, that influence language use. This approach differentiates the characters' speech depending on their relationships and social contexts, offering insights into how language style contributes to character development within the narrative. The study's uniqueness lies in its application of language style analysis to a popular film, enhancing our understanding of sociolinguistics in cinematic contexts.

From the film entitled "Spiderman No Way Home", we are invited to a fictional world or a world that doesn't really exist in the real world. In the film "Spiderman: No Way Home," it tells of Tom Holland, who, as the main character, makes a mistake in the universe that makes all time out of place. So the universe world is the world of all the continuous space-time that we are in, with the energy and matter that we have. The mistake made by the main character, namely Tom Holland, made the enemy who was in the past space-time return to Tom Holland's time, so the main character needed the help of Spiderman, who was in the past to fix the problem he had created. This film presents action scenes that are difficult to predict how the storyline of this film will be. This film also has many audiences who like this type of fiction film because it is still related to Marvel films.

## Method

The data in this study is from the speech of the main character named Spiderman, played by Tom Holland. "Spiderman: No Way Home" is a fictional film marvel. This film is a film about the main character who asks for help from another character named Doctor Strange, and something goes wrong, which invites dangerous enemies from other worlds to appear, and that's when the main character finds out what it really means to be Spiderman. In collecting data, this study used the observation method with the following steps: (1) Watch the film In Time several times to identify the main character's speech.(2) take notes to write down the language functions used by the main character; and (3) classify the types of language functions based on the theory used in this study. The types of language functions contained in the film were analyzed by qualitative descriptive methods and the theory of language functions put forward by LA Michaelis and K Lambrecht (1996), which classifies and argues for compatible formalisms similar to those found in the latest version of Functional Grammar-Lexical, in which the argument structure and syntactic constituents align with the level of representation that incorporates the information structure.

## Result And Discussion

### Result

Based on the film, Tom Holland as the main character with a script that has 182 pages, the script gets several language functions, namely: aesthetic function, expressive function, phatic function and directive function, while the amount of data about the types of language functions is presented and explained in below:

Table 1. The distribution of each type of language functions.

Category	Data	Percentage
<u>Ekspressive</u>	18	11%
Directive	22	12%
<u>Refrential</u>	57	33%
Metalinguistic	65	38%
Phatic	6	4%
Poetic	4	2%
Total	172	100%

The above can be categorized that metalinguistic and referential functions have become the dominant types of language functions in the film "Spiderman No Way Home" whose main role is Tom Holland. Tom Holland as the main character who uses metalinguistic functions in his speech to convey his message with words. There is also a metallinguistic language used, where the speaker who is also the main character in the film "Spiderman No Way Home" named Tom Holland uses

metalinguistic language when talking to his interlocutor who is the same age as the speaker. In the film "Spiderman No Way home" there are also many other supporting characters who use metalinguistic language, in this film the language that is very often and dominantly uses metalinguistic language in every conversation with the interlocutor who is also accompanied by the interlocutor.

### **Expressive Function**

The function of expressive language aims as a way of expressing the feelings felt by the speaker and this function aims to the interlocutor or addresser. Akhmedov. (2022)

Tom Holland : **ah , I'm sorry. Are you okay?**

Mj : no. not really. Uh

The first data that obtained is the main character Tom Holland talked to his girlfriend named Mj. The speaker ,Tom Holland, said something used an expressive language "Are You Okay" where the expression showed his concern for his lover and was also shown with a question mark at the end of the sentence.It's proof that language expression used by the speaker. Expressive language is used in sentences that have meaning as inner meaning or expressive, core language also has the ability to express feelings and provide images and ideas. According to the example above Tom Holland as the main character uses expressive language as a way of expressing the feelings that he feels and also this expressive language is commonly used in real life

### **Directive Function**

The function of directive language is an effort to make someone do something and this language function is addressed to the recipient of the language. Zenylda. (2022).

Tom Holland : **it'll be a fresh start. and wee'll all be together**

Mj : yeah, no you're right, yeah. Fresh start

The second data shows that Tom Holland as the speaker used the directive function to attempt the addressee to follow his command. The utterance stated that “it'll be a fresh start. And we'll all be together ” is one that is used by speakers as a function used by speakers to convey command. The speaker said that because he really needed a certain reaction that made them both happy. This language is oriented towards the other person. The directive language as a speech act used by the main character, namely Tom Holland, tell and state what the main character wants. According to the example above, Tom Holland as the main character as well as the speaker conveys the words "and well be together" means that they will be fine at the same time that is the command intended for the interlocutor.

### **Referential Function**

The function of referential language can be interpreted as giving and giving information and the function of this language is also focused on context. Viswanathan. (2022)

Tom Holland :**Stephen, listen, I am so sorry**

Dr. strange : Call me sir

In the third, Tom Holland as the main character as well as the speaker conveys an apology to the other person. The speaker show the truth or sincerity to the other person that Tom Holland as the speaker really apologizes and hopes that the apology will be accepted. Another example of using the referential function is in the second data. Context-oriented that the speaker provides information about how to call the speaker "sir". This function of referential language is used to find, solve and discuss problems that exist in the topic of conversation. According to the example above Tom Holland as the main character uses referential language where the main character calls his interlocutor "stephan" and the other person says that how to call the other person by calling the word “sir”

## **Metalinguistic Function**

The function of metalinguistic language can be interpreted as commenting on the language and can be used as a discussion or as a description. It can be the center of attention to the code and also to clarify the thing being negotiated. Schwartz. (2022).

Tom Holland : **when you say " convince them", you mean like I could have called them?**

Dr. strange : Yeah

The fourth data obtained shows that Tom Holland in code analysis by asking questions only to make sure the words he is talking to are correct and exactly what is meant. Tom Holland as a speaker asked the questions to make sure that what other people say is true. The words that Tom Holland's main character says are "when you say "convince them", you mean like I can call them?" code analysis that has been conveyed and confirmed very well from the interlocutor and contains a question mark at the back, this proves that this code analysis is given to the interlocutor so that the interlocutor understands what to say and the main character played by Tom Holland can ensure the interlocutor understand what is meant

## **Phatic Function**

The function of phatic language is as a way to communicate and it can also focus on maintaining a contact. Ashidiq. (2022)

Tom Holland : **ma'am are you okay?, come on, you could still make your flight**

Assistand vince chancellor : peter,,, you are e hero

The fifth data obtained is from no, it can be seen that the phatic function is used by Tom Holland as a speaker. He had intended to get or convey contact with the recipient

by saying "get up you can still fly", besides that the second speaker respon well by saying that Tom Holland as a speaker is a hero to the other person. The interlocutor becomes confident and enthusiastic and indirectly "Tom Holland" has contact with the interlocutor. Phatic is the language used as confirmation in communicating between speakers and listeners used in Spiderman No Way Home, played by Tom Hollang as the main character. The example above is a phatic language in which Tom Holland as the main character uses this phatic language which is used as an affirmation of the language used

### **Poetic Function**

The function of poetic language focuses on the message and the message is for personal interest. Skorobohatova. (2022).

**Tom Holland : "It's not about me. I mean, this is really hurting a lot of people. My uh... my Aunt May. Happy. My best friend, my girlfriend... their futures are ruined. Just because they know me, and they've done nothing wrong."**

Dr. strange : "I am so sorry. But even if I wanted to... I don't have the Time Stone anymore. "

The sixth data identifies that Tom Holland as a speaker uses the language of the poetic function in the sentences that used. This was done in order to reveal what he had to take care of other than himself. Tom Holland also makes the function of poetic language only to convey the feeling and focuses on the message for the benefit of him and of course others who are near the main character named Tom Holland. Poetic language is the nature of language whose purpose is used as a way of expressing information by using a fairly good choice of words and can be understood by the listener or recipient. Based on the example above Tom Holland as the main character uses poetic language in his pronunciation in the spiderman no way home movie



## **Conclusion**

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that the main character gives a lot of expression of feelings and confirmation of his conversation with that the audience feels what the main character feeling the main character can be conveyed well to the audience. . The 5 functions of language that can be obtained from this research are: 1. information functions. 2 aesthetic functions. 3 expressive functions. 4 phatic functions. 5 directive functions. The above 5 language functions can be found in the spiderman no way home movie script. The dominant type of language function used in the film "Spiderman No Way Home" is a metalinguistic function followed by a referential function. This means that Tom Holland as the main character makes more agreements and codes to find clues from problems that have occurred because of his own fault for being too rash and selfish. Metalinguistic functions and referential functions are the dominant types of language functions used in the film "Spiderman No Way Home". This implies that Tom Holland as the main character uses these functions more in his speech because as a main character, he tries to explore, find out, connect every information and reveal the truth so that he can solve the problems he is facing because of problems that come up.

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