Language Style Used by the Main Character in Wednesday Series

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Abstract

This study aims to find out types of language style and the factors that influenced the main character in Wednesday series choosing the language style. The data source of this study is Wednesday series. This study used a qualitative method in analyzing the data. This study applied the theory from Joss (1967) in categorizing the type of language style and the theory from Holmes (1993) to find out the factor that influenced the use of language style. This study found that the main character applied four type of language style from 136 data that was found, it was fifty-three data (39%) of casual style, forty-three data (32%) of formal style, twenty-five data (18%) of intimate style, and fifteen data (11%) consultative style. The dominant style used by the main character in Wednesday series was casual style because the main character in the Wednesday series namely 'Wednesday' who is stubborn, ignorant, and doesn't care who he is talking to, so he often uses the casual style when talking to people who are older than him. This study found there are four factors that influenced language style selected by the main character in Wednesday series, namely participant, setting, topic and function.

Keywords: *language style, main character, factors, and Wednesday series*

Abstrak
Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui jenis gaya bahasa dan faktor-faktor yang memengaruhi karakter utama dalam memilih gaya bahasa dalam seri Wednesday. Sumber data penelitian ini adalah seri Wednesday. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dalam menganalisis data. Penelitian ini menerapkan teori dari Joss (1967) dalam mengategorikan jenis gaya bahasa dan teori dari Holmes (1993) untuk mengetahui faktor yang memengaruhi penggunaan gaya bahasa. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa karakter utama menggunakan empat jenis gaya bahasa dari 136 data yang ditemukan, yaitu lima puluh tiga data (39%) gaya kasual, empat puluh tiga data (32%) gaya formal, dua puluh lima data (18%) gaya intim, dan lima belas data (11%) gaya konsultatif. Gaya dominan yang digunakan oleh karakter utama dalam seri Wednesday adalah gaya kasual karena karakter utama dalam seri Wednesday, yaitu 'Wednesday', yang keras kepala, tidak peduli, dan tidak perduli dengan siapa dia berbicara, sehingga sering menggunakan gaya kasual ketika berbicara dengan orang yang lebih tua darinya. Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa ada empat faktor yang memengaruhi pemilihan gaya bahasa oleh karakter utama dalam seri Wednesday, yaitu peserta, setting, topik, dan fungsi.

Kata kunci*: gaya bahasa, tokoh utama, faktor, dan series*

Introduction

Language is very important for human life because it allows us to communicate with other people in various situations every day. According to Fromkin (2003), Language is a source of human life and power. Everyone has a distinctive way of speaking even though the language used is the same. As an important component in communication, of course, language has a style based on who interacts and interacts in what situation. For example, a person's way of speaking will be different if he is talking to his friends and his teacher, if he is talking to his friends, it is likel way of speaking will be more formal or polite.

When initiating a conversation, it is necessary to consider the appropriate language choice for the situation. According to Llamas (2007) "language style is a dimension where each speaker has a choice", everyone indirectly changes the way they speak when moving from one situation to another. The choice of language style in question, for example, when talking to friends who are eating, the choice of language style used is casual, whereas when talking to older people such as teachers or lecturers, the language used tends to be formal.

Language style have several types with their respective uses. Joos (1967) mentioned there are five types of language style, the first types there are frozen style, a style that is often used in formal situations, religious events, commemorating independence. The second is the formal style according to Mandell and Kirszner (2003:17) The formal style is usually used when speaking with parents, functionary, and other people in formal events that require horror and seriousness. The third is consultative style, according to Penalosa (1981) consultative style is usually used to make listeners answer questions from speakers or there is reciprocity between speakers and listeners, this style is often found during learning at school, during webinars and so on. The fourth is the casual style, according to Joos (1967) casual style as the name implies casual, so this language style is used in casual situations, such as when speaking with friends. Lastly there is intimate style, according to Joos (1967) intimate is a style that used only for people closest to them, this style of language usually contains words that are directed at one person, such as a husband saying that his wife is very beautiful.

Every choice of language style certainly does not escape the factors that influence the choice of language style. According to Joos (1967) The language style a person uses is influenced by social factors, such as when talking to friend style of language used is most likely a casual style and when talking to older people language used is most formal style. In addition, several situational factors also influence the choice of style. According to Holmes (1993) there are four factor that influenced by the speakers when speak with the other people, namely participants, topics, functions, and settings.

Wednesday is a horror series released in November 2022, *Wednesday* series written by Alfred Gough and Miles Millar and directed by Tim Burton, this series has eight episodes. Wednesday series tells the story of a daughter named Wednesday Addams who has strange and scary behavior, seeing Wednesday's strange behavior finally her parents send Wednesday to a school where she can develop uniqueness. The school is called Nevermore Academy, that's where Wednesday Addams learns a

lot of things but because entering this school was not the intention of Wednesday Addams itself, finally she tries to escape to be free and do whatever she wants, especially killing criminals and killers. We can find various types of language styles in the sentences spoken by characters in Wednesday series, especially the sentences expressed by main character, namely Wednesday. The style of language used in every conversation certainly has certain meanings and reasons why we choose that style of language, such as when talking to an elderly person, of course we will use a formal style of language so that it seems more polite and respectful to the other person.

Several studies were conducted related to the topic of this study. The first study is written by Arini (2023) entitled "An Analysis Language Style Used in Purple Hearts movie". The purpose of this study is to categorize the many linguistic idioms and their purposes in the movie Purple Hearts. The data source from that study is taken from Purple Hearts movie. That study used the theory from Joos (1967) to analyze language style that found from the movie and theory Holmes (1992) to analyze the factor affects all characters speak in different style in Purple Hearts movie. That study collected the data by watching the movie and reading the movie script. That study finds the result shows there are forty-four data from all character in Purple Hearts movie. They are one data on frozen style, eight data of formal style, six data of consultative style, fourteen four data of casual style and thirteen data of intimate style. That study finds the most language style used by all characters occur in casual style. There are four social factors that causes different language style that used all character in Purple Hearts movie. The similarities are some analyses a language style and used the theory from Joos (1967) to analyses the data source. The different this study between this research is the data source when this study used purple hearts movie but this study is used Wednesday series as the data source.

The second study is written by Putra and Rosa (2019) entitled "The Analysis of Speech Style Used by Ellen DeGeneres Talk Show". That study aims to identify the speech style used by the host in the guest in Ellen DeGeneres Talk show and to identify the dominant speech style used by the host and guest on Ellen DeGeneres Talk show. That study used the theory from Joos (1967) to analyze the data source. That study found that are five type of speech style that used by the host in Ellen DeGeneres Talkshow, they are casual style that only occurs eleven data, consultative style that occurs two data, formal style that occurs two data, and intimate style that occurs one data. That study found the speech style mostly used by Ellen and Nate is casual that it occurs eleven data. The similarities of previous study between this study can see the problem about finding types of language style. Both analyze language style and use the same theory from Joos (1967). The differences the previous study between this study can see from the data source, the previous study focused on analyze speech style used by the host in DeGeneres Talkshow but this study focused on analyze language style used by the main character in Wednesday series and the differences also found in problem of the study, the previous study only focus on speech style but this study analyze the type of language style and the factors that influence the language style.

The third study written from Tanggung (2022) entitled "An Analysis of Language Style in Dialogue With Jack Ma, Alibaba Group, Kief 2019". The aim of this study is to analyze language style used by Jack Ma in the video Dialogue with Jack Ma, Alibaba Group, Kief 2019. This research used theory Joos (1967) to analyse

the data. The data were taken from the conversation between the host and Jack Ma as the guest and audience business in Ukraine. This research used a qualitative method in analyzing the data. The result of this study is that there are sixteen pieces of data. There are six data of formal style, five data of consultative style, and five data of casual style. Formal style is used dominantly found in the dialogue. The similarities between the previous study can bee seen in the problem of the study, both of the study analyze language style and use the theory from Joos (1967). The differences of previous study between this study can be seen from data source, the previous study focus analyzed language style used by Jack Ma in the video Dialogue with Jack Ma, Alibaba Group, Kief 2019 but this study focus analyzed the type of language style used by the main character in Wednesday series.

The second study written by Dwitamayanti et al (2021) entitled *"The Language Style Used in Presentation on YouTube by English Language Education Students"*. The purpose of this study is to examine the types and functions of language styles employed by students during YouTube presentations. The study applied Miles and Huberman's (1994) theory to analyze the collected data. The data were gathered from students at Undiksha who participated in presentations on YouTube. The study's findings indicated the usage of concrete words (14%), abstract words, general words, specific words, and scientific words within the language style, as identified through diction analysis. The similarity that study between this study can be seen from the problem of the study, both on the study analyze language style. The resemblance between this study and the mentioned research lies in the common focus on analyzing language style. However, they diverge in terms of the analytical frameworks employed. The difference between previous research and this research can be found in the theory used to analyze the data, that study uses the theory of Miles and Huberman (1994) for data analysis, while this research uses the theory of Joos (1967) to categorize language styles and the theory of Holmes (1992) to analyse the factor that influence the characters use the language style. The difference also evident in the data sources. While the previous study involved students from Undiksha delivering presentations on YouTube channels, this study utilized the *Wednesday* film series as the data source.

The third study was written by Wahyudiantari (2023) entitled *"An Analysis of Language Style by the Characters in Wonder a Novel by R. J. Palacio"*. "The objective of the study was to examine the language styles employed by the characters in the novel *"Wonder"* by R.J. Palacio. The study utilized Joos (1967) theory to analyze the data. The research identified five language styles used by the characters in the novel, namely frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The similarities the previous study between this study can be observed in the study objectives, as both studies aimed to analyze language styles. Additionally, the similarity extends to the utilization of Joos (1967) theory for data analysis in both studies. The differences the previous study between this study are evident in the choice of data source, the previous study used a novel, while this study utilized a film series. Furthermore, the difference lies in the study's objectives, the previous study solely focused on analyzing language style types, whereas this study also delves into understanding the functions influencing character's language style usage during their conversation.

Method

This research used Wednesday series as the data source. This series was produced by Alfred Gough and Miles Millar on 16 November 2022. This series is a horror series about a family that has emerging psychic ability and supernatural mode. This series has eight episodes but, in this study, only uses one episode, specifically episode one. A descriptive qualitative method is used to describe and explain the data that has been collected. To collect data, this research uses the observation method by watching the series, listening the utterance of main character when they talking to other people, and took note to classify the data according to the type of language style mentioned by Joos (1967) as frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. In addition, this research applied Holmes (1993) theory to analyse the factors that influence the main characters of the *Wednesday* Series.

Result and Discussion

This research was conducted with the aim to find out the types of language style that are used by the main characters in *Wednesday* series. The writer finds four types of language styles used by the main character in *Wednesday* series. The analysis result is presented in the table below

Table 1. The Types of the Language Style in Wednesday Series

No	Types of language style	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Frozen Style	0	0%
2.	Casual Style	53	39%
3.	Formal Style	43	32%
4.	Consultative Style	15	11%
5.	Intimate Style	25	18%
	Total	136	100%

According to the table above, there are five language styles used by the main character in *Wednesday* series. There are fifty-five data (38%) of casual style, forty-three data (32%) formal style, twenty-five data (18%) of intimate style, and fifteen data (11%) of consultative style. The dominant style used by the main character in *Wednesday* series was casual style because the main character in the *Wednesday* series namely 'Wednesday' who is stubborn, ignorant, and doesn't care who he is talking to, so he often uses the casual style when talking to people who are older than him.

Formal Style

Data 1

Mortice: *"Darling, how long do you intend on giving us the colder shoulder?"*

Wednesday: ***"Lurch, please remind my parents that I'm currently not speaking to them"***

The statement made by Wednesday in the provided data is in a formal style. The scene took place in the car when the Wednesday family was going to Wednesday's new school, the Nevermore school. However, he wouldn't answer and told the driver he was still upset and didn't want to talk to them. The scene occurs when the main character named Wednesday is angry with his parents because he wants to be sent to a hostel which according to him is not a hostel but a prison. The conversation occurs in a formal style because the sentence is addressed to one of Wednesday's family drivers where the sentence has a very formal word, namely "please" and Wednesday also talks to people who are older and usually when talking to people who are older you should use formal language.

Data 2

Principal Weems:	*"Wednesday is certainly a unique name. I'm guessing it's the day of the week you were born?'*
Wednesday:	***"I was born on Friday the 13th."***

The statement attributed to Wednesday in the aforementioned data pertains to a formal style. The scene occurs in the teacher's room, when the teacher asks Wednesday about what day she was born and Wednesday answers she was born on Friday the 13th. The conversation is considered a formal style because the conversation took place in the Nevermore school meeting room and judging by the actors, namely Wednesday and the teacher, the conversation between the teacher and students generally uses a formal style. Judging from the pronouns, the conversation uses the word "I" as the first-person pronoun and you for the second pronoun.

Casual Style

Data 3

Enid:	***"You catch on quick and that girl, Bianca Barclay, is the closest think nevermore has to royalty. Although her crowns been*** *slipping lately. She used to date Xavier Thorpe. But they broke up at the beginning of the semester."*
Wednesday:	***"Fascinating."***

The expression made by Wednesday in the above data is in casual style. The scene involves Wednesday and her roommate, Enid. This scene takes place in the Nevermore school yard where Enid is introducing the Nevermore to Wednesday school situation then Enid says that there is a very amazing and royalty student and Wednesday responds by saying that it is very fantastic. The conversation is a casual style because in the conversation there are two characters where these characters are friendly and at the same age and the words spoken in the conversation are quite relaxed word choices.

Data 4

Morticia: *"I preferred when you took aim at me with your crossbow. I'm told that girls your age can say hurtful things and that I should 't take them to heart."*

Wednesday: **"Luckily you don't have one."**

The utterance spoken by Wednesday in the data above categorized into casual style. The scene involves Wednesday and his mother Morticia in the courtyard of Nevermore school where they are discussing his mother's wishes for Wednesday. The conversation is of the casual type because in the conversation there are two characters in which these characters have a very close relationship, namely the child and the mother where usually the style that is usually used by people who have been close and know each other for a long time is the casual style.

Consultative Style

Data 5

Enid: *"What the hell did you do to my room?"*

Wednesday: **"Dividing our room equally. It looks like a rainbow vomited on your side."**

The statement uttered by Wednesday in the provided data is characterized as being in a consultative style. The conversation between the two characters are explanatory sentences from Wednesday, which answers questions from Enid. The scene takes place in Wednesday's and Enid's dorm room where it is seen that Wednesday is changing the atmosphere of the room then Enid comes and is shocked and then asks Wednesday what he is doing and Wednesday replies that he has changed the atmosphere of the room a little. The conversation occurs in consultative because there is reciprocity between the speaker and the listener where Enid asks what Wednesday is doing in her room and Wednesday answers by explaining that she is making a change.

Data 6

Ms. Novak: *"You know it?"*

Wednesday: **"Of course. It's named after my favorite unsolved murder. Thank You."**

The statement made by Wednesday in the data above falls under the category of a consultative style. In the scene there is Ms Novak and Wednesday what happened to Wednesday in Ms. Novak room office. The scene tells of a death whose cause is not clearly known, but because Wednesday was at the TKP when the body was found, Ms. Novak asked Wednesday about the chronology. The conversation was consultative in nature and there was reciprocity between Ms. Novak and Wednesday where Mrs. Novak asks Wednesday and Wednesday explains what she knows to Mrs. Novak.

Data 7

Wednesday: *"Its writing time."*
Enid: "Your *'writing time'*?"
Wednesday**:   "I devote an hour a day to my novel. Perhaps if you did the same, your vlog might be coherent."**

The utterance by Wednesday in the data above is classified as belonging to a consultative style. In this scene, Wednesday and Enid are in their dormitory, where Wednesday says he's going to write and Enid looks surprised to have just found out Wednesday is a writer, then she asks Wednesday "Your 'writing time?' Then Wednesday responded to the question by saying that she writes about her daily activities. This scope is consultative because there is feedback from speakers and listeners where Enid asks Wednesday and Wednesday gives answers to Enid.

Data 8

Tyler: *"Where 'd you learn those, kung fu moves?"*
Wednesday*: "My uncles Fester taught me. He spent five years in Tibetan Monastery."

The utterance spoken by Wednesday in the data above categorized consultative style. The scene took place in a restaurant where Wednesday was fighting some people who were trying to attack him, Tyler who watched all of this was immediately amazed and asked Wednesday where he learned this knowledge then Wednesday answered he learned it from his uncle. The conversation includes a consultative style because there is an explanation from Wednesday regarding a question from Tyler asking where he learned kung fu.

Intimate Style

Data 9

Wednesday: "Pugsley, you're soft and weak. You'll never survive without me. Give you two months tops"
Pugsley: *"I'm gone miss you too, sis."*

The utterance by Wednesday in the data above is characterized as having a intimate style. because there are two characters, the first character Wednesday and the second character Pugsley, where the two characters are siblings. The scene took place in front of the Nevermore school where Wednesday was going to continue his education there and had to part with his sister Pugsley. The conversation that took place between them was classified as an intimate style because there were several insulting sentences that Wednesday threw at her sister Pugsley, namely "you are soft and weak" which is a sentence that cannot be said to just anyone.

Data 10

Morticia: *"I merely meant you'll finally be among pears who*

> *understand you. Maybe you'll even make some friends."*

Wednesday: ***"Sarcasm is the only friend I need."***

In the provided data, Wednesday's statement is categorized as having an intimate style. The utterance spoken by Wednesday taken from the scene where there is Wednesday and his mother Morticia in the car when they are going to Wednesday's new school, they are talking about Wednesday's amazing new school. The conversation includes intimate style because the conversation involves two mothers and children where usually the chat is private and the conversation is private, it can be seen from the sentence uttered by Wednesday that he really needs friends who are sarcastic.

Data 11

Gomez: *"Nevermore is ordinary boarding school. It's a magical place. Its where your mother and I met and fell in love.*

Wednesday: ***"I suddenly feel nauseous. And not in a good away."***

The statement made by Wednesday in the data above is characterized as being in a intimate style. The scene has Wednesday's father, Gomez and Wednesday where they are talking about moving Wednesday's school from their old school to Nevermore school, but Wednesday disagrees with this and Wednesday mocks himself and says that he feels nauseous and his condition is not okay. This sentence is considered intimate style because of Wednesday's sentence "I suddenly feel nauseous. And not in a good way." refers to himself and that includes mocking sentences where ridicule cannot be said to just anyone and the conversation is also a conversation between a child and a father which usually fathers and children often use in an intimate style in everyday conversations.

Conclusion

After identify the language styles used by the main characters in the *Wednesday* series use the theory from Joos (1967) factors that influence the main character in the series to choose language style with theory from Holmes (1993) this study found it was 136 data of language style that used by the main character in *Wednesday* series. There are casual style fifty-three data (39%), Formal style forty-three data (32%), Intimate style are twenty-five data (18%), Consultative style are fifteen data (11%), and Frozen style one data (1%). The dominant style used by the main character in *Wednesday* series was casual style because the main character in the *Wednesday* series namely 'Wednesday' who is stubborn, ignorant, and doesn't care who he is talking to, so he often uses the casual style when talking to people who are older than him. This study found that participants, setting, topic, and function are four components that influence the language style chosen by the main character of the Wednesday series.

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