

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### B.1 Theoretical Framework

In this research, the researcher needs a sociolinguistics study to analyze the topic. The topic discussed by the researcher is social class and language style based on dialogue and conversation between characters in the Joker movie. This is the main concept and point of this research.

The purpose of the concept is to make it easier to provide information about the concept that is written in-depth to the reader. The written explanations can increase the reader's knowledge about several things that will be analyzed in this paper.

##### B.1.1 Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistics studies the relationship between language and society, specifically the relationship between language usage and the social structures in which language users live. It is a field of study that claims human society is made up of various interconnected patterns and behaviours, some of which are linguistic. Sociolinguistics derives its name from the words sociology and linguistics. According to Hornby (1995:1128), sociology is the scientific study of society's nature, growth, and social behaviour. Linguistics, according to Hornby, is the scientific study of language or a specific language. Crystal (1985:440) adds

that sociolinguistics is a discipline of linguistics that analyzes all elements of the relationship between language and society.

Meanwhile, sociolinguistics is a field that explores the relationship between language and society, specifically the relationship between language usage and the social structures in which language users live. According to Spolsky (1998:3), sociolinguistics is an area of study that considers human society is made up of many interconnected patterns and behaviours, some of which are linguistic. It means that one of the most important functions of language is to develop and maintain social relationships and communicate meaning. According to Janet Holmes, in the book entitled *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*; Third Edition, sociolinguistics is:

*“Sociolinguistics study the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social contexts, and they are concerned with identifying the social functions of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning.”*

(Holmes 2008:1)

As explained above, we know that sociolinguistics is a linguistic study of the relationship between language and society, specifically how language has an important role in social life, in other words, in terms of communicating and interacting with other people.

Sociolinguistics has become a recognized component of most college-level courses on 'linguistics' or 'language.' It is unquestionably one of the most developing foci inside the issue of dialect, from both a teaching and research standpoint. It allows the foundations of an explanatory system to be built, including concepts like dialect (a body of knowledge or norms), discourse (real statements), speaker, recipient, point, Etc. Some sociolinguists are extremely wary about their dual reliance on social and dialect sciences, believing that this is the primary cause of what has been described as a hypothetical sociolinguistics deficit. According to sociolinguistics, dialect occurs in a context and depends on the speaker who uses it and where and why that dialect is spoken.

In this case, the two people's social statuses play an important role. To the younger individual with a higher social position, the more seasoned one with a lower social status must speak considerably using legal lingo. Because language and society have a strong relationship, this case shows how a particular condition in society can influence the way dialect is used. Sociolinguistics is the study of how language and society interact. Sociolinguistics is interested in understanding why humans speak in surprising ways in various social situations, as well as recognizing the social purposes of language and how it is used to express social meaning. Sociology refers to the study of society, while linguistics refers to the study of language. So, sociolinguistics is the study of language concerning the state of society. Some sociolinguistics definitions are founded on sociolinguists. Sociolinguistics is concerned with understanding the social uses of

language and how it is utilized to express social meaning, as well as explaining why humans speak differently in different social circumstances. Sociolinguistics is concerned with the interaction between language and the circumstances in which it is produced.

As explained above, sociolinguistics considers the relationship between dialect and society. The relationship between dialect and the context in which it is used is the subject of sociolinguistics. Individuals in our society might say the same idea in various ways. It can be induced by the environment in which it is used. The word choice reflects elements such as the relationship between individuals in the situation and the speaker's feelings about the individual in question. When we say the same thing differently, we use linguistic differences, including sounds, word structure, syntax, and vocabulary. A few social elements and aspects influence how we say things differently.

### **B.1.2 Language Style**

Language is a means of communication that connects human interaction. A language that is used well has the potential to make communication and interaction successful in the social sphere. Therefore, understanding the aspects of using language styles is very important. With this, information will be conveyed properly and will not cause misunderstandings. Style is referred to an individual's linguistic idiosyncrasy. Personality plays a role in style. Style refers to the expected behaviour associated with a specific status in social roles. It is more

adaptable than status and fluctuates depending on the context of the speech. Role strain and conflict can occur from the incompatibility of obligations placed by roles on persons.

Language style refers to how people communicate using both written and spoken language. Linguistic forms to convey social or artistic effects are referred to as style. Styles also serve as a set of guidelines. According to Llamas (2007:95), "Language style is a dimension of language where individual speakers have a choice". People do not always express themselves in the same way. We constantly change how we communicate when we move from one scenario to the next. People typically employ formal and casual language when communicating with other people, depending on the situation. The listener is also told how to accept what is being said: seriously, cynically, humorously, or in another way.

According to the preceding statements, language style refers to a particular method of communicating with others. *Language* is a sign system based on rules. When people hear the phrase "rule-based language," they usually think of other contexts in which a specific authority enforces rules. We usually judge a person's education, socioeconomic status, background, honesty, friendliness, and various other characteristics based on how they speak.

### B.1.3 Kinds of Language Style

Based on the sociolinguistics theory proposed by Martin Joss (1976: 153-155), he identified five categories of language styles: frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The following is an explanation of the categories of language styles:

#### 1. Frozen Style (Oratorical Style)

Frozen style, oratorical style, is the type of language used in formal situations. This type of language style is the most formal used in formal situations and conditions, for example, a ceremony in a palace, church, or other places of worship, speeches, reading of court decisions or laws, and other situations. In contrast, its use can be found in the national anthem, pledges, and Shakespeare's play. In comparison to other styles of language, the use of this language is extremely difficult. This is due to the formal language, which complicates the sentence sequence. Because it takes a high level of competence to use this linguistic style, it is virtually solely used by specialists, preachers, lawyers, and professional orators.

Example :

The Lord's Prayer *"Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, On earth as in heaven..."*

## 2. Formal Style

Formal style is a language style that speakers usually use with the careful pronunciation of the other person. The choice of words and sentence structure is used to do something important such as meeting, job interview, delivering material, announcement, reading news, or talking to strangers. This language style is also more commonly found in writing than speaking.

Example :

“Interviewer: First of all, let me introduce myself. I am the manager of our engineering department here and we have an open position, so we have been interviewing applicants to fill the position as quickly as possible.”

## 3. Consultative Style

The consultative language style is a language style used in semi-formal situations. The consultative style is a dialogue style where the speaker interacts with the interlocutor. The speaker must constantly see the other person's response. The speaker must convey information to the other person about a topic. The interlocutor usually responds in the form of "I see", "mmm", "huh", "yes", "no", "I think so", "oh", "that's right", or usually when the speaker talks too much, the recipient of the information may give an interrupt in the form of "Ok, I know, you can stop it". Examples of this language style used are doctor-patient conversations,

teacher-student conversations, and negotiating conversations with someone.

#### 4. Casual Style

Casual style is the language used in everyday situations and conditions with light, relaxed conversation. These conversations usually occur with friends, family members, conversations between students when outside of class, or colleagues when outside of work hours. When addressing one another, a casual manner is defined by using the first name or even a nickname rather than a middle name and last name. Aside from the use of slang, the pronunciation is quick and frequently slurred. The deletion of unstressed words, particularly at the beginning of sentences, is another characteristic of casual speech.

Example of casual style:

- A simple greeting :
  - a) "Hi"
  - b) "Hey"
  - c) "How do you do?"
  - d) "How is it going?"
  
- The vocabulary used only in casual situations are :
  - a) "Dude" (a person)
  - b) "Freaking out" (getting scared)
  - c) "Nope" (no)

d) "Puke" (throw up)

- Words or phrases that are shortened like :

a) "I'm doin' it my way" (doing)

b) "Lemme go!" (let me go)

c) "Watcha gonna do?" (What are you going to do?)

d) "Whatsup?" (What's up?)

### 5. Intimate Style

Intimate style is a language used by someone with a special relationship with someone. This style of language is a language that family develops, lovers, and close friends. Examples of intimate speech are telling your boyfriend/girlfriend that you love them, telling your best friend about your deepest and darkest problem, and asking your family for advice about serious matters. Intimate style is also defined by ellipsis, deletion, quick, slurred, pronunciation, nonverbal communication, and secret code, which is frequently unclear in the smallest social units. Intimate nicknames/private labels are usually: honey, darling, baby, dear, mom, dad, Etc.

Examples:

- Honey, your eyes look so beautiful
- Oh dear, can you give me that letter?
- Mom, this cake tastes so delicious!

#### **B.1.4 Social Class**

Social class is a grouping of people based on a position that occurs naturally in society. The groupings are usually based on wealth, educational attainment, occupation, income, and societal membership. The existence of a social class is caused by differences in views and respect for social status in society; for example, a family in a community member who has a high social status due to their wealth and position. There are also community members who are looked down upon because of their low social status, for example, having a low level of education or no wealth.

Chambers (1995) describes the social class division concerning language study. According to Chambers, the social class division can be established by some factors: labour. Chambers (2003:42) classifies social classes into three categories based on work: high, middle, and lower social classes. People in the upper socioeconomic class work as entrepreneurs, directors, or inheritors of money. People from the middle social class have occupations as experts and division leaders or as office workers or employees with a solid education. People who work as labourers, maids, merchants and other manual workers who rely on energy rather than brain thinking are considered lower class.

The level of social class they belong to will naturally influence how they act in social situations, particularly when it comes to communication. Language is, of course, linked to communication. The many levels of socioeconomic status

that exist influence how they communicate. People from higher social classes speak more courteously and orderly than those from lower social classes. This could be attributed to various reasons, including their living environment, education level, occupation/work environment, and money.

### **B.1.5 Movie**

Science, particularly in the sphere of technology, is quickly progressing. All facets of human life have changed as a result of these advancements. One of the most astonishing changes is that the formerly static and two-dimensional image evolved into a dynamic image that was then enhanced with light and sound effects to make it more engaging. A movie is a combination of audio, light, and visual elements. "Movie is truly a motion picture, a flowing, ever-changing strand of pictures and sounds flashing freshness and energy with its own a fluid blend of image and motion possessed by the restless need to be vibrantly alive, to avoid the quiet and the static," according to (Boggs and Petrie, 2000). Then, a "movie" is defined as "a collection of moving pictures with sound that tells a story and is aired on television, in cinemas, or movie theaters," according to (Hornby, 2010). Aside from being a source of entertainment, movies may also be used to educate the public and disseminate information.

"Movies are normally constituted of a series of moving pictures, called shots, which are themselves animated as a succession of still pictures, called frames, pass before the projector beam - one with no spatial or temporal

discontinuities visible by the human eye," according to (Carroll, 2008). In other words, movies are a collection of animated images projected onto a screen without any spatial or discontinuities visible to the naked eye.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher concludes that a movie is a succession of moving pictures called shots passed via a projector that the human eye can perceive. It is animated to create a vibrantly alive and flowing mix of visuals while avoiding silence and static. It also presents a story using sound recordings played in cinemas or movie theatres.

#### **B.1.6 Joker Movie**

*Joker*, which premiered in 2019, is one of the most well-known American movies. This movie is a psychological thriller and crime movie. The movie *Joker* is directed by Todd Phillips and produced by Todd Phillips and two others named Bradley Cooper and Emma Tillinger Koskoff. *Joker* movie cast some famous actors as the main character. Joaquin Phoenix as Joker/Arthur Fleck, Robert De Niro as Murray Franklin, Zazie Beetz as Sophie Dumond, and Frances Conroy as Penny Fleck.

The movie *Joker* is set in 1981 and the metropolis of Gotham (a fictional city). This movie depicts the life of Arthur Fleck, a party clown who lives with his sick mother in an impoverished neighbourhood. Arthur has a neurological condition that causes him to laugh at inopportune moments. As a result of society's avoidance of him and labelling him as a peculiar person, Arthur resolves to

embrace a life of crime and chaos because he is constantly aware of the injustice that continues to afflict him. This movie shows a lot about how chaotic life is in the city, where small people who do not have power, wealth, or even a good education live with oppression. This movie highlights the differences in social class, which is seen from the high position in work, wealth, and living environment. In addition, the style of language used by each character is different depending on the situation and to whom they are talking. The two elements contained in the film in the form of social class and language style can be analyzed using sociolinguistics studies, namely the social class theory by Chambers and the language style theory by Martin Joss. This attracted the attention of researchers to examine these two elements using the theory from the *Joker* movie.

## **B.2 Review of Related Research**

In this research, the researcher used several journals, articles and theses as a reference to strengthen data analysis and add some deficiencies if needed. First the research by Lea Späti entitled *The Relationship Between the English Language and Social Class* in 2018. The purpose of this thesis is to look at how the use of English affects socioeconomic class in the BBC series *Sherlock*. The emphasis is on portraying characters from various social origins and their use of English. The primary source of information is the complete DVD set of all four seasons of *Sherlock*, as well as their transcripts, which include 12 episodes and

screenplays. Grammar, pronunciation, violation of discourse aspects and pronunciation are among the manual and computer methods employed in this examination. The researcher in this thesis then employs a questionnaire sent to members of the BBC's Sherlock fan community to learn how viewers perceive this modern series as perpetuating specific social class beliefs. As a result, the researcher said that the choice of language used by the scriptwriters revealed something about their attitude towards social class relations and language. The similarity with the research conducted by the researcher is about social class and language use based on sociolinguistic studies. The difference between Lea Späti's research and this research is the data analyzed and the method used.

Second, the research by Dinda D.M entitled A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Language Style in "Wild Child Movie" in 2019. This research is aimed to analyze the language style used by all characters in "Wild Child" movie. The analysis was based on five language styles proposed in Martin Joss's theory. The researcher here used a qualitative method in which the data was collected by watching the movie and then finding out the conversation that contains language style. The similarity is the theory of language style by Martin Joss used in the research. The difference that can be found is that the researcher in this research (Dinda's research) only focuses on the language style used by all characters in the film. In contrast, the research that will be made will focus on the social class and language style that is determined by the conversations between the characters in the *Joker* movie.

Third, Syafitri's (2019) research entitled *The Formal and Casual Language as Seen in Joko Widodo's Selected Speech*. This research contains language style research using Martin Joss's theory, mainly focusing on formal and casual language. The data in this study are the speeches of President Joko Widodo at the APEC CEO, The World Economic Forum on East Asia, and The Asian-African Conference. The similarity is found in the use of the theory of language style by Martin Joss, while the differences can be found in the main focus of the research. Syafitri's research only focuses on formal and casual language, while the research that will be conducted uses five styles of language from Martin Joss and social class by Chambers.

Fourth, the research by Rianto, Renggie Fortuna (2020) entitled *Slang Words in Joker Movie*. This research focuses on slang words in the *Joker* Movie. The method used by the researcher is descriptive qualitative. The research data is *Joker* movie, especially in the dialogue between the characters. The similarity found in this research is the data, that is *Joker* movie, especially in the dialogue between the characters. The differences can be found in this research as the main focus of the research; Rianto uses slang words as the main focus of his research, while the research written uses social class and language style as the main focus.

Fifth, the research by Nina Setiana (2022) entitled *AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE IN "FRONT OF CLASS" MOVIE*. This study aimed to analyze the

dominant language style of the characters in the *Front of the Class* movie. Nina's research uses a descriptive qualitative method in analyzing the data. The theory used is the theory of language style by Martin Joss. The similarity of research is found in the theory of language style by Martin Joss. While the difference lies in the main focus, the researcher uses the main focus of social class and the influence of its use on language style, while Nina's research only focuses on language style.

From some of the previous related research above, it can be found several things that have been researched and explained in several studies:

The relationship between the English language and social class discusses how the use of English affects socioeconomic class in the BBC series *Sherlock*. Language style can be found in the research entitled *A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Language Style in "Wild Child Movie"*, *The Formal and Casual Language as Seen Joko Widodo's Selected Speech*, and *An Analysis of Language Style In "Front of Class" Movie*, *Slang Words analysis in the Joker Movie*.

From the previous related research above, the researcher has not found any social class analysis using Chambers's theory as a guide in analyzing the data. Because the research study is sociolinguistics, the researcher added language style as a variation of language research. This theory has been used by several researchers above but with different data and a different main focus. Some of the researchers above only focus on language style, while this researcher uses social class and language style as the main focus. *Joker* movie was taken because this movie has the elements needed in research.

