



## Women Language Found in Falling Inn Love Movie

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### ABSTRACT

This study discusses about women's language features that occur in the utterance of the main character from the Falling Inn Love movie. The aim of this study was to analyze women's language features and the function of each feature that are used by the main character or Gabriela through the utterance by applying the main theory by Lakoff (1975) and Pearson (1985). In conducting the data, this study was using the descriptive qualitative method to organize the description of the data result. In presenting the data this study was using formal and informal methods. It was found nine out of ten features were used by the main character. The most feature that occurs in the main character utterance was lexical hedges or filler (25%) while the least feature that occurs in the dialogue was emphatic stress and hypercorrect grammar (2, 50%). Almost all the features by Lakoff (1975) are found in this movie except precise colour terms.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool to connect one person to another person. By using language easier to communicate and convey the intent and purpose. Language can reflect human behavior and reflect the society of the speaker (Nasr, 1978). One of branch of linguistic the study concern about language and social scope is sociolinguistic. In sociolinguistic language variation in terms of language users can be seen as follow glossolalia, idiolect, gender, monolingual, role, social status, and age (Pateda, 1987). Since language can reflect the speaker of the society and human behavior in term of gender Lakoff (1975) stated women used language indicates unassertive, polite, use some adjectives that rarely adopt by men. These women behavior reflect their status in society regarded as subordinate. As Lakoff describe in her book about women if they used strong swear words in expressing their feeling it considers inappropriate in society and unladylike.

Women's language that language used by women and has the characteristics as cited in Holmes (2013) such as lexical hedges or filler, empty adjectives, tag question, rising intonation on declarative, emphatic stress, avoidance of strong swear words, super polite form, precise color term, intensifiers, and hypercorrect grammar. These features of women's language seem to open the decision rather than asserting. Unlike women, men tend to use more assertive forms and strong language like swearing (Yule, 2010). In addition, Lakoff (1975, cited in Holmes, 2013) also stated women were using language that indicates a lack of confidence or uncertainty about what they being said which refers to their status. Those are some characters of women's language that were proposed by Lakoff (1975) in her book Language and Woman's Place. Those women's language features can be applied to analyze or give more understanding about women's language through utterance. The significance of this study is to understand each feature of women's language deeply.

There are several studies that analyzed women's language features from linguistic works. The first article conducted by Pebrianti (2013) entitled Women's language Features used by Indonesian Female Bloggers, the second article from Khoirot et al. (2017) entitled Women's Linguistic Features in Two Dramas, Oktapiani et al. (2017) entitled Women's Language Features found in Female Character's Utterances in The Devil Wears Prada, Juwita et al (2018) entitled The Differences between Men and Women's Language in The Devil Wears Prada, and Sanjaya (2018) entitled Women's Language in The Nanny Diaries Movie. These studies using theory from Lakoff (1975) analyzed women's language in the data source. From all the studies above almost found all the features proposed by Lakoff (1975). Although this study and previous studies analyzed a similar topic, the difference can be seen from the data source that was used. The reason chooses this movie as the data source because the main character of the movie was strong in person and easy to

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make friend with anyone. Despite, the main character has a strong personality but she keeps her behavior ladylike, avoids using strong words, and is polite.

In order to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation, this study focuses on the main character utterance, Gabriela Diaz from a movie entitled *Falling Inn Love*. The reason only analyzed the main character utterance because the main character mostly has the screentime a lot rather than other characters and also her attitude was good as a woman. In addition, hopefully, this study can be useful to future studies that take a similar study about women’s language.

## 2. METHODS

In conducting the data, this study were using a descriptive qualitative method to organize the description of the result. The data source took from *Falling Inn Love* movie. Some steps were taken in this study to analyze the data. The first step was watching a movie, then collecting data, and the last note-taking and analyzing the data found in the movie based on the theory women’s language features and the function proposed by Lakoff (1975) and Pearson (1985).

This study was using formal and informal methods in presenting the data found. In formal method the finding presented as the table, to show women’s language features that found in this movie. For informal, the data found presented in descriptively to explain the finding clearer by providing the dialogues of the main character. For more coherent classifying the finding based on theory and presented according to features that found in the movie.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### RESULT

**Table 1.** Women’s Language Features

No	Women’s Language Features	Total	Percentage
1	Lexical Hedges or Fillers	10	25%
2	Tag Question	7	17,50%
3	Rising Intonation on Declaratives	3	7,50%
4	Empty Adjectives	5	12,50%
5	Intensifier	6	15%
6	Hypercorrect Grammar	1	2,50%
7	Super polite Forms	4	10%
8	Avoidance of Strong Swear Words	3	7,50%
9	Emphatic Stress	1	2,50%
Total		40	100%

Formula:

$$F = \frac{n}{\sum N} \times 100$$

F = Percentage of each feature

n = Total of each feature

∑ N = Total data found

The total data found in *Falling Inn Love* movie is 40 utterances of the main character. Based on the table above, the most feature used by the main character or Gabriela was lexical hedges or filler, in percentage 25% and 10 utterances. The least features used was emphatic stress and hypercorrect grammar in percentage 2,50% and only one utterance of the main character. Beside those features above, Lakoff (1975) proposed ten features as cited in Holmes (2013). Meanwhile, this study almost found all of the features. This study found 9 out of ten features that theory proposed. The main character of this movie, Gabriela has strong personality and easy to make friend with someone new. Even though, Gabriela still keeps her behaviour as women as Lakoff (1975) stated women’s language indicate politeness, and unassertive. These are several data as representative data found.

## DISCUSSION

### Datum 1

Gabriela : **Maybe this is a sign. I need to strike out on my own.**

Dean : Whoo, yes. There's your get-up-and-go spirit. What can I do to help?

Gabriela : Well, I was thinking, uhm, if we move in together, I can establish a home office, go freelance, find my own investors fund my own eco-friendly gray water recycling...

Dean : Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa. Uh, just...Back it up. Just rewind two seconds. Move in together?

Based on theory of [Lakoff \(1975\)](#), lexical hedges or fillers is one of women's language features indicate if women lack of self-confidence, and often lexical hedges or filler indicates that the speaker is uncertain about what she is saying or cannot exactly state the accuracy statement. The dialogue above took place in San Francisco, while Gabriela having a date with her boyfriend named Dean. This utterance of the main character "Maybe this is a sign. I need to strike out on my own." was categorized as **lexical hedges or filler**. Since the utterance of the main character indicate that she is hesitant about delivering her idea, by utter the word "maybe" showing her uncertainty. After Gabriela lost her job, she has a lot of things in her mind. She hesitates how to deliver her idea in the right way. She wants to have a relationship with Dean more than that because it has been two and a half years and also she wants to make her dream come true. It can see in her utterance "Well, I was thinking, uhm, if we move in together, I can establish a home office, go freelance, find my own investors fund my own eco-friendly gray water recycling...", she mentioned living together and her dream of having an eco-friendly home.

### Datum 2

Jake : Uh, Megan...She didn't like the rural life. It was...It was too far out for her. So, we'd been renting a place in town. But after she died, I just... came back. Yeah, I was in the mood to be alone for a while.

Gabriela : I'm really sorry.

Jake : Yeah, me too. I'm guessing the universe has its own plans for things, eh?

Gabriela : Yes, it does.

As cited in [Holmes \(2013\)](#) intensifiers can be classified as boosting devices. Intensifiers might be used to strengthen the statement by emphasizing the meaning of the statement as a result, it drew the interlocutor attention and they receive the message from speaker's statement. The dialogue between Gabriela and Jake took place in Jake's house. When they need some tools to renovate the inn. This utterance of the main character "I'm really sorry" was categorized as an **intensifier**. Since the main character used the word "really" in her utterance. The word "really" is used to emphasize the next word which is "sorry". The main character wants to emphasize that she feels sorry toward Megan or Jack's ex-girlfriend because she passed away and she wants Jack to get her message. She emphasizes the word "sorry" it does not mean she makes a mistake but she tries to be polite in that situation. Women consider more polite in the way they speak and use more euphemisms in their utterances. Women consider as ladylike if they talk like that ([Lakoff, 1975](#)).

### Datum 3

Gabriela : Ugh, I swear, sometimes Dean just gets me so angry. I just don't know what to do with him.

Gabriela's friend: I hear ya.

(Please turn and transition into upward dog.)

(Deep, cleansing breaths.)

The dialogue between Gabriela and her friend took place at the yoga studio. Gabriela told her friend about her relationship with her boyfriend named Dean. This utterance of the main character "Ugh, I swear, sometimes Dean just gets me so angry. I just don't know what to do with him." was categorized as an **intensifier**. Since the main character used the word "so" in her utterance. The word "so" is used to emphasize the next word which is "angry". The main character used the intensifier to express her feeling through her utterance. Gabriela wants to emphasize that she feels angry toward her boyfriend or Dean because her boyfriend tries to avoid Gabriela when she begins to talk about their relationship. It is not the first time Dean behavior like that but he often acts like that. It is made Gabriela lose her patience. She tells how she feels and her friend understands what it is like by utter "I hear ya". As cited in [Holmes \(2013\)](#) intensifiers can be categorized as boosting devices. Intensifiers could be used to strengthen the statement by emphasizing the meaning of the statement as a result, it drew the interlocutor's attention and they receive the message from the speaker's statement.

*Datum 4*

Jack : Hello. Who are you, uh, hiding from?  
 Gabriela : I, uh... was reading the sign. Very informative.  
 Jack : Uh-huh. So, how's the old Bellbird?

The dialogue between the main character and Jack took place at a gardening store. Gabriela needs some plants to make her inn beautiful. Then Jack appears to buy what he needed. This utterance of the main character "I, uh... was reading the sign. Very informative.." was categorized as an **intensifier**. Since the main character used the word "very" in her utterance. The word "very" is used to emphasize the next word which is "informative". The main character used the intensifier to emphasize her utterance to make more logical. She tries to act normal not to show that she actually avoids Jake. These intensifiers used by the main character also show that she emphasized and also tries to change the subject.

*Datum 5*



**Figure 1.** Gabriela in front of her new inn

Gabriela : Fix that.  
 Ah, my inn!  
 Yeah!  
 Okay. It's lovely!

The usage of adjectives can be seen in women's and men's speech is common in many languages (neutral). However, [Lakoff \(1975\)](#) argues that some adjectives in English usually used by women. Women are also considered to have their own lexicon, words, and expression for emphasizing certain effects on them. Empty adjectives are usually used by women but on the other hand, empty adjectives are very rarely adopted by men. The utterance of the main character "Ah, my inn! Yeah! Okay. It's lovely!" was categorized as **empty adjectives**. Since the main character used the word "lovely" in her utterance. According to [Lakoff \(1975\)](#) as cited in [Wardhaugh \(2006\)](#) some adjectives are used by women such as cute, adorable, lovely, charming, etc. The utterance above took place in New Zealand in front of her new inn. The utterance of the main character shows her feeling enthusiastic about the inn and also one of her dreams has a house in the village. Empty adjectives are used to boost the statement without any purpose only to indicate the speaker's emotional reaction toward information.

*Datum 6*

Gabriela : Okay, Chief Taylor. Um, I was hoping to talk to you about a proposition?  
 Jake : A proposition? As you can see, I'm a little preoccupied at the moment, but if you care to make a donation, I might be able to give you a minute. If not, I might schedule you in next week. Maybe.  
 Gabriela : Next week? You're looking for trouble, aren't you?

According to [Lakoff \(1975\)](#) women tend to turn a statement into a question in order to reduce the force of the statement. The dialogue above took place at the festival held in Beechwood Downs city when Gabriela tries to offer Jack working together to renovate the inn with the split 50/50. This utterance of the main character "Next week? You're looking for trouble, aren't you?" was categorized as a **tag question** since her utterance uses the tag question "aren't you?". The utterance of the main character indicates that she tries to not force her statement by using a tag question. The use of the tag question "aren't you?" by Gabriela as the main character showed that she needs confirmation from Jake. By using a tag question in her utterance, she also wanted to express her feeling without using any strong swear words to show politeness in women's language. In addition, [Holmes \(2013\)](#) states using a tag question can be a kind of politeness. The utterance of the main character implies that she feels annoyed toward Jake because she wants to talk with him in proper way about her project idea but Jake is not taking it seriously.

*Datum 7*

Jake : What's that?

Gabriela : My gray water recycler. Yeah, it treats and reuses the dishwasher water as drip irrigation for our new garden.

Jake : Ugh, that's disgusting. Wouldn't you want clean water for your veggies? Come on.

Gabriela : Uh, that's the point. The recycler cleans the water. Uh-huh. You're messing with me, aren't you?

Jake : Easy target. No, the gray water recycler... I'm into it.

Women used the declarative sentence, followed by the sort question that relates to the statement to decrease the strength of the statement (Yule, 2010). The dialogue above took place in front of Gabriela's inn, while they renovate the inn. The utterance of the main character "Uh, that's the point. The recycler cleans the water. Uh-huh. You're messing with me, aren't you?" was categorized as a **tag question**. Since her utterance uses the tag question "aren't you?". The use of tag question in Gabriela's utterance she wants to express her opinion without force the statement by smiling and add jokes "you're messing with me" in her utterance. She also used the tag question to decrease assertiveness in her utterance. Gabriela has a good personality and is easy to make friends with anyone.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data, it can be concluded there are 40 data found from the Falling Inn Love movie. This study focused on analyzing women's language features and the function of each feature that are used by the main character or Gabriela through the utterance by applying the theory from Lakoff (1975) and Pearson (1985). The percentage of women language features used by the main character there were lexical hedges or fillers with frequency 25%, tag questions with frequency 17,50%, rising intonation on declarative with frequency 7,50%, empty adjectives with frequency 12,50%, intensifiers with frequency 15%, hypercorrect grammar with frequency 2,50%, super polite forms with frequency 10%, avoidance of strong swear words with frequency 7,50%, emphatic stress with frequency 2,50%, and there were none of the precise colour terms found in this movie. The result shows the most women language feature used by the main character in Falling Inn Love movie is lexical hedges or filler and the most function used is express feeling. While the least of all women language features used by the main character are hypercorrect grammar and also emphatic stress. This study has limitedness and weaknesses therefore, the future study could take the data source from other movies, or the other data such as YouTube, podcasts, or any data that is possible to analyze. Through all this, the future study could find all of the features completely and explore more about women's language features. In addition, analyze data deeply could have a better understanding of the problems. Studies on women's language features should also be widely researched among students as well and in linguistic studies especially in sociolinguistic to enrich the kinds of literature on study review or as references.

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