

## **Language Style Used by the Main Character in *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* Movie (2011)**

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### **Abstract**

*There are three problems discussed in this research, those are; What types of language style used by the main character in *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie, what the function of language style used by the main character in *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie and what factors that influence the main character to use language style in *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie. The object of the research is the main character's utterance taken from a movie entitled *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Stephen Daldry. The method applied in this research is qualitative method because the researcher only gives description and explanation related to the data. The result shows that there are five type of language style and four functions of language style used by the main character as well as the factor influences described by Hymes theory can be found in the movie. The most type of language style used by the main character is consultative style. While the most function used by the main character is referential function.*

**Keywords:** *Sociolinguistics, Language style, Function of Language, Ethnography of Communication, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie*

### **Introduction**

Humans are social beings who interact with other people to convey and receive information from each other used language. Language is an important device in humans' life because language itself cannot be separated from society. It is life in a society and the society can choose various kind of alternative languages. Language style is the way people use a language to communicate in a society. Every human has their own style of language because there are various factors

that influence the use of language style and what function they want to achieve with the language they use.

The researcher wants to analyze the language style used by fictional character in a movie because basically the utterance produced by fictional characters in the movie is reflection of conversation in real social life. the researcher chose *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie to know the language style used by the main character of the movie. *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* was released on December 25, 2011. The movie is about nine-year-old child who searches New York City to find his father who died in the World Trade Center accident on September 11, 2011 through a key left in his father's wardrobe.

The research aims to describe the types and the function of language style used by the main character, and to identify the factors that influence the main character use language style. While the benefit of the research is to give knowledge and comprehension deal with types of language style and to provide additional information which can be used by next researchers who is interesting in this topic. The researcher would analyze the main character's utterance in the *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie using Joss theory, Holmes Theory, and Hymes theory.

## **Literary Review**

### **Sociolinguistic**

Holmes stated "*the sociolinguist's aim to move toward a theory which provides a motivated account of the way language is used in a community, and of the choice people make when they used language*" (Holmes, 1992), from that statement it can be said that language used by people in the community will describe about the characteristic or identity of the community itself and sociolinguistic learn how language is applied by people to communicate.

Each people has different way in using language because everyone has different background and other factors that influence it, through sociolinguistics people will knows the right ways to use language in their communication in order to decrease misunderstanding between the speaker and the listener. People can

learn about the way humans used language in their communication through sociolinguistics in the field of language style.

## **Language Style**

Language style is one of language variation in sociolinguistic. Holmes (2001) stated language style is a way of speaking or the way human produce an utterance.

### **Type of Language Style**

The researcher used Joos theory to find the type of language style. Joos (1967: 153-155) differentiated language style into five types. Those are explaining as follows:

#### **1) Frozen style**

According to Joos (1967: 153), frozen style is very formal style used by special people in special occasion or situation. It characterized by long and complex sentence, a scientifically vocabulary, and a consistently serious tone. For instance, “Yes my Lord”.

#### **2) Formal style**

Joos (1967: 153) stated that this style has rule and norm between the participants in the conversation. The participants must be careful to what they want to speak because the style of language that they used determines their image in public. For example, the sentence “**My name is Sasa**” categorized as formal style because it is a standard form of English. It used to introduce our selves.

#### **3) Consultative style**

According to Joss (1967: 54), this style usually happens in not too formal situation. The participants in the conversation do not plan what they want to speak and in small group. This style also has certain words that become the characterized its style, such as “I think so”, “Yes or No”, and “Hmm”.

#### **4) Casual style**

Joss (1967: 54) described casual style used in the informal occasion by people who has close relationship. They do not careful about the vocabulary and the grammatical in their utterance or sentence.

## 5) Intimate style

It is a style that becomes special language between the speakers and hearers in the conversation, such as “honey”, and “darling” Joss (1967: 55).

## Function of Language

The researcher used explanation by Holmes (2001: 246) about the function of speech to know the function of language.

1. **Expressive Function:** to tell the participants’ feeling in their conversation.
2. **Directive Function:** to order someone to do something.
3. **Referential Function:** to tell an information or a message.
4. **Metalinguistic Function:** to describe the language.
5. **Poetic Function:** it is the aesthetic side of language.
6. **Phatic Function:** it convey loyalty and empathy to other people.

## Ethnography of Communication

The researcher used theory by Dell Hymes (1972: 42) that is S.P.E.A.K.I.N.G theory. It is a theory that consist of eight factor that influence people choose language style. Those are:

1. **“S”**. The letter “S” is an abbreviation of **“Situation”**. It consisting of setting and scene of the interaction.
2. **“P”**. The second letter is an abbreviation of **“Participants”**. It is who involved in the interaction. It is a speaker and the listener.
3. **“E”**. The third letter is a short form from **“Ends”**. It is the purpose of the interaction.
4. **“A”**. It is fourth letter that means **“Act Sequence”**. It consisting of the form and content of the language.
5. **“K”**. The fifth letter is **“Key”**. Key is the tone of the sound such as joke and serious.
6. **“I”**. It is short form of **“Instrumentalities”**. It is the tool used by the participants in the interaction.

7. “N”. it is the seventh letter of the theory. It is the abbreviation of “Norms”. Norms is the rule in the society to guide the participants in the interaction in order to understand the meaning behind their interaction.
8. “G”. The last letter is “Genre”. Genre is the sort of utterance such as narrative, prayer and poem.

## Research Method

The research applies the qualitative method to analyze *Extremely Load and Incredibly Close* movie. The problem discussed in this research is the dialogues utterance, which are found in main character in the *Extremely Load and Incredibly Close* movie. The researcher collects the data from the movie by watching the movie, script reading, identifying the data, classifying and selecting the data. While to analyze the data, the researcher does some steps by identifying and clarifying every utterance in the movie, explaining the classified data, interpreting the data, discussing the result of data interpretation, and concluding the result.

## Discussion and Findings

The researcher is going to exactly describe and explain Oskar’s utterance in the movie based on the theory.

### 1) Frozen Style

#### Datum 1

**01:54:42 --> 01:56:15**

*Oskar : “I'd written a letter to the people I'd met. It said: Dear Mister or Missus or Miss or Abby or Hazelle or Tommy or Elaine or anybody I'd met whose last name is Black. You might remember me. My name is Oskar Schell..... Most of you were very helpful and nice to me. I want to thank you for that. And I want to thank you for the horse ride you gave me and for Taylor's picture of me and my key. You might want to know, the key wasn't meant for me. It was meant for a Mr. William Black who maybe needed it even more than I did. I was disappointed, obviously but I'm honestly glad that it's where it belongs. And I'm even glad to have my disappointment which is much better than having nothing. My dad told me that New York once had a Sixth Borough that floated away. They tried to save it, but they couldn't and it's never coming back. As much as I*

*want him to my dad is never coming back. And I thought I couldn't live without him, but now I know I can. I think that would make my dad proud."*

*(DVD Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, 2011)*

The utterance said by Oskar above reflected frozen style. It can be seen from the utterance *"I'd written a letter to the people I'd met. It said..."*. From the beginning of the utterance until the end of it belongs to frozen style because it has characteristic of frozen style that is the words are carefully planned. Oskar planned what will he said to all the people he met before to shows his appreciation. Therefore, he used very formal sentence. he chooses the right words without abbreviation and wants to shows his respect to all people that had help him such as in the utterance *"I want to thank you"* he used *"I want"* not *"I wanna"* and he used *"You might want to know"* rather than *"you must curious"*. Frozen style characterize as style that has large audience. The utterance *"Dear Mister or Missus or Miss or Abby or Hazelle or Tommy or Elaine or anybody I'd met whose last name is Black"* shows that it has large audience which is intended to all people with the last name Black.

Frozen style commonly used for proverbial message. and it can be seen that Oskar used proverbial through the utterance about Sixth Borough *"New York once had a Sixth Borough that floated away. They tried to save it, but they couldn't and it's never coming back"* to illustrate his feeling about his father *"I want him to my dad is never coming back. And I thought I couldn't live without him, but now I know I can"*. He compares two things through the words *"As much as"*. The intonation used by Oskar also consistently serious tone that makes it more belongs to frozen style.

The utterance *"Most of you were very helpful and nice to me. I want to thank you for that"* has expressive function. It expresses Oskar's feelings which is express his gratitude towards people who helps him. He thanks to what people had done in his expedition to find his father. The other utterance that belongs to expressive function is *"I was disappointed, obviously but I'm honestly glad that it's where it belongs"*. The utterance expresses Oskar's sadness because the key did not bring him to his father but he also happy because the key met the owner.

The participants, the end, and the norm of the conversation are the factors that make Oskar used frozen style. The conversation has large participants. It happens between Oskar and all the people he met in his expedition with the last name Black such as Abby, Hazelle, Tommy, and Elaine. The end of the conversation above is to give information about the result of his expedition to find his father. He used frozen style to make clear his stories. He tells everyone that he cannot find his father, but he can accept that fact. While the norm of the utterance is politely norm because Oskar respect the people that will accepted his letter. He used frozen style because all the people he met is older than him.

## 2) Casual Style

### Datum 2

00:45:10 --> 00:45:25

Man : *“What are you, some kind of asshole?”*

Oskar : *“Dickass! Shiitake! All of you in this stupid fukozowa building!” [GRUNTS]*

*(DVD Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, 2011)*

The utterances said by Oskar in the conversation above belong to casual style. It can be seen through the utterances *“Dickass!”*, *“Shiitake!”*, and *“stupid fukozowa”*. All of those utterances are slang words. Those words are a bad word that used in the bad situation. Oskar used those words in his utterance to answer the man question. Although they do not know each other but the utterance said by Oskar and the situation between them is informal situation. Oskar does not careful about his vocabulary such as *“Dickass”* that means *“useless”*, *“shiitake”* means *“ass”*, and *“stupid fukozowa”* means *“all the people in the building is stupid”*. All those utterances he spokes to older people that he does not familiar. Therefore, the utterance above reflected casual style.

Phatic function can be seen in the utterance *“Dickass! Shiitake! All of you in this stupid fukozowa building!”*. That utterance expresses solidarity greeting in a bad way. It expresses that Oskar mad of the situation. He going far away visited the building to meet people with the last name Black but he got nothing. He fells useless and disappointed of the situation. It can be seen through the scene when he *“grunts”*. He expresses his angry with grunts and urged on the wall.

Factors that influence Oskar using casual style are the situation, the act, the key, and the norm. The conversation take place in the front of the building and it so crowded and it is informal situation. Then the act of the conversation above is that Oskar angry about the situation. He feels unappreciated by the man inside the building. He has good intention but the man does not welcome him. The key of the conversation is tense tone because Oskar mad about the respond of the man inside the building. He shouts in front of the building. Oskar said his sarcasms to the man directly in front of the intercom. While the norms that must Oskar used in the conversation is polite communication but he does not used it because the man's respond make him mad. Therefore, he chooses to used casual style in his utterance to convey his anger.

**Datum 3**

**00:47:40 --> 00:48:35**

*Mother* : “That is enough. Stop it.”

*Oskar* : “Excuse me, dog feces.”

*Mother* : “Stop it!”

*Oskar* : “But it's the truth! Why can't I say the truth? Just because Dad died doesn't mean you can be illogical. It has to make sense!”

*Mother* : “Not everything makes sense, Oskar! There's not an answer for everything!”

*Oskar* : “You're just stupid! It's completely nonsensical! It's just a box! An empty box!”

*Mother* : “I know it's an empty box! I know this. But I did it for me, and I did it for you so we could at least try and say goodbye to him because he's gone, Oskar, he's gone and he's not coming back. Never. I don't know why a man flew a plane into a building. I don't know why my husband is dead. But no matter how you try, Oskar, it's never gonna make sense because it doesn't, it doesn't make sense!”

*Oskar* : “Fukozowa you! You don't know anything!”

[*Mother Sighs*]

[*Oskar Sobbing*]

(DVD *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, 2011)

The utterance “Excuse me, dog feces”, “You're just stupid! It's completely nonsensical!”, and “Fukozowa you!” said by Oskar illustrate casual style because he does not care about the vocabulary he used such as “dog feces” and “Fukozowa” that refers to “stupid”. Oskar used these utterances to express his anger about what his mother done. She makes a funeral for his father that makes



him angry. It also happens in informal situation whereas he quarrels with his mother which is his member family. Then the utterance “*Why can't I say the truth?*” and “*You're just stupid!*” describe casual style because the utterances use simple sentence to show Oskar’s opinion.

The utterance “*But it's the truth! Why can't I say the truth? Just because Dad died doesn't mean you can be illogical. It has to make sense!*” reflected directive function. It used to get someone to do something. In this case, Oskar commands his mother to be honest and thinks clearly about his father funeral. Oskar thinks that the funeral was wrong because his father still alive and he want his mother thinks like him. Oskar commands his mother to make sense what she had done because she cannot do a funeral without the body of his father. While the utterance “*You're just stupid! It's completely nonsensical!*” and “*Fukozowa you! You don't know anything!*” belong to expressive function because its express Oskar’s feeling. Those utterances express his disagree to his father funeral because he thinks that his father still alive. He also blames his mother over the situation. He cannot accept the fact that his father died. All that utterances express his disappointment of his mother’s behaviour.

The situation, the participants, the end, the key of the conversation is the factors that influence Oskar used casual style in the conversation above. From the conversation above can be seen the situation of the conversation is in the kitchen of their home and very crowded of Oskar anger. The participants of the conversation are Oskar and his mother. Oskar feels disappointment of his father funeral. He approaches his mother in her bedroom and walked to kitchen to wreek his anger and his mother follows him. The end of the conversation is to express their feeling and opinion. They quarrel about funeral of father and the acts of the conversation are that Oskar mad and confuse about what his mother done. He expresses his anger to his mother. While the key of the conversation is tense tone because Oskar had arguments with his mother used high voice but bad words. He does not want to back down of his mother and he blames his mother. Therefore, he used casual style in the conversation above.

### **3) Formal Style**

#### **Datum 4**

**00:05:51 --> 00:06:00**

Oskar : “*I found something. Over!*”

Grandma : “*What area, Oskar? Over!*”

Oskar : “*Zone E-3. Over!*”

(DVD *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, 2011)

The conversation above happens when Oskar find a clue in the park. He finds something in the ground used metal detector with his grandma who always beside him. He used formal style because his utterance “*I found something. Over!*” told that he found something in formal form while having conversation with his interlocutors. It proves in the utterance “*I found something. Over!*” also has correct grammar without slang. It is including in formal style and the Oskar’s utterance has a convince statement strengthened with the utterance “*Zone E-3. Over!*” which is the place where he found something.

Oskar’s utterance above has directive and referential function. The utterance “*I found something*” provides information that Oskar saw aomething in the park which he believes it become the clue of the sixth borough and the utterance “*“Zone E-3.”*” provides information about the place of that clue. He gives the information to his interlocutor that is his grandma. While the utterance “*Over!*” reflected directive function because through the words Oskar command his interlocutor to write the information that he gave and to allow his interlocutor give a respond to what he said.

Factors that influence Oskar using formal style are the end, the act, the key, and the instrument of the conversation. The ends of this conversation are getting a clue about sixth borough. Oskar used formal style in his utterance to convey the clue to his partner in his expedition. The act of the conversation is that Oskar serious to find something. He used metal detector to find something in the park at night in serious atmosphere. It makes him used formal style. The key can be seen as serious tone because it is about his expedition to find the sixth borough and it makes the atmosphere of the conversation become formal. The instrument of the utterance is oral communication and used intercom. Therefore, Oskar chooses formal style in that conversation above.

#### **5) Intimate Style**

##### **Datum 5**

**00:41:40 --> 00:41:48**

*Oskar* : “I love you.”

*Mother* : [SOBBING].

(DVD *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, 2011)

The utterance “*I love you*” indicates as intimate style because it characterizes as family relationship that have special relationship. Oskar shows his love to his mother through the word “*love*” and it reflected as private code characteristic to communicate with other people that has special place in the heart because not all people can say that word to other people easily.

The utterance “*I love you*” describes as expressive function because it expresses Oskar’s feeling for his mother. He wants to show his love to his mother through that utterance. He said behind the door after he leaves because he too shy and remember that he does not has close relationship with her. Although Oskar said in low voice but his mother still hears what he said and she cry in silent because of that.

The participants, the end, and the genre of the conversation makes Oskar used intimate style in the conversation above. The participants of the conversation are Oskar and his mother. It happens when Oskar wants to go out find his father and take permission to his mother. After he closes the door, he stands in front of the door and say something to his mother. He just said that he loves him but in that conversation he does not speaks directly but behind the door after he leave the home. Therefore, the end of the conversation is express Oskar’s feeling. The utterances said by him intended to his mother who is his family member. He loves his mother but he sad about the condition between them because he cannot say to his mother what he done in the outdoor at that time. He focuses to find his father that has close relationship with him rather that his mother. Then the genre of the conversation above is a monologue although there are two participants but his mother does not say anything to respond Oskar. She just crying in silent and Oskar also do not know whether his mother hears what he said or not.

## 6) Consultative Style

**Datum 6**

**01:33:03 --> 01:33:28**

*William* : “Hello.”

*Oskar* : “Hello.”

William : “What can I do for you? What's going on?”  
 Oskar : “Do you know my father?”  
 William : “Your father? Who's your father?”  
 Oskar : “Thomas Schell.”  
 William : “I don't think so. I don't know any Schells.”  
 Oskar : “He died at 9/11.”  
 William : “Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.”  
 (DVD *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, 2011)

The conversation above can be describing as consultative style because it consists of question and answer between the participants. The situation of that conversation is less formal although it was the first time they met because the conversation straight to the topic and not have introducing to each other. Oskar used formal utterance “Do you know my father?” but the William’s respond makes the situation not formal that can be seen in the utterance “Your father? Who's your father?” because he to the point answer Oskar’s question. The conversation also has short answer which is the characteristic of consultative style that can be seen in the utterances “Thomas Schell” and “He died at 9/11”.

From the conversation above, the utterance “Hello” indicates as phatic function because it expresses solidarity as a greeting. Oskar used that utterance answer William’s greeting and it can be uses to establish the mood of both participants. While the utterances “Do you know my father?”, “Thomas Schell” and “He died at 9/11” belong to referential function because its provide information. Oskar asks William to get information about his father and he also give information about his father as regard to his name and what happened to him.

The Factor that influences Oskar using consultative style can be described as follows: the first, the situation of the utterance. Oskar said that utterance in William’s office. It is when he met William for the first time to ask about his father in not too formal situation. The second is the participant. Participants of those utterances are Oskar and William. Oskar meets William for the first time. Oskar’s utterance is intended to William who does not have relationship with him. Therefore, he used consultative style. The third is ends. The end of those utterances is getting information. Oskar wants to know about his father with the key from William. He knows about William from a contact in his father’s newspaper which he found in his father pocket. The last is the norm and the genre.

The norm of the conversation above is well mannered because Oskar does not know anything about William. He is strange person to him. They are not familiar from each other and the genre of the conversation above is a dialogue. It consists of questions-answer. Therefore, he used consultative style.

**Datum 7**

**00:55:35 --> 00:56:19**

Oskar : *"Who are you?"*

Renter : *"The Renter."*

Oskar : *"I'm Oskar Schell, Grandma's grandson. Do you know where my grandma is?"*

Renter : *"Out."*

Oskar : *"Out? This time of night? Do you know where? It's kind of a matter of life and death."*

Renter : *"We could wait together."*

*(DVD Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, 2011)*

The utterance said by Oskar describes consultative style because Oskar's utterance said when he saw the Renter. He does not plan what he said before. He just asks question to the Renter. In the conversation above the question can be seen in the Oskar's utterances *"Who are you?"*, *"Do you know where my grandma is?"*, and *"Out? This time of night? Do you know where?"* while the answer is said by the Renter. The Renter also answer with short answer that makes the conversation belongs to consultative style and the situation between them is not too formal although they met for the first time. He going to his grandma house but he cannot find her and met the Renter not on purpose.

All the utterances said by Oskar in the conversation above have referential function because they convey information. First, the utterance *"Who are you?"* provide the information about the listener. The listener in the conversation above is the Renter. Second, the utterance *"I'm Oskar Schell, Grandma's grandson"* provides the information of Oskar. After he knows the listener identity, he introduces himself to him. Third, the utterance *"Do you know where my grandma is?"* and *"Do you know where?"* provide the information about his grandma and the information is in the Renter's answer that his grandma is out.

The participants, the end, and the act of the conversation influence Oskar used consultative style. The participants of the conversation above are Oskar and the Renter who rent a room in his grandma house. Oskar visited his grandma

house to discuss something with her, but he cannot find his grandma and met the Renter. He knows that there is a person that rent in his grandma house, but he never met him. That was the first time he saw the Renter. The end of their conversation is getting information about each other and the existence of Oskar's grandma. Because that was the first time, Oskar used consultative style to the Renter. Then the act of the conversation above is clumsy because Oskar does not know what should he do and he little bit scare of him. He tries to stay calm and maintained the relationship between them by using consultative style.

## **Conclusion**

From the research analysis, there can be concluded conclusions, first is the main character in the *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* movie used all the types of language style. The most used language style by the main character is Consultative Style. While the least language style is used by the main character is Formal Style. Second is the language style used by the main character has Referential Function, Directive Function, Expressive function, and Phatic Function. The last is not all the SPEAKING factor described by Hymes Theory influences the main character used certain language style in the conversation of the movie.

The researcher realized that all data are analysed based on the point of view the main character of the movie. Hence, it will be more interesting if there is a research that explains about language style of the movie. The researcher suggests for further researcher to develop this research is not only used in the movie but also other literary works such as novel or song lyrics to make the readers more understand and make the research more objective.

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