

AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE IN *TOP GUN: MAVERICK* MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the types of language styles found in the movie *Top Gun: Maverick*. The study aims to identify the different language styles employed by the characters and to examine the social factors influencing these styles. The writer used a qualitative method to categorize the language styles and explore their contextual usage within the movie. The findings reveal four language styles: formal, consultative, casual, and intimate, with casual style being the most frequently used, reflecting the emphasis on personal relationships and friendships among characters. The study also notes the absence of frozen style, likely due to the lack of formal or highly ritualistic contexts in the movie.

Keywords: *language styles, social factors, qualitative.*

INTRDUCTION

Language is a fundamental part of human life, serving as a tool for conveying information, ideas, and emotions. Sociolinguistics explores the relationship between language and society, highlighting how social structures can influence linguistic behaviour [1]. Language is used by individuals to ask for and provide information, emphasizing its role in communication [2]. Language style is adaptable and varies based on context, reflecting the speaker's mindset, personality, and the situation at hand. The language is used in formal settings differs from that in casual conversations, with the style being shaped by the relationship between speakers and the circumstances of their interaction [3]. Language style have five type: Frozen, Formal, Consultative, Casual, and Intimate [4], each serving different functions and suited to different contexts. For instance, the Frozen style is used in highly formal, ritualistic settings, while the Intimate style is reserved for close, personal relationships [4]. This study analyzes the language styles used in the movie *Top Gun: Maverick*, a U.S. Navy fighter pilot film released in 2022. The film's diverse character interactions make it an ideal subject for exploring how language styles vary according to context and relationships. By applying Joos' theory and Holmes' framework on social factors, the study examines how characters' speech patterns are influenced by their social relationships, settings, and specific situations. The research aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the range of language styles present in the movie and the social

factors that shape them, offering insights into the adaptability of language in different social contexts.

METHOD

In this study, the writer uses the descriptive qualitative method to analysis the data. Thus data will be discussing, analyzing and finding the Language style in the transcript of movie from *Top Gun Maverick* movie. Qualitative research is a situated activity that locates the observer in the world. These practices turn the world into a series of representations including field-notes, interviews, conversations, photographs, recordings and memos to the self [5]. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or to interpret, phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them. The study will apply the descriptive qualitative method with data in the form of words in text. The writer's study was based on an analysis of utterances, with the movie character's words, phrases, clauses, or sentences serving as the data source.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This part presents the findings of the data analysis. The writer discovers 61 utterances that demonstrate language style after examining the language styles utterances from the movie *Top Gun: Maverick*. The

writer categorizes the data using Joos' theory into frozen style, formal style, casual style, consultative style, and intimate style. The writer found four of five types of language style that appear in the source of the data. Those are formal style 13 data, casual style 36 data, consultative style 9 data, and intimate style 3 data. The writer discovers the factors that affect the character's way of speaking based on Holmes's theory.

1. Type of Language Style

a. Formal Style

Data 2. Minutes 00:17:20

Beau Simpson: **Captain Pete "Maverick" Mitchell. I'm admiral Beau Simpson. I'm the air boss. I believe you know admiral bates.**

Analysis: Admiral Simpson call Maverick's full name and rank, "*Captain Pete 'Maverick' Mitchell*," which signifies formality and respect and he call himself with his full title and name, "*I'm admiral Beau Simpson*," reinforcing the formal tone of the conversation. The use of formal titles and clear, properly formed sentences reflects the respect Admiral Simpson has for Maverick as a fellow officer and the seriousness of the military environment. The introduction is clear and devoid of contractions or colloquial language. Admiral Simpson says, "*I'm admiral Beau Simpson. I'm the air boss.*" instead of "*I'm Beau, the boss here.*" This is typical in military contexts, where addressing someone by their full title and name is a sign of respect. The interaction exemplifies the formal style, characterized by its structured, professional, and respectful nature, especially in hierarchical settings such as the military.

b. Consultative style

Data 8. Minutes 01:45:60

Maverick: You understand?
Rooster: Yeah.
Maverick: Once I'm up, stow the ladder.
Rooster: Okay.

Analysis: This dialogue is categorized as consultative style because it involves a two-way interaction where Maverick ensures Rooster understands the instructions before proceeding. Consultative style typically involves a balance between formality and conversational ease, appropriate for professional

interactions where clarity and mutual understanding are crucial. Although the language is direct and brief, it serves the purpose of ensuring instructions are communicated clearly and acknowledged, which aligns with the consultative style. Maverick's question, "*You understand?*" seeks confirmation from Rooster, and Rooster's response, "*Yeah*," confirms his understanding. The directive, "*Once I'm up, stow the ladder*," is clear and practical, fitting the consultative style's emphasis on effective communication and mutual comprehension.

c. Casual Style

Data 13. Minutes 00:25:07

Phoenix: **Fellas, this here's bag man.**
Hangman: Hangman.
Phoenix: Whatever.

Analysis: This dialogue belongs to casual style. In this data, it shows that Phoenix and Hangman have a relaxed and informal relationship. This is evident from the dialogue that occurs in a non-formal situation, where they use slang and informal expressions. For example, the use of the term "**Fellas**" is a casual way to address a group, and the correction "*Hangman*" is straightforward and informal. The dismissive response "*Whatever*" further reflects the casual nature of their interaction. The tone is relaxed and conversational, with informal language that indicates they can speak freely and comfortably with each other.

d. Intimate Style

Data 16. Minutes 01:35:39

Rooster: Talk to me, dad.
Maverick: Come on, kid, you can do it. Don't think, just do.

Situation: This situation happened in flight deck when rooster lacks self-confidence and he reminisces about his father and maverick as an old partner rooster father give support to rooster.

Analysis: This dialogue belongs to intimate style due to the personal and emotionally charged language. It can be seen from the use of word "**dad**" and "**kid**" reflects close, familial relationships, the way Maverick support and encouraging "**you can do it**" and "**Don't think, just do**" highlights the deep level of trust and familiarity typical of intimate style.

Furthermore, the utterance is not using standard-forms. For instance, “Don’t think, just do.”, ‘don’t’ is the contraction from ‘do not’.

2. Social Factor

Social factors influence how people communicate in different situations. These factors include who is speaking, where the conversation happens, what they are talking about, and the purpose of the interaction. By looking at these elements, we can better understand why certain words, tones, and styles are used in different contexts. This analysis will explore the participants, setting, topic, and function.

Data 2. Minutes 00:17:20

Beau Simpson: **Captain Pete “Maverick” Mitchell. I’m admiral Beau Simpson. I’m the air boss.**

The participant in this data is a person of higher degree (Beau Simpson) to lower degree (Maverick), therefore he uses formal language style to speak to maverick because she speaks as a fellow officer. The setting is in military environment, and the topic they are talking is about introduction and establishment of authority. The function of this conversation is to find out who the superiors and subordinates are in the military environment and to ensure that both parties understand each other's identity and authority.

Data 8. Minutes 01:45:60

Maverick: You understand?
Rooster: Yeah.
Maverick: Once I’m up, stow the ladder.
Rooster: Okay.

The participants in this dialogue are Maverick and Rooster. Despite the military setting, which is formal, the interaction remains semi-formal, focusing on the efficiency of communication. The consultative style is evident as Maverick’s approach ensures that Rooster comprehends and agrees with the instructions, reflecting a professional yet approachable interaction aimed at clarity and cooperation.

Data 13. Minutes 00:25:07

Phoenix: **Fellas, this here’s bag man.**
 Hangman: Hangman.
 Phoenix: Whatever.

The participants in this data are people who have a casual and somewhat informal relationship. In this data, they are Phoenix and Hangman. Therefore, they use casual language style as they talk freely and without formality, as seen in their exchange. For instance, Phoenix uses slang like "Fellas" to address the group, and the informal correction "Hangman" by Hangman shows the ease with which they communicate. The setting is in a military cafeteria, but their relationship allows them to use a more relaxed tone. The topic is an introduction, but the casual responses like "Whatever" reflect the informal nature of their interaction. They speak in a casual way because they are comfortable with each other and the context allows for it.

Data 16. Minutes 01:35:39

Rooster: Talk to me, dad.
Maverick: Come on, kid, you can do it. Don’t think, just do.

The participant in this data is people who have very close relationship absolutely. In this data, they are Rooster and Maverick, therefore they use intimate language style as they talk freely and easily. The setting is in flight deck the topic is about a Maverick give a support to Rooster. They speak in intimate way because they have very close relationship.

Table 1. Findings (Types of Language Style)

No	Types	Data
1	Formal	13
2	Consultative	9
3	Casual	36
4	Intimate	3
Total Data		61

Total of 61 data were analyzed the language styles used in *Top Gun: Maverick* and identified four of the five styles [4], formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. The casual style was the most frequently used, reflecting the film's focus on personal relationships, even within a formal military setting. Formal style was prevalent in hierarchical interactions, emphasizing respect and professionalism. Consultative style appeared in contexts requiring clear communication and mutual understanding, particularly in professional settings.

Intimate style, though less common, was used in moments of deep personal connection. The study also found that social factors, such as participants' relationships, setting, and the topic of conversation, significantly influenced the choice of language style. The absence of Frozen style is attributed to the lack of ceremonial contexts in the movie, which instead emphasizes dynamic, interpersonal communication. The findings underscore the adaptive nature of language, with characters adjusting their language style to balance formality with personal connection.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In conclusion, this study underscores the importance of language style in *Top Gun: Maverick*, particularly within in military setting. The predominance of casual language, despite the formal military context, reflects the characters' familiarity and the informal, often high-stress nature of their interactions. This choice of language style reveals how characters navigate a structured environment with moments of relaxed and spontaneous communication. The analysis of social factors further demonstrates how relationships between characters influence their language use. The writer hopes these insights can contribute to a deeper understanding of how language style is used within specific settings and may offer valuable perspectives for other studies examining language styles.

This study has certain limitations, but the writer suggests that readers gain an understanding of the various language styles used in movies, particularly in a military context like *Top Gun: Maverick*. It is recommended that readers become more familiar with how language styles function in different settings. Additionally, this study can serve as a foundation for future research, offering valuable insights for other researchers interested in exploring language styles further.

For future studies, the writer advises examining different types of data, such as television shows, documentaries, or other films. Expanding the research to include different media formats or theoretical perspectives could provide a broader understanding of language use across contexts. Ultimately, the writer hopes that this study will be a useful resource for future researchers aiming to deepen their analysis of language styles in movie.

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