

## CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS TOWARD LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL CLASS IN SOCIETY

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### Abstract

Studying sociolinguistics means studying a deep language socio-cultural context and the speaker's relationship with his listeners. Social group refers to differences in population or groups in power classes, income, position, and type profession. Through sociolinguistic studies we can find out variations language as well as social groups or classes of a society. Language society is formed because of mutual understanding, especially because of the togetherness in linguistic codes. In the meaning of society has contained the meaning of interaction through communication that is with language. Social certification in a society gives rise to a variety of languages which further strengthen social certification. This certification greatly affects the choice of language in levels of language. That is, low class society experiencing obstacles or obstacles in communicating because vocabulary is inadequate or limited when compared to the group social status that has a higher position.

**Key words:** language variation, discourse analysis, society.

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### INTRODUCTION

Language is a communication tool in the form of oral and written forms that are used by individuals and communities (Setri & Setiawan, 2020), (Ameraldo & Ghazali, 2021), (Nindyarini Wirawan, 2018), (Al Falaq & Puspita, 2021), (Heaverly & EWK, 2020). Without language, there is no society and no association (Alfarizi et al., 2020), (Gulö, 2014), (Ayu & Pratiwi, 2021), (Booch et al., 1998), (Chavez, 2000). The characteristics of society especially can be learned from the language, which does say something that lives in that society (Chavez, 2000), (Rido & Sari, 2018), (Mandasari & Oktaviani, 2018), (Tanenhaus et al., 2000), (Sari, 2015). Society consists of individuals, as a whole the individuals influence and depend on each other, so the language which belongs to society is also stored in each individual (Wahyudin, 2015), (Abidin, Borman, Ardiyatno, et al., 2021), (Putri & Sari, 2020), (Lestari & Wahyudin, 2020). Each individual can behave in the form of language, and the behavior of individual languages can have a wide effect on members of other language communities (Aminatun, 2016), (Muliyah et al., 2020), (Sasalia & Sari, 2020), (Gulö, n.d.), (Mandasari & Agusty, n.d.). Therefore, the individual remains bound by the rules of the game that apply to all members of society (Laila Ulsi Qodriani & Wijana, 2020), (Aminatun & Oktaviani, 2019), (Prayoga & Utami, 2021), (Utami et al., 2021), (Nazara, 2019). Language functions in society and seeks to explain the human ability to use appropriate language rules in a variety of situations (Kuswoyo, n.d.), (Sari, 2018), (Widianingsih & Gulö, 2016), (Abidin, Permata, et al., 2021), (Abidin, Permata, et al., 2021). Humans are social creatures. Humans interact, cooperate, and establish social contacts in society (Laila U Qodriani & Wijana, 2020), (Novawan et al., 2020). In doing this, humans need a means of communication in the form of language.

Humans are social creatures that cannot live alone but always interact with each other (Suryono & Subriadi, 2016), (Febria Lina & Setiyanto, 2021), (Aguss & Yuliandra, 2021). For this purpose, humans use language as a means of communication as well as group identity. This can be proven by the formation of language divisions in the world which have unique characteristics that make them different from other languages. Meanwhile, social class refers to groups of people who have certain similarities in social fields such as economy, work, education, position, caste, etc. Caste is a kind of closed social class, while other social classes are open and allow social mobility. It is possible for an individual to have more than one social status.

The differences between community groups are reflected in the variety of languages used. Different from the variety of regional dialect languages, one of which is marked by regional boundaries, the sign in the various languages of the social class is the user. So in a variety of regional dialect languages, sometimes there are still various social class languages when viewed from the users.

The relationship between language and social context is studied in the field of sociolinguistics, as stated by Trudgill that "Sociolinguistics is a part of linguistics that is related to language, linguistic phenomena and culture. This field also examines the phenomenon of society and is related to social science fields such as Anthropology or it can also involve geography and sociology, and social psychology.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **A. Variety of social class languages**

When we see in Indonesia a class of people with a low education they tend to use a variety of non-standard languages. One of them is the variety of their language can be recognized in terms of their pronunciation. For example: the suffix -kan which is pronounced -ken. So the differences or classifications of human society groups are reflected in the various languages of that community group (Abidin, Borman, Ananda, et al., 2021), (Sulistiani & Tjahyanto, 2016). It can be concluded that the higher the social class, the lower the social class the more non-standard language use is found.

Additionally, people with different educational backgrounds will certainly have different languages. Highly educated people (Bachelor's) will find it easier to use the formal form of language than people with low education (didn't passed Elementary School or just graduate from Elementary School). Likewise, what happens to people with different work backgrounds in which that people who work as pedicab drivers tend to use informal, abusive language and does not maintain prestige. Meanwhile, people whose jobs are teachers are certainly not the case.

### **B. Standard social class and variety**

There are standard rules in English, if the subject is a singular third person pronoun (she, he, it), the verb predicate must use the suffix-s and then conducted research whether there is a relationship between social groups and this language symptom (Nindyarini Wirawan, 2018), (An & Suyanto, 2020). The research was conducted in two places, which are in Detroit (USA) and in Norwich (UK). The informants include various levels of social class, they are:

- Ø High Middle Class
- Ø Upper Middle Class
- Ø Middle working class
- Ø Lower working class

## **METHOD**

In doing research, it is necessary to execute the planning of research. So the research can be conducted systematically. The researcher uses qualitative descriptive research because the rider not only collecting relevant data, but also interpreting the data before analyzing the data. In addition, the researcher is also uses library research. The method used in writing this paper is Analytical Descriptive, which explains clearly and analyzes it comprehensively (Baker & Edwards, 2012).

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Labov, in his research proves that an individual from a certain social class, a certain age or a certain gender will use a certain variation of forms several times in a certain situation. Furthermore, Bernstein put forward the basic assumption about the two kinds of speakers' languages called elaborated code which tends to be used in formal situations and restricted code that tends to be used in informal situations. Because in the educational process decomposed code is used more frequently, speakers who are accustomed to using limited codes, for example the working class will experience difficulties and have an effect on cognitive power or learning outcomes.

Meanwhile, Sapir-Whorf stated that "a human's view of the environment can be determined by language", this opinion received several refutable evidence, namely the physical environment in which a society lives can be reflected in its language, the social environment can also be reflected in language and can often influence the structure of the vocabulary, the presence of layers of feudal society and caste which exert influence in language, in addition to the environment and social structure, the values of a society can also influence the language of that society.

Moreover, In society, there is often a distinction between the educated or those who have studied up to the tertiary level and the uneducated or generally only having education up to the elementary-junior high school level who constitute the majority of Indonesian society. Most of them use a common variety in their daily conversations. As we know that usually the vocabulary in general varieties contains very little standard variant. This book stated that the lower the social class, the more non-standard forms are used.

### **2. The relationship between language and communication**

Language with communication is closely related (Febriantini et al., 2021), (Keith et al., 1974), (Kusniyati, 2016), (Hidayati et al., 2020), (Tiono & Sylvia, 2004). In every language communication there are two parties involved, namely the sender of the message and the receiver of the message (Lubis et al., 2019), (Lorandel et al., 2016), (Aziz et al., 2021). The utterances that are used to convey messages in the form of ideas, thoughts, suggestions, etc. are called messages. In this the message is nothing but the carrier of ideas (thoughts, suggestions, etc.) which is conveyed by the sender or speaker to the receiver or

listener. Every language communication process begins with the sender deciding in advance what to say in a framework of ideas. This process is known as semantic encoding. There are two kinds of language communication, which are unidirectional communication and two-way communication. In unidirectional communication, the sender remains as the sender, and the receiver remains as the receiver. For example in informative communications, sermons in mosques or churches that are not followed by questions and answers. In two-way communication, alternately the sender can become the receiver, and the receiver becomes the sender. This two-way communication occurs in meetings, negotiations, discussions and so on.

As a means of communication, language consists of two aspects, they are:

Ø The linguistic aspect

Ø Nonlinguistic or paralinguistic aspects

The two aspects work together in building language communication. The linguistic aspect includes phonological, morphological, and syntactic levels. These three levels support the formation of what will be conveyed, namely semantics in which there are meanings, ideas, ideas or concepts. Meanwhile, Paralinguistic aspects include:

Ø Quality of speech, which is a person's speech patterns such as falsetto (high voice), staccato (intermittent sound), and so on.

Ø Supra segmental elements namely pressure (stress), tone (pitch), and intonation.

Ø Distance and body movements, such as, hand movements, nodding of the head, and so on.

Ø Touch, that it is related to the sense of taste (on the skin).

Linguistic and paralinguistic aspects function as communication tools, together with the context of the situation to form or build a particular situation in the communication process.

### **3. The influence of language in various social classes**

The development of language that is also in line with the development of human life in the modern age shows changing phenomena, for example by the use of language as a specific social tool known as language variations such as jargon and argot.

#### **Jargon**

Jargon is a specific language, technical, certain idioms, slang and so on, namely "specialized language, technical language, slang, cant, idiom, argot, patter, patois, vernacular, computerese, legalese, bureaucratese, journalese, psychobabble, unintelligible language, obscure language, gobbledegook, gibberish, double Dutch (Erya & Pustika, 2021), (Pratiwi & Ayu, 2020).

According to "The Oxford Companion to the English Language" by Tom McArthur (1996) this jargon term appeared in the 14th century which is a term in Medieval English (Middle English), namely "iargo (u) n", "gargoun", "girgoun" which means chirping, singing of birds, meaningless talk, gibbering / bragging or chirping.

This jargon is also found in French terms, namely "jargoun", "gargon" and "gergon". Possible original meaning is the sound "echo" and is a general term that often refers to various outback foreign languages. It can be found in speech perceived as gibberish or empty utterances (mumbo jumbo), slang, Pidgin or the typical language of a trade, profession or other group.

However, this term is also often associated with certain sciences such as law and legislation, medicine and science which are both technical jargon and scientific jargon. For groups who are neither professional nor professional, the use of language is considered to be full of terms and sentences that are not like common language so that it is difficult for the average person to understand. However, for members of the professional group, the use of the term is very familiar and reaches a real eye. Because of this convenience and familiarity factor, jargon can express the technicalities and styles that are characteristic of the group.

## CONCLUSION

Social class is a group of people formed as a result of various dynamics of human development. This social class also has an influence on the development of the language used. Besides, the dialect differences that occur in each social class indicate the level of taste or honor that exists in each social class.

There are several theories relating to the development of language and social class, which are:

1. Labov's theory which states that there is a tendency for dialect differences to be used to express the identity of social strata.
2. Bernstein's theory which states that there are differences in the languages used when communicating with certain social groups.
3. The Sapir-Whorf theory which states that a person's language becomes a filter in accepting certain cultures.

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