AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE IN *"EXPEND4BLES"* MOVIE

THESIS

Submitted to Fulfil a Partial Requirement for S1 Degree

in The English Department Faculty of Humanities

Universitas Bung Hatta

BY

DHITI ZULKARNAEN

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

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LEMBAR PERSETUJUAN

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Diana Chitra Hasan, M.Hum., M.Ed., Ph.D.   **Dra. Nova Rina, M.Hum.**

LEMBAR PENGESAHAN

Dinyatakan lulus setelah dipertahankan di depan Tim Penguji

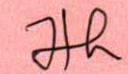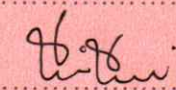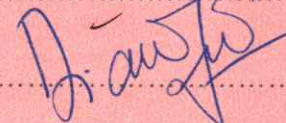Program Studi Sastra Inggris Fakultas Ilmu Budaya Universitas Bung Hatta

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1. Temmy Thamrin, S.S., M.Hum. Ph.D.   1. ....

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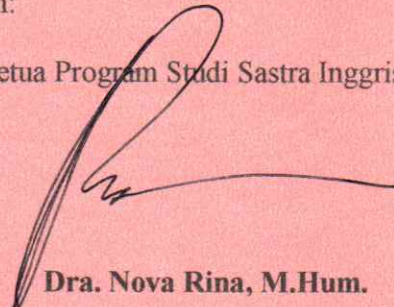
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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify the originality of this thesis which I now submit to fulfill a requirement for an S1 in the English Department Faculty of Humanities Universitas Bung Hatta. The content of this thesis is entirely my work. All assistance received in writing this thesis and the sources cited have been acknowledged within the text of my work.

Padang, 17 September 2025

Dhiti Zulkarnaen

AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE STYLE IN "*EXPEND4BLES*" MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This study analyzes the types of language styles found in the film 'EXPEND4BLES' using Martin Joos's (1976) theory. The main objective is to identify the language styles used by the characters and examine the social factors that influence these style choices, as explained by Holmes (2013). The writer uses qualitative methods to categorize language styles and explore their use in film contexts. The qualitative approach allows for in-depth analysis of dialogue and conversation to identify and explain different language styles. The research findings indicate the presence of four out of five language styles: formal (20 data), consultative (10 data), casual (15 data), and intimate (6 data). The formal style was found to be the most frequently used style. This reflects the film's emphasis on cooperation, decision-making, and emotional negotiation in a high-stakes environment. In addition, the analysis shows that participants (status and role differences between speakers) emerge as the most influential social factor followed by setting, topic, and function. Overall, this study shows that the choice of language style in 'EXPEND4BLES' reflects the social dynamics of the characters and the situational needs they face, confirming the relevance of Joos and Holmes' theory in understanding the function of language in action-oriented narratives.

Keywords: language style, social factors, qualitative

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First and foremost, I wish to express my deepest gratitude to Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala for the mercy, blessings and gifts and to the Prophet Muhammad Shalallahu Alaihi Wassalam for their guidance, wisdom, and blessings throughout my journey. Their teachings have been a source of inspiration and strength.

In preparing this thesis, many parties have provided support, motivation, advice and provided moral and material assistance to the writer directly or indirectly. So that the writer's thesis preparation can be completed. In this occasion the writer aims to express her gratitude and appreciation to the following people:

1. My heartfelt thanks go to my advisor, Mrs. Temmy Thamrin, S.S., M.Hum., Ph.D., for her extraordinary guidance and unwavering support throughout this journey. Her profound expertise, boundless patience, and insightful feedback have been instrumental in refining my study and guiding it to fruition. Her dedication to excellence and her commitment to my academic growth have made an indelible impact on this work and on me personally. I am profoundly grateful for her mentorship and encouragement.

2. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the examiners Dr. Yusrita Yanti, M.Hum, and Diana Citra Hasan, M.hum, M. Ed, Ph.D, for their thorough evaluation and valuable feedback. Your insights have greatly enhanced the quality of this thesis, and I am deeply grateful for your time and commitment.

3. A special note of gratitude goes to all the lecturers in the English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Bung Hatta, whose unwavering support, dedication, and profound knowledge have been invaluable to my academic journey. Your consistent encouragement, insightful teaching, and willingness to assist have provided me with a

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strong foundation and deep understanding of the subject matter, guiding me through challenges and playing a significant role in my success.

4. I am profoundly grateful to my husband, my parents and family for their unwavering support, love, and encouragement. Their belief in me and their sacrifices have been the foundation upon which this thesis was built. Their support has been a constant source of motivation and strength.

5. Finally, I am deeply thankful to my friend Elit Agusril for your encouragement, camaraderie, and understanding. Your support and companionship have made this journey both enjoyable and memorable. Your endless jokes, distracting conversations, and spontaneous adventures may have occasionally sent my study plans off the rails, but you have also made this entire experience unforgettable. It is difficult to stay focused when surrounded by such a delightful duo idiot. Thanks for keeping things entertaining and never letting me take myself too seriously!"

6. To everyone who reads this, remember: "The road to success is often longer and more challenging for some, but that does not mean you are on the wrong path. Embrace your journey with perseverance and confidence. Your efforts will pave the way to your own success. Keep striving, and never lose faith in your own potential!"

Padang, 17 September 2025

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Human need to interact with each other to fulfill their needs. To interact, they need to communicate using language that they can use to express feelings and thoughts. Holmes (2013) asserts that people often communicate with one another using language to request and provide information. Language allows people to talk about their feelings and desires.

Sociolinguistics is a field that investigates the way people use their language in society. According to Wardhaugh (2006) Sociolinguistics look at "who speaks what language to whom, when, and for what". That is, we learn how various people use their language in various situations. When people want to say something to others, they need to use language that is clear and easy to understand. That way, there will be no misunderstanding about what you want to convey. Good communication occurs when both parties understand each other clearly.

Language plays a crucial role in this process, especially in the ways that characters utilize it to reflect societal positions, manage relationships, and express their identities. Language style refers to the distinctive way individuals use language, including lexical choice, syntactic structure, and rhetorical strategies. According to Gee (2014) Language style is a key means through which people perform identities and build social relationships. In the context of a film, these styles are intentionally constructed by screenwriters to convey particular traits or roles. The language used is also important. Taufik et al., (2023) state that It's similar to choosing clothes for different events: we dress differently for parties and job interviews.

In movies, language is used to create authority and power relationships. Foucault (1972) asserts that language is not neutral and is closely related to knowledge and power.

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While lower-ranking members may speak more submissively or hesitantly, characters in Expend4bles who occupy leadership positions frequently utilize forceful, authoritative language that symbolizes their power. Another factor that affects language use in movie is gender. According to Holmes (2013), Societal expectations frequently cause men and women to adopt distinct communication styles, with males typically using direct and domineering methods and women using more cooperative or courteous ones.

Martin Joos talks about five different language styles: frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate. Each style is used in different situations. For example, formal language is used in serious meetings, while casual language is used with friends. These different styles emerge in "EXPEND4BLES" as main characters speak in different situations.

Using a qualitative methodology, this study examines dialogue in a few chosen scenes and transcripts. Researchers can examine how social roles, identity, and ideology are formed through linguistic interaction by using qualitative approaches, which are useful for revealing the meaning underlying language choices in particular circumstances (Creswell, 2013). Because to Expend4bles' widespread appeal, the vocabulary employed in the movie also conforms to several worldwide English and cinematic discourse norms. Williams (1977) pointed out that popular culture, especially movies, has a big influence on how people throughout the world perceive and use language.

English serves as a universal language in the era of globalization. Pennycook (2010) asserts that movies like as Expend4bles employ English as a tool for creating cross-cultural tales in addition to using it as a communication medium. A multicultural portrayal that reflects variety in the actual world is facilitated by the inclusion of characters with a range of accents, dialects, and linguistic styles. Each main character's speech in the movie

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is a performance of who they are and what they stand for, proving that identity is not established but rather played via language (Hall & Bucholtz, 2005).

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the following of problems of the study are formulated below:

1. What types of language style are used by the main characters in "EXPEND4BLES" movie based on Martin Joos theory?

2. What are the social factors influence the use of language style of main characters in "EXPEND4BLES" movie?

1.3 Purpose of the Research

The purpose of this research that represent what this research wants to accomplish are described as follows:

1. To describe the types of language style based on Martin Joos in "EXPEND4BLES" movie.

2. To identify the social factors, influence the use of language style in "EXPEND4BLES" movie.

1.4 Limitation of the Problem

This writer focuses on analyzing what types of the language style is used in the movie script "EXPEND4BLES", the writer applies theory by Martin Joos (1967). The writer wants to apply the use of language style and to know the factors influence the language is used in the movie by analyzing in depth some of the movie script, the writer also uses some theories by Holmes (2013) which explained about factors that affect the language style.

1.5 Significance of the Research

The study of language style in this thesis can provide significant contributions to readers in several ways to increase their knowledge. Readers will find out what types of language

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style are and the reasons why these language styles are use in "EXPEND4BLES" movie. The readers can understand that language style can be applied in many scripts. In addition, the writer hopes that the readers have enough learning about language style to know how to use it in other texts. This is also expected to be a useful reference for English Department students who are interested in conducting further study on language styles and how use in different situations.

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