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Comparing the Language Style Used by Native and Non-native English Speakers in *The Ellen Show*

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Abstract

As the user of communication especially in English, the speaker has to consider the interlocutor's position in order to achieve good communication. Here, the speakers which include native and non-native English speakers must choose an appropriate language style for the different interlocutors to avoid social consequences. The purposes of this research were to analyze the use of language style of those speakers in *The Ellen Show*. Also, it focused on the differences and the similarities between those speakers. Last, it focused on the factors influencing the use of language style. The research used the qualitative method which focuses on content analysis. Here, it focused on three native speakers and three non-native speakers of English as the guests in *The Ellen Show. The Ellen Show* is a talk show program with a casual discussion that talks about a particular topic or issue which consists of a host, the guest(s) being interviewed, the home audience, and the studio audience from which the host might get some responses from. The findings revealed that the native English speakers used all types of language styles. Meanwhile, the non-native speakers used three types of language styles. Then, the similarities were that both speakers applied formal style, consultative style, and casual style in their utterances. However, the difference was the non-native English speakers did not apply frozen style and intimate style. Furthermore, those speakers used language style because it influenced the participant, the setting, the topic, and the function. Therefore, it is concluded that language styles were useful in English utterances either by native speakers or non-native English speakers.

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INTRODUCTION

Normally, the user of communication especially in English, the speaker has to deliver the speech properly by considering the structure of language, choice of words, intonation, etc. to avoid misunderstanding. In order to achieve it, the speaker must choose an appropriate language style for the different interlocutors to avoid social consequences (Amanda & Donal, 2019; Hussain, 2014; Widyaningrum et al., 2020). Furthermore, Holmes (2013) stated that language style can be seen when the speaker tells the same information by using a different choice of word based on the interlocutor. Here, the speaker uses language style based on whom they speak to and where they are speaking to. Relating to Joos (1967) language style is divided into some brunches such as frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style.

Clearly, the user of English use language style in their utterances both of native and non-native speakers. Foreign language acquisition takes place in settings where the language plays no major role in the community and is primarily learned only in the classroom and based on their willingness (Khunaivi & Hartono, 2015). A native speaker uses English as their first language but a non-native English speaker is a person who learns English because of the purpose such as a job, their society, their education, etc. (Yulita et al., 2021; Selvi, 2011; Retnowaty, 2013; Lorenna et al., 2020). The non-native speaker has to keep in mind that acquiring English not only gets the language but also increasing the knowledge about the behavior of the English native speaker (Stanlaw et al., 2018). Relating to the purpose, the non-native speaker has to acquire English by learning it because English has a different word, structures, phonology, etc. from their mother tongue.

The native and non-native English speakers use language style in spontaneous talk like Talk Show. As a spontaneous talk, a talk show can be classified into a spoken language which is part of human communication (Ginting et al., 2020). In this era, digital media plays an important role in language teaching which has an impact on everyday life which can increase the vocabulary of non-native speakers (Anggeraini et al., 2019). As a spontaneous talk, it is the distinctive feature of the talk show and makes it idiosyncratic from other types of broadcast talk such as news interviews and political debates (Ali, 2018). Talk show consists of host, the guest(s) being interviewed, the home audience, and the studio audience to which the host might get some responses (Manipuspika, 2014; Izza et al., 2019; Cap & Okulska, 2013). Here, the host and guest/guests talk about a particular topic casually.

Nowadays, *The Ellen Show* is one of the popular talk show in America. The host, Ellen Degeneres as a comedian set the atmosphere of the talk show relaxed, funny, and cheerful while asking the guests about current issues (Ruansyah & Rukmini, 2018). It makes the guests not only come from America but also from overseas. Also, the guest stars of the talk show are personage and influencer people which makes this talk show popular all over the world.

There were some researchers who have conducted previous studies related to the language style in written and spoken text. Saleh (2018) focused on language style in Brajamusti's film Tanah Surga Katanya. Here, he found all types of language styles that occurred in the movie. However, some researchers did not find all types of language styles that occurred in the speakers' utterances. Khotimah (2019) investigated about language style used in The Queen movie especially Queen Elizabeth. She found that Queen Elizabeth used consultative, casual, intimate, and formal styles. Hence, not all the language styles can apply in the communication which is based on the position of the interlocutor.

As the user of communication, those speakers can apply language style freely. Dewi et al. (2020) which analyzed the use of language style on native English speakers especially in romantic movies found all types of language styles. Moreover, Hermagustiana (2018) analyzed language style on the non-native speakers entitled EFL teachers' speech styles and the implications for teacher professional

development. Here, she found out that formal, casual, and consultative styles occurred in teaching practice. In line with the previous study, Maraden (2016) analyzed language style on the non-native speaker entitled language style found in Indonesian movies which analyzed five movies by using Joos theory. By identifying, analyzing, and categorizing the data, he concluded five kinds of language styles that occurred in the movies such as frozen, formal, consultative as dominant style, casual, and intimate style. Hence, not only native speaker applies language style in their communication, but also the non-native speaker in order to gain natural communication like a native speaker.

Moreover, language style not only occurred in the sources above but it can be seen in a talk show. Putra and Rosa (2019) investigated the language style used by Ellen Degeneres in Ellen Talk Show. Here, the researchers focused to analyze the speech style entitled "Ellen Meets a 5-Year-Old Geography Expert" episode. By identifying the style of the host and the guest, they found several types of language styles such as formal, consultative, casual, and intimate style.

Another existing study not only analyzed language style but also analyzed the factors that influence language style. Relating to the factors, it can help the speaker apply the language style properly based on the participant, setting, topic, and function. Here, Tololiu et al. (2017) explored deeply language style with reference to the movie Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine and the factors that influenced language style in the movie by using Holmes's theory. As a result, formal and informal styles occurred in the utterances. Also, they found participant, setting, topic, and function as the factors influencing language style.

Additionally, referring to those researches, there is a gap among those researches relating to conduct the present study. Comparing native and non-native English speakers in using language style is the topic of the present study. It focused on the utterances of both speakers analyzed by adopting Joos's theory of language style (1967). The theory was chosen because it focused on

analyzing the use of the level of formality in relation to the speaker and hearer. The researchers chose this theory because there has been no update yet or refutation of this theory. Also, it is supported by the theory of Holmes (2013) to find out the reasons of the speakers in using language style. Additionally, this study can be a learning source for teachers and learners because they may practice speaking skill to sound like native English speakers.

METHOD

The purposes of this study are 1) to explain the use of language style by native speakers in *The Ellen Show* 2) to explain the use of language style by native speakers in *The Ellen Show*, 3) to explain the similarities between native and non-speakers in using language style in *The Ellen Show*, 4) to explain the differences between native and non-native speakers in using language style in *The Ellen Show*, and 5) to explain the factors that influence native and non-native speakers of English by using language style in *The Ellen Show*.

This study indicates a spoken discourse study with a qualitative study that focused on content analysis. The content analysis organized and elicited meaning from the data collected and draws realistic conclusions from it as the purpose of this design. Here, the study focused on comparing native and non-native English speakers in using language style in their utterances, especially in *The Ellen Show*. In this study, the data were obtained from the six videos of *The Ellen Show* performed by native and non-native English speakers. The videos were taken from *The Ellen Show* YouTube channels.

The data analysis followed the steps: 1) identifying the data which included transcribing the videos and taking some notes that might contain the language style in the utterances, 2) classifying the data which included starting to classify the data based on Joos and Holmes theories and interpreting the data by using the theories and the situation in the video, 3) calculating the data which included counting the total of language style existed in the guests' utterances, and 4) interpreting the data which

included to the interpretation of the data based on the findings. The interpretation is also associated with Joos's theory of language style (1967) and Holmes's theory of factors influencing the use of language style (2013). Additionally, to avoid bias, the results of the study are also confirmed and validated by means of expert judgement.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This part presented the results of the study to answer the research problems. It also existed the interpretation by adopting Joos's theory of language style (1967) and Holmes's theory of factors influencing the use of language style (2013).

Language Style Used by Native English Speakers in *The Ellen Show*

The results show that there are five types of language styles produced by native English speakers. Those types will be shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Types of Language Style Used by Native English Speakers

Types of Language Style	Factors influencing language style	Freq.
Frozen Style	Participant and Topic	2
Formal Style	Participant and Topic	2
Consultative Style	Participant, Setting, Topic, and Function	16
Casual Style	Setting, Topic, and Function	19
Intimate Style	Participant and Setting	1
Total		40

Referring to table 1, there were 40 utterances of language style done by native English speakers in their utterances as the guests. The highest utterance of language style was the casual style with a total of 19 utterances. Additionally, the type of language style is followed by the consultative style with 16

utterances. The third was the formal style and the frozen style had the same amount which had 2 utterances for each style. Last, intimate style occurred once in the native English speaker utterance.

Frozen Style

This style occurred when the speaker as a doctor explained about medical science. While explained about it, the speaker required high skill and almost used it exclusively. Then, he used a serious tone when he explained it. Also, the doctor spoke without any background knowledge towards other people they are speaking to. It is because the audiences of *The Ellen Show* came from different backgrounds. It can be seen in the example below.

Ellen : It's fantastic. We have to be careful to talk about this. But there are benefits of mushrooms that people are taking for PTSD, for all kinds of...

Weil : These are the psychedelic mushrooms. They are belong to a group psilocybis and they have a compound in them called psilocybin. Although, these at the moment are technically illegal not available for medical use. It is certain that they are going to be legalized in the very near future.

Additionally, this conversation used the frozen style because it was influenced by the participant and the topic. Here, Weil as the specialist of alternative medicine explained the benefit of mushrooms. It made he explained about mushroom by requiring high skill and almost used exclusively as the specialist. Here, it indicated that this conversation used frozen style because it used grammatical correctly and the speaker was the expert of alternative medicine.

Formal Style

This style occurred when the speaker explained a special person for her that is her father. Here, she used long sentences and proper grammar. Then, she does not use repetition in her utterances. Also, because the speaker was born to be a non-native speaker, she used to learn English by using Standard English. It affected her speaking too. It can be seen in the example below.

Ellen : Yeah, there was a lot of love, a lot of people, and it really did raise awareness in a way that never had happened before. Your parents are in the audience right now, and I know that your dad empowered you tremendously. How did he do that?

Malala : My father always says, "Ask me what I did but ask me what I did not do, and I did not clip her wings." So he has not clipped my wings. He has allowed me to fly, high as I can, and this is how we want parents to be, to allow their children to fulfil their dreams, to achieve who they want to be. It's not that girls don't have the skill or don't have the talent to do something in their life. It's that they are stopped in society. So my father did not do that. He did not stop me, and I'm really thankful to him. Also, to my mother for giving me this strength and this courage to go forward.

Based on the utterances above, relating to the factors that influence language style, the utterance used formal style because it affected the participant. It showed when Ellen stated that she wanted to meet him badly. Here, Ellen positioned herself as a fan. It indicated that this conversation used formal style because there was the least amount of shared background knowledge by using grammatical correctly and where communication was one way with little or no feedback from audiences.

Consultative Style

The sentence in this style usually is shorter than the formal style and it is also required for everyday communication. Here, it can be classified into consultative style while one speaking at intervals the others give short responses, mostly drawn from a small inventory standard signals. The examples are yes, no, uhhuh, that's right, I think so, etc. Also, the speaker can applied repetition in their utterances in this style. The example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in a consultative style, below:

Ellen: And just had fun instead of, everyone takes everything so seriously and I think that we have these people, I'm kinda kidding there, obviously, but I think we have people that we all have the one thing in common which is we just want a good quality of life.

Obama : Right.

Furthermore, Obama applied consultative style because of the setting and the function. Here, consultative style can occur because the setting of the talk show was friendly and it made Obama freely use the short and clear statement to answer Ellen's statement. In addition, it focused on the reason for Obama's answer which is to reply to Ellen's statement by using 'Right' as a signal that he followed Ellen's statement.

Casual Style

Casual style occurs when the speaker talks casually in the conversation of friends or sometimes members of a family. The user of this style can use the first name or even nickname rather than a little name and last name in

addressing one another. Applying slang, vulgarities, and colloquialism are freely in this style. Also, the speaker can use incomplete sentences as long as both the speaker and the interlocutor understand the meaning. The example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in casual style, below:

Ellen : Wow.

Applegate : We gotta take a break.

In addition, this conversation used a casual style because it was influenced by setting and topic as the factors that affected the speaker for using this style. It can occur because the setting of the talk show was friendly and it made Applegate freely use slang in her utterance. It can happen because Applegate talked funny thing. She tried to close the show although she was not the host of the program. It made all of the people in the studio laughed. Hence, it made her talked it casually.

Intimate Style

The lowest level of formality is an intimate style that has an understanding among the speaker and listener closely. It refers to private communication which can be seen in close family members or intimate people. Also, the speaker can extract a minimum pattern from some conceivable casual sentences. This style applies private vocabulary like buddy, dear, darling, honey, mom, dad, and etc. The example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in an intimate style, below:

Ellen : Yeah! I love that show. Please welcome my friend, Christina Applegate. Hi.
Applegate : Hi, honey.

Furthermore, this conversation used intimate style because it was influenced by participant and setting as the factors that affected the speaker for using this style. Here, Ellen introduced Applegate as her friend which means they known each other closely. Moreover, because the setting of '*The Ellen Show*' was relaxed and friendly, it made both of them especially Applegate used private communication like 'Honey'.

Language Style Used by Non-native English Speakers in *The Ellen Show*

This part is concerned with the total language style used by non-native English speakers in their utterances as the guests on *The Ellen Show*. It is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Types of Language Style Used by Non-native English Speakers

Types of Language Style	Factors influencing language style	Freq.
Frozen Style	-	0
Formal Style	Participant, Topic, and Function	6
Consultative Style	Participant, Setting, Topic, and Function	27
Casual Style	Participant, Setting, Topic, and Function	13
Intimate Style	-	0
Total		46

Referring to table 2, there were 46 utterances of language style done by non-native English speakers in their utterances as the guests. The highest utterance of language style was the consultative style with a total of 27 utterances. Furthermore, the type of language style is followed by the casual style with 13 utterances. The third was the formal style which had 6 utterances. Last, frozen style and intimate style did not occur in the native English speakers' utterances.

Formal Style

In formal style, the speaker talks by using grammatical correctly. This style occurred in the conversation of people who still have a distance between the speaker and the interlocutor. In this case, it is between the guest and the host. Furthermore, a speaker avoids repetition or another term which tends to be a casual term. The

example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in formal style, below:

Ellen : Okay.

Deepika : You should ask him.

Furthermore, this conversation used a formal style because it was influenced the topic as the factors that affected the speaker for using this style. Here, Deepika admired Van Diesel because she ever worked together with him. Based on her response, it can be seen that she used the polite structure of the grammar in her utterance as the features of formal style when she talked about him.

Consultative Style

Consultative style commonly occurs in daily communication. Here, the style is the style most open to give and take of everyday conversation discussed so far. It is because the speaker can apply a short response in her utterance in this style which is the characteristic of the consultative style. Also, applying repetition in the utterance is accepted in this style. The example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in a consultative style, below:

Ellen : Celebrity crush?
Naomi : Uh. Uh-uh.

Additionally, Naomi applied consultative style because of the setting and the function as the factors that affected the speaker for using this style. The consultative style occurred because the atmosphere of *The Ellen Show* was relaxed, it made that she used short statements naturally. Naomi can apply it in her utterance as long as both a host and the audience understood what she meant. Here, it focused on the reason for Naomi's answer which is to reply to Ellen's statement by using 'Uh' and 'Uh-uh'. She answered Ellen's question by using those words shyly because the topic that Ellen talked about was sensitive for her.

Casual Style

Casual style occurs in the informal or relaxed situation which can be seen in the conversation between friends. Here, both the speaker and the interlocutor feel relaxed and spontaneous to talk to each other. It makes that the speaker can apply slang and ellipsis freely.

The example of language style in *The Ellen Show*, especially in casual style, below:

Ellen : Okay.

Malala : A little bit.

Furthermore, this conversation used a casual style because it was influenced by setting and function as the factors that affected the speaker for using this style. The casual style occurred because the atmosphere of '*Ellen Talk Show*' was relaxed, it made that she used uncompleted structure naturally. For the function, she used it to add her previous statement.

Similarities between Native and Non-native Speakers in Using Language Style

This study pointed out some similarities between native and non-native English speakers in using language style in their utterances. It claimed by adopting the same theory of language style proposed by Joos (1967). The first similarities showed that both native and non-native speakers of English used formal style in their utterances. It happened because the speakers as the guests used the utterances of politeness. Then, there was a standard sentence and grammatically correct. Also, those utterances of the speakers were code labels of formal style which used in the conversation above.

The second similarities was the use of consultative style. In this style, the speaker and the interlocutor are active in the case when one is speaking and the other will give responses. Here, both native and non-native speakers of English used this style when they used short responses to reply to Ellen's statement. Furthermore, in the consultative style, the speech is between two persons that have a mutual conversation. Besides applying short responses, the speaker of this style can apply repetition freely in the middle of their utterances. Using repetition in this style is accepted as long as both the speaker and the interlocutor understand the meaning. Here, both speakers applied repetition in the middle of their utterances.

The last, the third type that both native and non-native speakers of English used in their utterances was casual style. Here, casual

style occurs in the relaxed or informal situation. One of the characteristics of this style is the speaker does not need well-structured utterance. It means that the speaker can apply an uncompleted structure that omits the subject, verb, and etc. as long as the speaker delivers the meaning to the interlocutor understandably. In the casual style, the speaker can express their idea through their utterances freely. Besides applying ellipsis or omission is accepted in this style, the speaker of this style can apply slang freely in the middle of their utterances. It is accepted of using slang in the utterance as long as both the speaker and the interlocutor understand the meaning. It can be seen that both speakers applied slang in their utterances.

Differences between Native and Non-native Speakers in Using Language Style

This study indicates some differences between native and non-native English speakers in using language style in their utterances. In producing language style, the non-native speakers produced the highest frequent of 46 times. It contrasted with the native English speakers which created 40 times of language style in their utterances.

Secondly, the native speakers of English used all types of language styles in their utterances. They applied frozen style, formals style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style to deliver their ideas through the statement properly. While non-native speakers of English only applied three types of language styles. They used formal style, consultative style, and casual style in order to decrease social consequences in their communication.

Thirdly, in using formal style, the non-native speakers of English frequently used than native speakers. They used it more often because the speaker was born to be a non-native speaker, they attend to learn English by using Standard English. It made that they applied Standard English in their speaking too. Furthermore, the non-native speakers also used consultative more than native speakers. It happened because the non-native speakers of English attended to use short responses. Additionally, the native speakers

of English applied casual style more often than the non-native speakers. It can be seen that they like to use slang in their utterances.

Additionally, the native and non-native speakers of English produced the types of language style, but they used different ways of the style. The native speakers tended to use slang in their utterances and the non-native speakers applied short responses. By covering those styles, the native and non-native speakers gave the information by explaining it clearly. The style was making the speech more precious in order to deliver the meaning in the utterance properly.

In the discussion based on the findings, it could be discussed that the native speakers used 40 times of language style in their utterances. It can be seen that those speakers applied language style in their utterances. The native English speakers used all types of language style which related with the previous finding that was done by Dewi et al. (2020). Here, the findings indicated that the native English speakers applied all types of language style in their utterances such as frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style.

On the other hand, the total number of language style was 46 times for non-native English speakers that higher than the total number of native English speakers' language style. It was contrary with the previous finding that was done by Saleh (2018). It can be seen in the findings that the non-native English speakers used not all types of language styles. Here, the non-native English speakers used three types of language styles such as formal style, consultative style, and casual style. In line with the findings in the non-native English speakers, it related with the previous finding that was done by Hermagustiana (2018). The findings showed that the non-native English speakers usually attended to apply the formal, casual, and consultative styles occurred in the utterances while had conversation with stranger.

Furthermore, Tololiu et al. (2017) agreed that the English speakers applied language style in their utterances because it affected by the factors. The factors that influenced language style was participant, setting, topic, and function. The

previous study same as the findings that showed the native and non-native English speakers applied all types of language style because those of factors that proposed by Holmes (2013) such as of the setting, the topic, the participant, and the function.

CONCLUSION

The result of the study showed that the language style was utilized in the utterances, especially in English. In this study, the non-native speakers created more language styles than native speakers. The native and non-native speakers also used various types of language styles which have some functions based on the context. It included the participant, the setting, the topic, and the function as the factors that influenced the use of language style. Additionally, the use of language style could give benefit the English teaching and learning process in order to avoid social consequences. It could be an example of how to use the language style in the spoken area.

Additionally, the language style needs to investigate deeply, not only in verbal but also in visual and audio. It is possible when further researchers conduct the researches analyzing language style both visual and audio. Also, the use of Holmes's theory relating to the factors influencing the use of language style can help further researchers to find out the reason speakers apply it in their utterances.

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