

SOCIAL DIALECT OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS IN *THE OUTPOST* (2020)

MOVIE

A GRADUATING PAPER

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2023

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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MOTTO

“WHATEVER IS YOUR DESTINY, WILL SEEK CLUES TO FIND YOU”

-Ali bin Abi Thalib-

“TIDAK ADA MIMPI YANG GAGAL, YANG ADA HANYALAH MIMPI
YANG TERTUNDA. NAMUN SEKIRANYA JIKA KALIAN MERASA
GAGAL DALAM MENCAPAI MIMPI JANGAN KHAWATIR, MIMPI-MIMPI
LAIN BISA DICIPTAKAN.”

-Windah Basudara-

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DEDICATION

This graduating paper is dedicated to :

My beloved Parents, Mulyo Utomo and Anik Daryani

My brother, Iqbal Ragha Herdani

My sister, Deinara Nurinda Herdani

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MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

Social dialect is a branch of sociolinguistics that focuses on studying language variations used by a group of people. Social dialect can be defined as forms of speech associated with social factors such as age, rank, gender, or status. Social dialect has seven types, namely acrolect, basilect, vulgar, slang, colloquial, jargon, and argot. Social dialect theory comprises four social factor types: participant, setting, topic, and function. This research aims to analyze social dialects in the movie *The Outpost* (2020) because there are several instances in the film where characters make language variation errors, such as a high-ranking individual using language variations typically associated with lower social classes, like a sergeant using vulgar language. This study employs social factor theory to identify the use of language variations by speakers. This research uses a qualitative descriptive method, with a total of 40 data points identified. These data points include 3 data of acrolect variations, 9 data of basilect variations, 8 data of vulgar variations, 4 data of slang variations, 4 data of colloquial variations, 9 data of jargon variations, and 3 data of argot variations. Among all the data found, four social factors influence the use of social dialect language variations, which are participant, setting, topic, and function of the data. The research concludes that many superiors or senior individuals use basilect and vulgar language variations, which are typically associated with those from lower social classes.

Keywords: *The Outpost, social dialect, social factor, Taliban*

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ABSTRAK

Sosial dialek adalah bagian dari cabang ilmu sosiolinguistik yang fokus mempelajari variasi bahasa yang digunakan oleh sekelompok orang. Sosial dialek dapat diartikan sebagai bentuk penuturan yang dikaitkan dengan kelas sosial seperti umur, pangkat, jenis kelamin, atau status. Sosial dialek mempunyai 7 tipe yaitu akrolek, basilek, vulgar, slang, kolokial, jargon, dan argot. Teori faktor sosial terdapat 4 jenis yaitu participant, setting, topic, dan fungsi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dialek sosial dalam film *The Outpost* (2020) karena dalam percakapan film tersebut terdapat beberapa kesalahan dalam penggunaan variasi bahasa yang semestinya seperti seorang dengan pangkat yang tinggi tetapi dia menggunakan variasi bahasa kalangan kelas sosial yang rendah seperti seorang *sergeant* yang mempunyai pangkat yang tinggi berbicara menggunakan variasi bahasa vulgar. Selain menggunakan teori sosial dialek, peneliti juga menggunakan teori faktor sosial untuk mengidentifikasi penggunaan variasi bahasa oleh penutur. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan total data yang ditemukan sebanyak 40 data yaitu variasi akrolek terdapat 3 data, basilek 9 data, vulgar 8 data, slang 4 data, kolokial 4 data, jargon 9 data, dan argot 3 data. Dari seluruh data yang ditemukan, terdapat 4 macam faktor sosial yang mempengaruhi penggunaan variasi bahasa dialek sosial yaitu partisipan, setting, topik, dan fungsi. Dalam penelitian yang telah dilakukan dapat diambil kesimpulan bahwa banyak atasan atau senior yang menggunakan variasi bahasa basilek dan vulgar yang mana biasanya varian bahasa tersebut sering digunakan oleh orang-orang yang memiliki kelas sosial bawah.

Kata Kunci: *The Outpost*, dialek sosial, faktor sosial, Taliban

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Language is a structured communication system that relies on symbols, either in the form of sounds or written characters, and follows established rules that are mutually understood by its users. Each symbol within a language represents a specific meaning or concept. Since every spoken or written symbol corresponds to a particular concept, it can be inferred that every linguistic expression inherently carries meaning. “Language is a system of sound signal that are agreed upon to be used by certain group members in working together, communicating, and recognizing themselves” (Kridalaksana, 1983) as cited in Abdul Chaer (2014:32). According to Saussure (1988:15), “Language is the only social system that everyone uses. Nonetheless, among all these sign systems, language holds the utmost significance”.

Language serves multiple functions, such as enabling communication, expressing one's identity, offering a platform for playfulness, fostering creative expression, and providing an outlet for emotional release. In the life of a diverse society, there are many differences in language and dialect in human communication. This can happen because it is influenced by several social factors. Differences in social class, status, gender, age, culture, profession, level of education, etc. can influence these language and dialect differences so that language differences arise in society. This is in line with the opinion of Wardhaugh (2006),

he mention that there are several significant factors in determining the use of social dialects such as gender, age, and occupation. “Differences within people are related to differences in education, level of wealth, and social class” (Holmes J. , 2001).

A social dialect is one of the language varieties based on certain social classes such as age, gender, different occupations and positions. The difference between social groups may be due to economic status, which separates the rich from the poor, or social status, which is reflected in caste-identified people, or the existence of educated and uneducated groups. “The difference also occur because of the status of power that comes from power or rulers” (Sumarsono, 2010). Social dialect is a variety of language used by certain groups that distinguish it from other groups of society. The dialect spoken by speakers based on social variables reflects their respective environment and culture.

Chaer and Agustina (2014) classifies social dialect into seven varieties: acrolect, basilect, vulgar, slang, colloquial, jargon, and argot, with the seven types serving as the core theory for assessing the many forms of social dialect employed in study. Variations in acrolect are frequently employed in formal compilations or by upper class people. While basilect, slang, argot, and vulgar argot versions are commonly employed in informal contexts or by lower class persons. Meanwhile, jargon is used by those who work in the same industry. This, according to Holmes (2001), people often use language to indicate their membership in certain groups. Holmes divides the characteristics of social dialect into four, including Social Class, sex/gender, and age which will be a factor causing social dialect through the language spoken in this study. Thus, social dialect theory is necessary in this

research. This research uses the object of the film *The Outpost*, in which there are two groups with different social classes in the movie. These differences in social class will be analyzed using social dialects through the utterances of each character representing their respective groups.

In *The Outppost* movie, there is one example of a conversation that does not follow the rules of the social dialect itself.

Staff Sergeant Gallegos : “You ever a **fucking fire** weapon to me that close again, and I'll **fucking kill** you myself!”

Yunger : “Yes **sir!**”

In the example conversation above, when the first class soldier talks to the Staff Sergeant, he uses the word sir, wich means that the rank of Yunger is lower than Sergeant Gallegos. In this conversation, a sergeant with a higher rank uses vulgar variation. In the conversation is not appropriate because the Sergeant who has a higher rank uses the vulgar variation language.

Therefore, these social dialects are important to discuss in this study because these cultural differences can represent the characteristics of each group seen from the utterances spoken by each character representing the group. The existence of a depiction of social and environmental diversity as well as the use of language can be seen not only through direct observation of the community, but can also be known through duplication in the form of creation, namely film. Through film media, the message to be conveyed can be closer to the real situation. Why? because the message conveyed in the film is presented audio-visually. “Audio visuals must

also have artistic aesthetics. Aesthetics does not only talk about beautiful creation of art, but also talks about tastes and benchmarks in making judgments or appraisements about artistic values" (Ali, 2011).

"Film is a form of electronic communication media in the form of audio-visual media capable of displaying words, sounds, images, and their combinations" (Sobur in Oktavianus, 2015: 3). "Film is a tool used to deliver entertainment, stories, events, music, drama, comedy, and other technical offerings to the public" (McQuail in Oktavianus, 2015: 3). "Film is a sophisticated mass communication medium, not only for entertainment but also for information and education" (Effendy in Oktavianus, 2015: 3). For this reason, the researcher chose a film to be used as research material related to the depiction of conditions and cultural diversity in society through the film *The Outpost*.

The release from *justwatch.com* site *The Outpost* is a 2020 film directed by Rod Lurie, had a screenplay written by Eric Johnson and Paul Tamasy based on Jake Tapper's book entitled *The Outpost: An Untold Story of American Valor* (2012). This book writes the true story of the battle situation at the Kamdesh Military Outpost or Combat Outpost Keating, a bloody battle between American soldiers in the face of a massive Taliban attack in Northern Afghanistan in 2009. *The Outpost* tells the story of the battle of a small unit of US soldiers led by Captain Benjamin D. Keating in one of Afghanistan's mountain valleys. They struggled to defend themselves against a major attack by 300 Taliban fighters. This film tells the story of how Lieutenant Benjamin Keating leads his troops at an outpost of the United States Army.

Their goal was to connect with local residents and stop the flow of weapons and the Taliban's struggle from Pakistan. The main purpose of the post was actually built as an effort to build positive relations between the USA and the residents around the area, they even involved community elders in making an agreement where the presence of USA Soldiers at the post was an effort to help the people around Kamdesh in fighting Taliban fighters who entered from Pakistan. Just by looking at the geographical layout of the post in Kamdesh in Afghanistan in 2006, the position of the post is at the center of the meeting point of three steep mountains making them an easy target for the Taliban so that all soldiers must always be ready and alert for sudden attacks that could occur present at any time. The Taliban's enemy forces always had a dominant perspective on it, and were able to hide on the many ridges overlooking it. They were able to shoot it down directly on the outpost, which was placed there near the Pakistani border to help community relations, which quickly disintegrated after the attack and distrust formed with local elders.

The reason of the researcher to chose *The Outpost* movie as the object of research because of the differences in rank position that affected the way of communicating between those with lower ranks to those with higher ranks or vice versa which made the researcher interested in analyzing more deeply about the incompatibility of using variations of social dialect which is in the film. There are two different groups in the movie, the upper-class group represented by soldiers with ranks such as sergeant and captain, and the lower-class group represented by soldiers with first-class and specialist ranks. The problem that the researcher raises in this study is the difference between the upper-class and lower-class groups and

examines the difference using the spoken language used by each group. Because of that, there is an upheaval and social dialect differences between these two groups. Many of the characters in the movie speak rather harshly, which has the effect of making those around them uncomfortable and sometimes impeding their purpose. Harsh language is never acceptable in social or academic settings since it will make us appear impolite and uninformed to others and cause us to be shunned.

This research is important because through research that examines *The Outpost* movie using social dialect theory, in the end it can find out what forms and factors cause social dialect that occurs in the movie. In addition, with this research, it can be possible to find out the difference between upper and lower classes and to find cultural differences that exist between western and eastern speech through film characters that represent their respective groups. Several characters in the film use rather harsh language, therefore the effects of these harsh words can make individuals around them uncomfortable and have hampered their communication a little. Harsh remarks cannot be justified in social or academic settings since they will cause us to be rejected by others and make us appear rude and uninformed. Through this research it is also hoped that it can become additional new knowledge and new references for further related research.

1.2 Research questions

There are two problem statements for this research.

1. What are the forms of social dialect in the film *The Outpost*?
2. What are the cause of the social dialect use in the film *The Outpost*?

1.3 Objective of Study

In this section, the researcher will explain why this research is being conducted in relation to the difficulties previously outlined in the background.

1. To find and explain the form of social dialect in the film *The Outpost*.
2. To find and explain the causes of social dialect in the film *The Outpost*.

1.4 Scope of Study

The scope of this study will primarily examine the form of social dialects spoken by various actors in the movie *The Outpost* (2020). Here, the researcher will also explore the factors contributing to the occurrence of social dialects in the dialogue among the actors in *The Outpost* movie. To avoid widening the discussion in this study, the researcher will focus more on the discussion of social dialect language variations, especially in every word of the film actor itself which has meaning and meaning to be better understood.

1.5 Significances of Study

The purpose of this study is to determine the types and elements that lead to the usage of social dialects by the cast of *The Outpost*. The goal of this research is to include references and new material for scholars so that it can be expanded upon once more and become a comprehensive study. Additionally, it is intended that this research would serve as a further resource for linguistic theory, particularly sociolinguistics, a field that is naturally used frequently in everyday speech. Additionally, this research can give valuable insight to people who appreciate

movies as well as those who are interested in how the language they use on a daily basis may be studied and turned into something useful.

The novelty of this study compared to previous research is that in this study it uses material objects from the film *The Outpost* and formal objects of social dialect which in this study focuses more on character pances using the theory of social dialect which has been explained previously and is in explained further in chapter 2.

1.6 Literature Review

This research has a relationship with previous research. First, previous research related to the theory used in this study, a graduation paper written by Eriska Mulasari in 2019 from the University of Muhammadiyah Surabaya entitled Social Dialect in the *Yowis Ben* Film by Bayu Skak. The focus of the research in this study is the variety of dialects in the *Yowis Ben* film, and the factors that influence the social dialect in the *Yowis Ben* film. The method used in this study is a qualitative method with the technique of analyzing the variety of social dialects in the film *Yowis Ben* by Martin Joos and the factors that influence Sumarsono's social dialect. Data collection techniques used documentation, observation techniques, techniques, note-taking techniques, and library techniques. The data subject in this study is the film, *Yowis Ben*. The object of research is the dialogue of the players. The results of this study show what kinds of languages are in the *Yowis Ben* film. There are only two kinds of languages, namely casual (casual) and intimate (intimate).

Second, the previous research is a graduating paper by Dicky Pratama titled “Social Dialect of Jack Sparrow in Pirates of Caribbean 2: Dead Man Chest” in 2017. In this research the writer finds the results that in the film, Jack Sparrow uses acrolect variations because he speaks with other actors who are older than himself. He also performs acrobatic acts with women. Variations of basilect, slang, colloquial, argot, jargon, and vulgar look at the speech of Jack Sparrow when told with his fellow pirate friends. Variations of slang appear to use the word savvy, beastie, Bonnie lass, rooting, and thump-thump. The argot variation on the film is the use of the word scurry, skin up, sheets, seal in blood, her, starboard, mum, Lizzie, she's (ship), and shanghaied. Variations of jargon in the film have minded the tide, travel to upriver, welcome aboard, and heading. Vulgar variations are the word bugger, persuade me, trifles, slimy git, fish face, scungilli, shut it.

Third, the previous research is a journal entitled "Social Dialect of the Seberuang Dayak Language in Sukau Bersatu Village, Sepauk District, Sintang Regency" written by Ursula Dwi Oktaviani, Yudita Susanti, and Munika Munika which was published in 2018. This study aims to describe dialects by level age, social class of the speakers are taken in terms of work, and the gender of the speakers in the Seberuang Dayak language. This study uses a qualitative approach, in the form of descriptive. The research data is in the form of recordings of the Seberuang Dayak Social Dialect. By using participant observation, unstructured interviews and recording techniques as data collection techniques, the data was transcribed using the Elan application Version 4.9.4. Based on the results of the recording, it was found that there were three words that were the same but different

pronunciations were found in social dialects based on age level, for example, the word male was spoken by adolescent speakers while adult and elderly speakers said the word lake but both refer to man.

Fourth, the previous research is a graduating paper which published in 2022 written by Sonia Kresya Lumongga entitled “The Influence of Social Factors in the Speech of the Main Character of the Film *Serebryanyye Konki*: Sociolinguistics Review”. This study discusses the influence of social factors in the speech of the main character of the movie *Serebryanyye Konki* with the aim of providing an overview that social factors affect the main character's language use. This study uses Holmes' theory to describe the influence of social factors in language use and Jakobson's theory as a complement to identify language functions. This research is a qualitative research, using analytical descriptive method with observation technique and note-taking technique with sociolinguistic approach. The results were found in eight dialog utterances between Alisa Vyazemskaya and Matvey as the main characters in the film *Serébryanyye kon'kí*. The results show that social factors influence the main characters' utterances that function according to their respective purposes.

From the four studies that have been mentioned, there are differences compared to the research which is conducted in this study. The first, second, third, and fourth studies have the same theoretical basis as the research to be conducted, namely Social Dialect theory, but the difference lies in the chosen object of research. This study will focus on analyzing the film *The Outpost* (2020) by using a branch of Sociolinguistics theory, which specifically explores social dialect.

The researcher was motivated to learn about the social dialect and social factors depicted in the movie *The Outpost* after reading earlier studies. The researcher is interested in the use of social dialects in dialogue, how they occur in movies, and their significance. This study differs from other research in that it focuses on the area of sociolinguistics associated with the language used at the time in movies. The researcher expects that this study can contribute to the work in the area of social dialect.

1.7 Theoretical Background

1. Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistic theory, which investigates the phenomena of language related with its use in a film, is the theory used in this study. Following are the theoretical ideas that served as the foundation for this study: sociolinguistic theory, language variants, and social dialects. However, the researcher will only provide a cursory explanation of the central idea that will be applied to this study in the theoretical background part of this chapter. According to Holmes J. (2001), “sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society”. They want to know why we speak differently in different social contexts, and they want to know what the social function of language is and how it is used to convey social meaning. A lot of knowledge about how language functions, social relationships in a community, and how people communicate components of their social identity through language may be learned through observing how people use language in diverse social circumstances.

2. Social Dialect

“Sociolect, or social dialect, is a variation of language that intersects with, status, and social class of its speakers” (Chaer & Agustina, 2014). These linguistic variations are frequently discussed in sociolinguistic studies. Because this particular dialect explicitly relates to every issue that affects speakers, including issues with employment, education, sex, nobility, the economy, social conditions, and similar issues. Janet Holmes (2001) states that “people often use language to indicate their membership in certain groups such as differences in age, gender, and social class which involve different job hierarchies”. The differences in these language variations are not based on the substance of the speech but on the choice of vocabulary and diction.

3. Social Factor

The specific variety used has been explained in part by certain social factors. Some are concerned with language users - the participants while others are concerned with language uses - the social context and purpose of the conversation. Knowing who is speaking to whom is crucial. Relationships between spouses, customers, shopkeepers, and employers and employees, for instance, are crucial. The environment or social context is also an important factor such as at home, at work, or at school. “Linguistic choices in any situation generally indicate people's awareness of the influence of one or more of the components such as: the participants,

the setting or social context of the interaction, the topic, and the function”
(Holmes J. , 2013, p. 8).

1.8 Research Methods

This section explains the research methods used by the researcher in conducting this study. This section explains data sources, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques.

1.8.1 Type of Research

This study is type of qualitative research. "Qualitative research is accomplished through observation rather than quantification or statistical techniques” (Corbin & Strauss, 1998). It can reveal comprehensive details regarding problems that are difficult to address quantitatively, as well as phenomena that are difficult to solve quantitatively. As a result, the outcomes of qualitative study will not be provided in statistical form. Because it accurately depicts the researcher's results, the qualitative method was chosen as the best method for this research.

1.8.2 Data Sources

In a research, it is important to clarify the source of material object data collection so that it can be analyzed. The data sources taken in this research used primary data and secondary data. The primary data used comes from character utterances spoken by film characters and their interlocutors which were obtained from watching the film *The Outpost* which was accessed online on the www.justwatch.com site. Meanwhile, secondary data was obtained by taking the

film script for *The Outpost* which was accessed online on the legal site www.script.com.

1.8.3 Data Collection Technique

Data collection technique has a significant role in obtaining research data for further study. The researcher collected data by watching the dialogues of the characters in the film *The Outpost* (2020). The researcher directly observed the linguistic data displayed in the film regarding the types and functions of speech acts contained in the film's dialogue. In addition, the researcher also read and worked on the film script so that what the film characters said and the film script matched. The researcher then proceeded with note-taking techniques. Researchers record things that are important and in accordance with the required research data. From the data obtained, it will be followed by analyzing and processing important data so that the data can be analyzed properly and accordingly. This technique is used in this study because the material object of the study is a movie, and the source of data collection is derived from the characters' dialogue and the script of *The Outpost* movie. All of the characters in the movie were gathered by using the following steps:

1. Documenting *The Outpost* movie
2. Transcribing all data from *The Outpost* movie
3. Sorting the datum from *The Outpost* movie
4. Classifying conversation from *The Outpost* movie

1.8.4 Data Analysis Technique

Reviewing a number of acquired data records with the goal of obtaining conclusion from the collected data is the process of conducting data analysis. Data collection requires several stages, namely organizing data, explaining it in units, synthesizing and collecting it in a pattern, and writing conclusions from the data.

This data analysis techniques are as follows:

1. Transcribing dialogue in *The Outpost* film
2. Identify characters utterances used in the film.
3. Identify the dialogues with social dialect variations.
4. Identify data selection with the social factors that affected of using social dialect variations.

1.9 Paper Organization

There are four chapters in this research, each with its own discussion. The introductory chapter is the first chapter. Research background, problem formulation, research objectives, significance of study, literature review, theoretical approach, research technique, and paper organization are all included in this chapter. The discussion of theories connected to the research used to analyze the discussion of characters in the film is covered in the second chapter, which is a theoretical framework. The third chapter, present findings and discussion. This chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations based on how the problem was formulated and what the study's goals were. The concluding chapter, Chapter Four, encapsulates the researcher's summary of the study's findings, drawing upon

the covered material. Additionally, recommendations for further research will be presented in this concluding section.



CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In this chapter, the researcher elucidates the discoveries accrued throughout the research. Following that, the subsequent segment entails recommendations. Within this portion, the researcher furnishes guidance for individuals embarking on research endeavors involving similar theories or subjects.

4.1 Conclusion

In this section, the researcher concludes the research components used including objects and theories. This section provides the answer of the problem mentioned in the first chapter. The researcher draws conclusions from the research, focusing on the film *The Outpost* as the primary subject of investigation. The research uses the social dialect theory proposed by Chaer and Agustina (2014), which classifies social dialect into seven variations: acrolect, basilect, vulgar, slang, colloquial, jargon, and argot. Additionally, the study incorporates the social factors theory put forth by Janet Holmes (2013), encompassing four components: participants (the speakers and their audience), setting (the location of the conversation), topic (the subject matter discussed), and function (the purpose behind the conversation).

The Researcher discovered 40 instances of social dialect variations in the data. The first, namely the acrolect variation, contains 3 data found in the film. The second variation, namely basilect, contains 9 data found in the film. The third namely the vulgar variation, contains 8 data found in the film. The fourth is slang

variation, there are 4 data that have been found in the film. The fifth is colloquial variation there are 4 data found in conversations in the film. The sixth is jargon, there are 9 data contained in the film. The last is the argot variation, there are 3 data found in the film.

Apart from employing social dialect theory, the researcher also utilized social factor theory to examine 40 data points and identify the factors that impacted the utilization of social dialect language variations. The findings show that the factors of participant, setting, topic, and function influenced all 40 conversational data that have been examined.

The research findings indicate that a notable portion of individuals belonging to the upper social stratum generally avoids using acrolect language in their conversations. Instead, there is a tendency for them to employ vulgar language, as evident from the analyzed dialogues. Additionally, the prevalence of the basilect variation among the upper classes suggests that it is considered a less prestigious form of language, possibly subject to societal disapproval. Another significant observation is that within the military context, there is widespread use of secret codes to aid in the understanding of orders, locations, or terminology among military personnel.

4.2 Suggestion

Upon concluding this research, the researcher offers several recommendations to future researchers. For those planning to conduct research on the same movie, it is suggested to explore and apply different language theories that

can enhance the depth and complexity of the study, making it more engaging and challenging. When employing social dialect theory, the researcher are encourage to select objects with varying ranks, positions, and linguistic characteristics, including the use of harsh language, secret codes, slang, and a range of social dialect language variations.

Additionally, it is recommended that researchers consider diversifying their research objects not only films but explore beyond other forms of media such as novels. Lastly, the researcher acknowledges that this study may have limitations and imperfections but hopes that it will provide valuable insights and benefits to future readers and researchers.

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