

## **Social Variation of Language Users (Education, Occupation, and Social Institution)**

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### **Abstract**

*This study aimed to describe the social variation of language based on level of education, type of work, and a social institution on Facebook users with the age range of 20-50 years. The source of the data in this study was status written on social media in this case Facebook. The data collecting technique was content analysis. The results of the analysis indicated that the educational background, the type of work which is owned as well as social institution belonging to the users of the language are very influential in content writing, word choice and writing text in communication. Although, those are not only the usually factors because there were others influenced factors such as psychology, writing style, and others.*

Key words: social variety, language users, education, occupation, social institution status

### **A. Introduction**

In the complex of social life, language as communication tools, is a naturalness and undoubtedly as a cause of the emergence variation within a language. A wide range of variation of language in society is the treasure of the cultural wealth of mankind. Paid attention to how people use language in different social contexts will provide a wealth of information about how it works, how social relationships growth in a community, and how they give sign toward several aspects of their social identity through language used.

In this case the language variations that occur in the community is not only influenced by the linguistic factor but also non-linguistic factor, such as (a) social

factors, such as: social status, educational level, age, economic level, gender, etc. and (b) situational factors, such as who speaks and what language they used, to whom, when, where, and what is it about. The existence of social and situational factors influenced the language used and the language variations. Language variations are formed a part or a variant in the language that each has patterns that resemble the general pattern of mother languages. Actually the form of variation can be reviewed from various aspects such as speakers, in terms of use, in terms of formality, and in terms of the means.

The social factor is the dominant factor in influencing the language variation based on facets of speakers or users. In this study, the social factors that influence

variation in language that will be discussed are in terms of education, occupation, and social institution. This is to give an in-depth understanding about the variation seen in terms of speakers or users.

## **B. Literature Review**

### **1. Social Variation of Language Users**

Variation of language occurs due to the very breadth the area of use and an assortment of speakers. The interaction between the one with other people who are different, the historical factors, and community development also bring an influence to the language so that it turns into a wide range of languages. Therefore, the diversity in language was an inevitability and consequence of the extent of the area of use.

There are two views in terms of language variation. First, the variation seen as due to social diversity of the language speakers and diversity of language function. Second, the language variations that already exist to fulfill its function as a tool of interaction in a wide range of community activities. Both views can be only accepted or rejected. But certainly the language variation can be classified based on the existence of social diversity and community activities in social functions. Those are contrast with the Halliday perspective that variation of language

distinguishes based on users (dialect) and usage (the register).

In General, language diversity is divided into a number of aspects, namely (1) based on the area of its use, (2) based on level of education speakers, (3) based on the attitude of the speaker, (4) based on the field or subject matter enclosing speakers, (5) Based on the means, multiform range of oral and writing. Increasingly varied area, education, attitudes, issues and the means, the more varied the language that will be generated.

Social life in a society is strongly influenced the language behavior. Social standing or social class refers to the communities that have in common in a particular field such as economic development, occupation, caste, etc.

### **2. Language and Education**

Social variation of language users can in terms of social status and education is one form of social status whose existence is clearly visible in the community. Chaer and Agustina (2010:65) revealed that the difference in language variation based on education can not only look at the content of the talks but also vocabulary, pronunciation, morphology, and syntax. This opinion is also in line with the theory of Bernstein (in Sumarsono, 2011:53) which stated there

are two language diversity speakers, namely the detailed codes and code is limited. This code can be used to analyze about the variation of social variation that comes from the user.

The use of detailed code example used in formal situations or in academic situations. The characteristics of the code is detailed in a formal situation i.e. refers to language diversity and quality, such as the use of the word "I" in the first person singular mention in speaking a foreign language, uses a properly, or the use of language by a good grammatical order in accordance with the rule set. While, the code was limited into more likely and widely used in non-formal situations. This code is very concerned and attached to the context.

### **3. Language and Occupation**

Language variation based on the profession of language variation is associated with types of professions, occupations and tasks the users of that language. Each job has a register. Wardhaugh (2006) described the register as a set of ' language ' items dealing specifically with social groups or groups of work (occupational). Teachers, professors, doctors, pilots, manager of the bank, merchant, the driver of the minibus, musicians, or even those who work in the

world of prostitution, though having registers respectively. As expressed by Ferguson (Wardhaugh in 1994, 2006) the people who dwell in the communication situation recurring tend to develop vocabulary, intonation, and syntactic characteristics of the substrate and the similar phonology they use in those situations. In this type of variation is called the register. Further, Ferguson added that 'the terms specific to the objects or events of a specific periodical seems to help the communication so that the more fast '. Below are given examples of the variations with regard to language of work.

Examples of variations of the language used in the field of medicine regarding the types of patient's death that is *DOA* and *SD*. *DOA* is a continuation of the *Death On Arrival*, a term meaning a patient came to the hospital in a State of death world. This term could also have accepted a patient or sufferer was declared clinically dead after being inspected by a team of medical professionals, can doctors, nurses or midwives. *SD* which is the length of "*Sudden Death* or *Sudden Unexpected Natural Death*". Natural death here means only death caused by disease rather than caused of trauma or toxins.

Examples of language variation in chemical engineering about the kinds of

temperatures that is *Bubble point* and *Boiling point*. *Bubble point* is the temperature where the vapor bubbles are formed when liquid is heated at the appropriate time with a given pressure firstly. Or can be expressed as temperature where steam bubbles start forming fluids in accordance with a given pressure. *Boiling point* is a situation where the liquid will boil when the fluid vapor pressure equals the pressure above the liquid surface. Because the vapor pressure of a liquid is changed according to changes in temperature, then fluids have many different boiling points, such as depending on the pressure above the surface. In the daily practice of boiling point is often taken to mean the same as bubble point. If the boiling point is achieved at atmospheric pressure (760 mm Hg) then known as boiling away from normal (*normal boiling point*).

The background of language user such as occupation background strongly influenced the registers he used. The Register also can determine how someone know and understand well about his work. In this case, a person may have more than one profession; however, each register will help reveal who the person at the time, place, and specific context. The more frequently a person in using the register, so

that the more professional a person against his work.

#### **4. Language and Social Institution**

The next social variation of language users on speakers can be seen on the basis of a social institution. Institution of the social system is the norm in the community official to regulate behavior in order to satisfy the necessities of life. The view that is associated with the variations of language in a social institution that is Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.

The hypothesis put forward Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf is closely related to culture. This hypothesis (Cahyoo, 1995:417) stated that language speakers classify the world according to the restrictions that have been outlined by the original language. However, Sapir-Whorf is unacceptable completely because there are many factors that have to be seen in the user's language. These factors are:

- 1) Physical environment. The environment can influence the community language are usually in the treasury of words. E.g. non Eskimo when seen in terms of English language speakers have a notion of snow is snow with different types of snow as the wet snow, the soft snow, the snow melted, the snow on the ground, a mass of snow, and so on

while snow of Eskimos have names with different circumstances and different forms as well.

- 2) Social environment. The social environment can reflect and affect the structure of vocabulary in the language, for example: (1) the word family, on an American family includes families that form from the husband, wife, and his sons while in Indonesia language families can include people outside the husband, wife, and children, (2) English family call all the brother of father and mother in one term i.e. uncle, while the people of Batak had a different call to the brother of the father and the mother called *Uda/Amanguda*, older brother of the father and mother are called *Tulang*. (3) English family calls his son with a nickname the boy alone. Javanese people call his son by name or *le, nang* (for males) and *wuk, nduk* (for women). The people of Batak who calls his son by name or *mang* (for males) and *nang, boru* (for girls) then the Balinese call *de* (from *gede*), *deck* (from *kadek*), *man* (from *nyoman*), and *tut* (from *ketut*) according to the order of birth.
- 3) Layers of the community and caste. Layers and caste in society raises the

level in the language of communication. This can be seen clearly in some tribes in Indonesia which has a caste system such as Bali and Java. The use of the language looks different when used by a particular person with their own castes.

## **C. Methodology**

### **1. Research Methodology**

In accordance with the problem and research objectives, this research uses qualitative approach with descriptive method because verbal language is researched shaped the writing contained in the status in social media in this case Facebook. In the study described the status of the objects of study in social media based on level of education, occupation and different social institution in the age range of 20 – 50 years. After that, analyze the variations of language used.

### **2. Data and Source of Data**

The data in this study is the text or status in social media in this case Facebook generated by respondent with the level of education, type of work, and the different social institution. Text or status in social media and analyze by as much as 3 text from each respondent. As for the research data is taken from the respondents in the age range i.e. 20-50

years who are active in social media Facebook

### 3. Data Analysis

The data in this study were analyzed by performing the following steps:

- 1) Researchers are collecting the whole status of respondents that fit the criteria.
- 2) Language variation and education are analyzed using the theory of Chaer and Agustina (2010:65) which revealed that the difference in language variation based on education can not only look at the content of the talks but also vocabulary, pronunciation, morphology, and syntax.
- 3) Language Variation and types of work are analyzed using the theory of Wardhaugh (2006) describing the register as a set of language items dealing with social groups or groups of work (occupational) specifically.
- 4) Language variation and social institution are analyzed using the

Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf is closely related to culture. This hypothesis (via Cahyoo, 1995:417) stated that language speakers classify the world according to the restrictions that have been outlined by the native language.

- 5) Researchers make a summary about the use of based on level of education, type of occupation and different social institution.

### D. Research Finding

#### 1. Analysis of Social Variation of language Users based on education, work, and Social Institution

##### a) Social analysis of the variations of the user) Language based Education

As an example of social variation of language based on education, attached to the following status on a few social media Facebook accounts that are already categorized by age range 20 – 50thn with the education of Junior High School, High School, S1 and S2.

Nama	Pendidikan	Status di <i>Facebook</i>
Meyy Claluu Cndily	SMP	<p>“Tuhan ku percaya engkau pasti tlah merencanakn yg trbaik untk driku agar ku tetap yakin dn slalu ttap d jaln mu.....”</p> <p>“Mungkin udh ga mau tmnan lg <u>Apunk Riand</u></p>





		#perjalananrahasia "peer teaching, siapa takut...!!! Lagi browsing nih hahahahaha... Nyari bahan besok peer teaching kur13"
Nassirun Purwokartun	Penulis	"melihat cover majalah kesukaanku itu jadi inget pepatah jaman dulu "angkat tinggi-tinggi, lempar cepat-cepat"  "ada yang nunggu tanggal 22 karena ingin mendapat kabar besar ada yang menunggu tanggal 22 karena akan mendapat bayaran besar"
Oktavia Erwantoro	Peneliti	"dalam salat fardhu subuh nanti..jangan lupa kita baca doa Qunut Nazilah untuk Gaza.Amin."  "menulisku mengeja malam menjelang pagi. Tapi sia sia mengeja itu.Baiklah..."

Based on Facebook status with a different type of work can be analyzed as follows: Yudi Juniardi by profession as an English lecturer renders his status on Facebook with very neat and directional well in contents as well as in writing. He also uses English code mixing like do something (*melakukan sesuatu*) and head to head (*satu lawan satu*), only one error found, namely writing *yg* (*yang*). On the status of the two also well-written and presentable is following the correct rules of writing such as the use of capital letters in the name of the country, namely Palestine and Allah.

The second object is Hulman Fajri by profession as a teacher is not much different from the first object that is already using good language and writing it down with a clean and well groomed. But, there are some non standard language used such *asnyari* (*mencari*) and abbreviations

that are not exactly appropriate (*kurikulum*).

The third object that is a writer and cartoonist who surely has ability in writing is better than other professions. At first, there was no error status and on the status of both written poems should rhyme with the a-b a-b.

The third object, namely a language researcher who certainly has the ability and knowledge in writing. This is evidenced from the status created, presentable, directional, and easy to understand. There is only one error writing in writing repetition *sia sia* (*sia-sia*).

Based on the analysis from status of social media account can be inferred that the occupations is quite influential in the language used that describe register. As delivered by Wardhaugh (2006) that describing the register as a set of 'language items' dealing specifically with social groups or groups of work (occupation).

**c) analysis of Social Variation of language Users on the basis of Social Institution**

As an example of social variation of language based on a social institution,

attached to the following status on social media accounts, Facebook that are already categorized by age range of 24 – 30thn with a high school education, S1, S2, and S3.

Nama	Pranata social	Status di <i>Facebook</i>
Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono	Presiden RI	<p>“Mari kita bangun akhlakul karimah, membantu kaum dhuafa, kaum miskin, dan kaum fakir. Mari ikut tunjukkan kepada dunia bahwa Islam adalah rahmat bagi semesta alam”</p> <p>“Di kediamannya di Puri Cikeas, Bogor, kemarin (9/7) Presiden SBY memberikan imbauan kepada para elite politik agar bisa menahan diri sehingga tidak memunculkan ketegangan yang berlebihan di antara kedua massa pendukung capres &amp; cawapres”</p>
Ust. Yusuf Mansyur	Ustad/Kiai	<p>“Belajar mengaji dibulan Ramadhan, lebih nambah pahala dan lebih khusyu sampe waktu berbuka, susul sama doa.”</p> <p>“( PESAN PENDEK ) RAMADHAN SEMAKIN AKHIR SEMAKIN BESAR PAHALANYA Gak jamin Ramadhan depan bakal kita nemuin lagi. Waktu manfaatin, sedang bekendaraan sempetin dah ngucap istighfar, Tasbih, Tahmid dan Tahlil, jd pahala. Dhuha ekstrain jumlah rakaatnya, jg bacaan Qur'annya. Makin ksanain pahala makin gede, makanya ujiannya makin berat, Rosulullah SAW pun itikaf dan ngejar malam lailatul Qadr 10 hari penuh”</p>

Based on the Facebook status above that comes from two national figures, the first figure comes from the official fanspage of Mr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. He is already using an appropriate writing *EYD* either in word choice or way of writing. The second is derived from official fanspage of Ust. Yusuf Mansyur also does not much to find fault, only a few have to be fixed as said *nambah* (*menambah*), and *sampe* (*sampai*). In the second status found some fault such as *gak jamin* (*tidak menjamin*), *nemuin* (*menemukan*), *manfaatin* (*dimanfaatkan*), *sempetin* (*menyempatkan*), *ngucap* (*mengucapkan*), *jd* (*jadi*), *ekstrain* (*ditambah*), *jg* (*juga*), *makin* (*semakin*), *ksanain* (*nanti*), *gede* (*besar*), *ngejar* (*mengejar*). Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf stated that social institution closely related to culture. whose hypotheses stated that language speakers are classified the world according to the restrictions that have been outlined by the original language. In this case because both are national figures and use the national language (Indonesia) then there is no the existence of language classification that has been outlined, only from its use and necessarily use standard and formal of Indonesia Language.

### **E. Conclusion**

Variation occurred not only because of the activities of the different interactions of every human being but also because in terms of speakers those are not homogeneous. Each of the speakers of the

different activities and are certainly doing a different interaction at any time. Variations in language based on native can be distinguished based on the number of speakers, age, gender, social status, and culture (environment). The social status can be distinguished based on occupation and education.

Variations of the language based on occupation such as the vocabulary differences on communication among workers, merchants, teachers, doctors, artists, and others. Every job has own vocabulary which sometimes could understandable by them only.

Based on the level of his education, language variation can be seen not only on the content of the talks but the extent of the vocabulary they have. In General, the higher education that is the more extensive vocabulary also owned. In addition, on the pronunciation of the words used. Generally someone who attended the higher education, the pronunciation is much better than people who are not educated. For example, there is a clear difference between someone vocabulary communications with the background of education from Junior High School with the college students.

In this study the social institution did not seen give influence to the variations of the language used, because these two respondents who researched are nationwide. The language that he used is standard, formal, and *EYD* based language.

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