INDONESIAN’S STUDENTS LANGUAGE CHOICE IN MESSAGING APPLICATION: WHATSAPP

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Abstract

In the past few years, technology has incredibly developed. It also influenced the communication mode. Before, for making appointment with lecturer, students needed to do face-to-face communication, then it changed into email, and now just simply through messaging application. One of the most used messaging applications is Whatsapp. Whatsapp has become a medium to communicate between students and lecturers in Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana (UKSW). Whatsapp features are identical with short and informal conversation. These features allowed variation in language used by students. Thus, this study was conducted to see the interaction between students and lecturers. This study used qualitative method where the researcher analyzed students’ sample chat and interviewed the participants. The participants of this study were twelve students from freshmen year (batch 2018) up to senior years (batch 2015) of Faculty of English and Arts in UKSW. In explaining the data, the researcher provided some of the sample chats and figure with further explanation. The result indicated that the participants used various language choices, codes, domains, addresses and styles. The relation that students had with the lecturers also became factors of the language choice variation. Through the obtained result, this study might give an insight for the lecturer to be aware of the students’ language choice in Whatsapp.

Keywords: messaging application, Whatsapp, language choice, code, domain, address, style.