

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides information background of the study, statement of the research problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope, and limitation of the study. Each of the subchapters has different information and it is elaborated in sequence.

1.1 Background of the study

This research is focused on the study of language and communication about language style. Language is one of the most important things for human life. According to Wardhaugh (2006:1) in his book *An Introduction of Sociolinguistics* says “language is what the members of a particular speak”. People can communicate because the language gives main contribution to make the interaction between people. It is supported by Lado (2001:126) that language is one of the vital factors that differentiate human beings from other creatures, it can enable people to communicate with others by allowing them to say things and express their communication. The language product of communication has several forms, such as requesting something, giving information, entertaining, and others. This is the way to communicate and establish a relationship with other people. To put it another way, language can be used as a tool of communication. Thus, it is one of the vital factors to create an interaction with one another.

By language, people can socialize and communicate with one another for whatever they do. People can communicate their messages through dialogue, which allows for contact and communication. Even if it is a different language,

dialect, or another they still can communicate well. It causes language to have many variations. Thus, there is Sociolinguistics Holmes (2012) states that sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society. It means language and society is the term which is related to each other. Many topics explain in sociolinguistics study. One of the topics from sociolinguistics is called language variation. Language variety is divided into four categories. They are language and dialect, social and regional dialects, registers, and styles. One of the term language variations is language style. The language style is the way to show our expression whether in formal or in informal situations. This term talks about how people who do the conversation use their style. According to Meyerhoff (2006:27), Human personality, mindset, and condition are all described by language style. The human situation can influence a person's speaking style. When a president gives a speech in front of the public, for example, he will use very formal language. This occurs because the context is formal and has a specific role in delivering such information. It indicates that people employ their language style in daily conversation based on the context, the situation, and what they require because it is closely related to social life.

The purpose of language is to communicate ideas or information from speaker to hearer through communication. It has various styles and its style has an important role to deliver the purpose of social interaction to understand the meaning of social communication in the language. According to Holmes (2012), the way people are influenced by the social context in which they are talking. From this statement can conclude that this statement means how people interact or communicate with others is influenced by the factors. Factors can be the topic they

are talking about, the person they interact with, the setting of the place, and the function of communication itself. Therefore, the researcher chooses videos of Batak Toba wedding ceremony as the source of the data for this study. Videos of Batak Toba wedding ceremonies are chosen to represent types of language style and the context in daily life that influence someone to speak in a different style.

This study aims to explain the term types of language style and the factors which influence the style used in Batak Toba wedding ceremony. The reason this study is chosen by the researcher is that the researcher finds the differentiation in every single communication. Single communication means sender and receiver listen to each other, to gather information. People have different styles in uttering and utterances, and the factors affect speaking in a different style. Realize or not, people will use different language styles while doing a conversation. It can be caused by the factors, such as to whom this person will talk. This condition can affect the person in uttering the style of language differently. For instance in Batak Toba wedding ceremony, *Priest: "Do you, Lunggu Hendri Sianipar, take this woman Berlian Simamora to be your lawfully wedded wife as long as you both shall live?" "Lunggu: Yes, I do"* This sentence happened between the priest and Lunggu in front of the yard. This situation was solemn and calm where everyone listened to the wedding vow. Can be concluded that the priest uses a frozen style because that conversation does in a very formal situation and cannot be changed. Besides that, that conversation also lacks participation. So, the other hearer does not permit responses.

All of them are suitable with the characteristic of the frozen style. Thus, this study conducts the language style of a person in uttering the language and what can

influence a person to use a different style. Several previous studies related to language style have been carried out. The first is conducted by Dewi Sari br. Sembring (2013) entitled *Language Style in Karonese wedding ceremony*. The second was conducted by Derliana Siburian entitled *Language Styles that are realized in Mandailing Batak*. From those earlier studies, none of them utilized used in Batak Toba wedding ceremony as their object of analysis. Therefore, given analyzing language style especially in Batak Toba, this study is needed to be conducted.

Therefore, this study is aimed to discuss language style in Batak Toba, both types and functions. Here the researcher tries to analyze language in different ways. The researcher is interested in analyzing the types of language style by Joos's theory and supported by Holmes's theory as a tool in finding the factors that affect all characters to speak in a different style. The researcher chooses Holmes's theory because this theory is connected with the factors which have a different style in speech. Then, the researcher will combine both theories. Moreover, the researcher will choose the utterances of the participants in Batak Toba wedding ceremony as a data source. The researcher will pay close attention to all of the participants' statements. The reason why the researcher chooses the video of Batak Toba wedding ceremony is that many language styles found in the video

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

Based on the background of the study that has been explained above, the research questions of the study are formulated as follow:

1. What are the types of language style used in Batak Toba wedding ceremony?
2. What are the factors that affect the characters in Batak Toba wedding ceremony to speak in a different style?

1.3 Objectives of the study

Based on the formulation of research questions that has been explained above, the objectives of the study are as follow:

1. To identify the types of language study used in Batak Toba wedding ceremony.
2. To explain the factors that affect the characters in Batak Toba weeding ceremony to speak in a different style.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to have both theoretical and practical implications in the field of Linguistics, especially in Sociolinguistics. Theoretically, this research provides knowledge of the language style contains in Batak Toba wedding ceremony. This study is also expected to be able to add and deepen research within the scope of Sociolinguistics. In addition, this research can provide an additional reference in future research to find new findings related to sociolinguistic analysis.

Practically, through this research readers will get an understanding of the language style phenomenon. By providing definition and the example of language style based on the linguistic and social aspect in the discussion. The readers and

especially those majoring English Department are expected to be more aware of the phenomenon of language style in their area.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the study

The scope of this study is in the field of sociolinguistics, specifically about language style affected by the factor. To make it more specific, the limitation of this study is the language style used in Batak Toba wedding ceremony. This study uses the theory proposed by Martin Joss (1976) for the language style. Then the other theory is about factors proposed by Janet Holmes (2012). Furthermore, the limitation of this study is the words, phrases, or sentences conduct by the characters in Batak Toba wedding ceremony. It includes the language style on the utterances while doing conversation.