

Chapter 1. Introduction

In this chapter, researcher discusses several points related to the research. The points are background of the research, research problem, research objectives, scope of research, research significance and the definition of key terms.

Basic Consideration

Language is something that people use to communicate. Language is also a tool that people use to exchange an idea or opinion. Language is not permanent or it can be said that language is changing. This change of language usually occurs over time. Hock & Joseph (2020, p. 1) said that language used by previous people changed with the language used by children today. Hock & Joseph (2020, p. 1) also added that language and all parts of the language is change as time goes by. The case of language change is related to the language that people are using nowadays.

Language is a thing that related to linguistic. When people deal with a word, there will always be a meaning under it. The study of a language that people use to communicate is called linguistic (Widdowson, 2003 p. 3). It plays an important role to people about how the discussion runs well between them. A linguistic is also related to social phenomenon or known as sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is a study that examines language related to society where the purpose of this study is to achieve the function of a language used by the community to build up a conversation (Wardhaugh, 2010 p. 12). How people use the language, they know what they are using the words for and how the language runs in a group of people or community is called sociolinguistics. In brief,

sociolinguistics is a study of linguistics that in relation with a society phenomenon that always links between one and the other.

Sociolinguistic is related to a phenomenon in a society, a study that discuss about it is called register. Register is the communication that is use in particular situation (Budiarsa, 2015 p. 386). The speech that runs based on the situation or called speech situation is cause the occurrence of some terms in the words people use to communicate, it shows that humans are the main character that can make the shift of the meaning of the word.

The topic of this analysis is related to the registers in the situation called COVID-19 (Corona virus Disease 19) pandemic, so that causes the emerge of some speech situations or new terms during the pandemic. Grennan (2019, p.910) said that violence, even the term for infection or disease in the form of cancer, is often referred to as a pandemic. Corona virus is extremely dangerous and can spread quickly, so since the started of the outbreak, everyone is obliged to stay at home and it makes people have some new things to do in their house. There are also several guidelines that are made by the government to be followed by all people during the pandemic to stop the transmission. There are also several new things that emerge to reduce the spread of the virus, that are people who usually spend their time outside the house are advised to only stay at home to limit the physical contact with other people who might transmit the virus, people should use a mask to go outside to protect themselves from the virus, people should always wash their hands and use hand sanitizer because the virus can spreads very quickly through hand touch, and so on. Things that people often do during the

pandemic of COVID-19 at the direction of the government resulted in several registers attached to the virus appearing.

Nowadays, the public use a specific language as their way to communicate and share an idea. The outbreak of COVID-19 brings some terms that the government use as a direction to warn people about the virus and the terms become their special language. People who have through the situation of COVID-19 will understand the meaning of some terms that appear caused by the coronavirus. So, it means through the register a group of community can be distinguished from other group of community by understanding the language that they use to communicate. From the explanations that have mentioned above, researcher wants to conduct a research about the phenomenon of the register in the situation of COVID-19.

There are three major components of register, they are the situational context, the linguistics features, and the relationship function of both situational context and linguistics features (Biber & Conrad, 2019, p.6). Based on the explanation, researcher stick on to the theory that have mentioned, that is to solve the problem through the situational context, linguistic features and the function that is related to the register itself.

The researcher found one of the examples of the register that classified as a word

“klaster” or “cluster” is the register that is form as a word, this register is categorized as a noun. This register has a meaning of a

situation where the transmission of COVID-19 occurs in a group of people and the case is interconnected.

The researcher also finds one of the examples of the register that classified as a phrase

“physical distancing” is referred to the meaning of keeping a distance from one to another to suppress the spread of the virus. This phrase is categorized as a noun phrase. This phrase is used to warn people to limit the physical contact to avoid corona virus. This phrase is one of the most used register in COVID-19 because a lot of people use this phrase and it can also be heard in daily life.

From the examples above, the researcher approaches the register using the relationship of the linguistic features and the situational context. The phenomenon of corona virus that has mentioned above is the reason of the background idea of the researcher to make a research with the title “Register in COVID-19.” Based on the explanation, the researcher is interest in analyzing the registers in COVID-19 that appear and are used by people.

Research Question

Register can be described as one of the language varieties that happens in a group of people in accordance to a certain situation. The situation of COVID-19 that is happening for almost two years affect some of terms related to the pandemic. It is because of the words and phrase are used as the direction from the government to the public to follow the rules that they ordered. It becomes their activity and also affect their language features. As a result, based on the above several

explanations, the researcher wants to conduct a research “Register in COVID-19” with a research question; How is the use of register in COVID-19?

Research Objectives

Register is one of a variety of languages that vary according to certain situations, the profession that a person has (profession is also one of the register situations). Registers are also called different language variations that distinguish one social group from another. Register also discussed about the variations of different language that according into some parts, that are according to the topic of the discussion, according to the speakers, and according to the relationship of the conversation. In this brief explanation, it can be concluded that the researcher has a purpose in conducting this research; To elaborate the use of the register in COVID-19.

Delimitation of Research

Finding the use of the register in COVID-19 that found on the articles related to the pandemic is the focus of this study. There are some of registers in COVID-19 that have found on some articles. The researcher found the data and arranged the meaning through the linguistic features and the social context based on the explanation that has mentioned in the research objectives. Such as how the use of the register on the articles related to COVID-19.

The researcher analyze the register in COVID-19 based on the three major components by Biber & Conrad (2019, p.6); the first is situational context, second is based on the linguistic features, and the last is the function of the relationship of

both situational context and linguistic features. The language features that is meant is focus on the form of the register based on the classification of the word and phrase. The explanation is focus on the use of the register and an additional explanation based on its social context.

Research Significance

The researcher defines the description of research significance into two points.

Theoretically

This study is expected to give a valuable contribution to the study of Solinguistics that is related to the pandemic of COVID-19. It is expected to be useful for the reader to broaden their horizons about the language features especially related to register. This study also expected to give the answer that the reader probably want to know about the register in COVID-19. Theoretically, this study is expected to provide the contribution that is valuable to the study of Sociolinguistics. It is also expected to enlightening the insight of the reader about the comprehension that language in this case words and its meaning increase as the time goes by.

Practically

This study is expected to give a broader insight about the register used by people during COVID-19. This research is intended could give some benefits such as:

For students. This study can be one of the sources that can help the students to add their knowledge that related to the study of Sociolinguistics especially the study of register.

For the users of the register. This study is expected to help the readers to discover a new information about the register in COVID-19. The user that have not known about the terms can finally know when to use the terms and the meaning of the terms so there is no misconception when they are doing a conversation using the register.

For sociolinguistic lecture. This study can be one of the sources that the lecturer can use to teach the students about the material related to Sociolinguistics and especially the material about register.

For further researcher. This research can be a reference to the next researcher who wants to make an analysis about one of the language variations called register.

Definition and Key Terms

To avoid the misunderstanding about the discussion of this research. The key terms are:

Sociolinguistic

Sociolinguistics is a study that examines language related to society where the purpose of this study is to achieve the function of a language used by the community to build up a conversation (Wardhaugh, 2010 p. 12).

Register

Sociolinguistic is related to a phenomenon in a society, a study that discuss about it is called register. Register is the communication that is use in particular situation (Budiarsa, 2015 p. 386).

COVID-19

The COVID-19 is started to begin in Wuhan, China in 2019 and started to spread to another country in a few months later so the word of COVID-19 is a combinations of words Corona viruses Disease 19 (Juliantari et al, 2020 p. 104).

Pandemic

Grennan (2019, p.910) said that violence, even the term for infection or Disease in the form of cancer, is often referred to as a pandemic.