CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of several points. First, background of the problems describes the reason of selecting the title. Second, statements of the problems, express some questions. Third, in the objective of the problem, the writer presents the aim of the study based on the problems. Then, significance of the study explains the usefulness of the research for the writer and the readers. Meanwhile, scope and limitation of study determines the fields of the analysis. Finally, definition of key terms contains some definitions related to the research.

1.1 Background of the study

Language is very important in our lives. Language can provides a variety of ways of saying the same thing like addressing and greeting others, describing things and paying comments (Holmes, 1992:3-4). Even we know that the statement “language shows that nation” means that language can give a message to the other in our society actually, like Wardhaugh said that a language is what the members of a particular society speak (Wardhaugh, 1986:1). In general, Language also can be defined by people’s education, at least some of people who has high education can produce polite language. Other hand, Nasr (1980: 140) says “Language does not simply mean of communicating information. It is also very important in maintaining relationship with other people”. So that, languages is very important for all people to communicate and for interacting to each other in social group.
In sociolinguistics, “Language also varies according to sex and occupations (Wardhaugh : 1977: 219). The language of men differs subtly from that of women. Lately some sociolinguists have found other features which reflect the differences between women and men. They found that men and women have different ways of speaking. Men and women have different language features although they speak the same language. Women and men are significantly not same in using language; they still have to respond each other in communication. Communication can be defined as a devise used by women or men for making connection to each other. It is used for conveying or sharing information among people. So, woman and men languages have created within different characteristic and also their language. The diversity is not only because gender, but there are other things which influence it like stated to Wardaugh (2006:329-330), that for both men and women, power and influence are interrelated with education, social class, regional origin, and so on.

Women language is language that used by women in which shows their status in community; women preserve the features of women language in the speech community (Holmes 2001: 305). Women’s language features are several aspects of speech difference between women and men which indicate the characteristic of women’s speech. Woman as described by Hornby (1989) in Oxford Advanced Leaner’s Dictionary is an adult female human being or female sex. There are ten elements of speech features that women use, as identified by Robin Lakoff such as lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, empty
adjective, precise color term, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite form, avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress.

One of the languages that studying about women’s speech features for the main female character of Sophie in “Letters to Juliet” movie by Gary Winick. Sophie and Sophia are the same person. The main female in this movie focus to the character. According to the movie, it showed that main actor is female where she is talking with woman speech as her character. So, the writer will be to analysis what kind of women’s language features in “Letters to Juliet” movie and what are most women’s speech features used by Sophie in “Letters to Juliet” movie. After research data in every dialogue, the writer can find which woman language in character and we know the characteristic about style in their spoken. First, the nobility women are high level so she speaks more politely than men, and she keeps the attitude to communicate.

“Letters to Juliet” is one of the titles of movie. This movie is directed by Gary Winick from a script by Jose Rivera and Tim Sullivan and it was release theatrically in North America and other countries on May 14, 2010. As a reflection of the real situation in the society, the writer wants to analyze women’s speech features which found in one Gary Winick’s movie entitled “Letters to Juliet”. It tells about the ambitions of main character, Sophie with the same kind of brisk efficiency that its heroine brings to her job of magazine fact-checking but its goals are so modest, so tiny, so timid that fulfillment is exactly what it does not provide. First, though Sophie happens upon group of Italian women known as Juliet’s secretaries, who gather the letters that lovelorn ladies from around the
world have tucked between the stones of a wall under the most famous balcony in Verona, opening their hearts to love’s great martyr. Each petitioner receives a reply and Sophie decides to answer a melancholy note that has been languishing there for half a century. Its author was Claire, British exchange student who was supposed to meet a local beau named Lorenzo, but then succumbed to cold feet and went to England. Now, lured by the response that Sophie has written, Claire is back in Verona, along with a handsome blond granson named Charlie, whose instant detestation of Sophie is the first sign of impending love. Claire is determined to find her Lorenzo, and she Charlie and Sophie set out on a meandering and picturesque road trip, encountering a series of codgers named Lorenzo, each of which would be happy to be the right one.

Studies about women’s language features have been conducted in different focuses. As Futika Permatasari (2010) entitled *Women’s speech features used by the characters of “Sex and The City” Movie*. She used Lakoff’s theory to find her research problem. She used qualitative method taken the data. She found eight type women’s speech features in the dialogues. As Khoirul Umami Mazidah (2013) entitled *Women speech features use by character Margaret in the Iron Lady Movie*. She used Lakoff’s theory to find her research problem. She used qualitative method taken the data. She showed that not all types of women’s speech features occurred in the dialogues. There are only nine types women’s speech features occurred in the dialogues. Third, Siti Dara Nirmala Aulya (2014) entitled *Woman Linguistic Feature Performed By Margaret Thatcher In The Film*
Iron Lady. She used qualitative method taken the data. She found eight types women’s speech features in the dialogue.

And the last research conducted Isni Al Rofi’ (2014) entitled Women’s Speech features used by the main characters in “the Chronicles of Narnia: the lion, the witch and the Wardrobe” Movie. He used Lakoff’s theory to find his research problem and also he used qualitative method taken the data. He found nine types of women’s speech features used by the main character’s utterances of the movie.

From previous studies that the writer found, all of them focused on movie. They analyzed the dialogues on the movie or film on Tv series. Furthermore, the result of their studies, they showed not all types of women’s linguistic features as Robin Lakoff (1975) listed. Meanwhile, the writer analyzes the utterance which used by female character in the movie entitled “Letters to Juliet”. The similarity of the previous study and this thesis is analyzing the women’s speech features. The writer believes that the previous study can be as reference of the writer to find the features of women’s speech features used by female character in the “Letters to Juliet” movie by Gary Winick, which is used method by comparing the previous study and the writer’s study.

The writer chooses a title because the writer want to show for women in Gary Winick entitled "Letters to Juliet", contains many valuable and profound messages. The main reason why the writer chooses this movie is because of its language, such as diction and some sentences which give more data to be analyzed. Moreover, the writer believes that there are many phenomena of
women’s speech features can be found in “Letters to Juliet” where society influences the choice of utterance.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of this study, the questions of this study are formulated as follows:

1. What kinds of women’s speech feature of main female character in “Letters to Juliet” movie?
2. What is the most women’s speech feature used by Sophie in “Letters to Juliet” movie?

1.3 Objective of study

Based on the statement problems above, the purposes of the study are below:

1. To explain what kinds of women’s speech feature use of main female character in “Letters to Juliet” movie.
2. To explain what are the most women’s speech feature use of main female character “Letters to Juliet” in movie.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The writer hopes that the result of this study can become a reference for students to learn more about women’s speech feature. The writer also expects that this study is able to give English students to find some descriptions and information to be analyzed more deeply which is related to the women’s speech feature study.
1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of the study focuses on Sociolinguistic study. To avoid broadening the study, the writer limits the study that focuses on ten types of women’s speech features of Robin Lakoff theory such as lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjective, precise color term, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite form, avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress. The writer also limits her study on the women’s speech features which are used by female character in Sophie in “Letters to Juliet” movie. Sophie and Sophia are the same person.

1.6 Definition of Key Term

In this point, the writer presents definition of key terms which is going to be used in doing the analysis.

a. Women language is language that used by women in which shows their status in community; women preserve the features of women language in the speech community (Holmes 2001: 305).

b. Women speech features are the language form of elements used by Lakoff, such as: lexical hedges or filler, tag question, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjective, precise color term, intensifier, hypercorrect grammar, super polite form, avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress. (Holmes 2001:2).

c. Movie: a recording of moving images that tells a story and that people watch on a screen or television.

d. Main character: the main role in story.