Setiawan, Aditya Putra. The Comparison of Syntactic and Semantic Roles on Adjectives Found between Online Gay’s Magazine Bent and Online Lesbian’s Magazine Diva. A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Degree of the English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, 2015.

It has been argued that gay and lesbian have their own styles of language. Bent and Diva as online mass media have vital role-play in establishing and spreading the information to the certain readers like gay and lesbian. In order to keep close to their readers, the selection of specific lexical like adjectives usually depends on the target market. The aim of the study is to find out the similarities and differences on semantic roles of adjectives used in the articles of online gay’s magazine Bent and online lesbian’s magazine Diva. Sixteen articles from several rubrics which are Entertainment, Fashion, Travel, and News were chosen. There were 567 adjectives taken from Bent and 299 adjectives taken from Diva. To analyze the data, the writer uses qualitative approach and Biber’s theory of adjective roles in which syntactic roles have three major groups (attributive, predicative, and other syntactic roles). In semantic roles, it distinguishes adjectives into two main groups: descriptor (color, time, size, emotive, and miscellaneous) and classifier (relational, affiliative, and topical). The data show that both magazines generally used the same types of adjectives in syntactic and semantic roles, but they obtained different frequencies. In syntactic roles, Bent tends to use attributive and other syntactic roles while Diva tends to use predicative adjectives. In semantic roles, Bent has higher frequencies in size, emotive, miscellaneous, relational, and affiliative while Diva tends to use color, time, and topical. Regarding to the rubrics, both magazines tend to use descriptors in entertainment, fashion, and travel articles while they tend to use classifiers in news articles. In other words, Gays’ magazine tends to be more informative and has higher tendency of women’s language especially in the use of adjectives. Moreover, the style of gays’ language is more feminine or un-masculine while lesbians’ language is less feminine in order to be more masculine.

Keywords: adjectives, gay, lesbian, online magazine, semantic roles, syntactic roles