

INTERNET LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE COMMENTERS IN DAGELAN'S ACCOUNT ON INSTAGRAM

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Abstract

The Internet has given such a huge impact on how people communicate to each other. There have been a lot of researchers studying the language used on the Internet. The present study aims to examine the Internet language features by Danet (2001) used by male and female commenters in *Dagelan's* account on Instagram. There are ten Internet language features proposed by Danet (2001), they are: multiple punctuations, eccentric spelling, capital letters, asterisks for emphasis, written-out laughter, music/noise, descriptions of actions, emoticons, abbreviations, and rebus writing. The writer also examines the lexical features by Crystal (2005), which are the top three words used by male and female commenters. The method used in conducting this study is qualitative because the data are in the form of pictures with written words. The result of this study shows that male and female commenters only used eight of the features mentioned by Danet. The features that are not used by male commenters are capital letters and asterisks for emphasis, while description of actions and rebus writing are the features which are not used by female commenters. Apart from Internet language features by Danet, the writer found two additional features, they are blending and clipping. The most frequently used features by male and female commenters is emoticons. The reason is because they want to show their actions after seeing the pictures posted. Besides, describing actions with emoticons is much simpler than with words. The result also shows that the top three words used by male commenters are *haha*, *ini*, and *kita*. Meanwhile, the top three words used by female commenters are *wkwkwk*, *hahaha*, and *tak*. Overall, the data shows that the occurrence of Internet language features in female comments is higher than male comments. It implies that female commenters are more expressive in giving comments in *Dagelan's* account on Instagram compared to male commenters.

Keywords: *comments; gender; internet linguistics; internet language features; instagram*