ABSTRACT

The Internet now is one of the media for people from all ages to communicate with other people throughout the world and find the latest information. If the Internet is a revolution; therefore it is likely to be a linguistic revolution. The aim of this study is to discover the Internet language features used in Indonesian male and female adolescents’ blogs. Internet language features include Multiple punctuation, Eccentric spelling, Capital letters, Asterisks for emphasis, Written-out laughter, Music/noise, Description of actions, Emoticons, Abbreviations, Rebus writing, and Ways of expressing emphasis (italics, boldface, etc) which one formulated from Crystal (2006) and Danet (2001). The writer also examines who is more expressive in online setting because some of Internet language features above are characterized as indicators of emotional expressiveness.

The writer conducts a study on 30 adolescents’ blogs. The source of data is in the form of posting in Indonesian male and female adolescents’ blogs. The number of postings that the writer uses is 15 postings of male blogs and 15 postings of female blogs and each posting consists of 300 until 500 words. The data confirm that there are similarities between male and female Internet language features. The top three Internet language features used by male and female adolescents’ blogs are Capital letters, Abbreviations, and Ways of expressing emphasis. However, there are also some differences in male and female adolescents’ blogs. The total of word tokens and Internet language features used by female adolescents are higher than that of male adolescents. In the use of emoticons, male adolescents use three categories of emoticons such as happy, sad, and angry. While female adolescents use five types such as happy, sad, angry, tired, and love. In the use of eccentric spelling, the average numbers of vowel extension in male blogs are two until three vowels furthermore the average numbers of consonant extension contain two consonant. In female adolescents mainly extend more than five vowels and use two until three consonant repetition.

Keywords: Abbreviations, Adolescents, Asterisks for emphasis, blog, Capital letters, Description of actions, Eccentric spelling, Emoticons, Internet language features, Multiple punctuation, Music/noise, Rebus writing, Ways of expressing emphasis, Written-out laughter.