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#### Abstract

Internet linguistics is currently making its way to a clearer path to discover categorizations, features, and particularities to its subject. This thesis attempts to give contribution to the ongoing linguistic research on gender and online communication. The platform I choose to analyze in this thesis is the microblog, Twitter. Since its creation, this microblog has gained credibility as the platform of personal thoughts and opinions. The objective of this study is to compare male and female peer Twitter communication.

I use corpus linguistics as the approach to my analysis. Corpus linguistics involves natural texts, which are texts that generate from real life data. For my main theory, I use language and gender theories in face-to-face communication as proposed by Lakoff (1975) and Coates (2004) as well as theories of online communication proposed by Herring (1994) and Crystal (2011). I use qualitative method in analyzing the corpora taken from the tweets.

To accomplish this research, I determine the typical words in female tweets then determine the typical words in male tweets before comparing the feature of tweets of both genders. The result shows mutual features which are shared between online communication and face-to-face communication. For example, females tend to discuss about fashion/shopping while males tend to discuss about sports. Other findings include the different use of pronouns, similarity in the use of abbreviations and also spelling changes for vulgar words.


Keywords: collocate, corpus, corpus linguistics, internet linguistics, online communication, Twitter.

