

## The Dynamic Nature of Language: Language Features Variations Between Male and Female Characters in *Falling for Christmas* Movie

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### **Abstract:**

*The dynamic nature of language is illustrated by the emergence of variations in language features that differ the male and female language feature. This study aims to identify differences in language features between male and female characters in “Falling for Christmas” movie. Furthermore, the researchers aim to see to what extent are gender stereotypes in relation to language characteristics depicted in these characters. Descriptive qualitative method with document analysis instrument are used to collect the data which then analysed to produce several conclusions, such as: some of the research results are in line with previous research on language variation between genders where female tend to have language features such as lexical hedges, tag questions, empty adjectives, intensifiers, avoidance of swear words; meanwhile male tend to have minimal responses, compliments, and talking about their interests. These findings are partly consistent with societal stereotypes around male and female communication skills. However, there are some that are not appropriate, such as hypercorrect grammar which is stereotyped to female, and also direct words, and taboo words that are usually intended to male. Other findings found that empty adjectives is the most often used language feature by female, and the minimal responses is by male.*

**Keywords:** Language variation, Language features, Gender, Stereotypes

## **INTRODUCTION**

Effective communication relies heavily on using appropriate language with comprehensible patterns, which allows exchange of information and understanding between individuals (Coupland, 2007). Conversely, if language is used inappropriately and there is a failure to understand communication patterns, it can cause miscommunication and hinder effective social interaction. Basically, language is a construction that is constantly evolving, influenced by social, cultural, and individual factors (Hoff, 2006). However, it is important to realize that language is not a static entity; rather it is a dynamic construct (Holmes & Wilson, 2022) that adapts and evolves based on the social context in which it is used (Romaine, 2000; Wardhaugh & Fuller, 2015; Yule, 2010). By understanding contextual variations in language (Rudge, 2015), we can gain valuable insights into its complex nature and improve our communication skills (Asmin, 2019; Ilhami, Hasan, Wargadinata, Fadhlan, & Fikri, 2021).

In fact, social context has a major influence in shaping language variation (Savas, 2011). Everyone brings their own linguistic skills, personality traits, identities, and experiences to the conversation (Guirdham & Guirdham, 2017) with their choice of words, tone, and communication style constantly evolving. Even social factors such as gender (Coupland, 2007) and other social factors contribute to the diversity of language use among individuals (Holmes & Meyerhoff, 2008; Holmes & Wilson, 2022).

Society communicates differently in accordance with where they are speaking (setting), whom they are speaking with (participant), what is talked about (topic), and why and what purposes they are speaking (function) (Holmes & Wilson, 2022). These factors significantly contribute to the varied use of language in society. This social factor has long been studied and been found out that there is a close relation between society, for example gender, and language. The relationship between language and gender has long been studied to discuss the use of language which includes gender roles to construct social meaning (Coates, 2016; Holmes & Wilson, 2022; Newman, Groom, Handelman, & Pennebaker, 2008). Male and female use a significant difference of language. Males typically pursue power whereas females attempt to enhance relationship and unity, as the result, females tend to speak carefully and use polite language to show their femininity rather than masculinity and on the other hand, in conversation, males more often dominate and control the conversation (Holmes & Wilson, 2022). Those characteristics are then referred to as language features that males or females use more frequently. In general, language features can be defined as characteristics that distinguish language use between male dan female including vocabulary, speech, grammar, and intonation.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Language Features**

Undeniably, males and females have different characteristics and patterns when they speak. Many studies have tested that male and female have different tendencies and they have different language features. There are ten female language features (Lakoff, 2004), they are:

Lexical hedges, Tag question, Rising intonation on declaratives, Empty adjectives, Precise color terms, Intensifier, Hypercorrect grammar, Super polite forms, avoidance or strong swear, Empathic stress. Apparently, Coates also discusses the characteristics of language between female and male in his book entitled *Women, men and language* in 2016. He focuses discussion of language features on minimal responses, hedging, question marks, questions, commands and directions, swearing and taboo language, and compliments.

### 1. Lexical hedges

According to several claims, hedges are often used by females in various linguistic forms such as I think, I'm sure, you know, sort of and maybe. This is usually used to express certainty or vice versa regarding a discussion (Coates, 2016). It is used where females tend to express something with uncertainty in order to weaken the strength of an assertion. "Well, I think..." (Yolanda & Bram, 2021), is the example of lexical hedges.

### 2. Minimal responses

This is also called backchannels. Some scholars have examined that the use of the Minimal Responses feature (as mm, mmhmm, uh huh, yeah and righ, (Holmes & Wilson, 2022)) is used more often by women than men. This feature is used when showing support for a speaker at a certain time (Holmes 1995 as cited in Coates, 2016)

### 3. Tag question

It is claimed that females use tag questions more often than males (Lakoff, 1975 as cited in Coates, 2016). It is a pattern used by women in a condition when women feel uncomfortable and doubtful. Then Tag questions will appear in the form of using questions, such as, isn't it? is that right? Do you agree? (Yolanda & Bram, 2021). A study divides tag questions into 'formal' such as 'Probably industrial too, isn't it?') and 'informal' tags such as 'Right?', 'OK?' as in 'That's not too easy, right?' (Dubois and Crouch, 1975 as cited in Coates, 2016). However, tags can also be used to express affective meaning which functions to increase positive politeness and then provide space for the interlocutor to enter and speak in a conversation (Holmes & Wilson, 2022).

**Margaret:** Andrew this is our new neighbour, Frank. Andrew has just changed jobs, haven't you.

**Andrew:** Yes I am now a well-paid computer programmer instead of a poorly paid administrative assistant.

The conversation above clearly illustrates the use of tags using the word 'haven't you'. Holmes shows how Margaret facilitates Andrew to speak in the conversation.

### 4. A question

It is basically asked because it aims to get answers or information from the listener. Linguists have studied that there is a language gap between males and females when they ask questions. Males moreover tend to ask questions not to expect an answer, but to elaborate more about a specific topic (Coates, 2015). However, a survey conducted in Amsterdam found that women asked male ticket sellers more questions than men (Brouwer et al. 1979 as

cited in Coates, 2016). A question also turns out to be powerful, which is stronger than a question. The dialogue below is an example.

- (12) *(Meg gives Petey a bowl of cornflakes. He sits at the table, props up his paper and starts to eat)*  
Meg: Are they nice?  
Petey: Very nice.  
Meg: I thought they'd be nice. You got your paper?  
Petey: Yes.  
Meg: Is it good?  
Petey: Not bad.  
Meg: What does it say?  
Petey: Nothing much.

The dialogue above is taken from Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party* (1960) which shows how the interlocutor is forced to continue talking by answering every question. It is clear that a question is used to keep the conversation going (Coates, 2016).

#### 5. Rising Intonation on Declaratives

In common practice, language users use raised intonation to indicate a question or express anger. However, in this case, women usually use this language feature to involve people in conversation with the hope of getting feedback or responses from other people. This is also a picture of discouragement for women in making decisions. The example is 'we're going now?' or 'Around seven o'clock?' (Yolanda & Bram, 2021).

#### 6. Commands and directives

This is a speech act that is used to get someone to do something (Coates, 2016). Several studies show that men and women use different styles in using directives. Males tend to use direct commands (Goodwin, 1980 as cited in Coates, 2016), as illustrated below:

- (14) Michael: Gimme the pliers (*Poochie gives pliers to Michael*)  
(15) Huey: Get off my steps (*Poochie moves down steps*)

Meanwhile, females tend to use more 'mitigated' directives such as the following:

- (17) Terry: Hey y'all let's use these first and then come back and get the rest cuz it's too many of 'em.  
(18) Sharon: Let's go around Subs and Suds.  
Pam: Let's ask her 'do you have any bottles?'

Directives are explicit commands which mostly occur when males have the same sex group conversation. In order to show dominance, males tend to use bare imperatives (gimme, gotta, gonna) which is contrary to subordinate females who tend to use mitigated requests (Can I have some?) (Coates, 2016).

#### 7. Empty Adjectives

Women also tend to often use special words to convey their emotional reactions by using Empty adjectives. Usually this is used as conveying a feeling of admiration for something and they use the word, such as *lovely, sweet, etc.*

#### 8. Precise color terms

Females make far more precise discrimination in naming colors than do men (Lakoff, 1975 as cited in Yolanda & Bram, 2021). They mostly have more specific words for certain colors, such as in this passage "...It's actually cerulean." It is a part of blue color (Oktapiani, Natsir, & Setyowati, 2017).

#### 9. Intensifier

Intensifiers are also often used by females. They use words such as *totally, so, very*, to emphasize or strengthen a meaning. Both women and men commonly use this feature, but the fact is that women use it more often (Lakoff, 1975 as cited in Yolanda & Bram, 2021).

#### 10. Hypercorrect grammar

It is claimed that females tend to avoid casual words and use more linguistic words than males do to avoid offensive expression when speaking (Holmes & Wilson, 2022). They prefer to use the words 'don't know instead of dunno' (Yolanda & Bram, 2021).

#### 11. Superpolite Forms

Stereotypes that develop in society about women are the reason women tend to use this language feature. In society they are required not to speak and act harshly so they often choose to use simple and polite words, for example when asking for something to be done, such as the word please (Yolanda & Bram, 2021).

#### 12. Avoidance or strong swear

Since women use polite words more often, this is where women finally stop using swear words like men do, such as, "What the hell!" which is often used to express his very strong statements. Instead, woman use more polite substitutes like "Oh my goodness". To show dominant masculinity as well as maintain the masculine norms, males stereotypically use swear and utilize taboo words while having a conversation (Coates, 2016; Wardhaugh & Fuller, 2015). Though, the swear and taboo words are not always utilized in a bad context but sometimes to exaggerate the expressions. It is mentioned that swear and taboo words are distinguished. When a person talks about vulgar context or sexual anatomy with his/her opposite gender, this conversation is considered a taboo expression. On the other hand, swear words are the tool to express annoyance, aggression and insult, for instance, or they may express solidarity and friendliness (Holmes & Wilson, 2022)

#### 13. Compliments

Females utilize more compliments than male, specifically when it comes to compliments appearance, and this can be seen as positively polite linguistic behavior.(Holmes & Wilson, 2022)From the case example, it is perceived that males and females actually have different patterns in utilizing compliments. Females preferred more

personalized forms (e.g. I love your shirt or Your shirt looks amazing). While males, in complementing, preferred impersonal forms (e.g. nice shirt!) (Herbert, 1998 as cited in Coates, 2016).

#### 14. Emphatic stress

This language feature is often used by women who want to emphasize a statement to make other people hear or pay attention to their message (Lakoff, 2004). They often use certain word styles such as italics, bold, or others when expressing opinions in the form of written messages (Anggara Putra, 2019).

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Descriptive qualitative is used to describe the research. The data source of this research is taken from an American romantic comedy movie aired on Netflix in November 2022 entitled *Falling for Christmas*. The data is taken from all the related speeches that present the language feature uttered by men and women characters in the movie. Document analysis, a tool to collect information or data of the research is used as the research instrument in the study (Ary, Jacobs, & Sorensen, 2018; Creswell & Creswell, 2017) with secondary data sources, including books, journals, and other publications, utilized to support the analysis of male and female language features.

This research conducts three steps in the data collection process. First is watching the *Falling for Christmas* movie on Netflix with English subtitles. Second is selecting the frames that include language features uttered by Sierra/Sarah, Avy, Alejandra, Jake, Tad, and Belmont characters. Lastly is transcribing the language features utterance by making the table checklist with the data analysis. Descriptive analysis is used to analyze all the data that has been collected. In analyzing the data, the first thing to do is classifying the data transcription into male and female language features. In the classification process, the researchers refer to the language feature theory used in the study. Then, the results of the analysis are concluded by looking at how the language features stereotype of all male and female characters are depicted.

This research finally is conducted to see to what extent are gender stereotypes in relation to language characteristics depicted in the male and female characters in *Falling for Christmas* Movie through examining the stereotypes that exist for men and women in certain contexts whether or not it is in line.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Discussion about the relationship between language and factors in society, such as gender, is an interesting topic in the study of Sociolinguistics. People will keep asking and want to prove whether males and females really speak differently? To answer curiosity, this section discusses the results and findings of the research. In collecting the data, researchers utilize a code to simplify the characters' names in the movie. First female character (F1) refers to Sierra/Sarah as the main character, second female character (F2) refers to Avy as the

daughter of lodge owner, and third female character (F3) refers to Alejandra as the mother of lodge owner. First male character (M1) refers to Jake as the main character, second male character (M2) refers to Tad as Sierra's Fiancee, and third male character (M3) refers to Belmont as Sierra's father. According to the data, there are fifty language features used by female characters in the movie, meanwhile there are thirty-six language features used by the male characters in the movie. Furthermore, the result shows that there are several unproved language features in accordance to the stereotypes.

## LANGUAGE FEATURES

There are various language features stereotyped to both female and male. The following are the findings of this research. Females' language features consist of Lexical hedges, Tag question, Empty adjectives, Precise color terms, Intensifier, Hypercorrect grammar, Emphatic stress, and Avoidance swear word. Meanwhile males' language features are Minimal response, Direct words, Taboo words, Compliments, and Talking about their interest. These findings of research were collected from the *Falling for Christmas* movie.

F1 (Sierra/Sarah)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "And, <b>you know</b>"</li> <li>2. "<b>I thought</b> you wanted to keep our relationship private"</li> <li>3. "<b>Something like that</b>"</li> <li>4. "<b>Well</b>, it's just that..."</li> <li>5. "<b>I thought</b> we were doing the photo shoot here."</li> </ol>

Hedging is indeed used to show uncertainty, but in reality, it has a more positive function to keep the conversation going well. It seems that people can use Hedges to provide a filler in the conversation to give them space to think and make sure the conversation is still on track (Lubis & Bahri, 2020). Hedges, as in "I thought you wanted to keep our relationship private" shows one way to avoid being rude. This language feature can also be used to be a bridge between being rude and being polite (Tchizmarova, 2005). At the same time to express and show his ideas by utilizing lexical hedging (Namaziandost & Shafiee, 2018) as in the data "Something like that". Apart from that, lexical hedges are also often used to start a sentence, for instance "**Well**, it's just that...", for it is felt that they can solve difficulties in starting a sentence (Kartika & Rusnaningtias, 2017).

Next finding is listed in the data below. The researchers found a tag question language featured by female characters in the *Falling for Christmas* movie.

F1 (Sierra/Sarah)	F2 (Avy)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "... <b>remember?</b>"</li> <li>2. "<b>Right</b>, Daddy?"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Dad! The Christmas Wish Tree, <b>remember?</b>"</li> </ol>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. "...don't you?"</li> <li>4. "...do you?"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. "<b>Right</b>, Grandma?"</li> <li>3. "<b>Haven't you</b> heard, Dad?"</li> <li>4. "<b>Isn't it</b> beautiful?"</li> <li>5. "<b>Don't</b> you?"</li> </ol>
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Taq question is the condition when the woman claims their confidence in uttering their opinion using a yes-no question. Along with the data, there are four negative yes-no questions and five positive yes-no questions. As an example, from Avy's dialogues, "Dad! The Christmas Wish Tree, **remember?**", she claimed her confidence in her father in order to make sure her father remembered what happened with the wish tree previously. The tag questions found in this research are also used to confirm or emphasize the speaker's statement (Widyawati, 2018) as in the data "Right, Daddy?", and "Right, Grandma?"

The following table is the empty adjectives data that the researchers found in the Falling for Christmas movie by female characters

F1 (Sierra/Sarah)	F2 (Avy)	F3 (Alejandra)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "...and a <b>fabulous</b> hat"</li> <li>2. "I think that's <b>beautiful</b>"</li> <li>3. "Wow, this is really <b>pretty</b>"</li> <li>4. "Oh, it's <b>beautiful</b>."</li> <li>5. "and this <b>beautiful</b> woman gave me something like that"</li> <li>6. "Looking <b>great</b>, everyone!"</li> <li>7. "Oh, your daughter. She's really <b>beautiful</b>"</li> <li>8. "This is really <b>beautiful</b>"</li> <li>9. "That's really <b>sweet</b>"</li> <li>10. "Very <b>good</b>"</li> <li>11. "Everyone was so <b>nice</b>"</li> <li>12. "It's <b>beautiful</b>, Jake"</li> <li>13. "Oh, the place looks <b>great</b>"</li> <li>14. "You're a <b>great</b> guy"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "But bacon is <b>delicious</b>"</li> <li>2. "Wow, what a <b>pretty</b> sleigh."</li> <li>3. "<b>Perfect</b>"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "This is <b>perfect</b>"</li> <li>2. "You are <b>beautiful</b> too"</li> <li>3. "It's <b>lovely</b> on you"</li> <li>4. "People were very <b>generous</b> last night"</li> </ol>

Empty adjectives are the way women express their admiration (Lakoff, 2004) toward something using adjectives instead of using certain information. There are many more adjectives used by the female character that are not mentioned above, such as *good*, *nice*, and *generous*. The use of empty adjectives helps to emphasize the statement involving emotion or feeling (Widyawati, 2018) delivered by the speaker. As the example mentioned in the dialogue "Oh, your daughter. She's really **beautiful**", this emphasizes the fact how truly beautiful she is.

The researchers also found intensifier language features by female characters. The following is the data.

F1 (Sierra/Sarah)	F3 (Alejandra)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "It's <b>too</b> big, sweetie"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "We just need a <b>little</b></li> </ol>



<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. "I would <b>definitely</b> remember it"</li> <li>3. "This is <b>really</b> beautiful"</li> <li>4. "It's <b>really</b> none of my business."</li> <li>5. "<b>Very</b> good"</li> <li>6. "I have a <b>really</b> good feeling about tonight"</li> </ol>	patience."
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Intensifiers used in language features are to stress their opinion regarding something. To recognize the use of intensifiers is by using adverbs to make the opinion strong. According to the data in the dialogues, "It's **too** big, sweetie", the word 'big' here gives the emphasis that the things mentioned are not worthy to use. Of all the data intensifiers found, it is true that this language feature can be used to emphasize the intended meaning (Apridaningrum & Angelina, 2020).

Here the data that the researchers found in the Falling for Christmas movie regarding avoidance swear words language features by female characters

F1 (Sierra/Sarah)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Oh, my God!"</li> <li>2. "Oh my gosh"</li> </ol>

Females tend to express their strong opinion by avoiding swear words and using polite forms such as 'oh my goodness'. Along with the data, the F1 avoids using swear words such as 'damn', 'sucks', and 'what the hell!', because it was inappropriate. Basically, avoidance swear words is intended to maintain the politeness (Apridaningrum & Angelina, 2020)

The data below, researchers found minimal response language features by male characters in the Falling for Christmas movie. Minimal response is the condition where the males tend to use a short word to deliver their utterance.

M1 (Jake)	M2 (Tad)	M3 (Belmont)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Yeah"</li> <li>2. "Hi. Uh"</li> <li>3. "Yeah"</li> <li>4. "Egg?"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Okay"</li> <li>2. "Ugh! Right"</li> <li>3. "Oh, no!"</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Sure"</li> <li>2. "Like yours"</li> <li>3. "Well done"</li> <li>4. "Oh, hi!"</li> <li>5. "Yeah"</li> <li>6. "Okay"</li> </ol>

The data above clearly shows how male speak simply and shortly as the responses of certain utterances.

From the data, the male characters tend to use minimal response in conversation. As shown in the table, instead of using long words such as "yes, that's right", they use 'yeah' to express their agreement. This data also enriches the view that males also use minimal response language features in conversation. Indeed, many studies have found that females

use this more than males, who use it as a support for the listener towards the speaker (Zimmerman and West, 1975 as cited in Coates, 2016).

Here the data the researchers found in the *Falling for Christmas* movie regarding compliments language features by male characters.

M1 (Jake)	M2 (Tad)	M3 (Belmont)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “<b>Nice</b> granny gown”</li> <li>2. “Wow, this place looks like <b>something out of SpaceX</b>”</li> <li>3. “Wow. Well, you have an <b>incredible</b> place here, sir”</li> <li>4. “It’s, uh, truly a <b>world-class skiing</b> destination.”</li> <li>5. “You have very <b>good</b> taste in sleighs, young lady”</li> <li>6. “Well, that’s a <b>fantastic-looking</b> sleigh”</li> <li>7. “<b>Beautiful</b>”</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “It looks <b>amazing</b>”</li> <li>2. “You’re <b>beautiful</b>”</li> <li>3. “You are so <b>strong</b>”</li> <li>4. “These are the <b>best</b> canned beans”</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “<b>Good</b> run”</li> <li>2. “And I <b>appreciate</b> that a great deal”</li> </ol>

Males tend to give compliments to people based on what they see. The data above shows how male characters use words of praise to flatter someone or something. According to the data, these compliments, or other compliments in general, are indeed used to positively appreciate or respect something (Miranda, 2018). Words of praise like this are usually expressed for friendship with the aim of improving good relations between the speakers (Yousefvand, 2010).

Both male and females regularly use command and directive words but in different style. They have different styles in managing people (Sheridan, 2007). However, the finding in this research notes that male characters tend to use commands language feature, such as “*You, have the security team check the grounds (01:04:24)*” and “*You tell them that I want them to find my daughter. (01:04:33)*”

## **STEREOTYPES OF LANGUAGE FEATURES**

Since someone is born as a male or female, society itself has several stereotypes that are naturally formed in their minds (Talbot, 2019). Perhaps, there are many stereotypes in society regarding males and females, specifically related to language features. In having a conversation, for instance, males and females have different preferences in topics (Coates, 2016). Females typically prefer to talk about people and feelings contrary to males who prefer to talk about impersonal topics such as sports, cars, current affairs, modern technology, etc. (KAOUACHE, 2015). Data in a study has also revealed that the topic preference between males and females is different. Sports was the favorite topic and was ranked first in conversations between male students, while for females, school matters were ranked first among the most favorite topics (Tajolosa, 2012).

In this study, we also found that male more often talks about their preference topic. The following is the finding and the discussion.

M1 (Jake)	M2 (Tad)
“Studies show that 70% of beginners learn to <b>ski</b> at these <b>smaller resorts</b> .”	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. “How are your <b>socials</b> doing?”</li><li>2. “Lucky you are dating one of Hype Magazine’s top <b>social influencers</b> then”</li></ol>

Along with the data above, M1 is the lodge owner and has interest in ski resorts. On the other hand, M2 talks about social media which he is interested in. In this research, what is unique is that we found that male characters spoke more often about their interests than female characters. In fact, there were no recorded conversations between women discussing their interests in this movie.

Moreover, Lakoff also noted that females tend to address colors by precise color terms (Lakoff, 2004). That is, they have category with a large difference between female and male categories (Fider & Komarova, 2019). In other stereotypes, males are stereotyped with a tendency to use swear words and taboo more than females (Nicolau & Sukamto, 2014). But apparently, in this research, these stereotypes are neither accuracy nor facilitated in the use of these language features by both male and female characters.

Another stereotype is labelled to females in which they tend to avoid casual phrases and use hypercorrect grammar in conversation more than male (Apridaningrum & Angelina, 2020; Indanna & Damayanti, 2022). Somehow, along with the data, there is no accuracy that shows females utter hypercorrect grammar more than males. Instead, in this movie, both female and male characters utilize correct grammar in every scene.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study develops insight into the dynamic nature of language as marked by the variation in language features between male and female characters in the film "Falling for Christmas." This finding is also a response to stereotypes that develop in society and shows that gender, with male and female characters, plays a role in shaping language use. Indeed, these findings make a positive contribution to a deeper understanding of how language is used differently by males and females in certain contexts. Therefore, it is certainly necessary to challenge and question gender-based linguistic stereotypes. There are some conclusions can be drawn. Different genders have a tendency to use and have different language features as well. In society, gender stereotypes have long been embedded and developed into a part of society. Males and females have characters and styles in speaking. Sometimes this is influenced by factors in society, such as social status or social position when forming hypercorrect language patterns (Coates, 2016). Several discoveries have revealed certain tendencies in male and female language features. Females typically prefer to talk about people and feelings contrary to males who prefer to talk about impersonal topics (Coates, 2016). Both also have different topic preferences in a conversation. So, with this

conclusion, we can describe the appropriate direction of conversation when talking to certain people. The results of this research also reveal that not all stereotypical language features can be depicted in Male and Female Characters in *Falling for Christmas* Movie. This could be because stereotypes are not facilitated in the film, or there is indeed a shift in views on stereotypes, so that in practice, there is a discrepancy between theory and practice. For example, several language features such as precise color terms labeled for women are not depicted; the use of taboo and swear words which are synonymous with male, also could not be found in this research. Lastly is the label for women who use hypercorrect grammar. The findings here reveal that all genders tend to only use standard grammar. Therefore, this research still needs to be further explored to be able to answer any doubts. The last conclusion in this research is that, the most dominant language feature in the *Falling for Christmas* movie for females is empty adjectives with a total of twenty-one adjective terms in the movie. Furthermore, the most dominant language features in the *Falling for Christmas* movie for male are minimal response and compliment with a total of thirteen each language features.

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