SPEECH STYLES USED IN READER’S DIGEST

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree
in English Language Teaching Faculty

by:

VINA AGUSTINA SAPUTRA
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UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
PROGRAM STUDI PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
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APPROVAL SHEET
(1)

This thesis entitled Speech Styles Used in Reader’s Digest, prepared and submitted by Vina Agustina Saputra, has been approved and accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisors:

Dr. B. Budiyono, M.Pd
First Advisor

Rosalina Nugraheni W.P., M.Pd
Second Advisor
APPREVAL SHEET
(2)

This thesis has been examined by the committee on oral examination with a grade of
___________________ on Saturday, December 9, 2006.

Drs. M.P. Soetrisno, M.A.
Chairperson

Dra. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd.
Secretary

Dr. B. Budiyono, M.Pd.
Member

Dr. Ignatius Harioanto
Member

Rosalina Nugrahani W.P., M. Pd.
Member

Approved by:

Dra. Agnes Santi Widiati, M.Pd
Dean of the Teacher Training
and Education Faculty

Drs. Susana Teopilus, M.Pd
Head of the English Department
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A man’s hearts plans his way,
but the Lord directs his steps

(Proverb 16:9)

This thesis is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan in English Language Teaching.

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ABSTRACT

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Language is something used universally as a means of communication, both spoken and written, though the way people utter it is different. The differences can be seen through many aspects, for instance, the kinds, the form, and the speech styles. Those aspects are included in sociolinguistics and they are learned by the students of the English department of Widya Mandala Catholic University. Unfortunately, students are still confused in differentiating the styles. Therefore, by conducting this thesis, the writer intended to give a better understanding about styles. Furthermore, by having Reader’s Digest as the subject, the writer also wanted to give a guideline for the readers particularly the students at the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic University who plan to submit articles to this magazine so that they would be able to choose the suitable styles.

In conducting this study, the writer used qualitative method, particularly the descriptive research or non-experimental research, for describing the speech styles used in six articles of Reader’s Digest. The parameter used was Martin Joos Five Clocks Speech Styles; Frozen style, Formal style, Informal style, Intimate style, and Consultative style. The findings showed that the Formal Style was mostly used in this study. The informal style and consultative style sometimes appeared for presenting information in those articles. And the other two styles, Frozen and Intimate, were not used at all in the articles. Using the findings, the writer concluded that the using of Formal style was to support the aim of Reader’s Digest itself, for presenting information in the form of a readable magazine for all family members. The use of other style in the writer’s data was for maintaining the idea of the story.