Gender Communication Difference Between Student’s in Online Learning

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ABSTRACT

This study was focused on exploring the communication difference between male and female students during the online learning. The study was conducted by employing mixed method as the method of the research. This study was conducted at one vocational school in one vocational school at Tabanan regency, Bali. The researcher used Google Form order to obtain the data from the sample of the research. The data gathering was implemented virtually due to the pandemic of Covid-19. The researcher was using WhatsApp to send the online survey the sample of the research. During the online learning, there were any differences between the male and female students in terms of communication. The data showed interesting data that showed the differences between male and female students in terms of language politeness during the communication.

Keywords: Gender Communication, Language Differences, Online Learning

INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the important keys in communication. There are so many languages in this world. Every country has their own language used to communication with the other people. They have developed their language through many years. The development of the language is based of the people needs, style, and also their gender difference (Yang et al., 2016). Not only oral language, there is also sign language that used by people to communicate each other with their friends, family, or foreign people that could not speak using oral language (deaf mute). Yaseen and Amin (2017) also found the gender differences in terms of communication. They also found that there were several factors that affect the differences of the communication between male and female. The first factor was the learning context. The learning context could affect the students’ language differences during the learning activities. Then, there were also the students’ attitude, the context of the communication, and also the language proficiency. Those factors affect the students that made the differences of male and female students in terms of communication difference, because they will adapt their self into those factors. Hall & Domhoff (1974) found that male tend to use taboo language and also give minimal response during the conversation. Male tend to use taboo language or ungrammatical word of the language while female was different with male. It was because the female living area that affect their language use. Yilmaz and Varol (2010) in their study found that the female students were more active than the male students. The female students would like to talk to foreign rather than male. The female students also tried more new things rather than male students.

Language is important to all people because it can help all people to deliver their thought to the other people. Language can help all people to deliver their
thought in different ways and styles (Mohindra & Samina Azhar, 2012). They can express their feelings through language in terms of communication. Usually, people will develop their language styles based on their culture and their demographic. They will learn how to use the language and develop the language based on their needs. They also develop their language based on their culture. They have their own language styles in terms of communication with their friends.

Simon (2021) found that female students were representing their emotion during the conversation by using more adjectives and adverbs rather than male students. The female students were also more often used expletives words rather than male students during the conversation. Nwosu & Omeje (2008) found that female with single-sex tend to use a correct grammar, more polite, and etc. In their study, they also found that female was more expressive during the conversation. Ubando (2016) found that male have more positive perception rather than female. That showed male trusted their self-more than others. Thus, that showed male students have more confidence when they talk with the other students rather than female did during the conversation.

Genders also become one of the keys to develop the language and its styles. Male and female have different language styles and usage in terms of communication. Female usually have different language styles compared to male (Merchant, 2012). Female also seems to use more polite language than male when they communicate each other. Male tend to use informal language and tend to show their power to intimidate other people when they talk with male. Furthermore, male will use a little bit formal language when they talk to female (Chai et al., 2016). Female tend to use a good manner and language when they talk to male and female. It is because they always considering the impact of every word that they use. Cinardo (2011) found that male argued more than female. Male way more often argued something rather than female did. Male also more often express their anger through the language during the conversation rather than female. Furthermore, they also found that male was less use nonverbal messages rather than female. Junko (2002) found that female have high number of interruptions rather than male. That showed female way more often in interrupting rather than male. Torppa (2010) found that female more often sharing their emotion and also experience during the conversation. Female also deals with their problems by talking and explaining the problems. Torppa (2010) also found that male only focusing about the facts and try to find instant solution about their problems. It seems different with female where the female have different way to deals with their problems. Dong (2014) deliver that females’ language is more polite and express kindness while males are the opposite. They also found that males tend to arrogant, uses simple language, and etc. that showed that male and female have any differences in terms of language use during the conversation.

During the discussion session at school, male and female students also have different styles and manner when they talk each other. Female students is more often deliver or discussing the topic straight to the point. Male students sometimes deliver or discussing the topic straight to the point, but sometimes they often deliver or discussing the topic by relating it with their experience or the facts.
from real life (Furumo et al., 2007). This showed that the female students were more straightly to the point when they were in any conversation. The female students did not want to discuss a topic with lot of reasons, while male students were the opposite. Nurjanah (2017) found that female students were more polite rather than male students. The differential of the students’ culture and also norms become the reason of the differences of the politeness between male and female students. Wahyuningsih (2018) found that the differences between male and female students were in terms of vocabularies, syntax, attitude, and etc. female students were tend to use more adjectives rather than male students. Moreover, they also found that male students did not use a lot of gesture compared with male students.

The purpose of this research was to explore and find whether there were gender differences in terms of communication during the online learning. The researcher could explore and know the differences between male and female in terms of communication during online learning. It will help the researcher to know the differences between male and female language styles during the online learning. The researcher could know the language differences that the students’ used during the online learning implementation. The researcher also could explore more subjects that happened in terms of the communication differences among the students during the online learning.

METHOD

The researcher conducts research to explore and find the differences between male and female students during online learning discussion session. The research was conducted at one vocational school in Tabanan regency, Bali. The researcher employs mix method to gain rich data during the research. The mix method could help the researcher could gain rich quantitative and qualitative data (Creswell, 2012). The data were collected quantitatively by using online survey in order to gain rich data of the research (Apuke, 2017). Quantitative research method also help the researcher to generalize the population or the sample of the research (Rahman, 2016). The data of the research then will be displayed qualitatively to displayed the data in detail (Miles et al., 2014). The qualitative data will help the researcher to gain the data with structured process (Almeida et al., 2017). The researcher employs random sampling in order to obtain the sample of the research. The rationale of employed random sampling was due to the pandemic and the researcher could not observe the sample of the research. The researcher only could employ online survey to gathering the data. The researcher could not do a direct survey and also observation at the setting of the research. By using random sampling, the researcher could the average number of research samples from the number of existing students (Taherdoost, 2018). All students also have a chance to participates in this research because they will be chosen randomly and increase the accuracy of the sample (Clarkson, 1999).

FINDINGS & DISCUSSIONS

Gender Communication Differences between EFL Students
The result of the online survey above showed that there were any differences between male and female students in terms of communication. The data of the online survey showed any variations of male and females’ students in terms of communication difference. The female students also more often use formal language when they asking and giving their opinion rather than male students. It was because the male students tend to show their domination to the other students and also showed their power during the conversation. The online survey results also found that female students were more often interrupt their friend during the discussion session. The data were obtained from the online survey by using Google Form showed 60% of the participants agree that female student more often discuss or asking a topic straight to the point, while 40% of the participants agree that male students more often discuss or asking a topic straight to the point. Those data also found on the research by Chai et al. (2016).

The previous research that conducted by Furumo et al. (2007) also found the differences of male and females students in terms of communication. Furumo et al. (2007) found that male students were having more conflicts with their language style. The male students also communicate less often if it was compared with the females’ students. The male students tend to show their dominance with the other students who they were talking to. They showed that they could dominate the conversation during the communication. It seems similar with the data in this research. The males’ students in one vocational school were more likely use informal language in terms of communication. They often used informal language when talking to their friends. The informal languages also often become ribaldry and sarcasm to the other students. It showed that the students showed their domination through the language that they used. They intimidate their interlocutors by delivering their power through the language.

The data found that the female students used more formal language rather than male students. The female used more formal language to build a good connection with their friends. It showed that the data from the previous research by Chai et al. (2016) are the same with the data that found in this research. The data shows that female students mostly use formal language rather that male students. The female student’s also more active using god manner when they talk both to male students and female students rather those male students to male students (Chai et al., 2016). The female students also tend to interrupt their friends during the online learning discussion rather than male students. They also found that the female students more often used formal language in terms of communication. The female students used more formal language than male
students because the female students tend to build bonds with their friends. The female students tend to build a good connection and also relationship to other people rather than male do. They wanted to make a good relationship to other people by using formal language and also good manner.

Figure 2. Gender Differences in Terms of Communication Interruption

![Figure 2](image)

The second data that obtained from the research showed that female students more often interrupt other students during the conversation. The data showed 60% of the participants agree that the Female students were often interrupting the conversation rather than male students that only 40% of the participants choose male students. The data showed that female students were more talk active rather than male students. They often interrupt the conversation between other students in order to have a chance to speak during the conversation. This data were different with the research by Cinardo (2011) that found male students more often argued something rather than female during the conversation. Male students are way more often argued the topic of the conversation more often than female students.

Figure 3. Gender Communication Differences in Terms of Topic Discussion

![Figure 3](image)

The online survey result showed 60% of the participants also agree that female students more often discussing any topic of the conversation straight to the point, while the rest of 40% of the participants agree that male students more often discussing any topic of the conversation straight to the point. The data showed that female students did not want to discuss any topics with a lot of reason. They tend to discussing something straight to the point in order to get the point or the conversation. Compared with female students, there were only 40%
of the participants agreed in this part in terms of male students. That showed male student was different with female students. Male students tend to talk and discuss a topic with a lot of explanation in order to explain the topic in detail.

The Students Difference Politeness in Using the Language

The results of the online survey showed female students tend to use polite language more often than the male students. They used polite language when they talk with female students or male students. Furthermore, the female students always considering the impact of every word that they say to the other people feelings. Male students tend to use informal language when they talk with the same gender students (male students) during the online learning discussion. They tend to show that they have more power than their friends (male students). On the other hand, male students used polite language when the talk or response to the female student. They will show a good manner when they talk to the female students. It also proved from the data that the researcher obtains from the online survey by using Google form, 80% of the participants agree that female students use formal language, while 20% of the participants say that male students more often use formal language rather that female students. That showed the female students were more often using polite language during the conversation with their friends, especially during the online meeting. The female students tend to consider the impact of the language that they used and become the reason of their politeness. The male students used polite language, but the ratios were less than the female students. They often use informal language during the conversation. This data also supported by the research by Nurjanah (2017) that also found about the differences between male and female students politeness. They found that female students were more polite rather than male students. The differences were also caused by the culture of the female and male students. The differences between male and female students have an impact with the language that they use. They could have different language politeness due to their living area cultures.

CONCLUSION

According to the research data that the researcher obtains from observation and also via online survey, the researcher finds that there is gender difference communication between male and female students during the online learning and its discussion. The female students are more often using polite language when they talk to both female and male students. It is because female
students tend to think about their friends feeling when they talk about something, while male students often use informal language and show that they are more powerful than their friend when they talk to the same gender students (male students), but male students will use polite language when they talk to female students during the online learning and also during the discussion. It also proved by the data that the researcher gets via online survey by using Google form. 80% participants agree that female students more often use polite language, while 20% of the participants choose male students. The participants also agree that male students more often use informal language and manners with 90% of the participants’ agreement, while 10% of the participants choose female students. The female students also more often interrupt their friends during the online learning discussion rather than male students. It also proved from the data that the researcher gets from Google form. 60% of the participants agree that female students more often interrupt their friends during online learning discussion, while 40% of the participants choose male students. Furthermore, female students also more often discuss or asking a topic straight to the point rather than male students. 60% of the participants agree that female students more often discussing a topic straight to the point, while 40% of the participants choose male students.

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