

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Sociolinguistics is a study of one's everyday lives, including how language is used in our informal interactions and the media we have access to, as well as the existence of society norms, rules, and laws addressing language (Wardhaugh, 2015: 2). Sociolinguistics is the study that examines the relationship between society and language, as well as how language is applied in social contexts. Language variation primarily studies language use in real-life situations and categorizes different language variations based on distribution across diverse social demographics. (Chambers et al., 2006: 3) The foundations of variations in sociolinguistics are grounded in the simple observation that differences in everyday speech are grammatically inconsequential but socially meaningful.

Chambers et al (2006) explain the primary goal of research on language variation within sociolinguistics has been to understand how language interacts in society. Language is viewed as fundamentally variable in sociolinguistics, and extensive studies have been conducted to identify the conditioning elements—both linguistic and social—that influence this variability. One could argue that without language flexibility, sociolinguistics would not exist. In sociolinguistics, there are some fields. In varieties of language the field is divided into some branches or focuses, and one of them is address terms.

Address Terms is defined by sociolinguists as a transactional phenomenon that indicates the level of familiarity and social distance between speakers, as well as the cultural values that are conveyed. (Swann et al., 2004: 5) People need to build a good impression, chemistry, and harmony while they communicate to each other. Based on aspects of age, status, social class, sex, politeness, their profession and the other aspects, people determine which kind of address is suitable to someone they communicate to. Terms of address are applied in both spoken and written as people usually communicate to others. There are various forms of address determined by previously mentioned determining factors. These variations in address indicate levels of politeness and intimacy

that can be linguistically indicated. In English, these levels include terms such as sir, Mr. Smith, Smith, Frederick, Fred, mate, and so on. The level of politeness associated with each form of address differs and can be adjusted based on the rules within Address Terms (Trudgil, 2000: 89).

There are various types of address terms. First, there's the use of the First Name (FN). Second, kinship terms (KT). Third, addresses using the last name of people (LN). Fourth, title only (T). Fifth, title plus last name (TLN). The last is addressing people by pet name (PN) (Wardhaugh, 2015: 269). Address terms can be found wherever language is used in all social communication phenomena, both orally and in writing. In addition to direct communication activities, address terms can be encountered in written correspondence, speeches, advertising presentations, newspapers, television programs, content on social media in the form of text or video, films, novels, and so on. Film is a medium that is most similar to direct social activities because, fundamentally, it presents a story that represents social life. According to Cloete (2017), to give context and meaning to the story being conveyed, a movie integrates three powerful elements: story, image, and sound. Movies tell stories about common themes such as love, hope, death, good against evil, violence, and peace.

One of movies that existed is *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* which was published in 2009. This movie is directed and co-produced by Thomas Carter that tells about Ben Carson's autobiography who is a neurosurgeon which was co-written by Cecil Murphey and published under the same title in 1990. This movie illustrates how amazing and important perseverance is in learning something new, as well as how the role of loved ones and their support provides strength to Ben Carson. The messages and motivations conveyed in this film are very profound.

In this research, the researcher analyzes address terms used in the *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* movie script. The researcher is interested and curious about the variety and factors the terms of addressing are used by the characters. The researcher provides the examples of address terms from *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* movie script as follows:

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BEN CARSON : **Man**, there's a lot of books in here.

CURTIS CARSON : Shut up, **boy**. It's a library.

The data above is a conversation between Ben Carson and his big brother. They are in the library on their mother's instructions to read two books every week. Ben addresses his sibling by "Man", while his sibling addresses Ben as "boy", both of which are Kinship Terms (KT) of address terms that indicate close relationship and familiarity.

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THE DOCTOR : **Carson**, draw some blood.

BEN CARSON : **Doctor**, according to his charts, he may be anemic.

The data above is a conversation between Ben Carson and a senior doctor who is guiding him to an internship in the brain department. The doctor addresses Ben as "Carson", which is a Last Name type in addressing terms indicating that the doctor is superior and holds more power than Ben Carson. On the other hand, Ben Carson addresses the doctor as "Doctor", which is a Title Only type in addressing terms and it is indicating the different rank occupation and there is no a close relationship between them.

There are some prior studies associated with this research. The first one is by Zainal and Dewa (2021) which focuses on identifying the use of address terms in English and Enrekang-Durinese based on daily conversation. The second is by Miqawati (2019) entitled Language Variation in Lexical Variables of Madurese Terms of Address Used by Youths in Bondowoso Regency: a Sociolinguistics Investigation. This research focused on the usage of address terms among youths (university students) across a range of situations in Bondowoso. The third is by Sugianto and Suryani (2022) entitled Analysis Types of Address Form in Fast and Furious 7 Movie. This research identifies the choices of address terms by characters in Fast and Furious movie. Fourth is by Usman, et al (2023) that focuses to explore the choice of address terms used by spouses in Punjab, Pakistan, and examines how social factors influence language choices. The research by Rajabul (2023) entitled A Sociolinguistics Analysis of Address Terms in Sasak Language. This research purposes to examine the sociolinguistic phenomenon known as 'address terms' as performed by the native speakers of the Sasak language.

Based on the phenomena and examples above, the researcher is interested to analyze the types of address terms and factors that influence characters to use it in movie script entitled The Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson. This researcher has completing the

gap from some previous studies because identifies the factors and uses The Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson movie, and the researcher formulates this research entitled “**Analyzing Address Terms in *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* Movie Script: A Sociolinguistics Perspective**”.

## **B. Problem Statement**

This research is focused on these problems:

- 1) What are types of Addressing Terms used in Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story Movie script?
- 2) What are the social factors that affect the characters in using Address Terms types in Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story Movie?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

Based on the research problems, this research has some objectives:

- 1) to identify the types of Addressing Terms used in *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* Movie Script.
- 2) to reveal the social factors that affect the characters in using Address Terms types in *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* Movie.

## **D. Benefits of the Study**

This study has some benefits which are divided into theoretically and practically such as below:

### 1. Theoretically

In theory, the findings can provide a research reference source related to research on topic Address Terms.

### 2. Practically

#### a. Researcher

Through this study and its findings, the researcher gets insights, especially the topic address terms in sociolinguistics.

#### b. Lecturer

The study can provide new knowledge and information about address

terms research, especially related to movie script objects.

c. English learners

Through this study English learners can get information related to one of the focus sciences of sociolinguistics and understand that from a work of English literature there are many linguistics topics that can be researched.

d. Readers

This study can provide insight related to linguistics science which is widely applied in literary works, especially in English.