

An Analysis of Language Style in *A Man Called Otto* (2022) Film

M. Mawasy Gery¹, & Muhammad Alim Akbar Nasir²

^{1,2}English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Mulawarman,
Samarinda, Indonesia

Email: mawasygery666@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research focuses on analyzing the language style used by Otto in the film *A Man Called Otto*. The researcher used language style theory by Martin Joos who classifies language style into five styles, which are frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style and intimate style. This research uses qualitative research as the method and a sociolinguistic approach. In collecting data, the researcher watched and read both film and the transcript, marked the related data, and then collected the data based on theory. The findings indicate that Otto frequently used casual and intimate styles in his interactions, while formal and consultative styles appeared less often. These results suggest that Otto tends to communicate in a more relaxed and personal manner, especially with people he feels close to which can be seen when Otto communicates with his friends who have close relationships with him. But when Otto talks to a person who does not have close relationship with him, he has difficulty expressing what he wants to convey in communication, which causes misunderstanding due to the use of wrong language styles.

Keywords: sociolinguistics, language style, Martin Joos, film, *A Man Called Otto*

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini berfokus pada analisis gaya bahasa yang digunakan Otto dalam film *A Man Called Otto*. Peneliti menggunakan teori gaya bahasa Martin Joos yang mengklasifikasikan gaya bahasa menjadi lima gaya, yaitu gaya beku, gaya formal, gaya konsultatif, gaya kasual, dan gaya intim. Penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif sebagai metode dan pendekatan sosiolinguistik. Dalam pengumpulan data, peneliti menonton dan membaca film dan transkrip, menandai data terkait, dan kemudian mengumpulkan data berdasarkan teori. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa Otto sering menggunakan gaya kasual dan intim dalam interaksinya, sementara gaya formal dan konsultatif lebih jarang muncul. Hasil ini menunjukkan bahwa Otto cenderung berkomunikasi dengan cara yang lebih santai dan personal, terutama dengan orang-orang yang dirasanya dekat yang dapat dilihat ketika Otto berkomunikasi dengan teman-temannya yang memiliki hubungan dekat dengannya. Namun ketika Otto berbicara dengan orang yang tidak memiliki hubungan dekat dengannya, ia mengalami kesulitan mengungkapkan apa yang ingin ia sampaikan dalam komunikasi, yang menyebabkan kesalahpahaman karena penggunaan gaya bahasa yang salah.

Kata kunci: sosiolinguistik, gaya bahasa, Martin Joos, film, *A Man Called Otto*

A. INTRODUCTION

Sociolinguistics is a field that studies how language is influenced by society and how people's social backgrounds shape the way they speak. They focus on identifying how language serves social purposes and how people use it to express social meanings. (Holmes, 2013). Sociolinguistics examines how human beings use language differently in various social situations and how these differences reflect social meanings, relationships, and identities. Understanding sociolinguistics is important because people speak to each other every day, it functions as a social tool that connects people and reflects their social environment. Every utterance carries not only linguistic meaning but also social significance. For example, the choice of words, tone, or level of formality can indicate whether a speaker is being polite, distant, friendly, or intimate. Also, analyzing language from a sociolinguistic perspective allows researchers to understand how

communication reflects social relationships and social dynamics among speakers (Meyerhoff, 2019) Therefore, analyzing language from a sociolinguistic perspective allows researcher to see how communication reflects social dynamics and relationships among speakers. Within the field of sociolinguistics, one important aspect that reflects the connection between language and society is language style. Language style refers to the different ways people use language depending on the context, the purpose of communication, and the relationship between the speakers. It is important to analyze language style because sometimes people do not realize they use language style in the wrong time or wrong place and that might hurt other people, that is why it is considered necessary to analyze the language style of one of the film's characters, Otto, in *A Man Called Otto* film. This research examines how Otto interacts and talks with other characters, and what language style Otto uses.

Film is included as a literary work because film is a way for authors to express their ideas, thoughts and creativity through moving images and sound. Literature and literary works both impact and are influenced by film as a semi-textual genre (Klare, 2004). With the statement from the expert, then it is clear that film is a literary work. Film is one of the beautiful things in life. Film can help people get out from stress, can help people to see the world in different colours, sometimes make people see more or different perspectives in life. In addition, films are considered as a popular cultural activity and as a medium to represent language use, social interaction that are widely used to engage audiences through visual storytelling and narrative experiences which make the films valuable sources for linguistic analysis (Howell et al., 2024; Hanchard et al., 2022)

One way to learn and find about language style is by watching the film. In the film, there are so many language styles used. This research chose to analyze *A Man Called Otto* (2022) film as the object. This film is about an old man called Otto, he is an angry person, very temperamental, hates everyone around him, at least before his wife passed away. However, Otto is also a very disciplined, principled man, and loyal gentleman. After Otto's wife died and was forced to retire from work after almost 40 years of service, an angry 60-year-old man, Otto Anderson, intended to end his own life. But his efforts are always hindered by the excitement of his new neighbours, who ultimately lead to a unique bond of friendship as they challenge Otto to see the positive side of everything. *A Man Called Otto* was starred by famous actor, Tom Hanks. Therefore, the film is considered to have rich language style data, since the main character, Otto, interacts with individual from different social backgrounds, ages, and personalities which create diverse communication situations. Furthermore, the character undergoes significant personal development which can show how language style is able to express a character's traits and interpersonal dynamics.

This research focuses on Otto's language style as the main character. In this film, Otto is temperamental and could be angry at anyone. For example, Otto has a new neighbour, his new neighbour cannot park the car and that made Otto mad, but his new neighbour is really friendly even Otto is a temperamental person, slowly but surely his neighbour and people around Otto change Otto into a different and better person. Otto is actually quite a unique person, even though he is a temperamental person, but Otto loves kids, he cannot be mad at kids. Otto is a principled man too, for example Otto always bought Ford car with his friend Reuben, but one day Reuben bought Toyota and that made Otto mad. The five types of language style are used to analyze language style used by Otto in *A Man Called Otto* (2022) film. This research used this film as an object of research because the object relates to Joos's (1967) theory, in which this research analyzes how this film represents language style by Joos's theory. The researcher believes that the five types of language style are able to help researcher and readers find out what language style are

used by Otto in the film which further can contribute to the understanding of how language styles can serve as an indicator of how speakers adapt their language to particular situation, other people, and communicative purposes.

This research examines the types of language styles used by the main character Otto in the film *A Man Called Otto* (2022). The research is based on sociolinguistic perspectives, particularly the framework provided by Joos, who categorizes language styles into several types and functions. Several previous studies have examined language style in different film which are *Black Panther*, and also in education, more precisely the language style used by English teachers and students (Nurmawati, 2023; Manurung, 2024). However, this research aims to identify the language styles used by Otto, a main character of the film whose distinctive personality traits, such as social isolation, emotional restraint, and complex interpersonal relationships, may influence his language use in unique ways.

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Sociolinguistics

According to Holmes, sociolinguistics examines why humans talk differently in various social circumstances (2013). This theory explains that language is affected by several factors, including the relationship between people in a specific situation, the speaker's feelings toward the person being addressed, and the participants involved in the interaction. Next, Wardhaugh and Fuller (2021) state that sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society. They explain that people's language use is influenced by social factors. Likewise, Van Herk (2018) argues that factors such as social status, gender, ethnicity, and social interaction can affect how people speak and choose their language. Furthermore, Walker (2024) emphasized that sociolinguistics aims to understand how language contributes within communities and how social contexts influence communications practices. Based on the definition above, the researcher can conclude that sociolinguistics is the study of how language relates to the society that uses it.

2. Language Style

In sociolinguistics, language style refers to the way people use language, which varies depending on the context and situation. People basically use different styles when communicating, such as grammar, intonation, vocabulary, and pronunciation. When talking to friends, people cannot use the same language style as talking to parents because of social factors like social class, age, ethnicity, region, and gender (Coupland, 2007).

3. Types of Language Style

To identify the kinds of language styles used by Otto in *A Man Called Otto*, the researchers applied Joos's (1967) theory. There are five kinds of language style namely, frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style (Joos, 1967). The types of language style can be seen as follows:

a. Frozen Style

It is characterized by the lack of authoritative intonation within the text and by the limitation placed on the reader or listener, who is not allowed to challenge or question the author (1967). Frozen style is applied in highly formal situations and does not involve any response from the

listeners. Frozen style uses complex and standard syllables and is carefully planned because it is used in very formal situations. Frozen style is usually used during speeches and ceremonies.

Example:

The International 2023: Opening Ceremony. *“The light that guides a champion, shines from within. An inner fire that drives the quest for greatness. And burns away fears of failure whenever the battle horn blows. It feeds conviction to explore beyond imagined boundaries to find new standards of excellence and carve a path to victory like we’ve never seen before. The road is filled with fallen adversaries, but the battle for the Aegis endures and those who remain will fight to show everyone legends don’t follow in the footsteps of others. The Aegis of Champions returns to the hearts of Seattle.”*

This utterance occurred during Dota 2 opening ceremony in Seattle on 28 October 2023. That happened in a formal situation because The International is Dota 2’s biggest tournament. This utterance does not need participants feedback because this utterance goes in one way, the speaker raises the intonation of the utterance, the words are very stiff and chosen very carefully. This utterance very fits with frozen style theory by Joos (1967).

b. Formal Style

It refers to a linguistic register employed in official and highly structured situations, in which speakers utilize standardized vocabulary, complete sentence structures, and expressions that avoid personal involvement (1967). Formal Style is a standard style of communication used in semi formal situations, where two people do not share close knowledge or background. Formal style also used to address an audience, it is usually delivered to an audience that is too large for real interaction between the speaker and the listeners, and although it is formal, its structure is not as polished as the frozen style. A lecture in a college classroom is usually delivered in a discussion style format. Usually, formal style is used when their social class is above us or to show professionalism.

Example:

- 1) *Dragonus: prepare for the ancient battle!*
Mogul Khan: you got it boss.
- 2) *If only Mr. Kael would be so kind to let me finish my task.*
- 3) *I saw Viego said “Isolde was my life. Viego died when she died and the ruined king was born” after his wife's death.*

The example above is the conversations used formal language with complex grammar and sometimes the conversations use formal words such as “boss”, which indicates the formal style is used when we talk to someone whose social class is above us.

c. Consultative Style

Consultative style is a language style used in semi-formal interactions, where the speaker and listener engage in two-way communication that allows interruptions, clarifications, and feedback (1967). Consultative style is almost similar to formal style because consultative style still uses formal language and speaks politely. The main difference between formal style and consultative style is that consultative style is used more spontaneously, and it is often applied when someone is speaking with a person they have just met.

Example:

- 1) *Chopper: Is my illness very serious, doctor?*
- 2) *Doctor: Unfortunately, yes, your illness is very serious.*

The example conversation above is between two people who just met each other, between the doctor and the patient. They pay attention to the words and use polite language because they just met, so they use consultative style.

d. Casual Style

Casual style is a language style used in relaxed situations among people who are close or at least familiar with one another. It is marked by informal vocabulary, simple sentence patterns, ellipsis, slang, and everyday expressions that show social closeness (1967). In this language style, speakers do not need to carefully choose their words, and social class barriers become much less noticeable.

Example:

- 1) Eyyo bro, whassup?
- 2) What a good shirt you wear today!
- 3) Can you heal me bro? I'm low
- 4) I think I can't do it; you should do it because you are our leader!

The example above is included in casual style, this style of language often used when talking with friends, colleagues, and some family members. This style of language can even use slang words like "whassup, eyyo, whatchu doin, and et cetera" because the speaker and listener already know each other's background information, so the language does not need to be guarded.

e. Intimate Style

Intimate style is a language style marked by the absence of social barriers. It is used when talking with family members, loved ones, or very close friends, where people openly express their inner feelings and share deeper background knowledge about one another (1967). People can use intimate style when talking to someone they cared about and they loved like, mother, father, fiancé, and the person they have an intimate relationship with.

Example:

- 1) Rakan: Did you notice the sky?
Xayah: It's lovely.
Rakan: Not as beautiful as you, love.
- 2) Dragonus: I love you darling, even in this ancient war.
Shendelzare: I love you too, see you soon, baby.
- 3) I love you mom, dad.

The conversations and utterances in the example above are intimate because they have an intimate relationship. They use phrases like "love" or "baby" to call their partner clearly to show their relationship is intimate, so the style of language used is intimate style.

C. METHOD

The researchers were taking the data from *A Man Called Otto* film. This research employed a descriptive qualitative method. The researchers collected the data from the film by watching the film on Netflix. There are three steps for taking the data, which is; first, the researchers watched the film several times and reads the transcript. Second, the researchers collect and marks the data that are relevant to the theory. And the last, the researchers captured the selected conversations of Otto as the main character with other characters. The researchers found there are 37 data that are considered as the language style that used by Otto based on Joos's (1967) theory.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The researchers found 37 data from the film. Below is the data that obtained by the researchers.

Table 1. Language Styles Identified

No.	Timestamp	Dialogue	Language Style
1.	02.04 – 02.14	Otto: "Do you think I don't know how to cut rope?" Employee: "No, it's just we usually do that for ya." Otto: "Do you think I'm gonna cut myself and bleed all over the floor and sue you?"	Casual Style
2	02.41 – 02.52	Employee: "uh, your total is 3.47" Otto: "You charged me for 6 feet of rope." Employee: "Oh, yes, it's 99 cents a yard." Otto: "I didn't get 2 yards. I got 5 feet."	Consultative Style
3	05.57 – 06.13	Otto: "That bike goes over here." Malcolm: "Hey! What the hell? That's mine." Otto: "It belongs in the bike rack." Malcolm: "I was only gone half a minute." Otto: "Next time, I'll lock it up in the lost and found." Newspaper Boy: "Grumpy old bastard."	Casual Style
4	07.35 – 07.49	Otto: "Don't you dare let that little rat dog piss on my walkway again. I know it was you"	Casual Style

-
- | | | | |
|----|---------------|---|--------------------|
| 5. | 09.23 – 09.46 | <p>Girl with a dog: “Ignore him, Prince. He’s a nasty, bitter old man. And he has no idea who’s doing that.”</p> <p>Otto: “Well, it was one of you. And tell that useless boyfriend of yours to stop stretching his groin in public.”</p> <p>Otto: “You took me off operations. You cut back on my hours. You made Terry, who I trained, my supervisor. Terry, who can barely figure out what year it is without his phone. So, yes, I took the severance package.”</p> <p>Colleagues: “I’m sorry you see it that way. We all had to adjust after the merger. But you’ve been quite an asset to this company over the years, so—”</p> | Casual Style |
| 6. | 10.19 – 10.32 | <p>Otto: “You cannot use this road without a permit.”</p> <p>Courier: “I’m not parking. I just dropped off a package.”</p> <p>Otto: “The sign doesn’t say anything about packages, does it? It says “permits” and you don’t have one. This is not a through street.”</p> | Consultative Style |
| 7. | 11.11 – 11.18 | <p>Otto: “Well, who do I have to talk to get this phone number disconnected?”</p> <p>Employee: “That’s account services.”</p> <p>Otto: “Can you transfer me or should I press a number?”</p> | Consultative Style |
| 8. | 13.49 – 13.56 | <p>Otto: “You can’t just bring a car on this street without a permit.”</p> <p>Tommy: “No, we have a parking permit. Right here, See?”</p> <p>Otto: “why the hell’s it doing in your pocket?!”</p> | Casual Style |
| 9. | 16.12 – 16.24 | <p>Otto: “Anyone who thinks they need to use radar to back up a car shouldn’t be allowed to drive one.”</p> | Consultative Style |
-

		They shouldn't be allowed to use the radio"	
		Tommy: "That's what I said."	
		Otto: "And the permit goes on the rearview mirror. Not in your pocket!"	
		Tommy: "Got it. Thank you, sir. That was very nice."	
10	17.47 – 17.56	Sonya: "How much more shelf space is left?"	Intimate Style
		Otto: "Three Shelves. How many more boxes of books do you have?"	
		Sonya: "Seven or eight."	
		Otto: "Then I'll build you another bookcase."	
11	20.24 – 20.36	Otto: "Okay, well, I have some things I need to do."	Consultative Style
		Tommy: "Excuse me, Mr. Otto. You wouldn't have an Alvin wrench I could borrow, would you?"	
		Otto: "You mean an Allen wrench."	
		Tommy: "No, an Alvin wrench."	
		Otto: "It's Allen wrench"	
12.	26.49 – 26.53	Otto: "One return ticket to Pittsburgh, please."	Formal Style
		Employee: "That'll be 1.10."	
13.	27.26 – 27.30	Otto: "Hey, you dropped your book! Miss, you dropped your book! Hey!"	Casual Style
14	31.51 – 32.16	Otto: "Hey, excuse me. It was you. This is a private road, and these gates are to keep down the flow of traffic. Not so idiot drivers can go around them and tear up the grass."	Consultative Style
		Dye & Merika guy: "Okay. You got me. I'm with Dye & Merika. I'm gonna have the groundskeeper come down and fix that up for ya, okay? Good as new. Even better. You have a good one now, okay?"	

15	32.38 – 32.47	Otto: “The rules are here for a reason.” Otto: “You throw one more rock, and I swear I’ll dropkick that little rat dog of yours right over the roof.” Girl with a dog: “No, I’m not throwing it at your house. That nasty cat scratched Prince. I’m gonna kill that piece of shit”	Casual Style
16.	35.00 – 35.08	Otto: “Maybe Reuben should have thought of that when he organized his coup.” Anita: “That was a long time ago.”	Casual Style
17	37.23 – 37.39	Anita: “Yeah, well, you may have some more new neighbors soon enough. The realty people, they’ve been telling us... Reuben and I have to move out.” Otto: “No, that’s a load of crap. They don’t own this house. You do.”	Casual Style
18	42.57 – 43.07	Sonya: “Did you have to go back to the military center?” Otto: “No, I wanted to pay you back for the train ticket.” Sonya: “Wouldn’t it be nicer if you invited me to dinner?”	Intimate Style
19.	43.36 – 43.54	Sonya: “So, what kinds of things interest you?” Otto: “Interest me like...?” Sonya: “What are you passionate about?” Otto: “Machines. Engines. I like knowing how things work. What each part does to make a car run smoothly. It’s more complicated than people realize.”	Consultative Style
20.	44.40 – 44.55	Sonya: “Why didn’t you get an entrée?” Otto: “I ate at home.” Sonya: “Why?” Otto: “So, you could order whatever you wanted.”	Intimate Style

21.	46.01 – 46.12	Marisol: “I’m looking for you.” Otto: “Well, you found me.” Marisol: “Can you please take me to the hospital? Please? Tommy fell off the ladder. The ambulance just took him away.” Otto: “Well, you can drive yourself in that imported toaster you call a car.”	Casual Style
22.	54.04 – 54.12	Otto: “Well, can you go now? I have thing to do.” Jimmy: “Well, it was great seeing ya, as usual.”	Casual Style
23.	55.21 – 55.23	Otto: “Will you marry me?” Sonya: “Yes!”	Intimate Style
24.	59.17 – 59.23	Otto: “What do you think you were doing? Taking him for a walk?” Jimmy: “Well, I had to bring him back. I forgot that I’m allergic.”	Casual Style
25.	1.00.53 – 1.01.00	Otto: “Then I’ll come to you, Sonya. I promise. I miss you”	Intimate Style
26.	1.02.31 – 1.02.43	Otto: “Hey! Hey!” Malcolm: “What?” Otto: “Is this what you use that bike for?” Malcolm: “Yeah. It’s my job.” Otto: “Waiting tables and pumping gas, that’s a job.” Malcolm: “I also work nights at a pizza shop and weekends at a thrift store, so...”	Casual Style
27.	1.04.22 – 1.04.35	Otto: “I can’t stand watching one idiot teach another how to drive. You. Put on your coat. It’s lesson time.” Marisol: “What? You’re gonna teach me? Really? Otto, thank you!”	Casual Style
28.	1.07.36 – 1.07.42	Otto: “My God, the world is full of complete idiots who have managed to figure it out, and you are not a complete idiot.”	Casual Style
29.	1.09.51 – 1.10.01	Otto: “Her friends said that we were like night and day. My life	Intimate Style

30.	1.10.49 – 1.11.02	was black-and-white before I met Sonya. She was the color” Otto: “We all got along fine, of course, when we first moved in. It was like a gift.” Anita: “Welcome to the neighborhood.” Sonya: “Hi, I’m Sonya.” Anita: “I’m Anita.” Otto: “Sonya and Anita were best friends.”	Casual Style
31.	1.11.04 – 1.11.13	Otto: “So I got my Allen keys and Reuben and I were a lot alike. About most things. But people change.”	Casual Style
32.	1.12.42 – 1.12.51	Otto: “Sonya gave me this a while back. Never found the occasion. I thought maybe we could start fresh.”	Intimate Style
33.	1.18.08 – 1.18.16	Otto: “You can’t hear your chain rattle when you switch gears like that?” Malcolm: “Yeah, my bike’s getting old.” Otto: “Don’t blame the bike. You just have to adjust your derailleur.”	Consultative Style
34.	1.22.00 – 1.22.07	Otto: “I don’t want to clear Sonya from my life. She was everything. There was nothing before her, and there’s nothing after!”	Intimate Style
35.	1.36.40 – 1.37.00	Otto: “I’ve been an idiot. I got so wrapped up in my own troubles, I stopped thinking of anyone else. And I figured they weren’t thinking about me. Friends shouldn’t do that. So... this isn’t easy to say after all this time. But I’m sorry.”	Intimate Style
36.	1.40.54 – 1.41.02	Otto: “Sonya said we had to keep living. That’s what I did. I lived for Sonya.”	Intimate Style
37.	1.44.26 – 1.44.34	Otto: “You see that? He just rolled right over. Gave up. In our	Casual Style

day, the bastards would at least
put up a fight.”

1. Formal Style

It refers to standard style of communication used in semi formal situations, where two people do not share close knowledge or background. Formal style also used to address an audience, often has an audience too large to allow effective exchange between speaker and listener, although the form is often not as refined as the oratorical style. Joos describes formal style as a style of language used when the speaker “does not expect interruptions,” such as in speeches, presentations, lectures, or other academic and professional situations. The focus is on conveying information in a precise and structured manner.

Data 12



Source: *A Man Called Otto* (26.49 – 26.53), Marc Forster, Sony Pictures, 2022.

Otto: One return ticket to Pittsburgh, please.

Employee: That'll be 1.10.

Young Otto was at the station counter asking for a return ticket to Pittsburgh. His request was expressed clearly and directly, without unnecessary additions. The employee also responded briefly by stating the exact price of the ticket. In this dialogue, Otto used a complete sentence structure and polite choice of words, which indicates the use of formal language.

2. Consultative Style

In the consultative style, both the speaker and the listener use language that is clear and organized, though not as strict as in formal style. This style appears in settings like teacher–student, doctor–patient, and consultant–client interactions, as well as in everyday professional conversations that require two-way communication.

Data 6



Source: *A Man Called Otto* (10.19 – 10.32), Marc Forster, Sony Pictures, 2022.

Otto: You cannot use this road without a permit.

Courier: I'm not parking. I just dropped off a package.

Otto: The sign doesn't say anything about packages, does it? It says "permits" and you don't have one. This is not a through street.

Otto was confronting a courier who used the road without a permit. Otto reminded her that the road required a permit and emphasized that the rules applied regardless of whether the courier was only dropping off a package. In this dialogue, Otto used clear and structured sentences to give instructions and enforce rules. His choice of words was firm yet still within the boundaries of politeness. The exchange was two-way, with both Otto and the courier responding to each other's statements.

3. Casual Style

This style is marked by informal vocabulary, simple sentence patterns, ellipsis, slang, and common expressions that show social closeness. Language style serves as a tool for building intimacy. In this style, speakers don't need to provide detailed background information because they assume the listener already knows the shared context. Interactions are spontaneous, full of interruptions, and flexible.

Data 12



Source: *A Man Called Otto* (54.04 – 54.12), Marc Forster, Sony Pictures, 2022.

Otto: Well, can you go now? I have thing to do.

Jimmy: Well, it was great seeing ya, as usual.

Otto asked Jimmy to leave by saying “Well, can you go now? I have thing to do.” Otto words sounded direct and bit rude, showing that he wanted Jimmy to leave. Jimmy, responded politely with “Well, it was great seeing ya, as usual.” Which gave the conversation a softer tone. The dialogue uses casual style because both speakers already know each other and they spoke informally like “ya” instead of “you”, which is common in everyday talk.

4. Intimate Style

Intimate style is a language style used between people who share a very close relationship, such as family members, fiancés, or best friends. This style is identified by the use of private vocabulary, affectionate terms, whispering, and very shortened or even incomplete forms because the meaning is often understood through shared context, nonverbal cues, and emotional connection. Speakers commonly use special names or terms of endearment such as “ma,” “pa,” “babe,” or “darling.”

Data 19



Source: *A Man Called Otto* (1.09.51 – 1.10.01), Marc Forster, Sony Pictures, 2022.

Otto: Her friends said that we were like night and day. My life was black-and-white before I met Sonya. She was the color.

Otto reflected on his relationship with Sonya by saying “Her friends said that we were like night and day. My life was black-and-white before I met Sonya. She was the color”. Otto shared his feelings with warmth and nostalgia, expressing how deeply Sonya changed his life. This dialogue reflects intimate style because Otto speaks with deep emotion and opens about his late wife. His words are poetic and personal, showing affection and vulnerability that he rarely expresses to others.

D. CONCLUSION

After the researchers had analyzed the data, it was found that from 37 the data, there 4 language styles that was found which are formal style, consultative style, casual style and intimate style. The researchers could not find any frozen style data because there are no conversations that required Otto to use frozen style. The language style most frequently used by Otto in the film is the casual style, since he often speaks casually when interacting with his friends. Otto has difficulty expressing what he wants to convey in communication, which causes misunderstanding due to the use of wrong language styles when talking to people that do not have close relationships with him. This film successfully shows that we can learn about language style with Joos’s (1967) theory after we examine this film further through sociolinguistics lens.

REFERENCES

Coupland, N. (2007). *Style: Language variation and identity*. Cambridge University Press.

- Forster, M. (Director). (2022). *A man called Otto* [Film]. Columbia Pictures.
- Hanchard, M., Merrington, P., & Wessels, B. (2022). The dynamics of audience practices: Mobilities of film consumption. *Participations: Journal of Audience & Reception Studies*, 19(1).
- Holmes, J. (2013). *An introduction to sociolinguistics*. Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315833057>
- Howell, E. L., Behrman, S. L., Kirschner, E., & Goodwin, S. S. (2024). Storytelling in science film: narrative engagement relates to greater knowledge, interest, and identification with science. *Science Communication*, 47(2), 211–249.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10755470241269885>
- Joos, M. (1967). *The five clocks* (2nd ed.). Harcourt, Brace & World.
- Klarer, M. (2004). *An introduction to literary studies*. Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203414040>
- Manurung, Y. C., Manurung, L. W., & Silitonga, H. (2024). An analysis of language style by teachers and students conversation. *Scope Journal of English Language Teaching*, 9(1), 574. <https://doi.org/10.30998/scope.v9i1.24167>
- Meyerhoff, M. (2018). *Introducing sociolinguistics*. Routledge.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429507922>
- Nurmawati, N. (2023). *Language styles of King T'Challa in Black Panther movie* (Undergraduate thesis, UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta).
- Van Herk, G. (2018). *What is sociolinguistics?* (2nd ed.). Wiley-Blackwell
- Walker, J. A. (2024). *Language in its social context: An introduction to sociolinguistics*. Springer Nature Switzerland. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42522-6>
- Wardhaugh, R., & Fuller, J. M. (2021). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. (8 ed.) Wiley.