INTERNET LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE COMMENTERS ON *9GAG* INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT POSTS

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Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements to obtain Sarjana Degree in English Department

YENNI

F041171511

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES

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THESIS

INTERNET LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE COMMENTERS ON *9GAG INSTAGRAM* ACCOUNT POSTS

BY

YENNI

Student No: F041171511

It has been examined before the Board of the Thesis Examination on Wednesday, 10 February 2021. It is declared to have fulfilled the requirements.

Approved by

Board of supervisors

Chairman	Secretary
Dr. Abidin Pammu,M.A.,Dipl.TESOL.	Ainun Fatimah, S.S.,M.Hum.
NIP. 196012311986011071	NIP. 198612012019044001

Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Hasanuddin University

Prof.Dr. Akin Duli, M.A
NIP. 196407161991031010

Head of English Department

Dr.Abidin Pammu, M.A., Dipl.TESOL
NIP. 196012311986011071

i

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HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Today, Wednesday, 10 February 2021, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by **YENNI** (Student No. F041171511) entitled, **INTERNET LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE COMMENTERS ON *9GAG INSTAGRAM* ACCOUNT POSTS**, submitted in fulfillment of one of the requirements of undergraduate thesis examination to obtain Sarjana Sastra (S.S) Degree at the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

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ii

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Regarding the letter of the dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University No. 1404/UN4.9.1/KEP/2020 regarding supervision, we hereby confirm to approve the undergraduate thesis draft by Yenni (F041171511) to be examined at the English Department of Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

Makassar, 19 January 2021

Approved by

First Supervisor	Second Supervisor
Dr. Abidin Pammu,M.A.,Dipl.TESOL.	Ainun Fatimah, S.S.,M.Hum.
NIP. 196012311986011071	NIP. 198612012019044001

Approved by the Execution of Thesis Examination by

The Thesis Organizing Commitees

On Behalf of Dean

Head of English Department

Dr. Abidin Pammu, M.A., Dipl.TESOL

NIP. 196012311986011071

iii

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DECLARATION

The thesis by **YENNI** (Student Number: **F041171511**) entitled, INTERNET **LANGUAGE FEATURES USED BY MALE AND FEMALE COMMENTERS ON *9GAG INSTAGRAM* ACCOUNT POSTS** has been revised as advised during examination on 10 February 2021 and approved by the board of Undergraduate Thesis Examiners:

Dr. Sukmawati, M.Hum.	First Examiner	1.....
Drs.Simon Sitoto, M.A.	Second Examiner	2.....

iv

STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY

The undersigned,

Name : Yenni

ID : F041171511

Title of Thesis : Internet Language Features Used by Male and Female Commenters on 9*gag Instagram* account posts.

Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by the writer herself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite any other people's ideas except the quotations and references.

Makassar, 16 February 2021

The Writer

Yenni

v

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Yenni

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THESIS COVER..... i

LEGITMATION SHEET..... i

ADMISSION PAGE ii

APPROVAL FORM iii

DECLARATION..... iv

STATEMENT OF WORK'S ORIGINALITY.....v

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... vi

LIST OF TABLES xi

ABSTRACT..... xii

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....1

A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY..... 1

D. RESEARCH QUESTION 7

E. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY..... 7

F. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY..... 7

CHAPTER II REVIEW OF LITERATURE 9

A. PREVIOUS STUDY 9

B. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND..... 11

CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY 18

A. RESEARCH DESIGN..... 18

B. RESEARCH SAMPLE..... 18

C. RESEARCH INSTRUMENT..... 19

D. DATA COLLECTION..... 19

E. DATA ANALYSIS..... 20

CHAPTER IV FINDING AND DISCUSSION 22

A. FINDINGS 22
B. DISCUSSION 31
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION 57
A. CONCLUSION 57
B. SUGGESTION 58
BIBLIOGRAPHY 58
APPENDIX 61

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Common Digital Writing By Danet (2001)..... 15

Table 2 The Internet Language Features Used By Male Commenters 22

Table 3 Other Feature Used by Male Commenter..... 25

Table 4 TheInternet Language Features used by Female Commenters 26

Table 5 Other Feature used by Female Commenters 30

Table 6 The comparisons of The Internet Language Features Found in Male and Female Comments 52

ABSTRACT

YENNI. *Internet Language Features Used by Male and Female Commenters on 9gag Instagram account posts* (Supervised by **Abidin Pammu** and **Ainun Fatimah**)

Internet language features refer to the use of certain forms of forms in written language aspects on the Internet. This research aims to examine the internet language features by Danet (2001) used by male and female commenters on *9gag Instagram* account posts. There are ten Internet Language Features, proposed by Danet (2001). They are multiple punctuations, eccentric spelling, capital letters, asterisks for emphasis, written-out laughter, music/noise, description of actions, emoticons, abbreviations, and rebus writing. The writer also examines the lexical features by Crystal (2006), which are the top two words used by male and female commenters.

The method used in conducting this research was qualitative. The sample of this study was taken from male and female comments of three selected posts from *9gag* accounts on *Instagram*. The writer took 40 comments from Male commenters and 40 comments from Female commenters for each post.

This research indicates that male commenters use eight features, while female commenters use nine of the features mentioned by Danet. The features that are not used by male commenters are asterisks for emphasis and description of the action, while the female commenters do not use the description of the action feature. Apart from internet language features by Danet, the writer discovers one additional feature used by male and female commenters that is the use of slang words. The most frequently used feature by male and female commenters is emoticons. The reasons is describing an action with emoticons is much simpler than typing words. It conveys an easily identified thought or feeling so that people can understand them in context without difficulty. The result also shows that the top two words used by the male commenter are *You and I*. Meanwhile, the top two words used by female commenters are *Lol and I'*. The data shows that the occurrence of Internet Language Features in females' comments is higher than in males' comments. It implies that female commenters are more expressive in giving comments in *9gag's* account posts on *Instagram* than male commenters.

Keywords: *comments; gender; internet linguistics; internet language features; Instagram*

ABSTRAK

YENNI. *Internet Language Features Used by Male and Female Commenters on 9gag Instagram account posts* (Supervised by **Abidin Pammu** and **Ainun Fatimah**)

Internet language features atau Fitur bahasa Internet merupakan penggunaan bentuk-bentuk tertentu dalam aspek bahasa tertulis di Internet. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui fitur bahasa internet oleh Danet (2001) yang digunakan oleh komentator pria dan wanita dalam postingan akun 9gag di Instagram. Ada sepuluh Fitur Bahasa Internet yang dikemukakan oleh Danet (2001), yaitu: penggunaan beberapa tanda baca, ejaan eksentrik, huruf kapital, tanda bintang untuk penekanan, tawa yang dituliskan, musik / suara, deskripsi tindakan, emotikon, singkatan, dan representasi dari sebuah kata atau suku kata. Penulis juga meneliti fitur leksikal oleh Crystal (2006), dimana penulis mengambil dua kata teratas yang paling sering digunakan oleh komentator pria dan wanita.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Sampel penelitian ini diambil dari komentar laki-laki dan perempuan pada tiga postingan terpilih dari akun 9gag di Instagram. Penulis mengambil 40 komentar laki laki dan 40 komentar perempuan untuk setiap postingan.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa komentator pria menggunakan delapan fitur sedangkan komentator wanita menggunakan sembilan fitur yang disebutkan Danet. Fitur yang tidak ditemukan oleh komentator pria adalah tanda bintang untuk penekanan dan deskripsi aksi sedangkan komentator wanita tidak menggunakan fitur deskripsi aksi. Selain fitur bahasa internet oleh Danet, penulis menemukan satu fitur tambahan yaitu penggunaan kata gaul atau *slang*. Fitur yang paling sering digunakan oleh komentar pria dan wanita adalah emotikon. Alasannya karena mendeskripsikan tindakan dengan emotikon jauh lebih sederhana daripada mengetik kata dan menyampaikan pikiran atau perasaan yang mudah diidentifikasi, sehingga orang dapat memahaminya dalam konteks tanpa kesulitan. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa dua kata teratas yang digunakan oleh komentator pria adalah *I* dan *You*. Sedangkan dua kata teratas yang digunakan oleh komentator wanita adalah *I* dan *Lol* . Secara keseluruhan, data menunjukkan bahwa kemunculan Fitur Bahasa Internet di komentar wanita lebih tinggi daripada komentar pria. Ini mengidentifikaskan bahwa komentator wanita lebih ekspresif dalam memberikan komentar di postingan akun 9gag di *Instagram* dibandingkan dengan komentator pria.

Kata kunci: komentar; jenis kelamin; linguistik internet; fitur bahasa internet; *Instagram*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

In the globalization era, the invention of the Internet has had a profound impact on people. It transforms the way people connect and how to find and share information. Most people would not be able to make it through a single day without touching the internet in some capacity. The Internet's transformation has impacted the language that the English Linguist David Crystal advocated a field of study called "Internet linguistics." It studies new language styles and forms that have arisen under the influence of the Internet and other new media, such as Short Message Service (SMS) text messaging. Since the Internet has such a huge impact on how people communicate, there have been several research types studying Internet Language. Nevertheless, the wide area of the Internet Language makes it still widely opened for other researches.

Language change occurs, as change is natural. Language, as everybody knows, is dynamic. The rapid development of electronic communication increases new kind of language. It caused dramatic changes in the language used on the Internet. Crystal (2001) declares that technology offers linguistic research opportunities: Netspeak is a new scholarly study prospect. He summarizes that "once in a lifetime" chance is provided by the emerging means of communication.

The use of the Internet and computer technology has a significant impact on language change and usage. It has seen the appearance of a new language that is internet language. Internet language is taking new dimensions, mainly in the way people write. Thus, it is similar to face-to-face communication in terms of interactivity. Crystal (2003, p. 433) states that ‘internet language, as a way

of information exchange, is "unusual, compared to face-to-face interaction- but they are conversations."

In conclusion, communication via electronic communication mediums may facilitate the rise of a new variety of internet language and create new forms and functions of language. Hence, researchers concur that the internet language has unique characteristics, which make it distinctive. It is essential to study this new kind of study field to make the *netizen* or Internet citizen aware of little things that come up from social media. Little things that we do not realize can be an innovation to be studied.

In today's life, social media plays a significant role. It enables people to discover and learn new things, interact with new people, share ideas or career interests and other forms of expression via virtual communities and networks. Social media platforms may come in different forms, the most popular social media often used by people are *Instagram*, *Facebook*, *Youtube*, and *Twitter*.

From social media mentioned before, *Instagram* became the research interest in this research. According to Frommer (2010), *Instagram* is a photo-sharing application that allows users to take photos, apply digital filters, and share them to various social networking services, including *Instagram*. Compared to other famous social media such as *Twitter* or *Facebook*, *Instagram* is considered the fastest growing social media. Herman (2014) mentioned that since being launched in 2012, it only took three and a half years for *Instagram* to reach 200 million active users. The other social media, *Facebook*, took five years, and *Twitter* took six and a half years to hit the same milestone. In general, Herman also said that *Instagram* users tend to be more active than any fans on other social media. Its users give like and comment on more posts than they give on another site. Those facts that have been mentioned before then became the reasons why the writer chose *Instagram* over other social media as the object of this research.

Instagram is one of the celebrities' favorite social media platforms, and there are plenty of stars sharing their pictures there every day. As of September 2020, the most-followed individual is Portuguese football player Cristiano Ronaldo, with over 252 million followers. The most-followed female is American singer Ariana Grande with over 214 million followers. *Instagram* has its brand account on the platform, and with over 383 million followers, it is the most-followed account overall. *National Geographic* is the second most-followed brand account, with over 149 million followers. A total of 21 accounts have surpassed 100 million followers on the site.

Other than celebrities, there are also *Instagram* accounts that gain popularity among *Instagram* users, such as *9gag, epicfunnypage, fuckjerry, and Sarcasm_only*. Those accounts share funny pictures or videos, net citizens call it *"Meme."* According to the Collins English Dictionary, *a meme* is something such as a video, picture, or phrase that many people send to each other on the internet..Richard Dawkins(1976), a British ethologist, evolutionary biologist, and author, created the term, with the concept that a meme was an idea passed on from one generation to another. By definition, memes are popular. Influential people also share memes. Internet memes tend to be irreverent and fun. This means that many favorite memes have the potential to offend some people. *Instagram* users often continue this irreverence when they name their *Instagram* meme accounts.

Currently, *9gag* has reached 55,4 million followers, stating that it is the most popular account that shares memes on *Instagram. 9gag* is a Hong Kong-based online platform and social media website. Since it was launched on July 1, 2008, it has grown in popularity across social media such as *Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram*. *9gag* is a place for net citizens to have a laugh, express themselves, and broaden their perspectives, but it is not appropriate or intended for children. High schoolers may be plugged in, but most users are probably 20 – 30 years old. There are plenty of posts that show

violent content both in society as well as loads of profanity. There is a heavy emphasis on fun and the female form, but occasionally, images and GIFs (such as stop-action videos) border on pornography. The writer chose *9gag* to be examined because it has the highest number of followers and likes and comments than other meme accounts or, in other words, it is more popular than other humor accounts.

Humor has become part of our daily life. It is one of the important things to reduce stress. Many researchers have also found that people who often laugh are happier and more productive than people who laugh less. Commonly, people define humor as something funny or amusing, which can make people laugh or smile. But according to Ross (1998), it is possible to name something as humor even though no one laughs or smiles. For example, a humorous statement by Bierce said that "Love is a temporary insanity curable by marriage." Some people might consider it humor because that sentence makes them smile or laugh, or others would say that it is not funny. We can find humor, whether spoken or written through any media such as magazines, newspapers, television, or simply in our daily conversation. It is important to think about the social context to create and receive humor. It is difficult for humor to cross the boundaries of a different time and social groups. It is dependent on specific attitudes and cultures (Ross, 1998). So it can assume that a certain culture or phenomenon creates humor. Humor from a particular social group or time may not have received the same response in a different time and by a different social group.

In sociolinguistics, the term language differences between men and women is still interesting to discuss, As we talk about language on the internet, the writer focuses on how the net citizens, especially males and females, give comments or responses on humor in the online setting, specifically in humor posts of 9gag's comments on *Instagram*. The writer assumes that gender differences influence the language used to respond to humor in the online

setting. Therefore, online setting invites the writer to find various languages in them.

On *9gag instagram account*, the writer found in the comment column that males and females use some kind of unique features of written language. For example, in a post of picture of a written text ‘ PASSPORT : The most useless thing in 2020’, female and male commenters give unique features such as *lol*, *hahaha,* and some kinds of sentences ended with emoticons. This phenomenon shows that different setting might influence how males and females communicate especially in online setting.

To examine how males and females respond to something which is considered as humor on *9gag’s Instagram* comments, the writer uses Internet Language features by Danet (2001) and Crystal (2006). There are ten Internet Language features by Danet. They are Multiple punctuations (Ex: what???), eccentric spelling (ex: whaaat??), capital letters (ex: WHAT?), asterisks for emphasis (ex:I *hope* she will come), written-out laughter (Ex: hahahah), music/ noise (ex: argh), description of actions (ex: *grin), emoticons (ex: :D), abbreviations (ex: LOL), and rebus writing (ex: 2nite). Further theory used also comes from Crystal (2006), which is the theory of lexical features to determine the most vocabulary used by commenters. Then the writer examines who use more Internet Language features to identify who is more expressive between males and females in giving response to humor content posts in *9gag* on *Instagram* as some of the features above are signs of expressiveness. The use of emoticons denotes a unique feature of the electronic language register and has been interpreted as an indicator of emotional expressiveness and a means of expressing nonverbal interaction in the absence of paralinguistic or extralinguistic signs (Crystal, 2001 in Danet& Herring, 2007).

B. IDENTIFICATION PROBLEM

Based on the background of the study above, the writer identifies some problems related to the title of this writing.

1. Firstly, there has been a lot of debate over whether the internet ruins the language or merely changes it. There were also predictions from the past that everyone would communicate with just acronyms or ‘emojis’ shortly. The writer believes that the internet has indeed resulted in a significant change in people's use of the language. Most importantly, the changes are not random and without rules. There are some people still underestimate the little things which come up from the internet and do not get the idea of the importance of the language change. This study is trying to prove to the people and all internet citizens that by analyzing the word-formation and the features of Internet language, people would be able to use network resources better and achieve effective communication especially on the Internet. Last but not least, knowing the regulations and characteristics of the Internet Language can help us catch up with the highly moving society's pace.

2. Secondly, the internet website forms such as social media have a rapid growth of users from male and female nowadays. The language style used on each gender has its features and characteristics that can be explored. There is still a lot of debate in the community whether women seem to talk or comment more expressive on the internet than men or vice versa. This study tries to answer the debate question by examining the internet language features used by women and men in commenting on something on the internet.

C. SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

In this research, the writer limits and focuses on her study. The following limitations are:

1. The scope of the study is a sociolinguistic study concentrate on language and gender.

2. This research focuses on English and Indonesian Comments.

3.This research focuses on Males and females' internet language features in commenting on *Instagram's 9gag* account posts. Although there are several genders in the world, for example, in Thailand, however, this thesis only focuses on Male and females.

4. Moreover, this research also focuses on the similarities and differences of internet language features characterized by Males and females.

D. RESEARCH QUESTION

The Research Questions can be formulated as follows

1. What are the Internet language features Used by Male Commenters?
2. What are the Internet language features Used by Female Commenters?
3. How are the similarities and differences between Male and Female commenters in using Internet language features?

E. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The writer intends to accomplish a particular objective with the targets of the analysis as follow:

1. To determine the internet language features by Danet (2001) and Crystal (2006) used by male commenters on *9gag Instagram* account posts.
2. To determine the internet language features by Danet (2001) and Crystal (2006) used by female commenters on *9gag Instagram* account posts.
3. To show the similarities and differences of the internet language features used between male and female commenters on *9gag Instagram* account posts

F. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The results of this study are expected to offer some benefits. In theory, hopefully, it can contribute to Internet Linguistics or the study of language on the internet since nowadays people tend to use online settings to communicate with people over the world. Hopefully, this research will enrich linguistics

knowledge, especially about internet language features concerning language and gender. This research shows its scientific side of internet language features through males and females on *Instagram*. Hopefully, this research gives many benefits to other researchers who are interested in dealing with internet language features to conduct a similar topic.

Practically, this study contributes to enriching knowledge on how males and females express their thoughts through comments on humor content posted in the online setting. Also, to give additional material for the sociolinguistic course and students who take linguistic as their major, especially in language and gender study.

The writer also gives a sense of making the reader realize that social media, especially *Instagram,* is not only a photo or video-sharing website that people can access for the reason of entertainment or gaining knowledge but also to make them curious toward little things, especially the unique side in online comments between man and female. The writer hopes from this research that people are more aware of the other little things that can be conducted for the next innovation in a study.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A. PREVIOUS STUDY

The studies concerning Internet Language Features are varied. Many researchers have analyzed those, and each of them has its own uniqueness in terms of its topic, focus, theory, and object. This phenomenon initiates the researcher to conduct research related to internet language features on *Instagram's 9gag* account posts**.** Some previous researches will be mentioned as follows;

The first previous study is a research by Rachmadilla, Farrin D in 2017 entitled *"The internet Language Features Used by Male and Female Commentators in Commenting "BAD (Official Music Video Clip) by Young Lex featuring Awkarin on* Youtube*."* This research data is from 75 comments from male commenters and 75 comments from female commenters. Thus, the total number of samples is 150 comments. The result shows that there is a feature that is not found in the comments. It is the description of an action feature in female comments. Besides, both male and female commenters tend to use multiple punctuation and abbreviations features to emphasize theirs.

The difference between the research above and this research is on the research sample. Previous research that the writer has mentioned focuses on male and female commenters on popular music videos on *youtube*. This research is about how males and females express their thoughts in giving comments on humor content posts on social media by examining the use of internet language features by both genders on *9gag's posts* on *Instagram*. All in all, both of these studies discuss how specific gender use language on the internet.

The second previous study is a research by Asst. Prof. Kamal G Nasir in 2019 entitled "*Linguistic Features of Net-speak: Abbreviations, Acronyms and Punctuation Marks."* This study concentrated on one situation of net-speak: "chat-groups" in synchronous and asynchronous situations. The study focused on three linguistic features which are (abbreviations, acronyms, and punctuation marks).

The differences between the previously mentioned research and this research are laid on the focus of study and the study's object—the research by Asst. Prof. Kamal G Nasir in 2019 focused only on Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Punctuation Marks. The writer believes that some other features will be found from the net citizens' comments. Besides, the previous research chooses the *chatgroups* as the study's object, while the writer in this research chooses *9gag's* account on *Instagram* to be examined.

Last, a research with the title "*The Internet Language Features And Dictions Of The Tweets Of Anne Marie And Charlie Puth: A Comparative Study On Language And Gender* by Latifatur Rokhmah" in 2019. The data analyzed used the theory by Danet (2001). The study's findings indicate that Anne Marie is more expressive and playful in fulfilling the features' absence and giving various dictions. She talks with polite form, good manners, and intimate with all of her followers. While Charlie is less expressive, he tends to write in common or standard form and rarely uses digital features.

This research is different from the previous research as it was only concerned with two subjects: the female, Anne Marie, and the male, Charlie Puth. Both are popular singers. The writer believes that the researcher can analyze language features in one or two people, but it can also in many people. Thus, this research took some samples from some net citizen’s comments, both male and female, to determine the objective of this study that has been mentioned before. Last but not least, previous research chooses social

media *Twitter* to be analyzed. In this research, the writer chose *Instagram* to be studied because nowadays, it is the most popular social media.

B. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

1. Language and Gender

When people talk about males and females in general, they also think about sex and gender. Sex and gender have different meanings. Sex is the characteristic of biological concept, for example, is like the genitals in male and female. Meanwhile, gender is about society, which can reflect people's personality through different gender, as stated by Wardhaugh (2005, p. 315).

There are many kinds of gender differences. One of them is language use. Male and female used to talk in very different ways. Most citizens have stereotypical thoughts that males and females have a different manner of declaring their speech. There is a stereotype in society that females tend to be more polite than males, who are straightforward and powerful. As stated by Holmes (2001, p. 150), females and males have developed different patterns of language use in which females are more linguistically polite than males. People believe that males usually used direct ways to say something to others. But females have opposite manners; females tend to speak less forcefully than males. Holmes stated that many researchers found that in male conversation, the content of conversation focused on sports, aggression, competition, teasing, and doing things. On the other hand, females focused on the self, feelings, affiliation with others, home, and family in conversation.

According to Coates (2004), the language used by a female represents relations and intimacy. Meanwhile, the language used by the male is describing of status and independence. Women think that talking with other people is the way to increase a good relationship; most women represent an excellent manner and intimacy in their speech. Meanwhile, men think that talking with other people is the way to acknowledge and domination over others. Because of that,

most of the man represents status and independence. It is exciting to talk about language and gender relationships. Many researchers are interested in doing some researches about language and gender. The pioneer of this field is the linguist Robin Tolmach Lakoff. He explained that when women talk, especially in writing communication, they tend to use more than one internet feature, usually called women's linguistic features. When women say or declare something, their sounds are like when they were asked about something. The reason is that women's intonations in the last sentences end with raising intonation. Lakoff published her book entitled Language and Woman's Place in 1975. He claims that women have several unique language features, such as; women often use more hedges when they declare something, for example, like sort of, it seems like, and so on.

Furthermore, women also use emphatic modifiers, and those are very, so, etc. That kind of modifier is used to emphasize sentences. Besides that, Lakoff states that women use hypercorrect grammar and pronunciation and sometimes make a hyper polite request like "would you please turn on the radio, if you do not mind?" (Lakoff, 1975, p. 45-79). One of the studies related to language and gender has proved that when male and female say something, Male tends to pause in his sentences before he continued by said *yeeeaah* or *hmmm (* Coates ,2004).

Some linguists' perspectives have shown that female language is less than the male's language in terms of power. Based on Haas (1978, cited in Coates 1986), males are more talk active than females. The women who have a high status or high education usually speak in the powerless language. Cameron and Coates (1985) explain that our speech frequency is influenced by several cases, such as their position, job, and daily habits. For example, women who work as doctors, sometimes she is interrupted by their male patients. In that case, we know that women's language is powerless than man. According to Lakoff (1975), he stated that women's language as the 'language of powerlessness," a

reflection of their subordinate place concerning men. It means that man's language has the power to attract the attention of the public.

2. Internet Language

According to Naughton (1999, in Crystal 2006, p. 9), the internet is an extraordinary thing made by humans. The circumstance of old media is removed with the existence of the internet. People were changing the old media for communication like radio, television, press, or others with the internet. It can happen because the internet provides many advantages for people. Internet becomes popular because most people use the internet to communicate with others. Also, the Internet makes communication faster than before.

Internet is a linguistic revolution, as stated by Crystal (2006, p. 10). On the internet, we can found any language uses, especially in written language. Crystal (2006, p.8) classified the types of written language on the internet into five types. They are;

1) Graphic features.

It is the general presentation and organization of the written language, defined in terms of such factors as specific typography, page design, spacing, use of illustrations, and color.

2) Orthographic (or *graphological*) features.

It is the writing system of an individual language, defined in terms such factors as distinctive use of expressing emphasis (italics, boldface, etc.)

3) Grammatical features

It is the form of sentences like syntax and morphology. It is provided in several factors such as the sentence's unique structure, word order, and word alteration.

4) Lexical features

It is the choice of the vocabulary of a language. It is defined in terms of the set of words and idioms given distinctive use within a variety.

5) Discourse features

It is the structure or organization of the text. There are some factors such as coherence, paragraph structure, relevance, and logical progression of ideas. On the other hand, it can be described as an excellent chronological of the text.

In this research, the writer focuses with lexical features because it relates with the aims of this study. It has the similar topic with this research that is talk about digital writing in internet language.

3. Internet Language Features

Usually, we use Internet Language Features In expressing our thought in online communication. Online media users have an extraordinary number with various people all around the world. Therefore, time by time, internet language features often change because internet language features are more varied than before. Basically, Internet language features refer to the use of certain forms of forms in written language aspects on the Internet. The writer previously mentioned some of the written language features on the Internet proposed by Crystal (2006) above. The various common internet language features also have already written by Danet.

According to Danet (2001, p.17), there are eleven common features in digital writing such as Abbreviation, All lower case, Asterisks for emphasis, Capital letters, Description of action, Eccentric spelling, Emoticons, Multiple punctuations, Music/noise, Rebus writing, and Written out laughter. In her book entitled *Cyberpl@ay ; Communicating Online*, Danet (2001) proposed digital writing features. She mentioned that the features are devices to balance

the medium's nature as attenuated 'speech.' It also helps carry the messages as fast as possible since we cannot type as fast as we speak.

In this research, the writer uses Internet Language Features as the main theory, which are common features of digital writing proposed by Danet (2001) and lexical features by Crystal (2006). Crystal defines lexical features as the vocabulary of a language, which may differ between one person or one genre from another.

Table 1 Common Digital Writing By Danet (2001)

Multiple Punctuation	Send me as fast as possible!!!!!
Eccentric spelling	I want it nowwwwwww!
Capital spelling	I'M DONE WITH YOU
Asterisks for emphasis	I really *miss* you
Written-out laughter	Hahahahahhah, hehehhehe, hihihi
Music/ noise	Hmmmmmmm,mmmmmmmm, MMMMM
Descriptions of actions	*grins*, <grin>, <g>
Emoticons	:) (smile) ;-) (wink)
Abbreviations	LOL, ASAP
Rebus writing	CU <See you>

According to the table above, there are ten common features in digital writing. The explanation of each feature will be discussed below.

1.Multiple Punctuation.

Crystal (2006) stated that the features of multiple exclamation marks and question marks are considered the punctuation of expressiveness or called emotive punctuations. It often appears at the end of a sentence. The example of the use of multiple punctuations is *I really love korean drama so much!!!!!!!*

2. Eccentric spelling

Eccentric spelling or intentional reproduction of spoken language is used in an expressivity resource (Danet and Herring,2007). Eccentric spelling attempts to reproduce actual articulation in typed messages are the major caused for these unconventional spellings Nishimura, 2003). An example of eccentric spelling:

I want it nowwwwww

3. Capital letters

The use of capital letters for emphasis is a strategy to enhance the readers' and writers' ability to experience the words as if they were spoken (Danet, 2001). According to Danet and Herring (2007), capital letters in an online setting signify loud speech or shouting. For example, *I'M DONE WITH YOU*

4. Asterisks for emphasis

Crystal (2006) stated that the asterisks symbol is used for emphasis in a word or phrase. It is also mentioned by Danet (2001) that asterisks symbol is used to emphasize particular words to improve their speech-like quality. An example of the use of asterisks for emphasis is: I *really *miss*you*

5. Written- out laughter

Typing *hehehe* is a device to express a sound, which is the sound of laughter (Danet, 2001). It is also mentioned by Danet and Herring (2007) that to supply missing information such as laughter in an online setting, the users represent the sound by typing in similar ways. For example, h*ahahahah, hihihihi, hehehehe*

6. Music/noise

According to Crystal (2006), there is a feature of chat groups' language, which is defined as a formulate sound effect, like *hmmmmmm,Mmmmm, arggghh.* One of the features that differ from formal written and spoken

language is the attempt to depict the taste of speech and use typically spoken discourse markers to do so.

7. Description of action

It is examined in terms of asterisks that enclose a verb; the verb spelled out between angle brackets and the initial letter alone of the verb spelled out between angle brackets and the initial letter alone in angle brackets (Nishimura, 2003 in Danet & Herring, 2007). The example of the description of the action : **smile**

8. Emoticons

Crystal(2006) mentioned that an emoticon is a combination of keyboard characters designed to show an emotional facial expression; they are typed in sequence on a single line and placed after a sentence's final punctuation mark. For example: :)= <Smile>, ;(=<Sad>.

9. Abbreviations

Abbreviations are the conventional way of reading by pronouncing each letter's name (McCarthy, 2002). Danet (2001) mentioned that the use of abbreviations in the online setting saves valuable typing time. Examples of abbreviations: LOL stands for Laughing out Loud" or BRB, which means "Be Right Back."

10. Rebus writing

The use of letters or numbers to represent the phonetic sequence constitutes its realization in spoken language (Anis, 2003 in Danet & Herring,2007). Crystal (2006) said that in rebus writing, the letter or numeral's sound value acts as a syllable of a word. For example, *CU* for "see you," or *2nite* for "tonight."