

# An Analysis of Language Style in Billie Eilish's Song On "When We All Fall All Asleep, Where We do We go" Album

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## An Analysis of Language Style in Billie Eilish's Song On "When We All Fall All Asleep, Where We do We go" Album

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### Abstract

The language style is one of the supporting aspects of a written text, and it is deeply connected to the other parts. This study's objectives were to examine the language-styling types employed in the lyrics of Billie Eilish's album, the language-styling types that were dominant in those lyrics, and the role those language-styling types served in those songs. Qualitative research methodologies were used. The process of gathering information by reading the lyrics and analyzing them. To examine the collected data, Ruby Payne's theory is used. The findings show that, based on Payne, there are three different language styles: consultative, intimate, and casual. The casual style is the most popular one. The function of the lyrics is to improve the taste of the audience, the goal of the song is to persuade the listener, and the song produces a specific mood.

**Keywords:** language style, song, lyric song.

### Introduction

Language as a means of communication is divided into two, namely spoken and written language. The two languages are closely related to one with the other. Written language is a kind of communication used for several goals and in a range of communication contexts. The speaker or writer might choose the language variant to be utilized depending on the various contexts and purposes. A person who speaks a multitude of languages is said to do so (Panuju, 2002).

According to Moore (2004), speaking styles refer to how speakers negotiate their positions and purposes within a system of distinctions and possibilities as actors in social and sociolinguistics space. Language style is a particular manner of using language to express ideas that reflects the spirit and personality of the author (language user). Song lyrics can also be referred to as the arrangement of words in a song that has a certain rhythm or literary works (poems) that comprise an expression of personal feelings (Keraf, 2004). Song lyrics are almost the same as poetry. The difference is only in the nature. In poetry, to get this emotional situation, poetry usually has a certain rhythm pattern that is generated through the sound equation.

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Language style is a way of expressing thoughts through language specifically by the wearer. The uniqueness that can reflect the ideas and feelings of the wearer can then lead to deep language expressions, both in terms of emotional expression, creativity, inspiration, or motivation (Keraf, 2008).

One of the media for expressing one's thoughts, messages, emotions, and creativity is a song. This makes the language employed in the song's lyrics a fascinating subject to examine because it conveys aesthetic and artistic qualities through the employment of a variety of linguistic idioms. The language used in a song can aid in the understanding of the concepts being communicated, the evocation of the desired feelings, and the demonstration of the artist's originality. These factors serve as the foundation for the study of the linguistic style of song lyrics, particularly the linguistic style used in the lyrics of English songs.

Billie Eilish started her career through the SoundCloud platform which became a place to upload her first single titled "Ocean Eyes". The single managed to attract the interest of record label Interscope Records and managed to raise the name of Billie Eilish through her debut mini-album "Don't Smile at Me". The mini album contains a collection of songs that are mostly listed on the Billboard Hot 100. When Billie Eilish released her debut album, "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?" her fame only grew. This is what motivates academics who are interested in studying the language style used in Billie Eilish's song.

### **Literature Review**

The first research entitled, "Language Style in the Lyrics of the Songs "Virus Corona", "Bencana", "Suratan" by Rhoma Irama". was conducted by Sri Puji Astuti (2021). This research was submitted to the Diponegoro University Semarang. Regarding language style, Rhoma Irama's song lyrics were interesting. The study found that "Virus Corona," "Bencana," and "Suratan" use climax, parallelism, antithesis, anaphor, asyndeton, pleonasm, rhetorical questions, paraphrases, litotes, metaphors, and cynicism in their songs. As a result, the lyrics to Rhoma Irama's three songs use a variety of linguistic idioms.

The second research entitled, "Language style used in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Cursed Child", was conducted by Resa Ferrara Jamil (2018). The goal of the study was to identify the several language uses that Albus used in this book as well as the social contexts that influenced his speech. The researchers employed Martin Joos' theory and a sociolinguistics technique to produce the data. Taking notes served as the study's primary tool. According to the results, Albus used five various language tenses, including frozen style, formal style, consultative style, casual style, and intimate style. The results indicate that language styles were influenced by social variables as well.

The third research entitled, "Language Style and Meaning in the Lyrics of Bojo Galak by Pendhoza", was conducted by Laili Etika Rahmawati (2020). to explain the song's significance. The data for this study comes from words, phrases, clauses, and sentences found in Bojo Galak's songs. The findings reveal that: (1) Bojo Galak's lyrics feature a variety of linguistic idioms, such as the sound style of assonance that dominates in the lyrics, the language style (diction) of the song, which makes extensive use of connotative words, and the sentence style, which is achieved by including words and particles. (2) Bojo Galak's meanings include representations of verbal abuse by a wife against her husband, descriptions of complaints or an expression of a husband's feelings about his partner's nature or character, lessons on submission and patience in accepting reality, lessons on sincerity or acceptance of the partner's situation, and knowledge on loyalty.

The fourth research entitled "An Analysis of Language Style Used in "Mulan" Movie by Niki Caro" was conducted by Sya'adah and Rois Lailatun in 2021. The language styles used in

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Vol. 3(1), September, 2023

Online ISSN: 2807-8926

the "Mulan" film, based on Martin Joss's 2007 and Kizner's 2003 works, were the subject of this study's research topic. This study was carried out utilizing a qualitative, library-based research methodology. Data collection was done through documentation. They discovered that 116 sentences are written in a formal style, 73 sentences are written in a casual style, 53 sentences are written in a consultative style, and 46 sentences are written in a colloquial style. Using short, uncomplicated words and constructs is a hallmark of the colloquial style.

The fifth previous study entitled "Language Style Used by Main Character in Legally Blonde Movie by Amanda Brown" was conducted by Dyah Rohmatul Lailiyah in 2018. The purpose of this study is to examine the many language styles employed by the main character in the film Legally Blonde, as well as the societal influences that the character experiences as shown via the dialogue. The author used a descriptive research design and content analysis in this study. The researcher identified six frozen styles with a 9% proportion, sixteen formal styles with a 30% percentage, four consultative styles with an 8% percentage, and fourteen intimate styles with a 26% percentage. The writer then identified five elements of language style: 12 expressive elements with a percentage of 22%; 2 directive elements with a percentage of 4%; 14 referential elements with a percentage of 26%; 19 metalinguistic elements with a percentage of 35%; and 7 phatic elements with a percentage of 13%. The metalinguistic function is the one that the main character uses the most.

### Method

Quantitative methods were used in this analysis. In qualitative research, the results of seeing a person's behavior as a whole are presented as descriptive data (spoken or written) (Muloeng, 2001). The object of the study was Billie Eilish's album "When We Are Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?". There were two songs, Bad Guy and When the Party's Over. After classifying the data and presenting the data front and center during the research process, the data analysis gives an effort to a conclusion, discusses all of the data, and continues to conclude.

### Finding and Discussion

#### 1. Types of Language Style that used the lyrics songs of Billie Eilish's album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go"

In this research, the data were taken from song lyrics of Billie Eilish's album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go". The finding is about language style, they were analyzed by using Payne's theory of types in language style.

Table 1. Types of language style in the lyrics song of Billie Eilish's Album.

No.	Type	Song's Title	F	F%
1.	Casual Style	When The Party's Over	10	15%
		Bad Guy	27	42%
2.	Intimate Style	When The Party's Over	7	11%
		Bad Guy	20	31%
3.	Consultative Style	When The Party's Over	1	1%

## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Undergraduate Conference on Applied Linguistics, Linguistics, and Literature (ALLURE)

Vol. 3(1), September, 2023

Online ISSN: 2807-8926

	Bad Guy	0	0%
Total		65	100%

Based on research findings, three different linguistic phrasings may be identified in the lyrics of "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go" by Billie Eilish. The percentages of these were as follows: 37 informal styles (57%), 27 intimate styles (42%), and 1 consultative style (1%).

### 2. The Dominant Types of Language Style that used the lyrics songs of Billie Eilish's album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go"

The frequency of language type in the lyrics of the song "When We Are Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go" from Billie Eilish's album is shown in the table below.

Table 2. The Dominant Type of Language Style in the Song Entitled "When the Party's Over and Bad Guy"

No.	Type	Amount	The Percentage
1.	Casual Style	37	57%
2.	Intimate Style	27	42%
3.	Consultative Style	1	1%

Based on the research findings, the result shows the most dominant type of language style in Billie Eilish's song entitled When the Party's Over and Bad Guy is Casual Style with the number of 37 findings with a percentage of 57%. Another study by Ivan & Darryl (2020) discovered that the casual style is mostly employed since the album primarily employs this style. After all, informal conversation frequently employs the casual tense, which might facilitate listeners' understanding of song lyrics without the need for additional explanation. While the other types are not dominant because those types are used in communication that has very close and semi-formal relationships. The author uses the Ruby Payne theory because he wants to compare it with other theories such as Martin Joos and how to analyze the style of language used by Martin Joos with Ruby Payne. Therefore, the author uses Ruby Payne's theory.

### 3. The functions of language style in song lyrics of Billie Eilish's album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go"

In the research, 3 functions found in the data were taken from song lyrics of Billie Eilish's album "When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go", there are to improve the taste of the audience, to persuade the goal, and to produce a specific mood.

#### a. To Improve the Taste of Audience

The main thing to note in this album is the usage of stylish language. Billie can influence how the audience perceives what the singer is saying, and the singer will influence how the public interprets what has been written and spoken, as well as what it means, signifies, and what it needs and desires.

#### b. To Persuade the Goal

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Vol. 3(1), September, 2023

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Language style serves the purpose of ensuring that the speaker or listener understands what has been communicated. To persuade the reader, the writer or speaker typically employs rhetorical language. It can be seen from the following examples.

c. To Produce a Specific Mood

The singer's speaking style might have an impact on the audience's emotions and thoughts. As a result, the way the performers use words in their commercials will generate a certain tone.

### Conclusion

Following the data analysis and study findings in the preceding chapter, the author might draw the following conclusions:

1. Based on the findings of five Payne-based language style categories. It was determined that there are 10 casual styles in When the Party's Over song with a percentage of 56% and 27 casual styles in Bad Guy Song with percentage of 57%; then there are 7 intimate styles in When the Party's Over song with percentage of 39% and 20 intimate styles in Bad Guy song with percentage of 43%; and finally, there is 1 consultative style in When the Party's Over song with percentage of 6% and there is no consultative style in Bad Guy song.

2. The results of five language style categories based on Payne's research revealed that "Casual Style" is dominant in the lyrics of Billie Eilish's album "When We Are Fall Asleep." Where Do We Go?

3. According to the data from the Badiah-based language style function, there are three functions in the lyrics of the song "When We Are Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go" by Billie Eilish: the first is to improve the audience's taste; the second is to persuade the listener; and the third is to produce a particular mood.

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PAGE 1

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PAGE 2

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PAGE 3

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PAGE 4

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PAGE 5

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PAGE 6

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