### **CHAPTER I**

# **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents the background of the study, statement of problems, objective of study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and the definition of key terms.

## **1.1 Background of the study**

Women's speech features are several aspects of speech difference between women and men which indicate the characteristic of women's speech. According to Holmes in *An Introducing to Sociolinguistic* (1992: 164), "Women and men do not speak in exactly the same way as each other in any community". The linguistic forms used by women and men contrast to different degrees in all speech. Between men and women have their own characteristic and behavior in the society, so it can make them become different in some aspects, especially in the way they use language in their communication. There are some differences between man and woman speech, for example, when men talked to men, the content categories of such talk focused on competition and teasing, sports, aggression, and doing things. On the other hand, when women talked to women, the equivalent categories were the self, feelings, their relation with other, home, and family. And also, when women talked to men, the content categories such as hobby, music, film, and game. Some Linguists have suggested that women use more standard speech from than man. Descriptions that women's speech display more variety in intonation than men's, women use euphemisms more than men, women make more use of expressive adjectives, use intonation indicating uncertainly, more indirect and polite, better grammar and fewer colloqualism, and tend to be collaborative rather than competitive, are among the most often cited differences between the two varieties (Jendra, 2010;52). Lakoff provides a list of ten women's speech was characterized by linguistic features, such as *lexical hedges or fillers*, *tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, 'empty' adjectives, precise colour terms, intensifiers, 'hypercorrect' grammar, 'superpolite' forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress* (as cited in Holmes, 1992;314). One of the way to know about women's speech is by watching movie where the main character of the movie is a woman who has special character or special utterance in her speech. Then, it can be found some women's speech features that used by the character.

The main reason why the writer has chosen this movie because of its language, such as the dictions and some utterances which give more data to be analyzed using theory of women's speech features. The reader will more realize that studying about women's speech features is very important to get more understanding in relation with language.

The writer focuses on a study of women's speech features based on Lakoff's theory which used by the main character in *"Lucy"* movie as the object of the study because the writer analyze about human speech features and this theory was suitable for this. It was produced by Virginie Silla and distributed by Universal Pictures. The film was shot in Taipe, Paris and New York City. The artist Scarlett Johansson, Morgan Freeman, Amr Waked and Choi Min-sik. This movie released on July 25, 2014. (<u>http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucy\_(2014-film)</u>.

This movie tells about a women who lives in Taipe, the kidnap and the use by a gangster to smuggle drugs and medicines. The smuggelrs using the body of Lucy as a middleman. Even though, drugs that planting in the body of Lucy turn out leaking and reacting with the DNA system. Instantaneous, Lucy felt something was not right and she can feel all the things that exist around her. She can absorb ability someone, can move object with mind and can't feel the pain as well as some ability to others who don't have normal human.

The writer decides to take the dialogues in "*Lucy*" movie as the part of her study because the main characters of this movie is a woman, she is Lucy. The writer assumes that the female characters will certainly use the linguistic features defined by Robin Lakoff. Therefore, by choosing the dialogues of the movie which have been known by a lot of people, it can make the reader will be interesting to read and attract curiocity about women's speech features. The types of women's speech features are claimed to be used more often by women than men in both communication. In the way they speak also different, women usually use polite forms and compliments more than men.

## **1.2 Statement of problems**

Based on the background of the study above, the study conducted to find out the answer of some problems in relation with the discussion above, as follows:

- 1.2.1. What types of women's speech features are used by the main characters in *"Lucy"*Luc Besson'smovie?
- 1.2.2. Which type of women's speech features used by the main character in *"Lucy"*Luc Besson'smovie occurs most frequently?

## **1.3 Objective**

Regarding to the problems of statement above, the objectives of this study are:

- 1.3.1. To know the types of women's speech features used by the main characters in *"Lucy"* Luc Besson'smovie.
- 1.3.2. To know the type of women's speech features which occurs most frequently by the main character in *"Lucy"*Luc Besson'smovie.

#### **1.4 Significance**

The significance of this study is expected to give more information and add the knowledge to the reader about women's speech features. The writer hope that the reader can identify and learn about women's speech features easily through an interesting object. The writer hope that this study can become a reference for linguistic students to learn more about women's speech features and hoped to be able to give contribution and foundation for future research who are interested in women's speech features to be analyzed deeper. In addition, they can learn about how women's speech features are used in women's speech in order to know their speech characteristic through the movie script. Meanwhile practically, reader can notice and practice women's speech features in daily conversation. This research hopefully can help the readers to conduct the research about this movie with another aspect in different field.

## **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

The scope of this study is concerned with ten types of features of women's language according to Lakoff. They are lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, 'empty' adjectives, precise colour terms, intensifiers, 'hypercorrect' grammar, 'superpolite' forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. This study is limited in the use of utterances made by the main character in the "*Lucy*" movie because the writer analyze about human speech features and this theory was suitable for this.

#### **1.6 Definition of Key Term**

To avoid misunderstanding, some key terms used in this study are defined:

- 1.6.1. Main character is an imaginary person represented in a work of fiction (play in film or story).
- 1.6.2. Women's speech features are features of speech that commonly uttered by women than by men in the way they are speaking. Lakoff provides a list of ten women's speech was characterized by linguistic features, such as

lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, 'empty' adjectives, precise colour terms, intensifiers, 'hypercorre grammar, 'superpolite' forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress (as cited in Holmes, 2001:314).

- 1.6.3. Women's language: a language that signifies the characteristics of women such as avoiding direct and forceful statements, and relying on conforms that conveys hesitation and uncertainty.
- 1.6.4. Lucy is title and main characer in a 2014 English-language French science fiction action film. This movie was written and directed by Luc Besson and producted by his wife Virginie Silla for his company Europacorp. The film was shot in Taipe, Paris and New York City. It stars Scarlett Johansson, Morgan Freeman, Amr Waked and Choi Min-sik. The film was released on July 25, 2014, and became a box office success, grossing over \$458 million against a budget of \$40 million. It won the 2014 Saturn Award for Action and various Best other awards. (https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucy\_(2014\_film)