

**MODALITY AND HEDGING UTILIZATION OF REBECCA AHN TO
MAINTAIN LANGUAGE POWER IN THE MOVIE:
*THE BLING RING***

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Aulia, A. N. 2015. **Modality and Hedging Utilization of Rebecca Ahn to Maintain Language Power in the Movie: *The Bling Ring***. Study Program of English, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Nurul Chojimah, Co-Supervisor: Emy Sudarwati.

Keywords: Language Power, Modality, Epistemic Modality, Deontic Modality, Dynamic Modality, Hedging, Propositional Hedging and Speech Act Hedging.

This research described the utilization of modality and hedging expressions by Rebecca Ahn to maintain language power in *The Bling Ring* movie. Modality and hedging are linguistics features which are useful and possibly be utilized when a person may desire to appear firmly aligned to an idea but wish for limiting how much it may be represented in terms of a firm promise and command. Furthermore, modality and hedging were proven as the factors to maintain language power since both modality and hedging can modify a message to appear just like what a speaker wanted.

Qualitative approach is applied in order to describe the linguistic phenomenon holistically. The data is taken from *The Bling Ring* movie script to obtain the utterances of Rebecca Ahn as the language power holder, and the movie is watched to get the context of the utterance. The data analysis is done with the implementation of coding procedure in order to categorize and describe the findings.

On the basis of the findings, it can be concluded that Rebecca Ahn maintains language power by utilizing epistemic modality in delivering the value of deduction and a story told; by deontic modality in giving order and promise, and in committing herself and or her friends to do certain action motivated by certain situation; by dynamic modality in showing her desire toward something, by propositional hedging in modifying spoken ideas; and by speech act hedging in modifying an order into a request to hide the force. Although it is mostly believed that power only can be possessed through social status or position, the utilization of certain linguistic features such as modality and hedging can support a power holder like Rebecca Ahn to control her friends to do particular intended action. Thus, Rebecca Ahn does more effort to utilize the power by demonstrating modality and hedging. It means power is possessed through effort. Thus, power is noticed when the Rebecca Ahn's friends perform an action which Rebecca Ahn expects them to do.

Finally, the researcher suggests the next researcher to; find a character's motives of language power utilization in order to gain deeper understanding, and; employ modal logic model proposed by Portner (2009) to get more exact analysis to avoid subjective bias. Meanwhile, The Faculty of Cultural Studies of Universitas Brawijaya can consider this topic to be taught in the Discourse Analysis class to give students the knowledge of applied discourse.

Aulia, A. N. 2015. **Penggunaan Modalitas dan Hedging oleh Rebecca Ahn untuk Mempertahankan Kekuatan Bahasa dalam Film: *The Bling Ring***. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing I: Nurul Chojimah, Pembimbing II: Emy Sudarwati.

Kata Kunci: Kekuatan Bahasa, Modalitas, Modalitas Epistemik, Modalitas Deontik, Modalitas Dinamik, *Hedging*, *Hedging* Proposisi dan *Hedging* Tindak Tutur.

Penelitian ini mendeskripsikan penggunaan ekspresi modalitas dan hedging yang digunakan oleh Rebecca Ahn untuk mempertahankan kekuatan bahasa dalam film *The Bling Ring*. Modalitas dan hedging adalah fitur linguistik yang dapat digunakan ketika seseorang ingin terlihat sejalan dengan sebuah gagasan, tetapi ingin membatasi bagaimana hal tersebut terlihat. Lebih jauh, modalitas dan hedging dapat mempertahankan kekuatan bahasa sebab modalitas dan hedging dapat mengubah sebuah pesan agar terlihat seperti yang diinginkan seseorang.

Pendekatan kualitatif diterapkan untuk menggambarkan fenomena linguistik tersebut secara menyeluruh. Data pada penelitian ini adalah ucapan dari Rebecca Ahn sebagai pemegang kekuatan bahasa yang diambil dari skrip film *The Bling Ring*, serta konteks yang didapat di dalam film tersebut. Analisis data dilakukan dengan prosedur koding untuk mengkategorisasikan serta mendeskripsikan temuan.

Berdasarkan temuan, Rebecca Ahn mempertahankan kekuatan bahasa dengan modalitas epistemik dalam menyampaikan kesimpulan dan bercerita; modalitas deontik dalam memberikan perintah, janji, serta dalam berkomitmen terhadap dirinya dan atau teman-temannya untuk melakukan tindakan yang termotivasi oleh situasi tertentu; modalitas dinamik dalam menunjukkan keinginannya terhadap sesuatu; hedging proposisi dengan cara mengubah gagasan yang terucap; dan hedging tindak tutur dalam mengubah sebuah perintah menjadi permintaan untuk menyembunyikan paksaan. Walaupun kekuatan dipercaya hanya dapat dimiliki melalui status sosial dan jabatan, penggunaan modalitas dan hedging dapat mendukung Rebecca Ahn untuk mengontrol teman-temannya agar melakukan tindakan tertentu. Maka, Rebecca Ahn berusaha lebih untuk menggunakan kekuatan dengan mendemonstrasikan modalitas dan hedging. Artinya, kekuatan diperoleh melalui usaha. Lalu, kekuatan terlihat ketika teman-teman Rebecca Ahn bertindak seperti yang Rebecca Ahn harapkan.

Peneliti selanjutnya dapat mencari motif dari penggunaan kekuatan bahasa untuk mengapatkan pengertian mendalam, dan; menggunakan model logika modal oleh Portner (2009) untuk menghindari bias. Sementara itu, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Brawijaya dapat mempertimbangkan topik ini untuk diajarkan di kelas *Discourse Analysis* untuk memberikan pengetahuan tentang diskursus terapan.

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