



PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF CHATROOM LANGUAGE

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DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN FULFILMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE
OF MASTER OF ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE

FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
KUALA LUMPUR

JULY 2004



DECLARATION OF ACADEMIC WORK

I, Su Ning, Registration No. TGB 030023, hereby declare that this dissertation entitled: *Pragmatic Analysis of Chatroom Language* is my own academic work with the exception of citations which have been acknowledged.

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PERAKUAN TENTANG HASIL KERJA AKADEMIC

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ABSTRACT

The dissertation aims to analyze chatroom language through pragmatic perspectives in order to assess the language use in the Internet text-based situation. The objective of the analysis is to prove that CMC language, a popular phenomenon among young people, to be a 'language revolution' suggested by Crystal (2001) in contrast to the view of 'antilanguage' termed by Halliday (1978). The theoretical framework is mainly based on *Ethnographic Analysis* (Gumperz & Hymes 1972), *Conversational Analysis* (Sacks, Schegloff, and Jefferson 1974), and *Speech Act Theory* (Austin & Searle 1962, 1969, 1975) to establish a theoretical ground for the thesis argumentation. The research method is qualitative and ethnographic to the data collection and interpretation. The result shows that language in chatrooms is recognizable and interactively communicable in spite of some of the language abuse. As a result, the paper suggests that chatroom language, as a form of CMC, tends to be a language revolution: it is not only a technological phenomenon, but rather a social phenomenon; a natural trend in language development due to the technological innovation; and a global cultural merge among various races with the Internet as a worldwide medium. It is of great significance to study its use for the sciences as sociology, psychology, and education in language syllabus design and language teaching.

ABSTRAK

Tujuan disertasi ini adalah untuk menganalisis data yang dikumpul dari ruang sembang (Chatroom language) dengan menggunakan perspektif pragmatik. Objektif analisis ini adalah untuk mengkaji pendapat bahawa bahasa CMC (satu fenomena yang digemari di kalangan remaja) merupakan satu revolusi linguistik menurut Halliday (1978). Kerangka teoretikal yang diterapkan dalam kajian ini adalah berdasarkan Analisis Etrografi (Gumperz & Hymes 1972), Analisis Perbualan (Sacks, Schegloff, Jefferson 1974) dan Teori Lakuan Bahasa (Austin & Searle 1962, 1969, 1975). Kaedah kajian ini adalah berbentuk kualitatif dan etrografik dari segi analisis data dan interpretasi. Kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa bahasa dalam ruang sembang (Chatroom) dapat di rumuskan sebagai mempunyai sifat interaktif walaupun terdapat pencemaran dari segi bahasanya. Kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa bahasa yang didapati dari ruang sembang (chatroom) mempamerkan ciri-ciri satu revolusi ke atas bahasa dan ini bukan sahaja sebagai satu fenomenon teknologi malah adalah juga satu fenomenon sosial. Sehubungan ini, kajian seperti ini amatlah penting dan berguna kerana ianya dapat diterapkan dalam bidang-bidang lain seperti sosiologi, psikologi dan paling penting dalam bidang pendidikan bahasa.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The dissertation is the result of the education exchange program between Chinese and Malaysian Governments. Firstly, I have to thank Ministry of Education Malaysia and China Scholarship Council because without their support the research work can not be done here.

Secondly, thanks have to be given to Prof. Dr. Elaine Morais, Prof. Dr. Lohanayahi Baskaran, Prof. Dr. Maya Khemlani David, Associate Prof. Dr. Ng Kwei Kuen, and Associate Prof. Dr. Mullai Arunachalam for their excellent lectures on *Research Methodology, General Linguistics, Spoken Discourse Analysis, Applied Linguistics, and Curriculum Design & Teaching Methodology*, which constitute the necessary knowledge for this dissertation.

Thirdly, thanks also go to the staffs of Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Faculty of Languages & Linguistics for their sincere service and timely help that I need.

And last, the most important, I would like to thank Prof. Datin Dr. Jamaliah Mohd. Ali. She not only taught me pragmatic coursework (the theoretic base for this research) but also worked as my supervisor for this dissertation. Her direction, encouragement, and advice were of great benefit in the course of the dissertation writing, without which I would have never completed this dissertation.

Su Ning

23 July, 2004

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