# CHAPTER I
# INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the introduction of this study. For introduction part, the researcher explains background of the study, scope and limitations, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significances of the study, and definition of key terms.

## A.  Background of the study

Gender and sex are two different terms that refers to different things. It is sometimes difficult to understand exactly what is meant by the term "gender" and the term "sex". Sex refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define for men and women. However, gender refers to the socially constructed characteristics of women and men, such as norms, roles, and relationships of and between groups of women and men. It varies from society to society and can be changed (World Health Organization, 2019).

In relation to language, gender influences how the language is used by men and women. Consequently, men and women tend to use language differently. They have their own characteristics to deliver their thoughts through language. This triggers some researchers to find how they use language differently. Tubbs and Moss (2008) described how language is used by men and women differently.

> Females are more submissive, affected by social pressure, and responsive to the needs of others. It has been found that, although women seem to respond more to the remarks of other people, work harder at maintaining conversations, and give more "positive minimal responses", men generally initiate as well as receive more interaction. Men also interrupt others more and ignore the remarks of others more frequently than women do (p. 94).

Those statements explain that women in their social life give more response or attention to the conversation then men give less interaction to the conversation. In other words, women are dominating the conversation and men tend to be as the receiver. Similarly, according to Tannen (1990), women speak an excessive amount of instead of men. Men additionally assume that women

1

speak a lot because men typically hear women talk in the situation where men do not.

Robin Lakoff (1975) has distinguished between men and women language. She proposed language features which are differentiate women from men in using language. They are lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjectives, precise color terms, intensifiers, hypercorrect grammar, super polite forms, avoidance of strong swear words, and emphatic stress. Those features have helped the previous researchers to discuss more about how women and man use language differently.

Additionally, this topic of the study has been conducted by some previous researchers which had the different results. Based on Fadhila Nur Kartika (2015) from Airlangga University who had investigated about Woman Linguistics Feature Used *by Oprah Winfrey in same-sex and cross-sex communication* using Lakoff theory. The findings of her study showed that there were four women linguistic features used in the same-sex communication including lexical hedges or fillers, rising intonation on declaratives, empty adjectives. Then, the next previous researcher is Monica Leoni Daraninggar Murti from Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta University. She has done his research on 2018 under the title an analysis of women's language features used by Mia in the *princes diaries* movie. Through the analysis used Lakoff theory, she found nine types of woman's speech features that used by the main character while vocabulary (precise colors terms) is not found.

Moreover, the differences between the way men and women speak were categorized to grammatical features, such as the differences between masculine and feminine of morphology in languages. The differences of grammatical features of language represents to how man and women speak. The features of language has their own function, the function of each feature also can help to understand the meaning of what people is talking.

Furthermore, the features of language and each function can be shown in the conversation, speech, dialogue or talk show section. Accordingly, to analyze the language features the researcher uses the speech which focuses on the language features used by Malala Yousafzai. There are some famous speeches from any popular person but, the researcher use the speech from Malala Yousafzai. She is

youngest speaker from Pakistan. The researcher chooses Malala Yousafzai's speeches as an object of the study because her speeches are famous and being headlines in every big country. Everyone was praised her struggles defended the women's right through her speech. Consequently, the researcher wants to analyze how Malala used the language in her speeches which can influence others about the important of woman right especially in her country. Therefore, the researcher starts to analyze the language features used by *Malala Yousafzai* in her speeches.

**B.    Scope and Limitation of the Study**

The scope of the study focuses on the language features in language used. This study investigates how language is deployed by Malala Yousafzai's in her speeches. Based on the scope of the study, this study limits to the features and functions in the use of language in society. Furthermore, the researcher limits to the function of each woman language feature based on Robin Lakoff (1975) theory.

**C.    Research Questions**

Based on the background of the study, in the relation to the Woman Language, the research questions are formulated as follows:

1.  What kinds of language features are mostly used in *Malala Yousafzai's speeches*?
2.  What are the functions of each feature used in *Malala Yousafzai's speeches*?

**D.    The objective of the Study**

Based on the research questions, the objective of the study aims to describe the kinds of language features and the function of each feature represented in *Malala Yousafzai's speeches.*

**E.    The Significance of the Study**

Based on the problem and purpose of the study, the researcher hopes that this research can be beneficial for many people who want know about the features and each function of language. To make clear, the significance that can be proposed as follows:

1. For researcher, this study can be used as the reference related use of language in accordance with the gender and how language used in their social life.
2. For the reader, this study can be used to get more knowledge about kinds of language features and its function of each feature that mostly appears on speeches.
3. For future researchers, this study is expected to be a proper academic reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research dealing with language features.

## F. Definition of Key Terms

To provide a better understanding of this study, it is necessary to explain more about some terms in order to help the readers understand them more easily. The key terms are described below:

**Sex:** Sex refers to the biological characteristics that define humans as female or male.

**Gender:** Gender is refers to the roles, behaviors, activities and attributes that a given society constructs for men and women.

**Gender Language:** Gender language refers to the way women and man using language in their social life.

**Women Language:** Women language indicates the characteristic of women's behavior and shows how they used their language in the society (Lakoff, 1975).

**Women's Language Features:**      Women language feature is several aspect of language used by woman to differentiate between women's and man's characteristic.