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GENDER DIFFERENCE IN THE INFORMATION DELIVERY STYLE OF SCHOLARLY WORKS

Gender difference is a distinction between male and female representatives in all aspects of human life. It has been studied since the Aristotel Era. Gender differences are found in multiple sciences.

Frequently the works that examined gender in writing didn't possess a strong theoretical basis. Research papers on women's spoken language, for example, identify a cluster of stylistic features that are stereotypically associated with women's speech [3]. The features are qualifiers, hedges, intensifiers, tag questions, extremely polite language and other devices that may blunt the force of firm statements. However it was stated that women naturally have more verbal aptitude than men due to male's nature of being less socialized [5]. So, the clear difference remains doubtful.

To Donald Rubin and Kathryn Greene [5], women's oral speech is weaker than a men's one. In their research, the term 'powerless language' is included, with a left note that it is mainly common for women. However it is said to show the opposite results in the written language.

In her book, Deborah Tannen defined that men are involved more in 'report talk', focusing on the exchange of information, while women mainly revolve about 'rapport talk', attempting to find social bonds [6]. Biber and Burges supplemented the point with a suggestion that females use 'involved' style and males - 'informative' style [2].

Jozefien Piersoul and Freek Van de Velde have drawn the light onto male writing performance characteristics, providing that men have a tendency to use references more often to quantities and locations. They also tend to use more prepositional phrases, and more articles [7].

A comparative analysis upon the representatives of both genders has been provided. "Gender Gap in Natural Language Processing Research: Disparities in Authorship and Citations" by Saif M. Mohammad (2020) was taken as an example of a research conducted by a male representative [4]. This study dwells on gender disparities in NLP research, concluding that women make up only 29% of first authors and 25% of last authors. It is stated that female first authors get fewer citations, even when accounting for experience and research area. Mohammad fixes on a quantitative analysis to assess authorship and citations. The study does not regard any linguistic characteristics.

The research written by female representatives "Do They Write Differently? Exploring Gendered Linguistic Differences in Academic Writings of Saudi Writers" by Sadia Ali and Ebtesam Abdulhaleem (2024) [1] investigates linguistic differences between male and female academic writing. The authors use multidimensional analysis to explore the lexical and grammatical choice of genders. Findings provide that male writers tend to use more informational and non-argumentative language, while female writers use more narrative and descriptive language. As to the methodology, Ali and Abdulhaleem conduct a corpus-based analysis of research papers half of which are written by males and another half are by females, to analyze linguistic features and find a difference.

Altogether it brings a conclusion that male scholars often engage in quantitative studies, while female scholars may utilize discourse-based approaches.

Regarding the lexis choice, the male author uses general technical terminology related to authorship and citation analysis (e.g., "demographic analysis," "citation disparities"). The author also maintains an objective tone and avoids interpretative language. As opposed to that, the female authors use more narrow-field linguistic and discourse analysis terminology (e.g., "lexico-grammatical features," "narrative discourse"). Their papers also involve more descriptive language, with adjectives and hedging expressions (e.g., "noticeable differences suggest...").

To refer to the grammar, the male author has a frequent use of passive voice (e.g., "This percentage has not improved since the mid-2000s"), making the writing more formal and impersonal. The paper of the author also includes complex sentence structures to present detailed findings. The female scholars include active voice sentences, making them more direct (e.g., "The findings suggest that male research writers use more explicit language"). The author also tends to use hedging expressions (e.g., "suggest," "indicate," "may") that create a more interpretative tone.

To draw a conclusion, the two studies largely differ regarding the lexical and grammatical choices. It lightens their goals and methodology. After the analysis, it was found that gender directly influences linguistic and stylistic choices in academic works. Male authors tend to use quantitative approaches with technical terminology as mainly preferred. They also were noticed to omit the usage of personal references and direct questions to keep an objective tone throughout their academic work. On the contrary, female authors prefer qualitative methodologies with their work maintaining rather descriptive language, active voice and hedging expressions to give a nuanced view. These conclusions pave the gist, and it is that men deliver statistical and factual works, while women go for interpretative and reader-oriented ones. Both gender representatives end up with eminent and profound discourse.

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