ABSTRACT

People may use language to control others’ actions or minds. In the novel ‘Grass for His Pillow’, the character of Shirakawa Kaede had been given much power in the society. Therefore, the topic about how Kaede used her speech to implement her power is brought up in this thesis. The thesis is proposed to find how different characters and contexts affect Kaede in choosing the request structure and how Kaede may control her listeners’ acts or minds through her choices of words or forms of request. In writing the thesis, library research is chosen as the method for getting data. It can be concluded that relationship, status, and formality have important roles in influencing Kaede in choosing the structure of requests. It also shows that different request structures have different power depending on the three social dimensions. These conclusion suggests that the requests employed by the character in the novel have the same bases as the requests employed in real daily conversations.
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Yolanda Oktavia

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