



AN ANALYSIS ON THE USE OF
SMILEYS AND TEXT-BASED EMOTICONS IN YAHOO! MESSANGER
AS CHAT REGISTER

THESIS

Presented as One of the Requirements to Obtain S1 Degree at
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DEDICATION

This thesis is honorably dedicated to:

Her

She, who understands me from the very deep
She, who supports me in any mood
She, who motivates me for my every little creation
She, my dearest mother

Him

He, who tries to bring out the best in me,
He, who helps to turn fondest dreams to reality,
He, who always there to show his generosity in so many ways
He, my dearest father

Him

He, who fill my world with joy and happiness,
He, who makes me realize what 'Sister' means
He, my dearest brother

Him

He, who compares me to 'a kiss from a rose'

MOTTO

“The real man smiles in trouble, gathers strength from distress,
and grows brave by reflection”

(Terry Pratchet)

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled *An Analysis on the Use of Smileys and Text-based Emoticons in Yahoo! Messenger as Chat Register* is an original piece of writing. I declare that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publication. I certify to the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any help received in this preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, September 2008

The writer

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APPROVAL SHEET

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SUMMARY

An Analysis on the Use of Smileys and Text-based Emoticons in Yahoo! Messenger as Chat Register, Daning Festarisa, 040110101045, English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University, 2008.

This thesis analyzes the usage of smileys and text-based emoticons in Yahoo! Messenger. The data are gained from chatting texts and questionnaires of 100 chatters. As a study of language in society, the theory of register is needed because this kind of language is only used in chatting community. To analyze the data, the theory of sign stated by Saussure is needed. The type of research is field research. The data are collected from chatting texts and questionnaires of 100 chatters and then interpret the findings. As a result, 73 chatters choose to use smileys, 24 chatters choose to use text-based emoticons, and the rest choose not to use both of the icons.

TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE.....	i
DEDICATION	ii
MOTTO	iii
DECLARATION	iv
APPROVAL SHEET	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
SUMMARY	vii
TABLE OF CONTENT	viii

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 The Problems to Discuss	3
1.3 The Scope of the Study.....	3
1.4 The Goals of the Study	4
1.5 The Organization of the Thesis	4

CHAPTER TWO: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Framework.....	5
2.1.1 Register.....	5
2.1.2 The Theory of Sign.....	6
2.1.2.1 The Concept of Sign	6
2.1.2.2 The Classification of Sign.....	8
2.1.3 The Definition of Nonverbal Communication.....	9
2.1.4 The Definition of Internet Terms.....	10
2.1.4.1 Smiley	10
2.1.4.2 Text-based Emoticon	11
2.2 Literature Review	14

CHAPTER THREE: RESEACH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Type of Research	16
3.2 Type of Data	16
3.3 Data Collection	17
3.4 Data Analysis.....	17
3.5 Population.....	17
3.6 Sample	18

CHAPTER FOUR: DISCUSSION

4.1 Kinds of Smileys and Text-based Emoticons that the Chatters usually use when they do an Online Chat	19
4.2 The Meaning of Smileys and Text-based Emoticons used by Chatters	21
4.3 The Users of Smileys and Text-Based Emoticons	30
4.3.1 The Users of Smileys and text-based Emoticons based on Educational background	32
4.3.2 The Users of Smileys and text-based Emoticons based on Sex	38
4.3.3 The Users of Smileys and Text-based Emoticons based on the Relationship of Chatters	43

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION

BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX