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

Daning Festarisa

APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis has been approved and defended in front of the examination committee of Faculty of Lettters Jember University.

Day   : Monday
Date   : September 22, 2008
Place   : Jember University

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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.

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