

UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA
FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY
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BA DIPLOMA THESIS
GENEDER DIFFERENCES IN ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
CONVERSATION

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Declaration

With this declaration, I, Blerina Frrokaj, would like to ensure my pursuit of the Academic Honesty Statement on this Diploma Thesis. I declare my honesty and integrity on my work, on achieving my academic goals based on ethical norms, using nothing more than my knowledge on this theme and only the sources that are mentioned on my Bibliography.

Acknowledgments

This statement is an expression of my gratitude for everyone who in a way or another walked with me this long path of my academic development. It will be hardly sufficient, and it is also hard involving everyone because it is a long list of people that have been by my side, but I will make sure to mention the most important, while not denying the importance and forgetting to give thanks also to those not mentioned here. I would like to start with the University and the Academic Staff, along these four years their professionalism is something that should be acknowledged. Specifically, I would like to express my gratitude toward my tutor on this Diploma Thesis, Professor Nazli Tyfekci. She was a role model for me from the minute she stepped on the class, that strong and confident personality, with an elegant and chic look, a real woman example. She offered her unconditional help, advice, and cooperation on this thesis, which of course led to success. During these four years I had the chance to meet lots of new and amazing people, made not only new colleagues but also lovable friends, but an advantage that I had during these four years was my sister, who was my colleague and my biggest supporter, Ardiana Komani. She made sure that I didn't fall behind, she was there for help every time, and made sure to lift me up every chance she got, so I could keep up with the good results, I am very grateful. Also, all my gratitude goes to the reason behind everything I did in my life and the reason why I kept going when I wanted to give up, my parents. Sleepless nights and long hours of studying, had only one purpose, that of making you proud, and I dreamed of this since I was a child. I will make sure that this is just the beginning. You two were my strength and made sure I had everything I needed so I could achieve something in life, so Mum and Dad this is all for you. I would like to also thank the rest of my family, my sisters and my brother for their enormous support and love. These four years were not only a professional achievement for me but also an emotional one. I found the love of my life, for whom I am very thankful. A person who made sure to be by my side, and give me all the support, strength, and love I needed to overcome any difficulty. He believed in me and he became a crucial factor on this achievement of mine. Last but not least, I sincerely want to thank God, for everything I have, for everything I am, and for everything in between. Thank you.

Abstract

This Diploma Thesis is about “Gender Differences in English as a Foreign Language Conversation”. Even though it is the 21st century, gender differences are still a very sensitive theme, so the decision to deal with this theme was not only see the differences that different researchers made, but also to see what the case in my city is. This paper involves different types of methodology. Gathering of data, researches made at different times, different environments, and different materials that helped on giving an explanation on this phenomena, and answering one main question: Are there any real differences in language between Men and Women? This paper also included a comparative research, comparing different results, and comparing our results and findings with those of different researches. Made sure to choose the most appropriate methodologies for this field of study, which are: Natural Observation and a Questionnaire. It is a research where many instruments were involved that gave us reliable information, and completed the paper.

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I. Introduction

As soon as we talk about differences, one of the first things that come to our minds is the Men and Women differences, not in a particular field but as a whole. For years now, different types of discussion regarding these differences were raised. One of them is the language/communication differences between genders. Sociolinguistic dealt with it for some decades now. As it is known that communication is that one trade that differs us from any other being on this planet, but is it the one that also differs us as human beings? In advance, we all know that conversation, communication, and language are some personal specifics of each and every person on this planet, so it is obvious that different factors make the differences in the way someone speaks, but do those factors differ more in between genders? Cameron. D (2008), a sociolinguistic professor at Oxford University, in her book “The Myth of Mars and Venus”, states that: “*The idea of men and women ‘speak different languages’ has itself become a dogma, treated not as a hypothesis to be investigated, or as a claim to be adjudicated, but as an unquestioned article of faith.*” This means that the discussion of the idea that men and women have differences in communication is not anymore treated as a hypothesis, a field that needs to be investigated, but as an unquestioned belief of sociolinguistics. Also, lots of studies show that the distinguishes in this field start at the moment we understand the real definition of gender and the fact that gender and sex are completely two different aspects of human beings. According to John Staughton, (2016) “*The difference between sex and gender is that sex is a biological concept based on biological characteristics, whereas gender deals with personal, societal and cultural perceptions of sexuality.*” So when we are talking about sexes we usually refer to human beings as Males and Females, whereas when we talk about gender we refer to social constructions and personal beliefs (such as blue is for boys, and pink is for girls) and the two groups divided here are Women and Men. This difference is widely misunderstood even to our day. This paper, tried to give some answers based on real facts and researches, which state one thing for sure: that there are differences in the way a language is used in between Women and Men. The paper attempted to give credit to these differences by dealing with them on different languages, and focusing on different surveys made for years from different authors as well as an outdoor observation, which gave us numerous explanation and differences, also we supported our thesis on a questionnaire, which enforced the fact that this differences exist no matter the Academic preparation or background.

1.1 Background

According to Mead (n.d.) one should never doubt a small group of people, who are thoughtful and committed to change the world. Indeed, that is the only thing that ever changed it.

It was not until the 80s were the so-called “woman aggression” started. 13th July 1848, marks the beginning of the Women’s Right Movement. Women from all over the United States gathered, with one and one plan only: “Women Equality!” When this movement started, gender differences were asked to change and to leave room for a more equal world. Women of that time did not really care about any other difference except the discrimination and the men domination in all types of ways. The situation was very bad, women were not considered as human beings, but more as a property. But human emancipation led to women awareness on their need for equality before God and before the Law. The specific implication of this inequality were the facts that:

- *Women could not vote,*
- *Married women had no rights on the property,*
- *Husbands had legal power over and responsibility to act and respond on their behalves, they could imprison or beat them as slaves,*
- *Divorces and child custody gave no rights to women,*
- *Most work positions were closed for women and when women did work they were paid not a quarter of what men earned,*
- *Women had no chance of an education since no school, college or university would accept women students, etc. (Stanton, E. 1848)*

To our day these facts are hard to imagine, and it is even harder facing the fact that there are communities and families around the world, and it worries the most that our country is still one of those places that still struggles with these issues, Women’s Rights and Equality. This movement expanded over the years, for ten generation now, grandmothers, mothers, and sisters, fought for what is right and truthful. Eventually, women gained some rights, their freedom, their equality in some fields, in some laws, but this legacy reached over the years only opened the path for expansion. New leads of inequality, new discriminations found their way to light, and one of them was the differences made in the spoken and written language. The women gained the right of education, and ever since every year more and more women headed to get their education on different fields, which made them even more aware to the difficulties they had to face.

These differences became part of the Sociolinguistic field too, and from the 90s many changes were made on different languages on the world, to provide the equality that was denied for centuries to one of the things women do best: 'the use of language'. But these differences went together as a chain, and to this day there are still lots of work that needs to be done so that the human being genders can be considered equal. The movement is not over, Paul, A. (1923) the organizer who first wrote the Equal Rights Amendment, said *“That she always feels that movements are some sort of mosaics. She said that each one of us should put one little stone in it, and only then you can get a great mosaic.”*

II. Language, Communication and Conversation

Conversation is the exchange of spoken or written words/ideas, created during the communication process, with a particular language, (Dhabi, 2003). So conversation, communication, and language are some personal specifics of each and every person on this planet. As much as these are topics that linguistic deals with, these also are the hypothesis for discussion on sociolinguistics. As part of the sociolinguistic, the conversation is an activity between two or more people, exchanging ideas, showing interest, implicating both on sequences of words, clauses, and sentences and providing the question, based on the reaction created during the words that become parts of this exchange. *Conversations are created with the interest of speaking, knowing or showing, including different types of emotions and stimulating different types of behaviors, whereas depending on different factors different people approach differently to conversations, (Brennan, 2010).* Communication provides conversion, while both of them are uses of language. *According to SLI International Research, made on 2009, there are 6909 distinct languages,* this indicates that not only people may speak on different vocabulary, but even approach, take, and behave differently in conversations and during communication. *This means that sociolinguistic deals with the social side of the use of linguistic, in interactions between different individuals, different cultures, different background, and even in between different genders (Xia, 2013).* Before continuing with the study made in this field nowadays, we should first stop on the judgmental ideas created for a long time, ‘the man superiority’, that led to a specific way for woman to behave, even talk and use language, while man dominance and woman submission starts from the moment the doctor gives the news “it’s a girl”. Great changes happened during years, as I mentioned earlier, women now have the right to talk, work, vote, satisfying right?! Not sure about that, even though women are still fighting to gain the equality they deserve.

When we refer to ‘women language’ and ‘men language’ we refer to differences on the way of speaking, communicating, and evolving a conversation, but what we do not know is that by those divisions we may refer to people with diverse sexes, as for example ‘woman language’ to a man, whose social views and actions may be more common with that of women’s social views and actions. Sociolinguistic dealt with this theme over years, while changing the course from ‘women’ referencing to ‘females’ and ‘men’ referring to ‘males’.

If we go back in history we can see that these two divisions were not even part of the sociolinguistic concern, because it was not until the nineteenth century that women from middle and upper class had access to education (Weiner, 1997). And if we see the literature written during earlier periods of time, from men, we can easily mistake it as a ‘women language’, love letters, poems, romantic dedications, fear, love, war, family, treason, etc. were some of the topics which were used during different literature periods, and men were the ones expressing their feeling like only ‘women’ can. This indicates that not only literature but all of the other fields of life were kept away from the woman for centuries, science, arts, even linguistic rules were determined by man, which of course created a huge gap on involving woman concepts and ideas on it. This was one of the first exception made that opened the chances of differences in linguistics. Names of professions, pronouns, names of different things, they all had a male connection, without a female substitution. *This kind of language is known as “gendered language” (Miller & Swift, 1994).*

II.I. Gendered Language

This kind of language division refers to gender differences made on a language. Professions, names, pronouns, the way of referring to a group of people, and lots of other things are part of this unequal way of using language expression (Xia, 2013). Some may say that most, not all of the standards of different languages were decisions of men, they made the rules of grammatical, and all other language rules still used today. English is one of the few languages that got the chance to make the right change toward these differences, of having only a few grammatical genders unless it is referring to biological sex, in other cases it does not have a feminine or masculine nouns division. But unlike English language, Albanian, French, German, and other languages as well, keep the male-centric in their language, referring to everyone with masculine forms. Starting from a simple example on the first amendment on U.S. Declaration of Independence, that states that: “All men are equal.” This is a context of the word “men” referring to both Men and Women. *According to “The Writing Center” (n.d.), this is not an equal use,* though for centuries everybody was okay with it, as they understood the word ‘men’ as the word referring to humankind. Today this concept is rarely used, it is substituted with people, humans, etc. Further, I am going to show some other examples that are still appearing in English language, as the most used foreign language worldwide, and as the basic foreign language in this paper.

English language	Usage of Gendered Language	Explanation	Alternatives
The generic “he”	Every employee should come in time, he who comes late dismisses the work day.	Referring to a group of people, who possibly are not all male, with a masculine pronoun. Defines <i>employee</i> as an exclusively male word.	*they... *s/he *he or she
The word “man”	1. The man coming. 2. Mankind . 3. It is manmade . 4. He is in his freshman year. 5. Common man .	Referring to human beings once again with exclusively male words.	1. *person, individual 2. *people, human beings 3. *manufactured 4. *first year student 5. *average person
Gendered Professions	Mailman , Policeman , Congressman , Fireman , Salesman , Chairman ...	Assumes the masculine dominance on these field. Finding these as exclusively male jobs.	Mailperson, Police Officer, Legislator, Firefighter, Salesperson, Chairperson
Titles	Female: “ Miss ”, “ Mrs. ” and “ Ms. ” Male: “ Mr. ”	Females should declare their marriage status to know if she is a “ Miss ” or “ Mrs. ” Males have no such implications, “ Mr. ” can refer to any man, regardless of whether he is single or married. Also the habit of addressing older women as “ Mrs. ” regardless of whether the woman in question is married.	Choosing a particular title for feminine too, regardless of their status, and their age, same as it appears for masculine.

Gendered Language Differences, Table 1.

Almost all the same cases appear on the Albanian language too, *referring to a group of people with masculine pronoun “ata” even if there is only one male person (Limaj, 2016)*, referring to different job position with male attribution only. According to a study made by the researcher Elona Limaj (2016), titles like “Zonjushë” changes to “Zonjë” after the status changes to married for females, whereas for males “Zotëri” stays the same in all cases.

These differences in gendered language happen to almost all the languages around the world, for example in the German language the feminine pronoun “*Sie*” is similar to the plural pronoun used both for masculine and feminine “*Sie*” used in a more polite context. Whereas in French the masculine gender almost always suppresses the feminine, for example in the phrase “*la femme et l’homme*” (the woman and the man) is replaced by the masculine pronoun “*ils*” (they). And further on, this is one of the first differences in language made in between men and women.

II.II. Gender and Sex Theory

Before continuing further on the differences that occur on these two different groups, we should stop at a very crucial field of understanding what gender is, and how these groups have their differences. Lots of sociolinguistics studies show that *the distinguishes on this field start at the moment we understand the real definition of gender and the fact that gender and sex are completely two different aspects of human beings*, (Ning, 2010).

When we talk for gender differences, are we referring to men and women in gender or in sex?

We should dig deeper into finding what really causes these differences. In many studies made on the use of language during the years, there was only one difference found biologically between these two groups of human beings, the phonological processing in males is located in the left part of the brain, whereas for females is located in both left and right part of the brain, but this is not a change that makes any language differences. *According to a study made by Ning, on “Gender Difference in English Language and Its Causes” (2010), as far as there is no evidence in any biological study or concept that there exist any difference in using the language in these two major groups, rather than trying to attribute these differences to our natural forming, the conclusion is that these differences might be caused generally by social means.* These differences are formed due to different social interactions that start from the moment we come to this world.

“Beauvoir suggests that a baby born with female reproductive organs does not simply grow up to be a woman. She has to turn herself into a woman, or more correctly, she is turned into a woman by the society she grows up in response to the expectations and conditioning, and differs according to the dominant influences she is subject to in the subculture, ethnic group, religious sect, in which she grows up.” (Von Flotow, 2004).

According to this, the differences are made during our whole lifetime. Starting from the psychological point of view, genders have many differences. Affected by this, a woman is thought to be a polite creature, more careful and sensitive, that is why before using their language they think of the effects that her words will cause so they tend to keep quiet, whereas they tend to show their emotions more effectively while communicating. While on the contrary men are seen as more rough creatures, harsh and more inflame while they tend to say whatever they want, and seldom care what other people think, their emotion rarely gets expressed while speaking.

This is the first indication made on the differences, another one is their social status, craved for centuries. Social status plays a very important role in these differences, the most crucial is the education level. In all cultural and social differences made on language, the greater are the differences if the educational level is different in genders. Girls did not have the right to go to school for years, then the right of education started growing from primary school to high school and university. The tendency of a man getting higher grades on education shows that the differences in language are also because of the lack of woman education. But another difference appeared even after woman began getting an education, they tend to be stricter to the norms of the language, and the statuses of standard linguistic, rules that man do not follow. Almost all languages have these differences, people have different ways of living, thinking, and behaving, while cultural phenomena, educations inherited by families, and different perceptions given and taken during the years of growing, deepens these men and women differences.

III. Body Language

Over the years, on the researches made on which are the differences in conversation and communication between men and women, most common thing that was used as a difference was their body language while communicating. Despite the vocabulary and the language approaches they have, these two groups also tend to use a different way of expressing things while talking. As said before, this has nothing to do with the biological aspects, but purely recorded behaviors, ways of acting, education and social skills, learned through years. On the reviews I made, on the most of men and women conversation differences, body language was a crucial one, most of the studies that were reviewed led me to some crucial differences on this topic.

According to Van Edwards, (2017) a behavioral investigator, the most common differences are:

III.I Approaches

Differences start from this very first thing. Two groups like different approaches, females want up front come ups, they want to see who and how are they approaching, psychologists assume that this connects to the feeling of protection. While males want the approaches to come from the side or the angle, the front approaches are too aggressive for them. Females do more eye contact while approaching, so they can decide earlier on if that is someone they want to hang out or not, while the men just do not care, they will talk to whoever approaches.

III.II Nodding

A different way to show the difference in non-verbal aspect. Studies have shown that a female nods to show that she is listening and wants the speaker to continue, while a male nods when he is trying to show agreement on something

III.III Touch

Another non-verbal difference, female touches someone's arm or forearm to show support and make a connection, while a male usually pats someone's back (even subconsciously), to show dominance, superiority or control.

III.IV Nonverbal Encouragement

A female tends to do it a lot more, whether they agree or not to what is being said. While a male does not, and consider it unnecessary.

III. V Facial Expressions

Due to social environments, which often lead to different ways of teaching behaviors to different genders while growing, females do more facial expression, they smile as a sign of politeness, while overall males demonstrate fewer expressions, and they also smile less. But according to these researches, these examples may differ from one person to another, due to different types of environment, cultures, and social awareness.

IV. Gender Difference in Vocabulary

Vocabulary plays a great deal on the way someone communicates and makes a conversation. What kind of words are usually used from these two groups, which is the difference in the vocabulary used by men and women, how do they use this vocabulary, with what is it associated, questions like these were another concern for me. The reviews of the researches and works made on these field showed some differences, that, of course, they can vary from different conditions in a person's life. Starting from the number of words used per day, lots of studies implied that women talk more, historically this was a well-known "fact", lots of quotes and proverbs were made, and this was unnegotiable. For example:

- *"The tongue is the sword of a woman, and she never lets it become rusty."* (Chinese proverb)
- *Woman talk nine times more than man.* (English proverb)
- *"The three-inch-long woman's tongue can kill a six-foot-long man."* (Japanese Proverb)
- *Father's house, mother's tongue.* (No author)
- *Words are woman, works are man.* (No author)

But luckily latest studies gave us a big turn on this case, there is a slightly small amount of difference of words used per day, between men and women. *Van Edwards (2015), explains that studies at the University of Texas at Austin, showed that the number of words a day goes to 16,215 words for women compared to men's 15,669.*

Women	Men
Standard forms of language	Stigmatized, taboo, slang forms
Topics: personal relationships/ clothes/ family/etc.	Topics: cars/ sports/ drinking/ politics/ economics/ etc.
Communication: Talkative and Expressive	Communication: Strong or Silent
Superficial/ more standard	Mumble/ no enunciate/ manipulative (direct)
Mumble/ speak softly	Non-emotional content/ Fact-based content
Chatty/ Bigger Vocab	1st person experiences/ swearing
Gossip/ Elegant	Grunt/ Less correctly
Exaggerate/ Manipulative (indirect)	Lower voices/ Deeper argumentative (direct)
Laugh/ Smile/ Self-effacing	No emotions
Cooperative/ Diplomatic/ baby-talk	Confidence in statement/ exaggerate
High/ rising intonation	Boastful/ dominating conversation

Gender Differences in Vocabulary, (Ishikawaa, 2014) Table 2.

V. Grammatical Differences

Grammatically speaking, the differences are obvious too. Sentences, clauses, reformulations, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, intensifiers, etc. are some of the grammatical parts that are used differently on these two groups. Men use more “incomplete clauses”, while women talk in whole sentences. Also, men stop more often, and rather than start over they reformulate what they are saying, while woman starts again. Generally, during the review, we found lots differences during different studies made on this field, is good to mention that this is a well-studied area of sociolinguistic, different conferences and gatherings are made yearly so that researchers may come with new finding on this field each year. *Based on the findings of the “2nd Global Conference on Linguistics and Foreign Language Teaching” (2014), and information collected from Language and Woman’s Place book, (Lakoff, 1975), grammatically men and women differ a lot, some of those differences are:*

Woman tend to use more:

-Modal verbs, like: can, could, might.

-More Modal adverbs: probably, possibly.

-Tentative verbs: think, suppose.

*- Interrogative modal/ and tag: Could you, would you...? “You're going to dinner, aren't you?”
“... Isn't it?”*

- Minimal vocalization: hmm, yeah.

*- The frequency of politeness: please, thank you. Would you mind...”, “I'd appreciate it if...”,
“...if you don't mind”.*

-Women use more pronouns: I, you, she, my, myself, their.

-Propositions: in, on, for, with.

-Adjectives: divine, lovely, adorable.

-Social connection words: sister, friends, home.

-Psychological processes: mad, uneasy, happy.

-Using phrases like: “kind of”, “sort of”, “it seems like”.

- Use direct quotation.

While men use more often:

-Slang words: ain't, y'all.

-Nouns: nouns related to social phenomena.

-Nouns specifiers: that, one.

-Determiners: a, the, these.

-Quantifiers: one, more, some, a lot.

-Men use more numbers, articles, and proposition.

-Men paraphrase more often.

Based on Mastering Advanced English Language, a Macmillan book (1997), men interrupt way more often than women, they reject topics that are introduced by women, men focus on particular aspects of things or events in a conversation, they show the particular time and place something happened, more than women do. While women focus on people more, they involve them in the topics of the conversation, rather than discussing for the topic. A woman usually shows concern more about other people, and in a heated up situation, they are the ones who try to soften the mood. Also, a difference is the use of humor, women do not use humor and often lack the understanding of it, while men use it in all sorts of cases.

These differences were part of almost every review, it seems like sociolinguistic researchers agree on all of these differences, and also agree that these findings may not always apply to everyone, because as we said these are not born differences, these are social means.

VI. Methodology

This seminary paper involved different types of methodology. It started with the gathering of data, researches, and materials, made at different times, and different environment, that gave a reasonable explanation of the gender difference phenomena. Continued doing a qualitative research methodology, gathering reasons, conducting interviews, tasting and evaluating the found differences, while reviling new information and perspectives on evolving this topic. This Diploma paper also includes a comparative research, finding the differences and similarities, and supporting my paper on the most reliable information. To further complete this paper, we involved two research methods. Based on some researches, it was found that the methodologies most appropriate for this field of study, lots of other sociolinguistic researches were based on these types of methodologies and led to wanted results. (Hernández-Campoy, J. 2014)

Observation is the first method followed in this paper, most of the researches who study the way that people communicate, who want to examine details of how people talk, behave and their differences, rely on this methodology. This research form is known as “Natural Observation”, which is the study of the spontaneous behavior of participants (students) choose in their natural environment. This observation took place in two different universities, the conversations were recorded and we took notes of 50 different participants, 25 females and 25 males. The observation was natural, without artificial stimulation, and studied these participants starting from their body behavior (e.g. approaches, facial expression, eye contact, etc.), to the words used more often, their grammatical level, their intonation, and other conversational aspects that made the differences between genders. Also, different ages were involved, so this observation can be considered as a wide area of study of differences between genders.

The second method applied on the paper, is a Questionnaire. We wanted to see if these differences still stand even in grounds of higher level education, even when genders are prepared academically and follow a particular behavior. The target of this questionnaire were professors themselves, they expressed their professional opinions based on their knowledge gained in their professions. We questioned 5 males and 5 females, in two different universities. The length of the questionnaire was 7 questions, which involved: Yes/No question, Multiple Choice questions, and Opinion Expressing. The information collected was used solely for research purposes and they were not disclosed or shared, and also the identities shall not be revealed.

VII. Observation

The observation took place at two different universities. The observation was made on “Fehmi Agani” University, 4th academic year of English Language and Literature course, and “AAB” College, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year of Law and English Language courses. The data was collected from 50 different participants, 25 females and 25 males (whose identity is not shown on these paper, because the observation was natural, so we did not ask for permission). The participants were students from the classes mentioned above, and the observation took place while on lectures, while breaks between lectures, and different universities ambient when there was an encounter that could be observed. The conversations were recorded, we also took notes on different types of situation, different conversations, on different types of environment, while the data was gathered and started the analyzing our findings on its own, and with other sociolinguistic observation researches.

VII.I. Observation Process:

- Day 1. 20.04.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 11 Participants: 6 Female & 5 Male.
- Day 2. 23.04.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 8 Participants: 4 Female & 4 Male.
- Day 3. 24.04.2018 -“AAB” College, 23 Participants: 10 Female & 13 Male.
- Day 4. 25.04.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University & “AAB” College, 35 Participants: 20 Female & 15 Male.
- Day 5. 27.04.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 8 Participants: 6 Female & 2 Male.
- Day 6. 30.04.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 9 Participants: 6 Female & 3 Male.
- Day 7. 30.04.2018 -“AAB” College, 19 Participants: 11 Female & 8 Male.
- Day 8. 01.05.2018 -“AAB” College, 17 Participants: 12 Female & 5 Male.
- Day 9. 07.05.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 11 Participants: 7 Female & 4 Male.
- Day 10. 08.05.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 6 Participants: 4 Female & 2 Male.
- Day 11. 10.05.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University & “AAB” College, 40 Participants: 18 Female & 22 Male.
- Day 12. 11.05.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 9 Participants: 4 Female & 5 Male.
- Day 13. 09.05.2018 -“AAB” College, 17 Participants: 10 Female & 7 Male.
- Day 14. 11.05.2018 -“Fehmi Agani” University, 11 Participants: 7 Female & 4 Male.
- Day 15. 12.06.2018-“Fehmi Agani” University, 13 Participants: 10 Female & 3 Male.

Audio Recordings	Notes
122 Conversations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Body Language -Word Specifics -Interruption -Grammatical Specifics -Intonation -Age -Professional -Known background -Social Status

Observation Content, Table 3.

VII.II Observation Results

The results were satisfying, after 15 days of collecting data's, and 50 participants being part of this observation, we had great results and got the answers to all our questions and interests. The conversations which were observed, took place on different university ambient, they were collected during lectures, and breaks, on university hallways, etc. We came out with information on all the interesting fields, and gained enough material on which the observation can be based.

Below I will show all the data collected from the research:

Observation	Duration	Participants	Conversations	Environment	Courses	Type
Man	15 days	25	122	Two Universities in Gjakova	2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th year, English Language and Law	Natural Observation
Woman	15 days	25	122	Two Universities in Gjakova	2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th year, English Language and Law	Natural Observation

Data Collection, Table 4.

Observation	Interruption	Intonation	Body Language
Man	Man-Man: 273 times Man-Woman: 190-200 times	Man-Man: loud intonation, friendly screams. Man-Woman: rising intonation, commands.	More approaching, touchy, playful, less eye contact, laughing, more hand gestures
Woman	Woman-Woman: 354 times Woman-Man: 96 -100 times	Woman-Woman: dominant voice. Woman-Man: lowering intonation, softly speaking.	Less approaching, avoid touches, more eye contact, soft smiles, no body gestures involved

Observation Result, Table 5.

Based on the results, interruptions are characteristics that men possess more, during the observation, there is something that stood out: ‘the male dominance almost on all topics and situation’. Women tend to be freer when hanging and communicating with other women, they smile and laugh more, talk more, interrupt more and even their intonation is higher, but almost on all conversations observed when men and women conversations took place, women interrupt less, lower the voice while men had a commanding position, women approached less, and they were almost on defensive position, no matter what kind of conversation it is. If we want to give this situation a reasonable explanation then we should go back in years, and centuries, when Albanian women had no education, were considered as a property of their husbands, family, and these are characteristics followed our society even nowadays. They had no right to talk, to express their opinion, and no education at all, the patriarchal families left Albanian women in the last plan of society, it wasn’t until last 10-20 years that the woman position on Albanian society got better, with getting educational degrees, expressing their thought and opinion, and fighting for their rights. But still, to this day the consequences are present, Albanian mothers intuition still interferes with their right, they still advise women to stay quiet, to talk less, to listen more, and behave more formally than friendly.

Grammatical Differences:

Observation	Conversation Themes	Kind of Words:	Grammatical Unites
Men	Sport, politics, traveling, money, cars	Slang, swearing, numbers, more nouns, less pronouns. Specific words while on description: good, bad.	Specifiers: this, that, one. Quantifiers: a lot, more, some. Negatives: no, not.
Women	Love, emotions, other people, clothes, education	Standard language, strict to the rules, adverbs and adjectives. Politeness	Minimal Vocalization: ah, aha, yeah. More personal pronoun: I, You.

Grammatical Differences, Table 6.

When it comes to grammatical differences, we found lots of similarities between international researches in this field. The themes of conversations were almost the same, men having a more out-going character, sports and adventures, but also more serious world concerns. Whereas women tend to have conversations more based on emotions, feeling, esthetics, family and more social themes, but women tend to be more open while talking about the themes that men discuss, while men do not always interact with the themes that women talk about. Another similarity is the slang and swearing language men use, while women stay strict to rules and standard language, even if it comes to a foreign language, for example, English Language:

-Men using English as a foreign language, use words and phrases heard in songs or movies, which indicates that they use a slang foreign language even if they are more exposed daily to Standard English.

-Women try the best in all kinds of situation to stick to rules of the foreign language in this case English.

This may be a result of the thought of men of being cooler, or in trend, if they use slang words, just like famous people are doing nowadays. Men also use fewer pronouns, even if a stereotypical thought is that men are more selfish, in our observation we noticed less personal pronoun, more nouns, and other specifics mentioned earlier.

They don't talk much of the person, as much as they talk for the action, which is the contrary for the women in our findings. Personal pronouns are used as attribution for who did that action, for example:

-I thought... -She told me... -It says that... They focus less on the action, and more on who and why they did that. Also while describing men, they usually use specific and simple words like: - good, bad, fine, alright, okay, etc.

While women use more adverbs and adjectives, to give all kinds of different attributes to the things they are talking about, also they use more figures of speech, for example:

-Magnified, fascinating, amazing, perfect, etc.

-She was harsh on us, just like this weather.

A negative response is another specific we had the chance to see on this observation. Men use negative words more often, in almost all types of conversation, they show to sides of the case even if not necessary, while women try to avoid using negatives, and they use more minimal vocalizations, like: -uh, eh, ah, aha, yeah, etc.

As part of the results of the observation we got the answers required: There are as it has been said earlier, some sociolinguistics differences in between the way Men and Women communicate. In this case some of the most differences came from the level of education, the lack of educated women made a big impact on the way Albanian women communicate, the feeling of inferiority is still present to our day, but educated women are making the wanted differences with their impact on our cultural and social life. The differences mentioned earlier in the use of a Foreign Language stand in our Society too. English as a second/foreign language, is growing each day in our country, accomplished differently from genders, while men speak the English language as the new trend, and not concerned with the educational means, whereas women speak English with the highest standards, and expectations of future. Most of the differences are similar and even more emphasized in our environment. This gives us a final answer to this method, that it was successful.

VIII. Academic Lecturing differences between Men and Women

In the previous chapters we dealt with differences in foreign language between men and women in general, the differences in conversation, vocab, grammatical differences also the body language the two genders use. This paper was enriched with a natural observation, a research form that had for objective students' on their everyday environment, their similarities and their differences in the language they use. We decided to further develop this thesis with another research, this research involves a questionnaire, but this time we narrowed my research on the differences on Academic language, the differences made in lecturing between two different genders. This research will have lecturers as the basic objective, basing the evaluation on different lecturing fields, and because students were the objective of the first research, we decided to evaluate this research and to see if those differences still stand between people with higher educational preparation. This research is based on the judgments and opinions of professors for each other, their professional judgment and the fact that they have more experience and the right amount of knowledge to evaluate and to notice the differences and similarities since they are part of them, themselves. Also, another reason why this questionnaire is addressed to professors and not to students is that based on their likes or dislikes, beliefs or disbeliefs, students' may base their judgment on personal opinions.

Before analyzing our findings, we should mention some key points that start the academic differences in gender. According to a report by the Higher Education Statistics Agency, made in UK years before: *“Only 22% of professors were female in Higher Education in 2013-14, compared with just 15% in 2003-04”*, and they point out that this percentage isn't growing fast. If we consider this percentage of females in higher education in the UK and compare it with countries like Kosova, we can immediately suggest that that percentage is way lower, and by finding out this, we can easily say that this is the first Academic difference between women and men. Also, we have to add to this, that while dealing with the fact that women are less in number on higher education, a thing that stood out is that women attend higher in percentage on education only on subjects that are considered as women subjects. *Researches has shown that students' evaluations can be significantly influenced by the gender of their instructors, (Garver, 2007).*

It should be mentioned that the findings faced the stereotypes of women and men in our society, the mother role that is considered a “born” feeling on females, is a feeling that conveys afterward on their profession, and mostly if they become teachers and furthermore professors and lecturers,

but this stereotype doesn't stop here, because due to their softness and motherhood, women are considered less capable on maintaining and managing masses, therefore lecturing higher education classes is considered a difficult task for a "soft" creature. Moreover, these stereotypes expend more on the workplaces and Educational institutions, where they tend to prefer men and to favor them in cases where there is the same academic preparation within the two genders or even better preparation. In a research paper made by Lloyd Carson, (2001), "Gender relations in higher education: exploring lecturers perceptions of student evaluations of teaching", one of the women professors said: *"They take me less seriously as my (male) colleagues, they get comments like "prestigious" and "impressive", I am seen as more "warm" and "enthusiastic". I am "Ms." rather than "Dr.", while my male colleagues become "Prof." rather than "Mr.", Men are taken more seriously they have deep voices, grey hair, fit the image of a professor a young attractive woman doesn't, she looks like your typical student!*

These stereotypical thoughts, of the institutions themselves, and even between colleagues, have a great impact and influence on students'. They tend to follow up, and adapt to their environment perception on what is good or bad, what is right or wrong, and form their opinion based on that. Based on the findings of a few researches we had the chance to analyze that were made in different places, different educational institutions and different degrees, most of the students' rate higher in performance men lecturers, they are considered as more confident, with a better sense of humor, who explain better and are more interactive, which means that the Academic language they use is better. Whereas those that rated the women lecturer higher, said that considering the fact that they are more patient, they never get bored with giving the right explanations, women were considered more professional and even more interactive. But only a small number considered both genders equal in lecturing, they said that the differences are made only upon their academic level and preparation, the strategies they use, the masses and the level of students' they address to, outside impacts, the institution environment, etc. So we can say, that the differences exist on Academic language too, same as they exist on everyday language usage. But same as it was stated earlier, these differences should not be considered with the eye of "which are these differences", and do they stand in all cases, or do they differ depending on a lot of things. The questionnaire will give us a better view on how much does the use of the academic language differ between men and women, and which differences stand out more.

VIII.I Questionnaire

This questionnaire involved 7 questions, we choose to make different types of questions, as the researches showed that it gives the person that is answering more freedom on giving the answers and expressing their opinion in different ways. The questionnaire included: Yes/No question, Multiple Choice questions, and Opinion Expressing. The target of this questionnaire were University Professors, we collected the data on two different Universities: University of Gjakova “Fehmi Agani” and “AAB” University. I choose 5 male and 5 female professors, an evenness in gender and profession. We choose to question professors because we considered that they could make a better and more professional judgment toward themselves and their colleagues, basing the answers on the knowledge they gained while on this profession. Professors were cooperative, and provided good answers to work with. The research paper and their answer were collected and analyzed properly, their privacy will not be shown for professional concerns. This questionnaire can be consider very successful, based on the fact that the answers we got from it were matching the researches and the literature review made on other studies on this topic.

VIII.II Questionnaire Results

The questionnaire results were satisfying and came out accordingly with the results of the researches made earlier on the paper, and also to the other research method. We chose to analyze this questionnaire with the Graphical method. The chars will be inserted which will be in correspondence with the type of questions made in the questionnaire, and the results will come based on the given answers. We will deal with all the questions one after the other.

Relevant information:

Questionnaire target: 5 Female & 5 Male Professors,

Questionnaire length: 7 Questions, 5 Multiple Choice Questions (2 questions where the professors could express their opinion), 2 Section Questions with choices.



Fig. 1. Graphical chart of the 1st Answer of Professors

The answers from the first question were a little bit confusing, thus it can be considered that the answer was given based on the fact that maybe they never thought about these differences, or never encountered one that took their attention to consider it as a difference. In the question: “*Do you think there exist differences in lecturing between Men and Women professors?*” from 10 answers, 5 of them answered “*Slightly*”, while 3 answered “*Yes*” and 2 answered “*No*”. Considering the fact that the target beholds the same job position, they considered each other equal in their qualifications and not judging each other based on their gender differences is another indication.

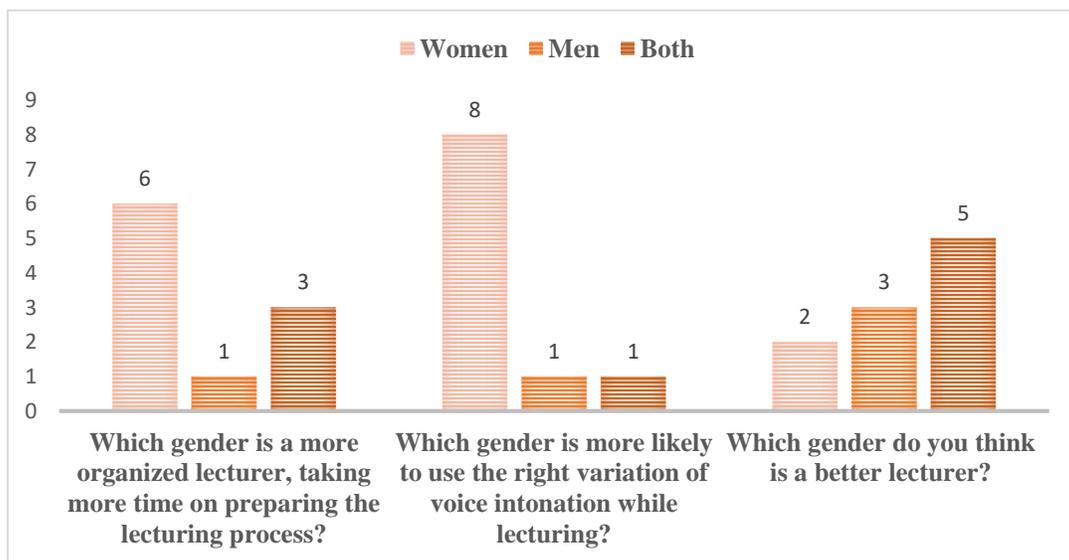


Fig. 2. Graphical chart Answers of Questions 3, 5 and 7

The next analyze will involve the answers of three Multiple Choice Questions. We can say that professors were somehow hesitant on choosing one answer for these questions, they rather explained their opinion based on what they recalled from the beginning of their profession as Lecturers at Universities. In the 3rd question: *“Which gender is a more organized lecturer, taking more time on preparing the lecturing process?”* 6 answers were *“Women”*, 1 answer was *“Men”* and 3 were *“Both”*. This answer has a strong backup from all the scientifically researches made on the topic. Women take more time preparing for what they are doing, in all professions and on everyday tasks. *“A lack of leadership roles, inflexible work schedules, and pay disparities are problems that plague women in many professions!”* (Bohanon, 2017), based on the studies while on educations women study harder, while on work women work harder, and in everything they do they tend to give their 100% unlike men. This is a result of feeling unequal, of being in fear of losing what they have and worked so hard for. More or less the same result came from question 5 too. *“Which gender is more likely to use the right variation of voice intonation while lecturing?”* There were 8 *“Women”* answers, while 1 *“Men”* and 1 *“Both”*. As stated earlier on the chapters, women were taught to not speak. This fact indicates that from a very young age women used to control their voice and its variation, the way they speak should be far from aggressive, and far from loud, so they tend to speak more softly and sweetly,.

“Word by word, the language of women so often begins with a whisper.” (Williams, *When Women Were Birds*, 2012)

The last question of this questionnaire was: *“Which gender do you think is a better lecturer?”* the answers were closely matches with each other, and the target choose to not take sides. They expressed their opinions, so rather than showing the result we will show some of their opinions:

- *“I personally think that there is not such a thing as who is better at it, depending on different student preferences, different lecturer characters this answers varies.”*
- *“Being a good lecturer is having some years of experience on your shoulders, adaption to different environments, different styles, and different types of audience. No matter how good you consider yourself at it, you may never be in someone’s taste.”*
- *“No matter the gender differences, one should love what they do to do it good. Women are known as better and the way they use the language sound always more fluently, but using the language professionally is another thing, but I would still consider women better at it.”*

- *“It is up to our students, their opinion differs. No matter the differences between genders, whoever works harder, is better”*

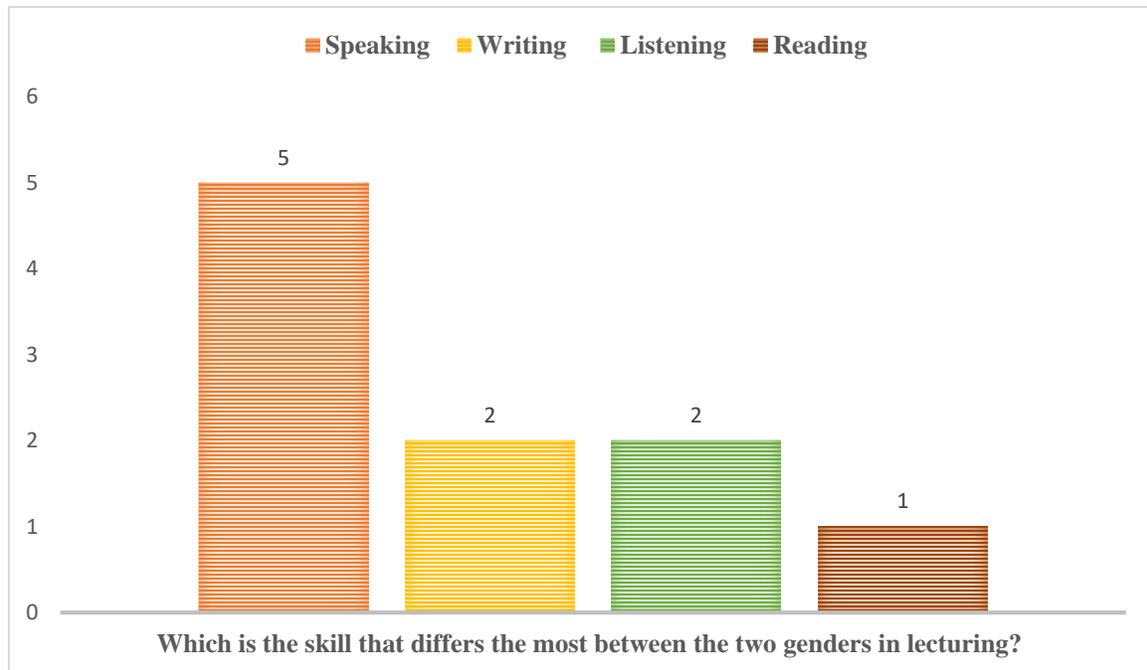


Fig. 3. Graphical chart Answers of Question 2

On the 2nd question: *“Which is the skill that differs the most between the two genders in lecturing?”* the answers were as above. Speaking is the skill thought to be the one that differs the most between genders. This answer is in total accordance to the voice variation answer. Professors considered *“Speaking”* also because of numerous differences we already mentioned, like the kind of vocabulary genders use, the grammatical use, the sentence preparation, the voice, etc. Also *“Writing”* and *“Listening”* were matching, this may differ based on different lecturer characters.

The last questions that we will analyze are the Section questions with choices, where my target could mark differently the choices that were given, in our case: *“Write W for Women and write M for Men”*. These questions were intentionally left in the end of the result because these two fields are the most important fields of lecturing, and of course this may give us the final look on the Academic Lecturing differences between genders. The style that genders use in lecturing, also the body language, are some trades that will give us the final touch on knowing these differences, also will finally support our paper.

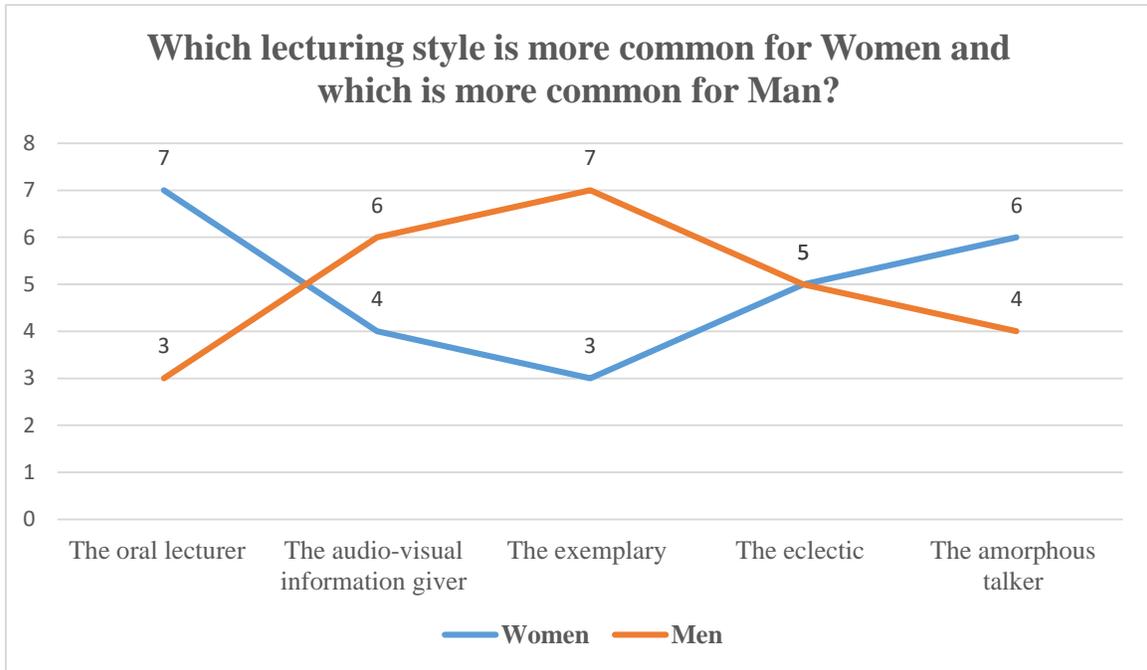


Fig. 4. Graphical chart Answers of Question 4

Based on the answers we got on this question, we can suggest that this answer is based on the stereotypical thought that “*Women talk more!*” The styles that were mostly characterized as women lecturer styles were “*The oral lecturer*” and the “*The amorphous talker*”, and surprisingly these styles were not only a choice of men lecturers who answered, but also Women answered the same way for themselves and their female colleagues. Whereas when it comes to other types of lecturing, like “*The audio-visual information giver*” or “*The exemplary*” the male target answered without hesitation as Men attribute types. Meaning they are more up to date with lecturing styles. So we can say that the results taken from this questions leave room for discussion and further researches, which should be based on surveys, and not on ones opinion or judgment.

The last result is that of the Body Language question. In Chapter 3 of this paper, we dealt with the differences in body language. We involved this question also in this questionnaire, to see if these differences still stand even when two genders have higher educative preparation. Below we will see the results on what my target thought of which are the most common body language similarities and differences in the two genders.

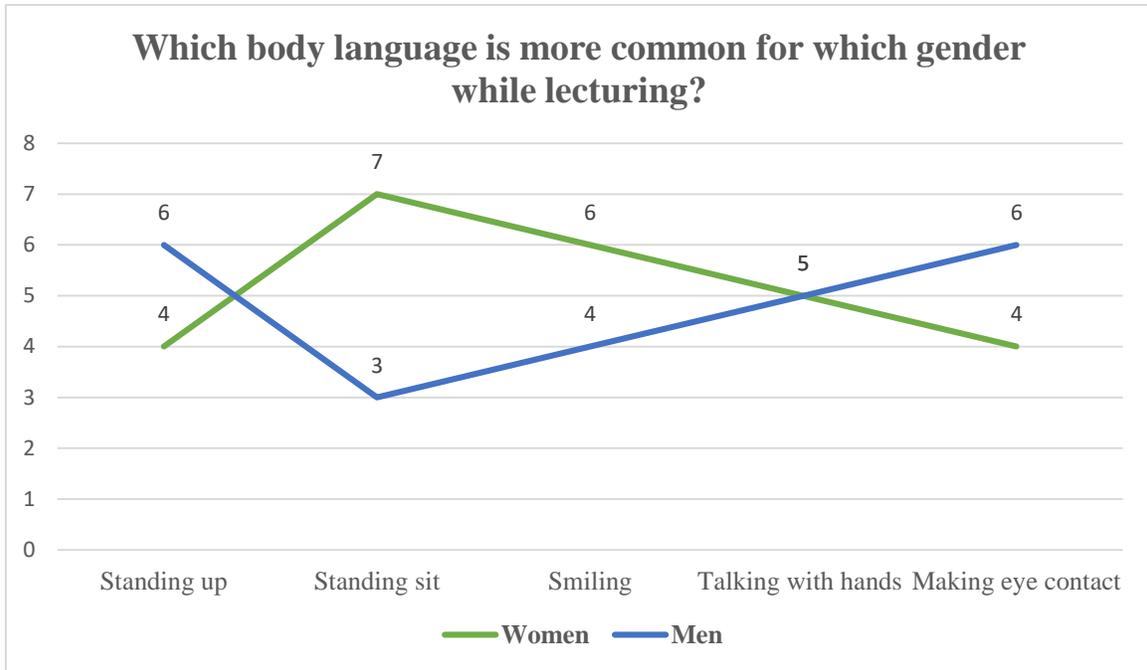


Fig. 5. Graphical chart Answers of Question 6

The results were almost identical to the ones we took from the Observation and to the ones that we found on the data collected. Women tend to be calmer while talking and tend to hold a more protective position, like crossing hands or standing sit, which it appeared here too. The answers were that women lecturers are considered to stand sit more than men lecturers. While “Smiling”, “Talking with hands” and “Making eye contact” are stand almost identically in the body language division for both genders, which it is different from the findings which rate women better at facial expression, but we can suggest that these are expressions that should be made as a lecturer no matter the gender.

We can freely say and consider that this was a successful research method too. The results that came out, were scientific, based on true findings and researches, which gave a better look, and summed up the theme as a whole.

IX. Conclusion

This topic is a very wide one, considered as a social phenomenon, it has also been reflected in the way language is studied and viewed. This is not a new topic, sociolinguistic researchers have dealt with it for decades. Starting from the fact that the foundation of almost all languages was made by men, for example when the establishment of standard Albanian language was done, at “Manastiri Congress” all the participants there were males (*Kongresi i Manastirit, 1908*), while history made women lack lots of rights, and the use of language dominance by men was one of them. Based on the studies made (*Ning, 2010*), biological changes between sexes are not significant on these differences, so the only thing for us to look up to are the social differences made historically. Differences exist, this is a fact that was well evolved in this paper. The observation was a great help on discussing further this topic, as it indicate the same results that most of the studies gave, this was also a study that gave us a deeper look on the differences of our society too. The same case happened with the questionnaire, the results gathered from it led to the information we already had and worked with, only enforcing the facts mentioned. Women and Men differences in a language exist in vocab, body language, etc. and these differences stand out more when the level of education is lower, and become fewer when genders are more prepared academically. Both types of researches gave a reasonable point of view, to the concerns of sociolinguistic, and in this case a wider explanation. Something worth pointing out is the fact that these differences can change based on different factors, example woman-woman, man-man, and mixed genders conversation, they all gave different results, also it may change based on different social and educational environments. It should be mentioned that this field of researches should continue, because some of differences for example Gendered Language is a difference that can be avoided with the right amount of linguistic changes. The fact that I, as a woman, saw these differences and also saw some of the factors that made these differences, was very empowering for me. The outcome is that differences exist, we had enough information to prove this thesis. These changes are made in all the language fields, starting from the usage of nouns (names of professions), pronouns (referring to a group of people with male pronoun), etc. Women can use emotional language without being judged for weak, and can use the harsh language without being judged for rude. So based on this paper one thing stand out for sure, linguistic foundation should go under consideration so that language can treat both genders equal, but how someone’s choses to use it, it is and it will always be their own choice, which of course will be different from someone else’s.

X. Recommendation

“Gendered Language” should be reconsidered and reconstructed to a more equal use.

The Body Language one uses, should be in accordance to the environment, and this is even more important when they have a more social profession.

Stick to grammar rules while using a foreign language, avoid slang in order of having a better use of a language.

One should not base their opinions and judgment on stereotypical thoughts.

As Lecturers adapt to new changes, and types of lecturing, because our society is changing on daily basis, so to be better at everything you do, you should go with the flow.

As students never judge a Lecturer on gender basis or any basis, only on the quality of the knowledge you get.

One should use the language as the fundamental need of communication, and never forbid someone else doing the same thing.

XI. Appendix

The information will be used solely for research purposes and will not be disclosed/shared.

Q1. Do you think there exists differences in lecturing between Men and Women professors?

- Yes
- No
- Slightly

Q2. Which is the skill that differs the most between the two genders in lecturing?

- Speaking
- Writing
- Reading
- Listening

Q3. Which gender is a more organized lecturer, taking more time on preparing the lecturing process?

- Women
- Men
- Both

Explain why you think so:

Q4. Which lecturing style is more common for Women and which is more common for Man:

(write M for Men, and W for Woman)

- The oral lecturer ___
- The audio-visual information giver ___
- The exemplary ___
- The eclectic ___
- The amorphous talker ___

Q5. Which gender is more likely to use the right variation of voice intonation while lecturing?

- Women
- Men
- Both

Q6. Which body language is more common for which gender while lecturing?

(Write M for Men, and W for Woman)

- Standing up ___
- Standing sit ___
- Smiling ___
- Talking with hands ___
- Eye contact ___

Q7. Which gender do you think is a better lecturer?

- Women
- Men
- Both

Explain why you think so:

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