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Forensic Stylistic Analysis of Jakarta Man's Suicide Note

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Abstract

Forensic stylistics, a crucial tool in crime-solving, analyzes linguistic features to reveal authorship, truthfulness, and narrative structure. This study applied forensic stylistic analysis to a Jakarta man's suicide note, employing Prokofyeva's theory. The analysis revealed insights into the author's psychological state and motivations, echoing findings by Maulida et al. Key elements examined include clear reasoning, emotional expressions, and the presence of positive, negative, and cognitive emotions. The note's structure, grammar, punctuation, cultural context, and vocabulary choices offer a comprehensive view of the author's mental turmoil. By extending Prokofyeva's framework to a different cultural context, this research demonstrates the versatility and applicability of forensic stylistics in deciphering suicide notes across diverse populations. The study underscored the importance of linguistic analysis in understanding the complex emotions and cognitive processes behind suicide, providing valuable information for criminal investigations and psychological assessments. Through this meticulous examination, the research contributes to the broader understanding of forensic stylistics and its role in uncovering the deeper layers of meaning within final messages, offering a poignant glimpse into the author's state of mind before their tragic decision.

INTRODUCTION

Language is important in solving crimes, just like fingerprints and DNA. Words in texts can tell a lot about who wrote them and what they were thinking. Forensic stylistics is a tool that helps investigators understand things like who wrote a message if someone is lying, and how stories are put together. The field of forensic stylistic analysis has gained significant attention in recent years due to its application in various domains such as criminal investigations, legal proceedings, and linguistic research. Stylistic analysis involves examining the linguistic features and patterns within a text to uncover hidden meanings, authorship attribution, and psychological insights. This method not only aids in identifying the perpetrator but also provides crucial information about their psychological state and intentions. Suicide notes, in particular, present a unique opportunity for forensic stylistic analysis as they offer a glimpse into the mindset and emotions of the author prior to their death. These notes can reveal the underlying motives, emotional struggles, and cognitive processes of the individual, making them invaluable in understanding the context and circumstances surrounding the suicide.

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Stylistics is a branch of linguistics that concerned with the study of style in language. According to Weber (1996) stylistics is the study of style variation within a language or across languages, examining how linguistic choices contribute to the overall meaning and effect of a text. Verdonk (2002) defined stylistics as the analysis of distinctive expression in language and the description of its purpose and effect. Forensic linguistics, also known as forensic stylistics, employs linguistic methodologies in legal and criminal contexts. This field involves the systematic examination of written or verbal communications, utilizing scientific approaches to assess and quantify content, significance, speaker attribution, and authorship identification. When investigating a crime, it becomes crucial to scrutinize the linguistic expressions of the perpetrator, as they can provide valuable insights into various aspects such as the offender's demographic characteristics including age, race, gender, educational level, religious affiliations, geographical and socioeconomic origins, cultural background, and ethnicity.

Maulida et al. (2023) explores the linguistic and emotional aspects of suicide notes, drawing inspiration from Prokofyeva's theory. Analyzing an UNNES student's suicide note, they found distinct characteristics such as clear reasoning, emotional expressions, and varied tenses contrary to previous observations. The note's structure, emotional content, and use of different tenses provide valuable insights into the author's mindset and the authenticity of the note. Furthermore, the study highlighted how specific linguistic markers could indicate the presence of underlying psychological distress and cognitive dissonance. This study contributes to the understanding of forensic stylistics and its application in deciphering suicide notes, demonstrating how linguistic analysis can uncover deeper emotional and psychological layers within these final messages.

This study builds upon the foundation laid by Maulida et al. (2023) by further employing Prokofyeva's theory in the analysis of a Jakarta man's suicide note. Just as Maulida et al. found in their examination of the UNNES student's note, our analysis seeks to uncover linguistic nuances and emotional expressions within the Jakarta man's note. By applying Prokofyeva's framework, we aim to delve deeper into the linguistic features, emotional context, and structural elements of the suicide note, offering additional insights into the author's state of mind and the underlying motivations behind the act. This extension of Prokofyeva's theory to a different cultural and linguistic context exemplifies the versatility and applicability of forensic stylistics in understanding the complexities of suicide notes across diverse populations. The application of Prokofyeva's theory in the forensic stylistic analysis of a Jakarta man's suicide note reveal consistent linguistic patterns, emotional expressions, and structural elements that indicate the writer's psychological state and motives, in line with previous research findings, this study further identifies the characterization of positive, negative, and cognitive emotions, cultural and social context, vocabulary choices, and forensic semantic analysis.

This research aims to analyze a suicide note from a man from Jakarta who died at a hotel in Bali on Sunday (6/10/2019) afternoon. Case can be found in the Kompas.com news article posted on Monday (7/10/2019). The victim, was confirmed to have committed suicide after police found a will allegedly or suicide note made by the victim and found white powder suspected to be poison. The victim's identity is SS (47) address is Kelapa Gading, North Jakarta. Susanto's death, suspected to be a suicide, was confirmed by the police after discovering a suicide note written in English near his body. The note, which was allegedly addressed to his family with the initials C, expressed his struggles with mental illness and depression, stating his intention to end his life and requesting his ashes to be scattered in the Bali sea.

Suicide notes offer opportunity for stylistic analysis, providing insights into the emotions and mindset of the author. This study reference Maulida et al.'s (2023) study, which applied Prokofyeva's theory to analyze a suicide note, and introduce the objective of extending this analysis to a Jakarta man's suicide note. By employing Prokofyeva's framework, this study aims to uncover linguistic nuances and emotional expressions, providing deeper insights into the author's state of mind. This

extension exemplifies the versatility of forensic stylistics. The analysis reveals consistent patterns indicative of the author's psychological state, aligning with previous findings.

METHOD

The research method for this study involved a forensic stylistic analysis of a suicide note authored by a Jakarta man. The study aims to elucidate the linguistic characteristics and psychological nuances embedded within the text by examining the note's linguistic features, such as reasoning clarity, emotional expression, finding positive, negative, and cognitive emotions, text structure, grammar usage, punctuation patterns, cultural and social context, vocabulary choice, and forensic semantic analysis. The analysis will be conducted using a qualitative research design, which involves a detailed examination of the suicide note to uncover insights into the writer's mental state, emotional turmoil, and decision-making processes.

The sample population for this study is a suicide note written by a man from Jakarta who died by suicide at a hotel in Bali. The data collection technique involves a meticulous examination of the suicide note, which will be analyzed using Prokofyeva's theory of suicide notes linguistic features. The analysis techniques will include a descriptive-qualitative approach, which will involve the classification and description of the data in five distinguished characteristics of linguistic features found in the suicide note.

The study will contribute to the understanding of forensic stylistics and its application in deciphering suicide notes by providing insights into the linguistic nuances and emotional expressions within the Jakarta man's note. This extension of Prokofyeva's theory to a different cultural and linguistic context exemplifies the applicability of forensic stylistics in understanding the complexities of suicide notes across diverse populations.

FINDINGS & DISCUSSION



Fig. 1 Suicide Note

Clear Reasoning

Pompili et al. (2008) suggested that individuals with mental illnesses, particularly depression, are more prone to attempting suicide, with women being more likely than men to suffer from this condition. The clear reasoning begins with the identification of mental health disclosures within the text. The author explicitly mentions experiencing "mental illness and depression," indicating a potential underlying psychological condition. Pompili et al. (2008) propose that individuals with

mental illnesses, such as depression, have an increased likelihood of attempting suicide. This scholarly assertion establishes a connection between the disclosed mental health issues in the paragraph and the heightened risk of suicidal behavior.

Clear reasoning is one of the recognizing highlights of honest to goodness suicide notes that connect the act of suicide to the data given within the suicide notes. This feature's articulations are ordinarily spoken to by the reply to the address "why?" Prokofyeva (2013) This demonstrates that the conjunction sentence, express, and clause of "since" echoes the critical and visit reason for a casualty to conclusion his or her life. The clear reasoning starts by identifying a specific linguistic feature within the text, in this case, the use of conjunctions, particularly the conjunction "because." The clear reasoning starts by identifying a specific linguistic feature within the text, in this case, the use of conjunctions, particularly the conjunction "because."

The first clear reasoning analysis of the letter reveals that the writer is going through a serious mental health crisis, which is marked by depression, suicidal thoughts, and a strong desire to end his life. The writer acknowledges the distressing nature of their message and apologizes for the "ugly" way they are expressing their feelings. They also request that their mental health struggles not be disclosed to their family, indicating that they are ashamed of their condition and do not want to burden him. He has made a specific request for his ashes to be in the Bali ocean, which may be a reflection of their desire for a peaceful and meaningful final resting place. Bali is known for its beautiful beaches and spiritual significance, which may hold a special meaning for the sender.

The second clear reasoning analysis of the letter reveals that the writer is in a state of desperation and feels that they cannot continue living. Their request for their ashes to be scattered in the Bali ocean may be a way of seeking comfort or solace in their final moments. The writer also expresses their love and concern for their son, asking the recipient to take good care of him. This suggests that the writer has a deep love and responsibility towards their child, even in the face of their own suffering. The writer's use of the phrase "forever and ever" suggests that they have a strong emotional bond with the recipient and want to ensure that his love remains constant. His decision to end his life may be a result of their mental health struggles and the inability to cope with his situation.

Expressing Emotions

According to Prokofyeva's (2013) theory of expressing emotions, the text conveys a sense of sadness, hopelessness, and desperation. The author's use of the phrase "kinda mental illness and depression that always leads me for suicidal thoughts" suggests a deep sense of emotional pain and suffering. The phrase "today I cant take it anymore" indicates a sense of overwhelming emotional burden that the author is unable to bear.

The emotional complexity included in the suicide note is illuminated by the division of clear reasoning into three categories such as disease, offense, and blame in the context of hopelessness. As an acknowledgement of their psychological distress and its effect on their well-being, the writer's admission that they battle with depression and mental illness falls under the "disease" category. Using terms like "kinda mental illness" and "always leads me for suicidal thoughts" highlights the writer's overwhelming emotional turmoil and highlights their sense of helplessness in the face of their condition.

According to Prokofyeva's framework, the writer's apology for "ending up ugly like this" and request for privacy from their family encompass aspects of the "offense" category. The author wrestles with feelings of guilt and responsibility for causing pain by expressing regret and a wish to protect their loved ones from the consequences of their actions. The particular instructions about how their ashes should be disposed of, along with the expressions of unwavering love and care for Chris and their son, also fall into the "blame" category. The writer navigates the complex emotions

surrounding their decision to end their life, and their final requests show a sense of resignation and a need for closure.

The text also expresses a sense of love and concern for the author's family, particularly their son. The author's request for their ashes to be scattered in the Bali ocean suggests a desire to be remembered and to have a lasting connection to a place that was meaningful to them. The text contains an apology for the way it is expressed, suggesting a sense of shame or embarrassment about the author's emotional state. The use of the phrase "please don't tell my family about this" indicates a fear of judgment or stigma associated with mental illness and suicide. Writing a suicide note involves expressing one's feelings through a list of reasons that are explained in the note.

Finding Positive, Negative, and Cognitive Emotions

Dearest Chris.

I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression that always leads me for suicidal thoughts and today I cant take it anymore.

Sorry for end up ugly like this. please don't tell my family about this and I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into bali ocean.

I love you, always remember you for ever and ever please take good care of our son, bye my love.

Analyzing the provided text for positive, negative, and cognitive emotions, here's the breakdown:

blue = Positive Emotions (2)

These are expressions that convey feelings of love, affection, hope, gratitude, or other positive sentiments. They indicate the presence of positive thoughts and emotions within the text, even if the overall context is distressing.

- "I love you"
- "always remember you for ever and ever"

red = Negative Emotions (4)

These expressions indicate distress, sadness, anxiety, hopelessness, or other negative feelings. They highlight the emotional pain and struggles experienced by the individual. In the analyzed text:

- "mental illness"
- "depression"
- "suicidal thoughts"
- "cant take it anymore"

yellow = Cognitive Emotion (1)

These refer to expressions involving thought processes, decisions, or rational considerations. They may include expressions of doubt, contemplation, decisions, or requests. In the analyzed text:

• "please don't tell my family about this"

Text Structure

1. Greetings

Dearest Chris,

The text begins with the greeting which sets a personal and intimate tone, indicating that the message is intended for someone very close and cherished by the writer. This greeting establishes

the emotional weight and seriousness of the message right from the beginning, signaling the deep personal connection between the writer and the recipient.

2. Content

I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression that always leads me for suicidal thoughts and today I can't take it anymore.

Sorry for end up ugly like this. please don't tell my family about this and I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into Bali Ocean. I love you, always remember you forever and ever please take good care of our son

Following the greeting, the content reveals the writer's profound emotional and mental distress. They express their struggle with mental illness and depression, leading to suicidal thoughts, and convey that they can no longer endure the pain. This expression of suffering underscores the severity of their condition and the sense of desperation they feel. Additionally, within the content, the writer conveys an apology and makes specific requests regarding their final wishes. They apologize for the situation, ask the recipient not to inform their family, and request that their ashes be spread into the Bali Ocean. This apology indicates a sense of remorse, while the requests highlight the trust placed in the recipient to carry out these important wishes.

3. Closing

bye, my love.

The closing of the text is implicit within the final sentence. This serves as a final goodbye, marking the end of the message. The closing is brief but profoundly emotional, emphasizing the finality of the writer's decision and underscoring the depth of their feelings. This succinct farewell encapsulates the emotional gravity of the message.

According to Prokofyeva (2013), individuals typically contemplate their desire to end their own lives extensively before reaching the final decision. As a result, when they ultimately decide to take such action, they have already formulated the words they wish to convey in their suicide note. The suicide note written by SS, it begins with a statement expressing the author's struggle with mental illness and depression, which has led to suicidal thoughts. This sets the tone for the rest of the note and provides context for the reader.

Dearest Chris.

The suicide note begins with a salutation, indicating a personal connection between the author and the recipient, likely a close friend or confidant. The use of "Dearest" suggests a deep emotional bond.

I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression that always leads me for suicidal thoughts

The first sentence immediately establishes the author's emotional turmoil, as they express feelings of mental illness and depression leading to suicidal thoughts. The use of "kinda mental illness" reflects a colloquial tone, indicating informality and perhaps a sense of resignation or acceptance of the author's condition.

and today I can't take it anymore.

The second sentence, "Today I can't take it anymore," is a clear declaration of the author's decision to end their life. The use of "today" implies a sense of immediacy and finality.

Sorry for ending up ugly like this.

The note then transitions to an apology, "Sorry for end up ugly like this," indicating a sense of remorse or guilt for the act of suicide. The phrase "end up ugly like this" suggests a perception of

the author's suicide as a negative outcome, possibly reflecting societal stigma or personal shame associated with mental illness and suicide.

Please don't tell my family about this and I am ordering you to spread my ashes into bali ocean.

Following the apology, the author gives specific instructions to the recipient, Chris, requesting that their family not be informed about the suicide and instructing Chris to scatter their ashes into the Bali ocean. These instructions suggest a desire for privacy and a connection to Bali, perhaps indicating a special significance or sentimental attachment to the location.

The author apologizes for the situation and acknowledges the ugliness of their decision to end their life then makes a specific request to the recipient not to inform their family about the suicide and to scatter their ashes into the Bali ocean, showing a sense of resignation and acceptance of their fate

I love you, always remember you forever and ever, please take good care of our son. bye, my love.

The note concludes with expressions of love and remembrance for the recipient, emphasizing the importance of their relationship and the well-being of their son. The use of "bye my love" serves as a final farewell, indicating the author's intention to end their life.

The text structure follows a straightforward and direct format, with each section conveying a distinct message: the author's struggle with mental illness, their apology and request, and their expressions of love and farewell. The note effectively communicates the author's emotional state and intentions, providing insight into their mindset before their death, the text structure of the suicide note is characterized by a clear progression from emotional distress to a final farewell, with each sentence conveying the author's inner turmoil, remorse, and expressions of love and concern for their loved ones.

Grammar

In forensic stylistic analysis, linguistic features such as grammar play a crucial role in understanding the psychological state and intentions of the writer (Prokofyeva, 2013). Grammar usage can provide insights into the writer's cognitive processes, emotional state, and linguistic proficiency. Examining grammar in suicide notes can reveal patterns of language use, including tense usage, subject-verb agreement, and sentence structure, which may shed light on the writer's mental state and emotional distress. Understanding the nuances of grammar in suicide notes can contribute to a deeper understanding of linguistic expression in contexts of profound emotional turmoil.

Grammar serves as a fundamental aspect of linguistic analysis, offering valuable insights into the construction and interpretation of written texts. In the forensic stylistic analysis of the Jakarta man's suicide note, an examination of grammar unveils noteworthy patterns and discrepancies that illuminate the writer's state of mind and emotional turmoil. By scrutinizing tense usage, subject-verb agreement, and sentence structure within the note, we can gain deeper insights into the writer's cognitive processes and emotional state leading up to the tragic act. This analysis aims to decipher the grammatical intricacies of the suicide note, offering valuable clues to unravel the complexities of linguistic expression in contexts of profound emotional distress.

Dearest Chris, (Simple Present)

I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression (Present Continuous) that always leads me for suicidal thoughts (Present Simple) and today I can't take it anymore. (Present Simple) Sorry for end up ugly like this. (Present Perfect) please don't tell my family about this (Simple Present) and I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into Bali Ocean. (Present Continuous)

I love you, always remember you forever and ever (Simple Present) please take good care of our son, bye my love. (Simple Present)

The victim, in his suicide note, tends to use a mixture of tenses. However, he predominantly utilizes present tense constructions, despite referencing past events. This discrepancy suggests grammatical errors within the writing. For instance, in the phrase "Sorry for end up ugly like this," the verb "end" should be in the past participle form "ended" to maintain grammatical accuracy. Similarly, the phrase "please don't tell my family about this" remains in the simple present tense, despite referring to an action in the future. Corrections could involve using the future tense, such as "please don't tell my family about this" or "please do not inform my family about this." Additionally, the directive "and I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into Bali Ocean" lacks a grammatical subject and could benefit from rephrasing for clarity. Despite these grammatical errors, the note effectively communicates the writer's emotions and intentions.

Punctuation

Punctuation is frequently found in suicide notes because it can be used to express emotion or disclose the victim's mental state. Punctuation transforms a sentence into a meaningful sentence that can give the letter its own meaning. In addition, punctuation aids in removing confusion and expressing the victim's emotions (Eber-Schmid, 2017). The following are some examples of typical punctuation patterns found in suicide notes according to Prokofyeva (2013):

- The symbol "--" (double-dash) can be utilized in place of a period, a dash, or a comma.
- "..." (three or more periods following a sentence or phrase) is a standard way to imply that the statement is open-ended or continues. This hint suggests that what was said may not be the last word.
- "!!!" (three, sometimes one, exclamation marks): these are used to highlight the importance of a word or phrase. From the analysis of the suicide, the victim did not express his emotions with punctuation. Without using any punctuation to clarify the victim's points, the victim simply expressed their feelings in each sentence they wrote.

The use of capitalization and exclamation points in phrases such as "I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression that always leads me for suicidal thoughts" and "please don't tell my family about this" creates a sense of urgency and emotional intensity.

The text also uses punctuation to create a sense of separation and isolation, such as the use of commas in phrases like "please don't tell my family about this" and "I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into bali ocean." this use of punctuation creates a sense of distance and detachment from the reader, as if the author is speaking from a removed or isolated place.

The text also uses punctuation to create a sense of finality and closure, such as the use of a period in phrases like "I love you, always remember you for ever and ever" and "bye my love." This use of punctuation creates a sense of finality and closure, as if the author is saying goodbye for the last time.

Cultural and Social Context

In many social psychological theories concerning health behavior, the significance of social context has often been downplayed, being viewed as having only a minor impact on individual behavior and health outcomes. While behavioral science aims to comprehend, elucidate, and frequently alter human behavior by encouraging the adoption of healthier lifestyles, behaviors, and attitudes, the theories utilized predominantly concentrate on the individual's cognitive processes, largely disconnected from their social surroundings. (Frohlich et al., 2001; Singer & Weeks, 1996; Williams, 1995).

Jakarta, the bustling capital city of Indonesia, is not immune to the myriad of social and economic challenges faced by urban populations worldwide. Economic hardship, social stigma, and interpersonal conflicts are prevalent stressors that can significantly impact an individual's mental health and well-being. In Indonesian culture, there exists a strong emphasis on familial ties and social harmony. However, discussions surrounding mental health and suicide remain taboo in many communities. The stigma associated with mental illness often leads individuals to suffer in silence, fearing judgment and ostracization from their peers and society at large. Against this backdrop, the decision of the Jakarta man to leave a suicide note takes on profound significance. Despite the stigma surrounding mental health issues and suicide, the author chooses to communicate their inner turmoil to their confidant, Chris. This suggests a deep level of trust and intimacy between the author and Chris, as well as a desire to convey their feelings before taking their own life.

The author's use of informal language, such as "kinda mental illness," reflects a colloquial tone commonly found in interpersonal communication among friends. This linguistic choice may indicate the author's attempt to express their emotions authentically, without pretense or formality, to Chris. The author's specific instructions to Chris, including the request not to inform their family and to scatter their ashes into the Bali ocean, highlight the significance of personal autonomy and agency, even in death. By dictating the handling of their remains and the disclosure of their suicide, the author asserts control over their final wishes and preserves a sense of dignity and privacy.

The mention of Bali, a popular tourist destination known for its natural beauty and spiritual significance, may hold particular cultural significance for the author. The desire to have their ashes scattered into the Bali ocean suggests a longing for peace and connection to nature, transcending the confines of urban life in Jakarta. The cultural and social context of Jakarta provides valuable insights into the potential stressors and stigma that may have contributed to the author's distress. The decision to leave a suicide note in defiance of societal taboos underscores the author's need for emotional expression and connection in their final moments. Through linguistic and stylistic analysis, we gain a deeper understanding of the author's motivations and the cultural forces shaping their tragic decision.

Vocabulary Choice

Vocabulary constitutes a fundamental aspect of language, as language itself cannot exist without the presence of words (Napa, 1991:6).

I feel like I'm having kinda mental illness and depression

The use of the phrase immediately sets the tone for the note, with "mental illness" and "depression" carrying strong connotations of psychological suffering. The word "kinda" introduces an element of colloquialism, suggesting an attempt by the author to downplay or soften the severity of their condition, yet the presence of "mental illness" and "depression" underscores the gravity of their distress.

always leads me for suicidal thoughts

The phrase employs the word "suicidal," a term laden with gravity and finality, indicating the author's recurrent struggle with thoughts of self-harm. The word "always" intensifies the sense of inevitability and repetition, suggesting a persistent and overwhelming burden on the author's psyche.

Sorry for end up ugly like this.

The author expresses a profound sense of remorse and self-deprecation with the phrase. The word "ugly" carries strong negative connotations, implying a perception of the author's suicide as a shameful or undesirable outcome. This choice of vocabulary reflects the author's internalized stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide, adding depth to their emotional turmoil.

please don't tell my family about this,

The author's plea is marked by the word "please," emphasizing the urgency and importance of the request. The word "family" evokes a sense of familial duty and responsibility, highlighting the author's desire to shield their loved ones from the pain and stigma associated with their suicide. The note concludes with expressions of love and farewell, with the author urging Chris to "take good care of our son" before bidding "bye my love." The repetition of "love" underscores the depth of the author's affection, while the word "bye" carries a sense of finality, marking the end of their communication and the beginning of their journey into death.

The vocabulary choice in the suicide note provides valuable insight into the author's emotional state and psychological distress. Through the use of emotionally charged words such as "mental illness," "depression," and "suicidal," the author effectively communicates their profound sense of despair and hopelessness, shedding light on the inner turmoil that ultimately led to their tragic decision.

Forensic Semantic Analysis

The letter's language conveys a mix of despair, guilt, and deep affection, reflecting the complex emotional state of someone at a crisis point. The combination of conversational tone, direct instructions, and repeated affirmations of love provides insight into the writer's psychological state, characterized by an urgent need to communicate final wishes and an attempt to protect and provide for their loved ones even in their final moments.

- The letter to Chris shows that the writer is deeply distressed and struggling with mental illness and depression. They openly talk about having suicidal thoughts, which shows how hopeless and desperate they feel. The informal phrase "kinda mental illness" contrasts sharply with the seriousness of their situation, suggesting that the writer might be trying to downplay the severity, possibly due to shame or a desire to minimize their suffering. The statement "I can't take it anymore" indicates that they have reached a breaking point and feel completely overwhelmed by their circumstances.
- Apologizing with "Sorry for end up ugly like this," the writer shows guilt and regret for how their actions might affect Chris. This phrase downplays the seriousness of the situation, which might reflect the writer's discomfort with the stigma around suicide or feelings of worthlessness. Their request to keep the family uninformed shows a desire to protect them from pain and potential stigma. The instruction to spread their ashes in Bali suggests that this place holds special personal significance, perhaps symbolizing peace or a cherished memory.
- The letter includes specific instructions, particularly the request, "please don't tell my family about this and I'm ordering you to spread my ashes into Bali ocean." This shows the writer's strong wish to keep the situation secret from their family, likely to protect them from pain or stigma. The request to spread their ashes in Bali suggests that this place has special personal or emotional meaning for the writer. Additionally, the phrase "I'm ordering you" conveys urgency and a need to control what happens after their death, reflecting the writer's effort to handle the consequences of their decision according to their personal values and desires.
- The letter shows the writer's deep emotional bond with Chris by repeatedly expressing love and a wish to be remembered fondly. Despite deciding to end their life, the writer's love for their family, especially their son, is still strong. The letter ends with a heartfelt goodbye, highlighting the finality of their decision while emphasizing their lasting love for Chris.
- Expressions of love for Chris, "I love you, always remember you for ever and ever." This expression of love highlights the profound emotional connection the writer feels towards Chris. The repetition of "forever and ever" emphasizes the permanence and enduring nature of these feelings, indicating that the writer's love and memory of Chris will persist beyond their life. This

- part of the letter underscores the intensity of the writer's emotions and their desire to be remembered fondly and perpetually by Chris.
- The writer asks Chris to take care of their son and says goodbye with love. This shows they're worried about their child and trust Chris to look after him. Saying "bye my love" hints that the writer feels like they have no choice but to leave. The letter reveals the writer's deep sadness and hopelessness, which are common in severe depression. They feel guilty about their decision and try to soften its impact by giving clear instructions and expressing love. They want to keep their family from knowing and worry about their son's future, showing they want to protect their loved ones from the pain.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the article underscores the critical role of analyzing suicide notes to gain a deeper understanding of the psychological state and intentions of the writer. By examining the text's structure, grammar, and punctuation, we can uncover patterns and discrepancies that reveal the emotional turmoil and cognitive processes of individuals in their final moments. This forensic stylistic analysis provides valuable insights into the mindset of the writer before their death, highlighting the importance of clear reasoning, emotional expression, and cultural context in interpreting such deeply personal communications. The note's direct and straightforward format effectively conveys the author's profound distress, remorse, and final farewell, offering a poignant glimpse into their internal struggles.

The study's findings have significant implications for the field of forensic stylistic analysis, as they enhance our ability to accurately identify and interpret the psychological states and intentions of individuals who leave suicide notes. This understanding can aid forensic investigators in discerning genuine notes from potentially fabricated ones, improving the accuracy and reliability of forensic evidence. Additionally, the insights gained from this analysis can inform mental health research by identifying early warning signs and risk factors for suicide, ultimately contributing to the development of more effective prevention and intervention strategies. By recognizing the linguistic markers of distress and suicidal intent, mental health professionals can better support individuals at risk and provide timely and appropriate care.

Furthermore, the study contributes to the broader field of linguistic analysis by exploring the emotional and psychological dimensions of written texts. The vocabulary choices, grammatical structures, and punctuation patterns in suicide notes reveal the complex interplay between language and emotion, offering a unique perspective on how individuals articulate their deepest feelings and experiences. This research highlights the need for continued interdisciplinary collaboration between linguistics, psychology, and forensic science to deepen our understanding of human behavior and communication. By integrating these perspectives, we can develop more comprehensive approaches to studying and addressing mental health issues, ultimately fostering a more compassionate and supportive society.

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