

THE MULTIFACETED DIMENSIONS OF LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE, AND LANGUAGE TEACHING

Editors: Miftahul Huda Ahmad Ghozi

> P u b l i s h e d b y : Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang in cooperation with Naila Pustaka Inc.





Proceeding of the 1st ELITE Conference Vol. I: On Linguistics and Literature

THE MULTIFACETED DIMENSIONS

OF LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE, AND LANGUAGE TEACHING

Editors:
Miftahul Huda
Ahmad Ghozi





Published by:

Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang in cooperation with Naila Pustaka Inc.

Proceeding of the 1st ELITE Conference Vol. I: On Linguistics and Literature THE MULTIFACETED DIMENSIONS OF LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE, AND LANGUAGE TEACHING

Copyright © 2014. All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher and the writers.

Editors:

Miftahul Huda

Ahmad Ghozi

Design Cover:

Robait Usman

First printed 2014 ISBN 976-602-1290-01-9

Published by:

Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang in cooperation with Naila Pustaka Inc.

Printed in:

Naila Pustaka

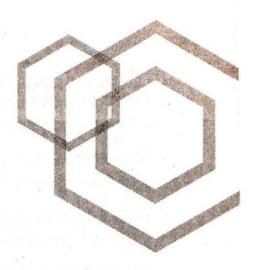
Jl. Kemutug 32 Ring Road Selatan Banguntapan – Bantul Yogyakarta 55191

Hp: 081 555 788 548

email: naila.pustaka@gmail.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Vol. 1)



ISSUES ON LINGUISTICS

- POLITENESS PRINCIPLES IN THE INTERACTION AMONG BALINESE WOMEN IN TRADITIONAL MARKETS
 - » A. A. Ayu Dian Andriyani , I Gusti Agung Sri Rwa Jayantini ~ 3
- CONFLICT AVOIDANCE AS LINGUISTICALLY REFLECTED IN ENGLISH AND JAVANESE
 - » Adnan Zaid ~ 19
- CODE MIXING OF JAVANESE LANGUAGE INTO BAHASA INDONESIA IN FRIDAY PRAYER SPEECH IN MIFTAHUL HIDAYAH MOSQUE
 - » Afif Ikhwanul Muslimin ~ 26
- UCUP KELIK'S PLESETAN: THE STUDY OF TWISTING LINGUISTIC AMBIGUITY IN ORAL VERBAL HUMOR ON TELEVISION
 - » Aulia Lugman Aziz ~ 42
- TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS TO UNCOVER IDEOLOGIES IN NEWSPAPER HEADLINES
 - » Davy Budiono ~ 56
- SOME FEATURES IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC PHONOLOGY
 - » Dedi Sulaeman ~ 72

TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS TO UNCOVER IDEOLOGIES IN NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

Davy Budiono

Widya Mandala University, Surabaya

A. Introduction

Language as a tool for thinking is used to convey ideas from the addressers to the addressees. To understand a text, the knowledge of grammar, morphology, semantics and phonology of a text is not necessarily enough. The addressees need to understand the rhetoric intent, the coherence and the worldview that the addressers show in a text (Kaplan, 1990).

Mass media have become a part of human life since they play a crucial role in the society. Opinion builders, newspapers editors have strong effect in shaping issues and on the way how people perceive the world. Newspapers are known as the primary medium of discourse on the international and national issues by presenting events happening around the world.

It is quite common for people to talk about objective and unbiased description in the newspaper, as if the language and texts can reflect pre-existing reality faithfully. As a matter of fact, people do not possess direct access to the world or reality out there (Goatly, 2000). Newspapers often present the news report based on their point of view or specifically tailored to the particular audience. How the reporter frames the news can be the sole information available to his audience and, as a result, can bias the audience in favor of one party, or one solution over another. Words are never neutral, for they carry the power that the writer or speaker expresses to influence the readers or audiences (Fowler, 1979). Thus, language does

not merely conceptualize or represent the reality but constructs the reality.

It is interesting to notice that reports and opinions from one newspaper or magazine to another reflect different ideologies. In order to provide a specific focus for the discussion about the ideology of news reports, *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* were chosen as the source of data because of the following reason: both *The Jakarta Post*, as the Indonesian largest English language newspaper, and *The Star*, as the Malaysian largest English language daily newspaper, are assumed to represent the ideological perspective of the majority of Indonesian and Malaysian people respectively despite their conservative political perspectives.

The conceptual aspects of ideology are not simply reflected in the wocabulary of a language, but they are at work in the grammar and probably more dangerous there precisely because they are more latent (Goatly, 2000). The part of the grammar of the clause which is relevant to conceptualization, the representation of the world is called transitivity. Transitivity discusses how events are represented in terms of what is happening, who is responsible for particular actions, how both actions and those responsible are described. Halliday (1994) claimed that transitivity in clauses serves to give the reader an impression of what took place in the news event by linking the three main elements for creating meaning: the process providing the description of what happened, the participants taking part in the action of the process, and the circumstance providing the readers with how, where, when and why the event pappened, is happening or will be taking place. Therefore, the writer decided to use Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar because it can be used to analyze ideology and language, especially in news report.

Based on these background considerations, I decided to conduct the study of ideology reflected in *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* based on Haliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar. This study to identify and explain how ideology is constructed and presented

through language use in the headlines of *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star*. Emphasis is placed on the construction of ideological discourse using representational processes of transitivity thus revealing the close relation between language and ideology.

Transitivity has the facility to analyze the same event in different ways, a facility which, as Fowler (1991) showed, is of great interest in newspaper analysis. Furthermore, Matu (2008) claimed that representational practices and processes such as transitivity have ideological effects and can assist in the realization of contrasting discourses. From the problems formulated above, this research aimed to reveal the constructions of transitivity processes in the headlines in *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star.* It also attempted to interpret the ideology of these headlines as viewed through Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar.

Theoretically, this paper elaborates a concept that the ideology of the headlines in *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* is understandable based on their transitivity constructions. To practice, this study will provide opportunity for the newspaper readers to evaluate newspaper headline with their knowledge of Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar and their knowledge of the world to conduct a deduction of newspaper ideology. It is expected that after understanding the ideology of newspaper headlines better, the readers can be more critical in reading newspaper headlines in English.

1. Halliday's Transitivity Approach on Systemic Functional Grammar

As this study is conducted on the basis of Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar, Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar will be discussed and outlined in this section along with the six processes involved in Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar, namely: material process, verbal process, relational process, mental process, behavioral process, and existential process.

Transitivity in clauses gives the reader an impression of what took place in the news event by linking the three main elements for creating meaning, the process providing the description of what happened, the participants taking part in the action of the process, and the circumstance providing the readers with how, where, when and why the event happened, is happening or will be taking place (Halliday, 1994). Furthermore, this meaning will change according to the order in which the previous three elements are presented. The concept of transitivity in Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar is a powerful tool to analysize of the meanings expressed in clauses. The term transitivity has a broader and narrower meaning. The narrower meaning found in traditional grammatical description and the one with which most readers are probably familiar) involves the verb's relationship to dependent elements of structure. Transitive verbs take a direct object and intransitive verbs do not. Stated differently, the action of the verb extends to another entity in a transitive clause, but not in an intransitive clause. For example, the difference between:

The tiger (actor) pounced (process)
intransitive
and
The tiger (actor) ate (process) the deer (affected)

is that the action *eat* extends to *the deer*. In the broader meaning (as **proposed** by Halliday), the system of transitivity consists of the various **types** of processes together with the structures that realize these **processes**.

The meaning of transitivity in Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar differs from the sense of the term in traditional grammar. Traditionally there is a syntactic distinction between transitive and intransitive verbs, depending on whether they take an object or not. However, this syntactic distinction oversimplifies or neglects some important differences of meaning between various types of verbs,

transitive

and, therefore various types of clauses. The differences concern what kind of process the verb designates: the verb kick, for an instance, designates a kind of action, which has an effect on another entity, the ball; another example, run refers to an action, which affects only the actor(s). In the sentence 'Andrea is slim', a quite different state of affairs is encoded, namely, no action but a description of a physical state. The sentence 'Matthew hesitates', on the other hand, refers to a mental process, not a physical action. While the traditional concept of transitivity only concerns with whether the verb takes a direct object (transitive) or not (intransitive), Halliday's concept of transitivity elaborates on the elements of the process itself (verbal group), the participants of the process (nominal group), and the circumstances of the process (adverbial group and prepositional phrase).

In transitivity, different processes are distinguished according to whether they represent actions, speech, states of mind or states of being. Halliday (1994) categorized the descriptions of event or eventuality in the clause, among others, into the following processes, each of which may potentially occur in any news story: material process (process of doing), relational process (process of being), mental process (process of sensing), verbal process (process of saying), and behavioral process (process of behaving). To these, Bloor and Bloor (1995) added existential process (process of existing).

Material process is a process of doing. It describes what happens or who is doing what. A material process basically involves a participant (the actor) doing something to another participant (the affected). At times, there is also another participant, beneficiary. Actor is the performer of relevant action, affected is the undergoer of the action (the person or thing being acted upon), while beneficiary is the receiver (as distinct from the undergoer) of the action (Bloor and Bloor, 1995:116-117). The participant affected is that which is affected by something being done to it (that is, it either changes its position or its status). If the participant remains unaffected (or unimpacted), it is not affected, but scope. Look at the following examples:

- Brutus (actor) stabbed Caesar (affected)
- John (actor) played ping pong (scope)
- Susan (actor) gave Wendy (beneficiary) a letter (scope)
- Andrew (actor) lent Lilian (beneficiary) some money (scope) for his children (client)

Relational process is a process of being. It describes state of affairs and static situations. It is either used for identifying or attributive purposes. If the process is identifying, the participants are *identified* and *identifier*. On the other hand, in the attributive process, the participants are *carrier* and *attribute*. Below are the examples of relational process in both identifying and attributive purposes:

- Thomas (identified) is the new chairman of the board (identifier)
- Andrew (carrier) was great (attribute) during the audition

Mental process is a process of sensing. It describes cognitive and emotive experience, such as feeling, sensing and thinking. There are two participants: experiencer – the one who feels (emotionally), thinks, and perceives, and experience – what which is felt (emotionally), thought about, or perceived. Below is an example of a mental process:

• Ernerst (experiencer) saw the old man (experience)

Verbal process is a process of saying. It describes who is saying what. The participant roles associated with verbal process are that of the (the individual who is speaking) and the receiver (the addressee to whom the process is directed). To this may be added verbiage (not described but 'that which is said'). Look at the following examples:

- Jonah (sayer) told Helen (receiver) that he wouldn't come tomorrow (verbiage)
- The doctor (sayer) expressed some concern (target)

Behavioral process is a process of behaving. It borders material and processes, being outward expressions of inner workings. It borders material and permits the progressive.

The main difference between a mental process and behavioral process is that the clause can be questioned with 'What did the behaver do?' (which a true mental process forbids). In behavioral process, the main participant is behaver, but may sometimes involve a behavior. The verbs used are typically intransitive, involving only the behaver as participant. Talib (2008) pointed out two main characteristics of a behavioral process as a rule of thumb: 1) it is generally intransitive (there is only one participant) and 2) it indicates an activity in which both the physical and mental aspects are inseparable and indispensable to it. In the cases that there are two participants in the clause, the second participant is identified as the behavior (the participant causing the behavior process). Below are two examples:

- The tiger (behaver) snores
- The judge (behaver) stared at the defendant (behavior).

Existential process is a process of existing. It involves an existential construction which is indicated by an empty *there* in the subject position. The typical verb that is used is the *be* verb. In most behavioral processes, there is also only one participant in an existential process – the *existent*. The *existent* is simply that which is construed existentially. Look at the following example:

There is still a firefighter (existent) in the building

Transitivity generally refers to how meaning is represented in clauses. It plays a role in showing how speakers encode in language their mental picture of reality and how they account for their experience of the world around them. Since transitivity is concerned with the transmission of ideas it is considered to fall within the realm of the ideational metafunction of language.

The ideational metafunction is concerned with the representation of processes: the events, actions, sensations, etc., that constitute life, the world and everything. Thus ideational corresponds to what many linguists would call the semantics. To analyze the ideational metafunction at the

The ideational metafunction is concerned, then, with the encoding reality (or fictitious realities). As Halliday puts it, language enables man beings to build a mental picture of reality, to make sense of what on around them and inside them. Here again the clause plays a role, because it embodies a general principle for modelling energy the principle that reality is made up of processes realiday, 1994: 106).

Furthermore, the ideational metafunction of language, according (1994), is divided into two: experiential and logical metafunctions.

experiential metafunction organises our experience and metafunction organises with elements (such as screen shots of a moving picture or pictures comic novel) and its potential to differentiate these elements into metafunction metafunction works above the metafunction works above the metafunction works above the metafunction organises our reasoning on the basis of our experience. It is metafunction the language to construe logical links between figures; for metafunction works above the metafunction organises our reasoning on the basis of our experience. It is metafunction works above the metafunction organises our reasoning on the basis of our experience. It is metafunction works above the metafunction organises our reasoning on the basis of our experience. It is metafunction works above the metafunction

The ideational metafunction relates to the *field* aspects of a text, or subject matter and context of use. Field is divided into three areas: actic domain, specialization, and angle of representation.

Within the semantic domain, systemic functional grammar properties examine the subject matter of a text through organizing its groups (nouns / noun phrases) and its lexical verbs, adjectives, adverbs. These are the words that carry lexical meaning in a text, as to function words, whose purpose is purely grammatical, that is, purpose lies only in relation to other words in the vicinity.

Linguistically, transitivity is concerned with propositional meanings functions of syntactic elements. The representations that can be within a transitivity model are said to signal bias, manipulation

and ideology in discourse. Coincidentally, a large amount of social impact of media has to do with how the media selectively represents the states of being, actions, events and situations concerning a particular society.

Transitivity as a part of the ideational metafunction of language is a fundamental and powerful semantic concept in Halliday (1994), an essential tool in the analysis of representation. Kress (1990) stated that transitivity is the representation in language of processes, the participants therein, and the circumstantial features associated with them, whereas Simpson (1993) asserted that transitivity refers generally to how meaning is represented in the clause. Transitivity shows how speakers encode in language their mental picture of reality and how they account for their experience of the world around them.

Our experience of reality is captured in terms of processes – happening, doing, sensing, meaning, being, and becoming. These processes constitute the transitivity system of language, which belongs to the experiential metafunction. In transitivity analysis, then, we explore how language construes our experience of the world around us.

Transitivity is the resource for construing our experience, and this is done, as noted, in terms of processes. Revolving around these processes are participants, and we'll need to take it into account as well. Studies in the past have often found it difficult to distinguish the different types of processes and the participants that go with them.

There are six processes in Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar. Each process takes a unique set of participants. That is to say, given a participant, we should be able to identify the process.

The table below outlines the six transitivity processes along with their participants; the round brackets indicate that the second participant is optional.

Table 1: The six processes in Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar

Process type	Category meaning	Participant, directly involved	Participants, obliquely involved	Sample verbs				
material action event	doing doing happening	actor, affected	beneficiary, client, scope, initiator, attribute	kill, attack, ban, rescue				
Example	He (actor) handed her (beneficiary) a flower (affected)							
behavioral	ehavioral behaving		behavior	fall, stare, look, rise, stand, die, sink				
Example		병 () [10] [10] [10] [10] [10] [10] [10] [10]	the bottom of that the toy (behave					
mental: perception affect cognition	tion sensing experiencer, feeling experience			consider, see, welcome, like				
Example	The cat (experience) saw the bird (experience)							
werbal	saying	sayer, target	receiver, verbiage	say, comment hint, report, show, issue, question, argue, advise, criticize				
Example	Paul (sayer) (verbiage)	old Mindy (rec	eiver) he would	d go home				
relational: arribution identification	attributing attributing identifying	token, value carrier, attribute identified, identifier	attributor, beneficiary, assigner	be, is, are, was, were, been				
Example	John (token - carrier) is sick (value - attribute) John (token - identified) remained a teacher (value -							

a - Landau Ann	identifier)					
Existential	existing	existent	be, is, are, was, were, been			
Example	There were some students (existent) in the classroom					

2. Data and Methodology

The source of data in this paper is the headlines taken from *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* published 25th September to 4th October 2008. Accordingly, there were 197 headlines analyzed. The Jakarta Post and The Star were chosen as the source of the data due to their nature as the most distinguished English newspapers in two Malay speaking countries, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The transitivity processes in each of these simple clauses were identified based on Halliday's transitivity approach of systemic functional grammar. The identification of the process category was based on the verbs contained in the clauses. The following test was used to identify the processes:

Table 2: Transitivity Process Identification Process

Verb categor v	verb be / linking verb			action verb		non- action verb	action / non- action verb	
Sub categor y							'verbal' verb	'menta I' verb
Conditi	there is present as the 'subject'	be is followed with a noun (phrase)	be is followed with adjective (s)	the verb is transiti ve	the verb is intransiti ve	the verb is followed by adjective (s)		
Process	existenti al	relational (identifyi ng)	relational (attributiv e)	materi al	behavior al	relational (attributiv e)	verbal	mental
Examples (verbs)	be, is, are, was, were, been	be, is, are, was, were, been	be, is, are, was, were, been	kill, attack, ban, rescue	fall, stare (at), look (at), rise, stand,	seem, look, appear, sound, taste	say, comme nt, hint, report, show,	conside r, see, welcom e, like

	No. of London	die, sink		issue, questio
1 1 5		 - 5		n, argue,
			* /	advise, criticize,
				attack (which
				means criticize

- * verbal verbs are verbs that are related to all modes of expressing and indicating
- verbs are verbs that are related to affection, cognition, perception, or desideration

8. Demussion

were classified into categories of voice, agency, and process.

pessive voice means that the extract is whether constructed on the actor (active) or the affected (passive). Agency mether the actor is stated explicitly (specified) or not (implied).

dessification was conducted based on the transitivity process test. A more detailed look of the summary of the of voice, agency, and process classification for each headline look and The Star is given in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Findings on Voice, Agency, and Processes

Me dia	Voice		Age	ncy		Processes				
	Act	Pas sive	Speci fied	Impl ied	Ver bal	Me ntal	Mate rial	Relati onal	Behav ioral	Existe ntial
JP %	68 89.4 7%	8 10.52 %	69 90.78 %	7 9.1%	18 23.6 8%	7 9.1%	28 36.84 %	7 9.10%	14 18.42%	3 3.94%
Star %	163 88.1 %	22 11.9%	166 89.72 %	19 10.27 %	48 25.9 4%	15 8.1%	65 35.13 %	25 13.51%	30 16.21%	1.08%

Concerning voice, most headlines in both *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* favored active voice. This could be seen from the usage of active voice in the headlines in both newspapers (89.47% and 88.1% respectively). However, passivation was also occasionally used in both newspaper headlines (10.52% and 11.9%).

Specified agencies were also found in the majority of both *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* headlines, with 90.78% headlines in *The Jakarta Post* and 89.72% in *The Star*. Of the total 76 extracts in *The Jakarta Post*, there were only 8 extracts (9.1%) that did not specify the actor; while in *The Star*, only 19 out of 185 extracts (10.27%) used implied agency.

As for constitution of transitivity processes used in the headlines, surprisingly, both *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* indicated a very similar composition, with material process taking the highest percentage (36.84% and 35.13% respectively), followed by verbal process (23.68% and 25.94%), behavioral in the 3rd place (18.42% and 16.21%), relational in the 4th place (9.1% and 13.51%), mental in the 5th place (9.1% and 8.1%) and existential in the last position (3.94% and 1.08%).

C. Conclusion

Weisberg and Greene (2003) wrote that 'attitudes can lead to selectivity in terms of exposure and attention to information, selectivity in terms of perception and judgment, and/or selectivity in terms of memory'.

the information. This is often true in the case of reporting and perceiving news headlines.

Transitivity processes are indicators of how people perceive information in accordance to their ideology. This is especially true in news report. How a journalist record an event with specific words and sentence structure will have an impact on the readers' perception. Such configuration will inevitably help shape the public opinion to a particular happening. In a material process clause 'Food safety watchdog seals four ***permarkets', for an instance, the actor' Food safety watchdog' is portrayed the powerful entity while the affected 'four supermarkets' is the powerless. By using passivization like in the clause SI20b '(China milk lawyers are) pressed to quit, the journalist has the ability to conceal the actor's responsibility of a certain action (in this case pressing the affected China milk victim lawyers to quit) because of fear of, respect for or for the real actor. In another example, in a verbal process clause Carbury says Chinese-made products (are) questionable' the side which appears as the sayer in verbal process (in this case Cadbury) indicates the ***spaper's bias to a particular side as the journalist chooses to report the sutterance. A news headline can also take its reader to sympathize to a particular side by describing its mental processes which allows the eders to sympathize with the experiencer, like in mental process clause while the relational processes sees big hurdles for future space goals, while the relational processes be used to attribute a certain label to an entity (the token), like in the elational clause 'Chinese-made products (are) questionable', or even to westly it as good or evil, like in clause 'milk is clean'. On the other hand, in two other transitivity processes, ideological perspectives inferences are not as obvious as in the other four processes. The behavioral process describes actions performed by the behaver, like in behavioral clause **Section** process, like Carrier (There is) Rp 2 billion fine for melamine-laced product offenders describes what is construed existentially through the existent.

The study also revealed that ideological perspectives of the readers do not depend solely on the constructions of the transitivity processes in the news headlines. Another factor, that is word choice, also plays an important role in creating positive or negative judgments to the participants of the transitivity processes. A transitivity process realization with the negative verb connotation, for an instance, will result in a negative bias to the intended participant, regardless of the transitivity construction.

The two newspapers used as the data source in this thesis, *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star*, indicated an identical composition of transitivity construction used in their headlines with material process as the most commonly used, followed by verbal process, behavioral, relational, mental and existential respectively. Concerning the ideology of the news headlines, again, both *The Jakarta Post* and *The Star* possess very similar ideological perspectives on most of the topics of the news with the exception of one topic that concerns Indonesian boat capsize in Malaysia.

References

- Bloor, T and Bloor, M. (1995). *The functional analysis of English: A Hallidayan approach*. London: Arnold.
- Fowler, R. (1991). Language in the news: Discourse and ideology in the press. London: Routledge.
- Goatly, A. (2000). Critical reading and writing. London: Routledge.
- Halliday, M. A. K. 1994. *Introduction to functional grammar 2nd Edition*. London: Edward Arnold.
- Kaplan, R. (1990). "Concluding essays on applied linguistics and discourse analysis." In Kaplan R. (ed). Annual review of applied linguistics vol. II.
- Kress, G. R. (1990). "Critical discourse analysis." Annual review of applied linguistics vol. XI, pp. 84-99.

- Matu, P. M. (2008). "Transitivity as a tool for ideological analysis." *Journal of third world Studies*. Vol. XXV no 1, pp. 199-219.
- Simpson, P. (1993). Language, ideology and point of view. London: Routledge.
- Talib, I. S. (2008). "Transitivity." Literary stylistics: Lecture notes. http://courses.nus .edu.sg/COURSE/ELLIBST/lit-stya.html>. Retrieved: 28 May 2008.
- Weisberg, H. F., and Greene, S. H. (2003). "The political psychology of party identification." *Electoral democracy*. MacKuen, M. B. and Rabinowitz G., eds. Ann Arbor, Michigan: University of Michigan Press.