

THE REFERENCE FOUND IN THE TEXTS RELATED TO
BARACK OBAMA IN THE JAKARTA POST NEWSPAPER

A Thesis

By

MELATI LASMANA

02185018



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT – FACULTY OF LETTERS

ANDALAS UNIVERSITY

PADANG

2009



ABSTRAK

Analisis wacana (teks) adalah suatu analisa yang menyangkut hubungan antara kalimat dengan kalimat dan juga hubungan antara kalimat dengan konteks yang mempengaruhinya. Kalau dilihat dari unsur-unsur yang ada pada jenis hubungannya, maka akan ditemukan beberapa unsur seperti referensi, elipsis, konjungsi dan leksikon. Sedangkan konteks yang mempengaruhi suatu ujaran (kalimat) bisa berupa topik pembicaraan itu sendiri, waktu penuturan, sumber tuturan, dan lain-lainya.

Skripsi ini hanya membicarakan salah satu unsur yang ada pada wacana (teks) yakni referen. Referen adalah hubungan yang terjadi antara unsur yang mengacu dengan unsure yang diacu (*presupposed and presupposing item*) dalam sebuah wacana (teks)

Skripsi ini membahas tentang referen persona, referen demonstrative dan referen komparatif dalam bahasa Inggris, yaitu dalam Koran *The Jakarta Post*. Referen membantu pembaca dalam memahami kalimat-kalimat yang diacu sebelumnya.

Penulis mengambil data dari 2 buah teks yang ada dalam Koran *The Jakarta Post* yang terbit pada tanggal 3-4 November 2008. Teks yang diambil tersebut menceritakan tentang hari-hari dan kampanye yang terjadi di Amerika sebelum pengangkatan Barack Obama menjadi presiden kulit hitam pertama di Amerika. Dalam menganalisa data tersebut penulis menggunakan teori Halliday dan Hasan. Dalam mengolah data, penulis menggunakan metode referensi (*referential method*). Selanjutnya data tersebut disajikan dengan metode formal dan informal.

Dari 26 data yang dianalisa, penulis menemukan referen persona yaitu jenis referen yang paling sering muncul bila dibandingkan dengan referen demonstratif dan referen komparatif.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

This research related to written text. The writing text should be organized as coherence as possible. In other words, sentence in a good writing must be related to each other to build a good paragraph, which has related meaning. One of the ways to understand written text is by learning a component, which called reference. This thesis is concerned with reference, which is a part of cohesion. Reference itself is the specific nature of the information that is signaled for retrieval (Halliday and Hasan, 1980). Therefore, the meaning of reference is something used to identify something or someone being referred to, or in other words, it used as an introduction of people, places and things into a text.

Talking about cohesion means discussing a discourse (text) problem since cohesion is part of discourse. A discourse might be called cohesive if the connection of one element to another is well matched so that produced the coherence of sentences. It means that a discourse must include concept, idea, and thought, which understandable for listener and reader without any doubt whether for listener or reader.

Brown and Yule (1983) define the text as a verbal record of a communicative act and the representation of discourse. In addition, to avoid misunderstanding in comprehending a text, the writing should be organized as coherence as possible. In other words, sentences in a good writing must be related to each other to build a good paragraph, which has related meaning. A way to avoid misinterpretation in a text is by

giving a reference, and of course, it is not easy to make a fine writing. We have to master reference and be able to employ it in order to relate one sentence to other sentences in producing a good writing.

Halliday and Hasan (1980) divide the types of cohesion into five varieties: reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction and lexical cohesion. In this case, the writer just focuses to one of them, reference. In general, a reference is something that refers to or designates something else, or acts as a connection or a link between two things. Referent is the object which is named by a reference, or to which the reference points. It means that the referent word used to refer to the word that point to an entity that has already mentioned: to an entity that is mentioned in successive part of the speech or the text. Then the referent words in reference indicate which entities a speaker or writer refers to.

Reference items are found in great deal in textbooks and in other reading materials. When we read a textbook, we find many cohesive items in it. Without knowing the cohesive items, consciously or not we hardly understand the text, because the sentences cannot bring clear meaning, in the sense that they have to be shown to hang together in a text. Therefore, if we want to understand the relation of meaning in a text we should also know or understand cohesive items in the text. We certainly know that our purpose in reading a text is to understand its content. If we have recognized the meaning that is brought about of the text, we would be able to express our interpretation about it.

Based on Halliday and Hasan (1980:38) reference can be divided into several categories. Firstly, personal reference is reference by means of function in the speech situation, through the category of PERSON (first person, second person or third person)

intersecting with the number categories of singular and plural. Secondly, demonstrative reference is reference by means of location, on a scale of proximity. Thirdly, comparative reference is indirect reference by means of identity of similarity.

Since the speaker or the writer has his own style in speaking or in composing the utterance or text, the referential ties may also applied in different manner. Perhaps, it exists within the text (endophoric) or outside the text (exophoric). According to Halliday and Hasan (1980:33), reference items may be exophoric or endophoric; and endophoric, they may be anaphoric or cataphoric. When it is presupposing an item that appears in the preceding text, it is known as anaphoric. We will call it cataphoric if the information is in the following sentences or presupposing idea or item that appear in subsequent text.

In this chapter, I attempt to observe the occurrences of reference items in the text. The writer would like to describe reference in a text. It is known that, text is used as medium of communication between speaker and listener. The form of text does not distinguish the size; it can be one sentence, one paragraph or even a number of paragraphs. Halliday and Hasan (1980) say that a text is a unit of language in use. It is not grammatical unit, like a clause or a sentence, and it is not defined by its size. A text does not depend on grammatical matters, it emphasizes the meaning. In this case, it can be relate the textbook to reference. Therefore, a text is a semantic unit.

Furthermore, Halliday and Hasan (1980) state that a text is best regarded as semantic unit: a unit not of form but of meaning. The information of names of person or things, of course as found in the first sentence will be found in the next sentence. It is aim to avoid using repeated words in the text. Therefore, it is clear that the use of reference in

the text is very important, and we have to understand and perceive there are semantic relations in the text. The occurrence of reference terms will form the meaning of a text.

I encounters referent words on Barack Obama text in the Jakarta Post Newspaper. It is not easy to know exactly the types of reference; firstly, we need to understand about the types of reference in the text. Finally, we can catch the meaning and avoid a wrong conclusion.

Based on those facts, I am interested in doing a research about reference, because by analyzing the reference in a text the writer can understand the text and its content and can express our interpretation about it. In addition, this research entitled "*The References Found in Texts Related to Barack Obama in the Jakarta Post Newspaper.*"

1.2 Identification of the Problems

The problem discussed in this research is as follows:

1. What are the types of reference are often used in the text related to Barack Obama
2. What are the function of reference are often used in the text related to Barrack Obama

1.3 Objective of the Study

This study is aimed at answering the research questions above. I found the types of reference in the text about Barack Obama in The Jakarta Post Newspaper. Then I relate the reference with anaphora and cataphora in the text. Finally, after analyzing the data I present some findings hopefully, it can help the readers understand a text well.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

4.1 CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I found the types of reference occurrence and the relationship between types of reference in the text related about Barack Obama in The Jakarta Post Newspaper.

After analyzing twenty-six data, which are taken from two articles, I found three types of reference, which are used in the text about Barack Obama. They are personal reference, demonstrative reference and comparative reference. From the three types of reference, personal reference is dominantly occurs because I mostly explains about Barack Obama and his rival John McCain during their campaign in America. In addition, rarely for the demonstrative and comparative reference. Furthermore, I also finds out that anaphoric is the mostly occur in that text. In contrast, the cataphoric reference is the minority one in the terms of quantity.

The main purpose of the use of reference in a written text is to make the text or article comprehensively understandable, so that the reader will get the idea from the text easily. The occurrence of reference in a text also gives a contribution to the author in avoiding repetition to use the same words and to make the reader understand in the interpretation of the text.

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