

**A SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF
METAFUNCTIONS IN THE JAKARTA POST READERS' FORUM**

A THESIS

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ABSTRAK

Peranan metafungsi bahasa dalam teks *Issues of the Day* dan *Comments of Other Issues* sebagai bagian dari rubrik *Readers' Forum* yang dimuat dalam harian *The Jakarta Post* dianalisis dalam skripsi ini. Tujuan penulisan skripsi ini adalah: (1) mengetahui tipe metafungsi bahasa (*ideational*, *interpersonal*, dan *textual*) dalam teks-teks *Readers' Forum* dan (2) memaparkan hubungan antara *addresser* dan *addressee* berdasarkan metafungsi bahasa.

Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori *Systemic Functional Linguistics* yang dikemukakan oleh M. Halliday (1994). Data diambil dari teks-teks yang termuat dalam *Readers' Forum* (*Issues of the Day* dan *Comment of Other Issues*) dalam harian *The Jakarta Post* edisi Juni sampai Juli 2010. Metode menganalisis data adalah metode padan referensial (*referential identity method*). Teknik yang digunakan adalah *non-participant observational technique*. Data dianalisis dengan teori metafungsi bahasa (*ideational*, *interpersonal*, dan *tekstual*) dalam teks *readers' forum* yang membangun konteks situasi (*field*, *tenor*, dan *mode*) untuk mengetahui karakteristik teks pada *Readers' Forum*.

Dalam Penelitian ditemukan bahwa teks-teks dalam *Readers' Forum* memiliki sistem. Sistem ini dilihat dari hubungan antara metafungsi bahasa dan konteks situasi yang saling berkaitan satu sama lain. Pada fungsi *ideational* dari 8 teks terdapat 4 teks yang didominasi oleh penggunaan *relational proses* yang merujuk pada pengidentifikasian ataupun perujukan terhadap sesuatu di dalam teks. Hal ini membangun *field* yang dapat menyebabkan *addressee* memberikan suatu reaksi terhadap sesuatu yang diidentifikasi atau dirujuk karena dianggap sebagai sesuatu yang memunculkan konflik di dalam teks. Pada fungsi *interpersonal*, ditemukan bahwa teks *Readers' Forum* ini didominasi dengan pemilihan kalimat berita (*declarative mood*), baik dari pihak *addresser* dan *addressee*, sebagai bentuk pilihan dalam menyampaikan informasi-informasi terkait dan merespon informasi tersebut. Hal ini secara tidak langsung memaparkan *tenor* dan hubungan diantaranya. Untuk fungsi *textual*, semua teks yang ditetapkan sebagai data disampaikan dalam bentuk tulisan (*written mode*) yang didominasi oleh penggunaan *unmarked theme*. Hal ini menjelaskan bahwa pelaku dapat teridentifikasi dengan jelas karena posisinya sebagai subjek di setiap klausa; dan juga gerak maju dari tema di setiap teks menunjukkan bahwa adanya kesatuan dalam membangun sebuah teks. Berdasarkan analisis terhadap fungsi bahasa dan kaitannya dengan konteks situasi penulis menemukan bahwa *addresser* dan *addressee* dihubungkan melalui fungsi *interpersonal* yang menjelaskan bahwa penggunaan kata ganti *I*, *you*, dan *we* dalam kalimat berita serta bentuk kalimat-kalimat sinis berbentuk cacian atau makian yang dilontarkan *addressee* mengaburkan hubungan formal di antara peserta.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

News has become the important part of present-day life for those who really need information. One of media which serves much information is newspaper. There are many kinds of newspaper which envelop various news can be found. The Jakarta Post becomes the interesting one. It is because The Jakarta Post is the largest daily English language newspaper in Indonesia with an average circulation of around 50.000 copies (www.wikipedia.com). The Jakarta Post is a small but influential newspaper oriented towards local English-speaking expatriates and the diplomatic community. In many ways, it acts as an unofficial mouthpiece of the Indonesian government into the international community.

One attractive part exists in The Jakarta Post is *Readers' Forum*. Like the name of the heading itself, *Readers' Forum*, it is kind of forum for reader's discussion. It usually consists of reader's comment or even reader's critics toward a passage. *Readers' Forum* in The Jakarta Post is uniquely designed special for readers to take out their opinion of a problem which is discussed in the text.

There are so many ways to express language; one of the ways is by using the choice of words. It can also be found in the text of *Readers' Forum*. It can be seen from any discussion, comment, critics which are created by the readers in the forum. Every reader has their own style in expressing their language that appears in the *Readers' Forum* as a reaction of related passage or text. In the other words,

it can be said that *Readers' Forum* is a new form of communication that used by The Jakarta Post to create a special effect for the reader.

Based on information before, the writer argues that text in the *Readers' Forum* is so interesting to be analyzed. It is because nowadays almost people in Indonesia can enjoy this forum. They can take a hand in any passage of the Jakarta Post. It is a point plus for *Readers' Forum* because by giving a media to canalize any idea of readers; comments, critics, or suggestion, indirectly will be created new texts from the readers in which these will indicate the different style of language used by the reader. This becomes the attractive point to analyze the correlation between text by the writer and readers of *Readers' Forum*. As Yule (1985: 104) said that some of the most interesting questions in the study of language is the connection with the way language is used rather than what components are. It is because if there is no tie in text of *Readers' Forum* it will be not cohesive. The *Readers' Forum* text may not have a good language; therefore, this may influence the way they purpose opinions, comments, critics, and even suggestions.

In line with this, the way language is used can be seen by using the concepts and methods of linguistics analysis which is developed by Australia-based linguist M.A.K Halliday, Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). SFL is derived from the discussion of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). SFL is defined as "a theory about language as social process and an analytical methodology which permits the detailed and systematic description of language patterns" (Egins, 2004:20). Further, systemic linguistics is a theory of language centered on the notion of language function. It means systemic looks at how

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Readers Forum, taken from The JakartaPost, has system which involves some interrelated aspect of language. It has been proved by the analyzing of 8 data in the previous chapter. This is represented by the relationship among the three metafunctions; ideational, interpersonal, and textual which are connected by the three situational contexts; field, tenor, and mode. In this chapter, the writer can conclude that the relationship of the three metafunctions and the three situational contexts shows that *Readers' Forum* texts are systemic and meaningful unit. In line to this the interpersonal function show the interrelated between addresser and addressee.

The findings of this research are first, in term of ideational function, the writer found that 4 of 8 texts of *Readers' Forum* are dominated by the use of relational process in conveying the ideas. It consists of identifying and attributive. This dominant process indirectly indicates the dominantly participant which refers to token and carrier who identify and assign something which effect the reaction from addressee. In addition to this, place becomes the dominant circumstance in 7 texts. The dominant parts; relational, token and carrier, place in each process, participant, circumstance of ideational function cooperate in realizing the field of the text. Through the field, all events in the text can be explained. Second is the correlation between Interpersonal Function and tenor which realized through the mood and modality. The writer found that these texts are dominated by declarative mood choices. It has been proved by the finding of the dominant declarative mood

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