THE IDEATIONAL MEANING REALISED IN THE WRITTEN DISCOURSE IN ONLINE NEWSPAPER ON ABDUL QODIR JAELANI (AQJ)

Yusuf Hidayat

Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Program Pascasarjana, Universitas Negeri Semarang, Indonesia

Abstract

This thesis is aimed at reporting the analysis on the ideational meaning realised in the written discourse in online newspaper on Abdul Qodir Jaelani (AQJ). Under a discourse analysis method, the data were collected through retrieving twenty texts on the discourse of AQJ from some online newspapers. The texts on the discourse of AQJ are analysed using the framework of systemic functional linguistics which is realised based on the ideational meaning as suggested by Halliday & Matthiessen (2004). The findings reveal that there are 1043 participant types (2%) involve throughout the texts. Meanwhile, there are 712 process types (3%) involve, and there are 274 circumstance types (7%) involve throughout the texts. Hence, the existence of participants is more dominant than processes and circumstances available throughout twenty texts. Based on the findings, it is recommended that the English teacher can apply discourse analysis as the approach to analyse the texts in teaching the English learners about how to analyse the clauses of the texts to enhance their ability in analysing the text both journalistic texts (hard and soft news) and classroom texts (text types).

© 2014 Universitas Negeri Semarang
INTRODUCTION

Systemic functional linguistics (henceforward SFL) involves the idea that a language consists of a set of systems at which the speaker or the writer has unlimited choice of ways in creating meanings (Bloor & Bloor, 2004). SFL then develop the systems of grammar which is well-known as systemic functional grammar (henceforward SFG). In harmony with Bloor and Bloor's (2004) statement, Eggins (1994; 2004) states that SFL is not only a model of grammar, but it is a kind of approach functions to analyse the discourse. In other words, SFL has given a very significant influence on discourse analysis.

In the implementation, SFL views a text at which it is produced in two ways based on its form, those are spoken and written. If the text is in spoken form, it is produced by uttering a number of utterances. Meanwhile, if the text is in written form, it is produced by writing a number of writing forms. To analyse spoken text, the linguists are going to record the text, then the result will be transcribed. Otherwise, in analysing written text, they directly analyse the text from its constituent used in the text. The analysis of the text can be done by discourse analysis (Bloor & Bloor, 2004). Thus, the term of discourse analysis (henceforward DA) is still part of SFL (Eggins, 1994; 2004).

Dealing with the SFL perspective above, how it can be realised in the written news about a fatal accident which happened in Jagorawi toll road KM 8-200, Pondok Indah, South Jakarta, on Sunday, September 8th 2013 at 1.45 AM. Six people were reported dead, and nine people were injured, including Abdul Qadir Jaelani (AQJ), the youngest son of musician Ahmad Dhani and Maia Estianty. He is the main suspected of the accident happened. According to Police spokesperson Sr. Comr. Rikwanto, in Jakarta on Sunday, as quoted by Antara news agency and the Jakarta Post, told that AQJ was driving a Mitsubishi Lancer sedan at a high speed towards Jakarta’s city centre when he crashed into a road divider at a toll road, hitting oncoming traffic, including a Daihatsu Gran Max mini van and a Toyota Avanza mini van.

With regard the present study, it is aimed at explaining the implementation of the ideational meaning of the texts on the discourse of AQJ realised, explaining the texts are produced in the way they do, and finding out the pedagogical implication of the study on the discourse of AQJ. Through analysing the discourse, the readers can understand not only the information, but also the meaning beyond the clauses by analysing its constituent such as transitivity aspect which covers processes, participants, and circumstances (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004). Furthermore, through analysing the text from its transitivity system, the readers can try to find something which lies beyond the grammatical distinction of group and phrase classes.

However, to support the present study, there are some previous studies which investigated ideational meaning realised in the texts. For example, the first previous study is Mulatsih (2007). She designs a research entitled “The Realisation of Ideational Meaning in the Students’ Recounts.” The second previous study is Wattles and Radić-Bojanić (2007). They design a research entitled “The Analysis of an Online Debate–The Systemic Functional Grammar Approach.” The third previous study is Setiawan et al. (2011). They design a research entitled “Linguistic Application Using Transitivity-Appraisal Analysis.” The fourth previous study is Sujatna (2012). She designs a research entitled “Applying Systemic Functional Linguistics to Bahasa Indonesia Clauses.” The fifth previous study is Kazemian et al. (2013). They design a research entitled “Ideational Grammar Metaphor in Scientific Texts: A Hallidayan Perspective.” The last previous study is Tabrizi and Nabifar (2013). They design a research entitled “A Comparative Study of Ideational Grammatical Metaphor in Health and Political Texts of English Newspapers.”

In relation to the previous studies aforementioned, they employ systemic functional linguistics as the framework of
discourse analysis at which the ideational meaning and the ideational grammatical metaphor used to analyse the discourse. Dissimilar to the fifth and the last previous studies, the present study tries to employ the ideational meaning to analyse the discourse of Abdul Qodir Jaelani (AQJ). The analysis is focused on the transitivity. In the meantime, the present study is similar to the first, second, third, and fourth previous studies which also focus on the ideational meaning used to realise the transitivity aspects: participant types, process types, and circumstance types throughout the texts.

Theoretically, the whole previous studies focus on the ideational meaning as the main topic of the study. The term 'ideational meaning' is a part of English metafunctions or functions of language (Bloor & Bloor, 2004). The ideational meaning covers two essential points, those are 'clause level' and 'beyond the clause'. In clause level, it consists of 'experiential meaning', which focuses on 'transitivity' (participants, processes, and circumstances). Meanwhile, in beyond the clause, it consists of 'logical meanings' which is realised in the logical structure of the clause complex (Eggins, 2004; Christie & Derewianka, 2008).

Practically, to find out experiential meaning within the text, it can be identified through the clause level of the texts. It is indicated by the existence of participants, processes, and circumstances. Dealing with participants, processes, and circumstances, Halliday & Matthiessen (2004); Freddi (2004) highlight that participants are realised by nominal group/phrase or adjectival group/phrase. Meanwhile, processes are realised by verb or verb group/phrase, and circumstances are realised by adverbial group/phrase or prepositional group/phrase. Afterwards, to find out the logical meanings in the texts, it can be identified by the existence of the clause complex (Eggins, 2004; Christie & Derewianka, 2008). To comprehend what participants, processes, and circumstances are, the writer discusses them as follows.

In transitivity system, participants are one of the three parts which cannot be a part from every clause as the unit of analysis in discourse analysis. Participants are commonly realised by noun group/phrase (NG) or adjectival group/phrase (Halliday & Matthiessen (2004); Freddi (2004). In SFL, participants commonly changes, it depends on the processes or verb/ verb group (VG) attached after the participants themselves. Dealing with its changes, Gerot & Wignell (1994) highlight them as follows:

In transitivity system, processes or process types are one of the three parts which cannot be a part from every clause as the unit of analysis in discourse analysis. Processes are commonly realised by verb or verb group/phrase (VG) (Halliday & Matthiessen (2004); Freddi (2004). In SFL, there are six types of processes, namely: (1) Material process, (2) Behavioural process, (3) Mental process, (4) Verbal process, (5) Relational process, (6) Existential process (Gerot & Wignell, 1994; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

Circumstances are commonly realised by adverbial group/phrase (AG) or prepositional phrase (PP) (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004: 310; Freddi, 2004: 114). In the other hand, circumstances answer the questions such as: when, where, why, how, how many, and as what (Gerot & Wignell, 1994).

RESEARCH METHODS

The study is designed within the framework of discourse analysis such suggested by Fraenkel et al. (2012). Discourse research is commonly qualitative because it interprets and exemplifies the social phenomena brought by people who are conveying the meaning (Denzin & Lincoln, 2000 cited in Trappes-Lomax, 2008).

In collecting the data, the writer took twenty texts deals with the discourse of AQJ. Those texts were taken from the online newspaper such as the Jakarta Post, the Jakarta Globe, and Tempo online. Afterwards, those texts are analysed based on the ideational
meaning through its transitivity analysis which consists of participants, processes and circumstances.

Concerning the source of data, the writer took twenty texts concerning the discourse of AQJ. The texts were taken from the online newspaper which was selected based on some criteria: first, it consists of the variety of texts issued in the online media in terms of a deadly accident involving AQJ. Second, the content of texts should be consistency of issuing the problem. Third, the length of texts should be at least a paragraph which consists of five sentences, and maximally three pages. In the meantime, the texts consist of twenty relevant texts which were retrieved from the Jakarta Post, the Jakarta Globe, and Tempo online.

Dealing with the unit of analysis, it focuses on the clause such suggested by Martin & Rose (2007); But et al. (2000). Thus, the whole relevant texts are segmented into clauses. After segmenting, those are analysed through the use of the ideational meaning which focuses on transitivity analysis.

To analyse the data, the texts are analysed based on ideational meaning which covers processes, participants, and circumstances as suggested by Eggins (2004); Halliday & Matthiessen (2004); Freddi (2004); Christie & Derewianka (2008).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

After analysing the twenty texts, the summary of the transitivity analysis which reflects the realisation of the ideational meaning is tabulated. In the meantime, the following table reveals the summary of transitivity analysis which is showed as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text No.</th>
<th>Participant types</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Process Types</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Circumstance Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1043</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regarding to the table 1 above, it shows that the ideational meaning is realised by the involvement of 1043 participants. It means that the participants involve 1043 times which are represented 2%. Meanwhile, the whole processes involve 712 points. It means that the process types involve 712 times which are represented 3%. The last, the circumstances involve 274 points. It means that they involve 274 times which are represented 7%. Hence, the existence of participants is more dominant than processes and circumstances available throughout twenty texts.

Discussion

Throughout the discussion, the writer intends to answer the research problems addressed. The first research problem is: “how is the ideational meaning of the texts on the discourse of AQJ realised? The answer of the first research question is connected to the realisation of the ideational meaning of the texts on the discourse of AQJ which is presented in the table 1 in the findings (Summary of transitivity analysis). Concerning the summary of the transitivity analysis which reflected the realisation of the ideational meaning, it reveals that there are 1043 participant types involve throughout the texts. Meanwhile, there are 712 process types involve, and there are 274 circumstance types involve throughout the texts. Hence, the existence of participants is more dominant than processes and circumstances available throughout twenty texts. Based on the distribution table, the existence of process type is realised 2%, the process types are realised 3%, and the circumstance types are realised 7%.

In addition, the second research problem is: “why are the texts produced in the way they do? The answer of the second research question is connected to the fatal accident which happened caused by AQJ. The news made everyone shocked, because this traffic accident killed six people and leaved nine other wounded. Because of the fatal accident, a number of mass media included the online newspaper chronologically reported it. With this reason, the second research question was answered, that the texts are produced because there was a deadly accident happened involving the underage child, Abdul Qadir Jailani or AQJ.

Moreover, the third research problem is: “what is the pedagogical implication of the study on the discourse of AQJ? The answer of the last research question is connected to the pedagogical implication which is basically hoped to give wider implication to the English education which is able to support the applied linguistics area particularly for functional linguistics. As mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, SFL provides and supports the grammar which is the so-called systemic functional grammar (SFG). Practically, SFG is properly used in the context of teaching and learning English. Moreover, through learning SFL, the English learners can learn and deepen the area of discourse analysis which is very essential to be understood as the starting point to trigger them to think critically in the university level (Derewianka, 1998 as cited in Emilia, 2005). After having and being able to implement their critical thinking, the English learners can evaluate their own work as the result of their understanding to the functions of the text, context (both context of situation and culture), and its metafunctions as the main elements used in analysing the text. In addition, SFL also focuses on exploring the text types in language education (Bloor & Bloor, 2004). Hence, the issue of text types recently is being highlighted in the English curriculum both for school-based curriculum (curriculum 2006/KTSP) and the newest one, curriculum 2013. The text types are well-known as the so-called Genre-based approach (GBA) which is implemented both in Junior and Senior High School level in Indonesia.
CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion, it can be concluded that the realisation of the ideational meaning shows 1043 participant types (2%), 712 process types (3%), and 274 circumstance types (7%) which involve throughout the texts. In addition, the whole texts on the discourse of AQJ are produced because there was a deadly accident happened involving the underage child, Abdul Qadir Jailani or AQJ. Moreover, the benefits of this study can implicate to the pedagogical aspect. Basically, it is hoped to give wider implication to the English education which is able to support the applied linguistics area particularly for systemic functional linguistics (SFL). Practically, through learning SFL, the English learners can learn and deepen the area of discourse analysis which is very essential to be understood as the starting point to trigger them to think critically.

REFERENCES


