Attitude System in Online Newspaper Articles Written by Female and Male Authors

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Article Info	Abstract
	An appraisal is the developmental theory of Halliday's interpersonal meaning proposed by Martin & White (2005). There are three systems in Appraisal namely attitude, engagement, and graduation. This study investigated the comparison of attitude manifested in online newspaper articles written by female and male authors. It was intended to reveal the realization, similarities, and differences in the attitude system in the articles. It employed a descriptive qualitative method in the form of discourse analysis to examine sixteen online newspaper articles within the theoretical framework of Appraisal (Martin & White, 2005). Besides, the gender and psychological theories of Shields (2000) and Guimond (2008) were employed. The findings of this study found out that both authors displayed three subsystems of attitude. Then, appreciation items were dominantly perceived. On the other side, affect became a significant gap of differences between female and male authors. This study is very beneficial for English language learners to pay more attention to the use of appraisal in their writings. They can convey their voices and emotions effectively by using Appraisal.

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INTRODUCTION

Appraisal evaluates the language meaning in the discourse. This theory is guided by the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) framework. It is developed by Martin and White (2005) from the theory of interpersonal meanings proposed by Halliday. In general, appraisal reveals the meaning of lexical words used by the authors/the writers/the speakers, so that it evaluates the language usage in the utterances. Besides, Martin and Rose (2003) define that Appraisal concerns with the evaluation of the kinds of attitude which are negotiated in a text. Furthermore, it also strengthens the feelings involved in which values are sourced and the readers are aligned.

Martin and White (2005) divided the Appraisal into three systems namely attitude, engagement, and graduation. Attitude refers to personal feelings, emotional reactions, a judgment of behavior, and things evaluation. Whereas, engagement deals with how the ways the authors/ the writers / the speakers engage their voices to keep their position on the topic. Graduation refers to scale or grade. It shows the scale or grade of the authors / the writers / the speakers to emphasize their writing/talk. In this present study, the writer focused on the attitude system. Attitude is then divided into three sub-systems including expression of feelings and emotions as affect, evaluating or judging humans' behaviors as judgment, and expression of things values as graduation (Martin & Rose, 2003);(Martin & White, 2005).

There are similar and different patterns of how men and women use language (Coates, 2008). There were several previous studies focused on gender language use such as (Argamon et al., 2003); (Francis et al., 2003); (Berninger et al., 2008). Gender language use can be perceived from a linguistics and psychological point of view. Men tend to use language to convey information rather than women who are more likely to maintain verbal interaction for social purposes (Newman et al., 2008). The topics, which they are discussing, are also different. Women prefer discussing personal topics to public issues (Amir et al., 2012). Hence, women tend to produce longer sentences and utterances than men (Newman et al., 2008). Different topics produce different linguistic features. Men and women employ different linguistic features. A previous study revealed that gender differences can be spotted in the use of adverbials, repetition, synonyms, and hyponyms (Amir et al., 2012). It goes hand in hand with a theory from Reid et al. (2003). They revealed that women are likely to display tentative language. The tentative language resembles cautious and hedging language. It puts forth ideas as ideas, rather than offering ideas as definite ideas. Furthermore, the features of females language are mainly seen in using intensifiers, extravagant adjectives, swear words, expletives, euphemism, and polite expressions (Pan, 2011). On the other side, gender differences are also perceived from a psychological point of view. Several significant psychological attributes distinguish women and men (Guimond, 2008). Men are viewed as independent or agentic self-construal. However, women are more likely to reflect their social dominance and relationship.

Systemic Functional Linguistics is connected with journalistics, especially newspaper (Iedema & Feez, 2004) and (Hanitzsch, 2007). Appraisal system, as part of Systemic Functional Linguistics, is introduced to reveal objectivity and subjectivity in the journalistic discourse. It is intended to explore how different voices are spotted and analyzed based on the Appraisal system, in the newspaper articles. It coincides with Stenvall (2008). He claimed that emotions inherently challenge the journalistic ideals of objectivity and subjectivity. There are several types or sections of newspaper articles such as editorials, headlines, opinions, news items, etc. This study focuses on opinions as to the term of online newspaper articles. Opinions involve the authorial's voices. Therefore, the authors might mention their ideas in their articles.

Authorial personal voices can be presented as the author's personal feelings or emotions. The Appraisal system is intended to figure out emotions in the news report (Stenvall, 2008).

Emotion is a part of attitude. Gender and emotion might be linked. Emotion words emerge to be another area of conflicting findings in the gender differences study. The equation of emotion brings presupposition of feeling expressions. Men are more likely objective, straightforward, and concise than women (Francis et al., 2003). Meanwhile, women adopt a more personal approach in their writings. No wonder, they involve emotions and social matters there. Emotion differences might be perceived from a psychological point of view. A psychologist Guimond (2008) revealed that Women tend to develop their social connections. But men are possible to reflect their social dominance and assertiveness. Thus, men display assertive languages and women employ tender languages. This finding goes hand in hand with Shields (2000). She claimed that women are reported more intense experiences and expressions. Therefore, they display more emotions.

The previous studies on the uses of appraisal in journalism were carried out by Hanitzsch (2007) and Stenvall (2008). Both of them were concerned with the news report. They did not compare gender authors' similarities and differences. This present study brings a new sight since it is intended to compare the similarities and differences of attitude found in online newspaper articles in the female and male authors.

METHODS

This study employed a descriptive qualitative method which is in the form of discourse analysis. Discourse analysis looked for broad themes and functions of language in action using approaches called conversation analysis and genre analysis (Hodges et al., 2008). This research was aimed to find out the attitude manifested in online newspaper articles written by the female and male authors.

The objects of this study were online newspaper articles from 16 authors. The articles belong to the opinion sections. They were taken from three famous newspaper sites namely The Guardian, The Jakarta Post, and The Jakarta Globe. The topics were about politics, crime and law, health and lifestyles, environmental issues, and educational matters. The titles of those articles might be different. Yet the topics should be equal. The data was written articles, which are in the form of clauses or complex clauses as the units of analysis. They were analyzed and classified as the 'appraising items' which were included in the attitude system in this study. The data classification applied appraisal instrument of analysis proposed by Martin and White (2005). During classifying the data, the writer highlighted attitude items in all the articles. Some procedures of analyzing data were classifying, quantifying, evaluating, finding similarities and differences, and reporting. To minimize the writer's subjectivity, the writer needs triangulation. The term triangulation is divided into five, namely time triangulation, space triangulation, combined levels of triangulation, theoretical triangulation, and investigator triangulation (Cohen et al., 2017). Then, the writer employed investigator triangulation and asked a lecturer from a local University in Pekalongan to validate the data. The expert validator is not only validating the data but also giving suggestions to the writer.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the Appraisal system analysis adapted from Martin and White (2005), the result was that both authors displayed three sub-systems of attitude namely affect, judgment and appreciation. The overall distribution of attitude items in the sixteen articles is presented in below table.

Table 1. The Distribution of Attitude in the Online Newspaper Articles Written by Female and Male Authors

Author	Attitude			Total	Author	Attitude			Total
Female	Affect	Judgment	Appreciation		Male	Affect	Judgment	Appreciation	
F1	4	23	15	42	M1	0	19	15	34
F2	8	26	3	37	M2	0	8	6	14
F3	2	22	6	30	M3	0	12	21	33
F4	15	26	13	54	M4	2	20	7	28
F5	1	10	14	24	M5	2	12	10	23
F6	10	22	11	43	M6	3	33	10	43
F7	6	36	14	56	M7	0	14	14	28
F8	4	36	22	62	M8	0	3	7	11
Total	50	201	97	348	Total	7	120	90	215
%	14%	58%	28%	100%	%	2%	56%	42%	100%

Based on Table.1, the female authors produced 50 appraising items of affect, 201 appraising items of judgment, and 97 appraising items of appreciation. However, the male authors displayed 7 appraising items of affect, 120 appraising items of judgment, and 90 appraising items of appreciation.

As a result, the similar pattern of attitude between both authors fell to appreciation. They displayed equal numbers of appreciation items in their articles. This finding goes hand in hand with previous studies conducted by Souza (2006), Ghasani and Sofwan (2017), and Faot et al. (2019). It indicates that the authors make their sentences/clauses/utterances which are related to the topic of the articles by giving appreciation to things or phenomenons. When the authors are supporting the topics, they will give positive appreciation. On the other hand, if they are against the topics, then negative appreciation items will be more produced. Souza (2006)

mentioned that appreciation was done to reveal re-contextualization of the field of identification concerning evaluations of things and phenomenons. For detailed explanations of attitude, the writer will elaborate in the following sections.

Affect

Affect is perceived as personal feelings that are conveyed to express intention toward the context. The feelings can be presented in positive or negative feelings (Martin & Rose, (2003); Martin & White, 2005).

The distribution of affect in the female and male authors can be analyzed into four terms namely dis/inclination, un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfaction. It can be spotted in the following table to show the detailed proportion of affect items in the online newspaper articles written by the female and male authors.

Table 2. The Distribution of Affect in the Online Newspaper Articles Written by the Female and Male Authors

Affect	Polarity (+ / -)	Female (F)	Male (M)
Dis/Inclination	(+)	0	0
	(-)	0	0
Un/Happiness	(+)	5	2
	(-)	7	0
In/Security	(+)	8	0
	(-)	13	3
Dis/Satisfaction	(+)	6	2
	(-)	11	0
Total		50	7

Based on Table.2 above shows that the female authors produced more affect items than male authors. They displayed more un/happiness, in/security, and dis/satisfaction. Thus, the female is likely to convey and express their personal feelings of unhappiness, fear/insecurity, and dissatisfaction towards the topics they are discussing in their articles. On the other side, there are only 7 affect items found in the male authors. They showed off their unhappiness, insecurity, and dissatisfaction in their articles. Yet, both authors have one thing in common. That is they did not display dis/inclination items in their articles. Several excerpts of appraising items in affect are described below.

(1) *I also remember walking past the PDAM office near my childhood house, seeing an old, deserted-looking building[1] and thinking:* __no wonder the water supply in my house is so poor.__

The first female author (F1) tried to express her emotion of dissatisfaction towards the water supply in their house. She tried to build up her emotion by addressing negative judgment to PDAM building near her house.

(2) __Alone, isolated, and continuously repressed[1]__
(3) *In the words of the International Labour Organisation,* __"If you desire[1] peace, cultivate justice."__

The second female author (F2) intended to express her feelings of dissatisfaction. She tried to convey how pity the condition of Papua recently was. She implied Papua as a lonely and isolated province among provinces in Indonesia. She also addressed her dissatisfaction with the Indonesian government and Internation organization regarding cultivating justice in the land of Papua.

(4) *... most of the classrooms[1]* __did not__ consider[2] laptops as __useful[3]__ as direct interaction with competent teachers.

The third female author (F3) conveyed their negative satisfaction. She thought that digital tools for teachers are not useful recently. She considered that laptops are not useful enough for direct teaching interaction in the classroom.

(5) But he kept asking me the same thing __over and over__.
(6) __Worst[1]__, he sent sexy pictures of some random girls to our chat room and asked things that made me __uneasy__.
(7) I was so __irritated[1]__
(8) ... that I ventured[1] to speak up about my __discomfort__ and told him to stop treating me that way.

The fourth female author (F4) brings sexual harassment as her topic. In this case, she displayed so much of her emotions. Since she ever experienced the same thing as the sexual violence victim. There, she framed her insecurity and unhappiness towards sexual harassment which was faced by Baiq Nuril and also herself.

(9) Still, the new deaths from the outbreak have caused growing __panic__

The fifth female author (F5) only found one affect item in the article. She flowed her writing so plain and neutral. It happens since she brings a scientific topic, that is about the original history of coronavirus. No wonder, the author displayed less personal feelings.

(10) __Mind you[1]__, __I've been disappointed[2]__ in Keir's list of 10 pledges – [he's] still[3] going to nationalize everything, __too left[4]__
(11) Most[1] were __strongly[2]__ for Starmer, though[3] a few[4] __gloomily[5]__ sought to dodge the critical choice by opting for Lisa Nandy, who has indeed[6] had a good[7] campaign.
(12) The election felt like[1] the shock of 1992, __the despair[2]__. But[3] Labour recovered by 1997.

The sixth female author (F6) brings a political issue of labor leaders in the UK. There were a lot of affect items displayed by the authors. Mostly, they showed their dissatisfaction or disappointment with Keir Starmer's achievement during his career.

(13) ... And in each instance where I have been __refused[9]__ a test, a key factor has been that I did not[10] __satisfy[11]__ the protocol based on the fact that I hadn't travelled[12] to one of five countries.
(14) __I am still[2] sick[1]__. I am __still[4]__ self-quarantined at home[3], and __I am still[6] in the dark.[5]__

The seventh female author (F7) intended to criticize the procedures of getting the Rapid / Swab test in America. She displayed many dissatisfaction items. She was disappointed

regarding to the test protocols which she experienced during the test. In excerpt number (14) she clearly expressed her emotion that she deadly needed the test. However, she was refused because of the test protocols. The sentence "I am still in the dark" implies that the author does need help. It contains a metaphor that disguises the authorial's feelings.

(15) In the week before schools closed in March, the WhatsApp group chat for my daughter's reception class **pinged** incessantly[2] with messages.[1]

(16) Parents were split between **deep distrust[1]** of the government's prevarication and ingress to give them the benefit of **doubt[2]**.

(17) All[1] of us were **struggling[2]**, if we were **honest[3]**, to find a rationale behind the stuttering[4] decision-making of our leaders.

The plan of reopening school during the pandemic is an interesting discussion. The eight female author (F8) tried to display her emotion as she was the student's parent. She framed her insecurity and dissatisfaction if the plan was carried out. She showed up her deep distrust of parents towards the government policy.

On the other hand, the writer also presented several excerpts from the male authors which indicated affect.

(18) It added that[1] the case sets a bad[2] precedent that could[3] make victims reluctant[4] to come forward, as many[5] may[6] now **worry[7]** that they could[8] end up like Nuril.

This excerpt was found in the article written by the fourth male author. He brought Baiq Nuril's case as the topic. The word "worry" indicates his personal feeling of insecurity. He was insecure towards several women who had the same problem as Nuril.

(19) But[1] this optimism[3] is turning into **pessimism[2]**.

The fifth male author talked about the political condition in Papua. This excerpt above shows the authorial personal feeling of insecurity. He felt so pessimistic regarding Papua's condition recently. He thought that the optimism was fading away and turning into pessimism.

(20) As far as **I** can[1] tell, no paper reported on that guidance; its publication was seen[2] **as the routine activities of a government department.[3]**

(21) Looking back on Starmer's management of the media while DPP, **the sense is of an individual with a radical past making peace with the power**

The sixth male author tried to bring a political issue in the UK as his topic. He showed off his emotions several times in his writing. He highlighted his dissatisfaction with Keir's Starmer achievement. Excerpt number (22) indicated that the author thought Keir Starmer used his power to force peace in silence, especially labor protesters.

From the excerpts above, the female authors framed a lot of their personal feelings in the articles. This finding coincides with a theory from Shields (2000). She argued that women are reported more intense experiences and expressions. No wonder, the female authors employ more emotions and expressions. It can be perceived since the female authors involve their own experiences based on the topics. They intend to involve the readers to go deep into the articles by presenting so many emotions and personal feelings. Moreover, Stenvall (2008) stated that emotion is intended to reveal the author's subjective point of view.

Judgment

Judgment is focusing on judging a human's behavior or character to convey information in the interaction (Martin & White, 2005). The human's behavior judgment also covers positive and negative. The judgment can be classified into normality, capacity. Tenacity, veracity. And propriety. The table below shows the distribution of judgment in both of the articles.

Table 3. The Distribution of Judgment in the Online Newspaper Articles Written by the Female and Male Authors

Judgment	Polarity (+ / -)	Female (F)	Male (M)
Normality	(+)	13	7
	(-)	23	6
Capacity	(+)	50	26
	(-)	46	23
Tenacity	(+)	22	4
	(-)	14	8
Veracity	(+)	0	5
	(-)	2	8
Propriety	(+)	14	14
	(-)	17	19
Total		201	120

Table 3 shows that both authors displayed judgment to human's behaviors. The data shows that the female showed off 201 judgment items. Whereas, the male displayed 120 judgment items. Below are the description of excerpts.

(22) However[1], they have been **unable**[2] to keep up with the pace[3] of urban growth and the water system supply depreciation, with the result that PDAM coverage is only[4] 30 to 40 percent of its service area in 2011.

(23) ....___However[3], they ultimately[5] **failed**[4].

The excerpts were found in the article written by the first female author. Those sentences indicate that the authors evaluate negative judgment to a group of people in the frame of negative capability. It can be seen by the use of the word "failed" and "unable". The authors that the government has failed to provide sufficient water supply.

(24) Digital platforms have so far **failed**[1] to significantly improve teacher attendance and student outcomes in Haiti report says[2].

(25) **Not**[1] **all**[2] teachers **can**[3] afford smartphones.

The excerpts above are taken from the article written by the third female author. The author tried to frame the incapability of digital platforms to cope with the teacher problem in Haiti. Furthermore, she also highlighted the teachers' inability regarding smartphones.

The male authors also showed off judgment items in their articles. Below are several excerpts.

(26) The poor[1] **cannot**[2] get piped water because they lack legal property rights.

(27) The two private companies **have not fulfilled**[1] their promise[1] to provide good[2] piped water throughout Jakarta, especially[3] to poor[4] residents.

Those excerpts are found in the article written by the first male author. The topic was about water supply in Jakarta. Excerpt number (26) indicated the author's negative judgment of poor people. He thought that poor people were unable to get sufficient water access. Meanwhile, excerpt number (27) also showed the author's negative judgment of private companies. He thought that they failed to fulfill their promises to provide good water access for poor people in Jakarta.

(28) Plans to push ahead with reopening schools in England are in **disarray** after the government admitted that **not** all primary school pupils **be able to** return to the classroom before the end of summer.

(29) But[1] Johnson's announcement of a 1 June return **was greeted**[2] with **scepticism**[3] by parents and opposition from school unions and

local authorities, wary of the health and safety difficulties for both staff and pupils in England's aging and cramped classrooms.

A plan to reopening schools during the pandemic is an interesting topic. The sixth male author also displayed several judgments. Excerpt number (28) showed that the author gave negative judgment to primary school pupils. He thought that not all of them were able to come back to school during the pandemic. Then, excerpt number (29) also gave negative judgment to Jhonson. The author thought that Jhonson's judgment was not accepted well by students' parents and schools' teachers.

From all the elaborations and the excerpts, it can be concluded that both authors showed their judgment items. However, the female authors displayed more than that of the males.

Appreciation

Appreciation is intended to evaluate things or phenomenons in the interaction (Martin & White, 2005). Appreciation also covers negative and positive things evaluation. There are three kinds of appreciation including reaction, composition, and valuation. Below is the description of the distribution of appreciation.

Table 4. The Distribution of Appreciation in the Online Newspaper Articles Written by the Female and Male Authors

Author	Appreciation			Author	Appreciation		
	React	Comp	Val		React	Comp	Val
F1	8	5	2	M1	3	4	8
F2	0	1	2	M2	5	1	0
F3	1	2	3	M3	5	6	10
F4	10	2	1	M4	4	1	1
F5	3	6	3	M5	3	3	4
F6	6	0	4	M6	4	3	3
F7	6	5	3	M7	5	3	6
F8	11	3	8	M8	3	2	2
Total	45	24	26	Total	36	23	32
%	47.4	25.2	27.4	%	39.6	25.3	35.1

Table 4 maps out that the distribution of three kinds of appreciation in which reaction, is the most frequently used by both female and male authors. On the contrary, the composition is the least frequently identified. The term "reaction" in this case indicates that both authors express their positive or negative reactions towards the things or phenomenons in the topics. When the author is supporting or coming around the topic, then he/she is going to use more positive reaction items. On the other hand, when the author is against the topic, then he/she is going to employ more negative reaction items. This data finding goes hand in hand with a previous study from Souza (2006). He claimed that appreciation was done to reveal re-contextualization of the field of identification concerning evaluations of things and phenomenons. Regarding reaction in data findings, it also coincides with White (2009) It mentioned that reaction is interpersonally tuned. It is perceived as the emotional impact of the work/topics/issues on the readers or listeners. Below are several excerpts to support the findings.

(30) One day a fellow journalist asked me to stay over at his place where we could[1] spend the night together and "**chitchat[2]**",
(31) I might[1] be one of a handful[5] of women who managed to[2]escape such **a frustrating situation[3]** by standing up to and rejecting such **irritating treatment[4]**.
(32) As a result, these women could[1] — **at the worst possible moment[2]** — fall victim to sexual harassment at the workplace.

(33) **One such unfortunate woman**[1] was Baiq Nuril Maknun, a 42-year-old former employee of a senior high school in West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), who **r**epeatedly[2] received lewd phone calls from the principal, and experienced a string of **unpleasant incidents**[3] after exposing his harassment.

(34) A friend said that[1] back in her university days, a middle-aged administrative staffer[2] liked to tease female students by throwing **flirty jokes** here and there.

Those excerpts above imply the author showed off more evaluation of things or phenomenons. The issue above is about sexual violence faced by Baiq Nuril. The fourth female author (M4) strongly expressed her negative reaction to several things or phenomenons such as frustrating situations, irritating treatment, unpleasant incidents, and flirty jokes. Those addressed negative appreciation for things or phenomenons regarding the case of Baiq Nuril.

(35) I pointed out **the absurdity**[1] of that and was told to call the CDC.

(36) In the meantime, my tenacious[1] doctor was able to establish that my nasal swabs had never been processed[2] and **my test had been 'rejected'**[3] by the health department – with no communication or explanation.

(37) The bungling of this endeavor is spectacular[1], the lived experience of it, a theatre of **the absurd.**[2]

The author seventh male author (M7) tried to frame her negative appreciation for things around the Covid-test protocols in America. The word "absurdity" is addressed to give negative appreciation to Covid-test procedures. The author thought that the test was not satisfying. The procedures were not qualified.

On the other side, the male authors also framed their things appreciation to their articles. Here are the excerpts.

(38) Recent **riots**[1] in West Papua and Papua, the two easternmost provinces in Indonesia collectively known as Papua, have put the spotlight of the international media on Indonesia in recent weeks.

(39) Nevertheless[1], the law has also come in for **heavy**[2] criticism.

The author second male author (M2) also framed several negative appreciations to things around the condition of Papua recently. The word "riots" addressed the negative situation happening in Papua. Then, the word "heavy" also indicated negative appreciation for law and criticism in Papua.

(40) The Supreme Court's decision to jail Baiq Nuril Maknun for spreading an **"immoral"**[1] audio recording documenting **unwanted**[2] sexual advances from her former boss is the most[3] recent example of injustice[4] against women in Indonesia, and could[5] have an **unfortunate**[6] ripple effect, a women's rights coalition said.[7]

(41) The Supreme Court sentenced[1] Nuril to six months' imprisonment and a fine of Rp 500 million ($34,000) earlier this month for defaming Muslim, her **alleged**[2] harasser, after a recording of his **lustful**[3] phone call to her leaked to the public.

The author fourth male author (M4) displayed several appreciation items due to Baiq Nurils' case. He used several negative appreciations to address things or phenomenons regarding Baiq Nuril's condition. The word "immoral" is intended to give negative appreciation to audio recording documents. Then, the word "unwanted" and "lustful" also indicated a negative reaction towards sexual harassment done by her former boss.

Both authors framed their appreciation items in their articles. They showed off positive and negative appreciation. The reaction is dominantly used by both authors. Although, the female authors employed more appreciation than that of the male.

CONCLUSION

Language can be evaluated in the form of an Appraisal system developed by Martin & White (2005). This theory explores more the authors' intention to convey the meaning of utterances. In this study, the writer focused on the attitude system. Attitude is divided into three subsystems namely affect, judgment, and graduation. By comparing the distribution of attitude to both of the female and male authors, it showed that a similar pattern was on the

appreciation. Both of them produced equal numbers of appreciation items. Furthermore, reactions are dominantly found in both articles. On the other hand, the different patterns were on the affect and judgment. Affect becomes a significantly different pattern between those two authors. The female authors employed more personal emotions and feelings than those of the male. Besides, they also distributed more judgment. Emotions or personal feelings are displayed to give a sense of the reader's involvement. The female authors tried to get the readers involved deeper in the topic they were discussing. The emotions can be presented by illustrating their own experiences based on the topic articles.

The conclusion explained above lead the writer to draw several suggestions. It is very beneficial for the English language learners to pay more attention to interpersonal meanings, particularly the use of Appraisal. They need to explore more about Appraisal to shape their voices effectively and efficiently. Furthermore, as English teachers, the appraisal is also needed to be introduced at school levels. Students need to know to frame their subjective voices into their writings.

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