

CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS ON THE THEME/RHEME STRUCTURE ON HEADLINES OF THE JAKARTA POST AND MEDIA INDONESIA

Setia Rini
State University of Semarang

Abstract

This study is to investigate the contrastive structure of Theme/ Rheme analysis in identifying marked and unmarked Themes in English and Indonesian headlines. The study takes as its starting point the assumption that the different choices of Theme/ Rheme, their organization at the local and global structures and the presentation of Given/New information of the headlines presented in English and Indonesian. This study designs a Discourse Analysis. It analyzes Theme/Rheme in Indonesian and English clauses. The study seeks to analyze and compare the different choices of Theme/Rheme in the thematic structures. These issues are investigated in a corpus of English and Indonesian headline about lieu of law on direct regional election. Most of the Theme used was marked themes.

Keywords: *Contrastive, Theme and Rheme, Headline.*

Introduction

Functional grammar focuses on the development of grammatical systems as a means for people to interact with each other, and it sees grammar as shaped by, and as playing a significant role in shaping, the way we get in our lives. This study deals with the clause as the unit of analysis because it deals with written texts. (Martin & Mattiessens, 1997: 2)

One of their organization of clauses is as a message called theme which shows what its local context is in relation to general context of the text it serves in; he added that the system is concerned with the current point of departure in relation to what has come before, so that it is clear where the clause is located in the text and how its contribution fits in. The rest of the message of the clause is what is presented against the background of the local context- it is where the clause moves after the point of departure. (1997:21).

The media is the whole body of communications that reach large numbers of the public via radio, television, movies, magazines, newspapers, and the World Wide Web. Among the written type, as Reah (2002) states, newspapers, partly due to easy acceptability and wide range of content such as news, opinions, editorials, comment columns, entertainment features and sports, have the most readers. As Shams (2007) states, "newspapers present news through three kinds of codes: typographic, graphic and linguistic".

According to Ungerer (2000), a headline "describes the essence of a complicated news story in a few words. It informs quickly and accurately and arouses the reader's curiosity". To move further, the headline is more than a semantic summary of the story and a pragmatic attracting-device for the reader. It is, in Dor's (2003) terms, "a communicative device whose function is to produce the optimal level of affinity between the content of the story and the reader's context of interpretation". However, as Reah (2002) states, the problematic issue for us is that language of headlines is special and has its own characteristics on the lexical, syntactic, and rhetorical levels for its brevity, attractiveness, and clarity. Headline writers have developed a vocabulary that fulfills the requirements of the headline, using words that are short, attention-grabbing, and effective. They use a range of language devices to make their headlines memorable and striking.

Contrastive analysis investigates the differences between pairs or small sets of languages against the background of similarities and with the purpose of providing input to applied discipline. (Hasan)

The objective of this study is to do contrastive analysis on the information flow of the clauses found in the headline of the Jakarta Post and Media Indonesia under the same date of publication and the topic of the headline on the 9th of December 2014.

By contrasting the information flow of

the headline, it can be identified which is the theme, that are chosen by the journalists from two different headlines.

Martin and Rose explain that the term periodicity is used to capture the regularity of information flow; the tendency for crests to form a regular pattern, and for the hierarchy of waves to form a predictable rhythm. He added that discourse has a beat to make it easy to be understood. It can also be called as wave of information.

Halliday (1985:39) in Egginz (1994:274) that it is the elements which serves as “the starting point for the message; it is what the clause is going to be about”.

In this study will discuss about the identification of Theme and to identify the different point of departure of each clause written by each of the journalists from Jakarta Post and Media Indonesia in writing the headlines.

Methods

Source of Data

SBY, Jokowi Court Political Coalition, The Jakarta Post Tuesday December, 9th, 2014., Hasyim Widhiarto and Margareth S. Aritonang and Media Indonesia, Selasa, 9 Desember 2014, SBY Temui Jokowi Teguhkan Sinyal ke KIH (Koalisi Indonesia Hebat).

Procedure of Collecting Data

This study used a descriptive qualitative method. It is called the qualitative one since the collected data are in the form of sentence, phrases, clauses, words, and they were classified into their categories for getting conclusion. This study used the descriptive method based on the reason that the following steps, like gathering, composing, analyzing and interpreting the data were included in descriptive method. It was also descriptive in nature in the sense that this study was intended to describe the articles based on the working with discourse system offered by Martin and Rose (2003). This qualitative-descriptive method of research was accomplished through two stages. Firstly, the text was closely read to get the comprehensive understanding. Secondly, the text was analyzed for working with discourse devices using the framework offered by Martin and Rose (2003).

The unit of analysis is important to be decided in order to make the researcher easier

in conducting further analysis. The researcher uses clauses as the unit of analysis in this research paper. The source of data of this research is written data. This research tries to give explanation about the phenomenon of the written data with respect to Working with Discourse used in the headline of The Jakarta Post online newspaper entitled SBY, JOKOWI COURT POLITICAL COALITION

The Jakarta Post, Tuesday December, 9th, 2014, Hasyim Widhiarto and Margareth S. Aritonang and Media Indonesia, Selasa, 9 Desember 2014, SBY Temui Jokowi Teguhkan Sinyal ke KIH.

The data were collected through the following steps: 1. Accessing; The writer browsed into internet and looked for The Jakarta Post online newspaper. In analyzing the data was a very important way in this research. Data analysis is a process in organizing the data into a categorical pattern and unit of basic analysis.

Procedure of analyzing the data

To analyze the data the researcher used the following steps: Reading, Segmenting the text into clauses, identifying the elements of the clause, classifying the data based on the type of Theme. The data are clauses which were taken from the two mass media and the clauses were taken from the same topic of discussion.

Results and Discussion

The Corpus of the headline found in the Jakarta Post and Media Indonesia, published on Tuesday, 09 December 2014. In the Jakarta Post, it was found around 22 clauses and clause complex, while in Media Indonesia it was found around 17 clauses and clause complex. The analysis of the Theme and Rheme can be seen in the tables below:

Jakarta Post	Media Indonesia
<p>Efforts to reinstate the direct elections for regional heads received a lift Monday when former president and democratic party chairman Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono vowed to support deliberation of two government regulations in lieu of law (Perppu) on regional election (Pilkada) at the House of Representatives.</p>	<p><i>Perppu Pilkada</i> merupakan upaya Presiden Yudhoyono saat itu untuk mengembalikan pilkada langsung setelah DPR merevisi dan mengesahkan UU tentang pilkada yang tidak langsung alias DPRD. The regulations in lieu of law on regional election was Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's effort to return the direct regional election after the house of representative revising and establishing the indirect regional election verdicts as it was called Regional house of representatives)</p>
<p>Yudhoyono announced the party's commitment on Monday after a closed-door meeting with President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo at the Presidential Palace.</p> <p>The current chairman of green energy campaigner Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) said that his party would support the Perppu, which he himself issued in October, to annul the controversial Pilkada Law that revoked direct elections for regional heads. "We share a similar position (on the Perppu), (We) will jointly defend by the perppu so that it can be approved by the House," Yudhoyono told reporters after the 30-minutes meeting.</p> <p>"For me and Pak Jokowi, this is in line with public expectations and it is good for the sustainability of our democracy".</p>	<p>Menurut Yudhoyono, sokongan kedua pihak terhadap pilkada langsung sesuai dengan aspirasi rakyat dan baik untuk keberlanjutan demokrasi.</p> <p>According to Yudhoyono, the support from both parties towards the direct regional election fitted to people's aspiration and it is good for the continuity of our democracy)</p> <p>"Seratus persen (sepakat)," kata dia sembari tersenyum.</p> <p>"one hundred percent - agreed)," he said by smiling</p>
<p>Jokowi, backed by the Great Indonesia Coalition of political parties, has opened the possibility for the Democratic Party, the country's fourth-largest political party, to join the ruling coalition.</p> <p>"In the meantime, (we will deal with) the perppu. It is possible to continue (the cooperation) later. Why not? At least (this) can be an entrance (for forming an alliance)," he said.</p> <p>Both leaders, however, remained tight-lipped when asked about details of their meeting.</p> <p>"Only me and Pak SBY know (each other's) commitment," Jokowi said, laughing.</p> <p>The Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), the country's largest political party and the leader of Jokowi's ruling coalition, has lost several pivotal battles at the House to the Red-and -White Coalition, which is in the majority. The Pilkada Law was one of those battles.</p>	<p><i>Presiden Joko Widodo</i> mengatakan kesepakatan antara pihaknya dan Ketua Umum Partai Demokrat Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono untuk mengesahkan peraturan pemerintah pengganti undang-undang no 1/2014 tentang Pemilihan Kepala Daerah (Perppu Pilkada), secara langsung sebagai langkah awal berlabuhnya partai berlambang Mercy itu ke Koalisi Indonesia Hebat (KIH).</p> <p>The President Joko Widodo said that the agreement between his party and the general leader of the democrat party Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to make the success of the government's regulation is to replace the verdicts no 1/2004 on regional election directly as a starting step of the involvement of the mercy logo party in the Great Indonesian Coalition.)</p> <p>"Ya, dalam hal ini perppunya dulu. Diteruskan kan bisa saja. Kenapa tidak?"</p> <p>"Ya, in this case the government's regulation to replace the verdicts first. It is easy to be forwarded. Why not? Paling tidak menjadi pintu gerbang, pintu masuk," ujar Jokowi di teras Istana Merdeka, Jakarta, kemarin,</p> <p>At least it can be the gate, the entrance, said Jokowi in front of the House, Jakarta, yesterday).</p>

<p>The Democratic Party, declaring itself an independent caucus at the House, is considering ending its alliance with coalition after Golkar Party chairman Aburizal Bakrie pledged during his party's recent national congress to reject the Perppu. As the second largest political party at the House and the leader of the Red-and - White Coalition, Golkar's move could jeopardize the survival of the Perppu.</p>	<p>Terkait dengan Perppu Pilkada, SBY sebelumnya menyatakan kecewa berat atas sikap Partai Golkar pasca munas IX di Bali yang mengingkari kesepakatan untuk mendukung Perppu Pilkada. In relation to the government's regulation to replace the verdicts, SBY stated previously that he deeply disappointed to the attitude of the Golkar Party after the national meeting in Bali in which it denied the agreement to support the government's regulation to replace the verdicts of the regional election) SBY kemudian memerintahkan elite Demokrat untuk melobi KIH. SBY, then directed the elite of democrat to negotiate the Great Indonesian Coalition) Wapres JK menegaskan perppu itu, bila gol menjadi UU, akan mengurangi pengaruh Golkar di pa rlemen. The Vice President JK urged that if the government's regulation to replace the verdicts succeeded to be the verdict, it will lessen their influence in the parliamentary "Kalau Demokrat masuk, apalagi kalau PAN masuk, kekuatan sudah 70%. <i>Apalagi yang dijual Golkar-nya Ical (Aburizal Bakrie) kan pilkada itu," ujarnya.</i> "If democrat and PAN parties joined, the strength was 70%, moreover, Ical's Golkar (Abu Rizal Bakrie) sold the regional election, said JK)</p>
--	---

The Information flow in the clauses found in the Jakarta Post and Media Indonesia are analyzed based on Martin and Rose (2004:180)

	Marked Theme	Subject / Theme	Rheme (New)
The Jakarta Post			
	Efforts to reinstate the direct elections for regional heads		received a lift Monday
	when former president and democratic party chairman Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono		vowed to support deliberation of two government regulations in lieu of law (Perppu) on regional election (Pilkada) at the House of Representatives.
		Yudhoyono	announced the party's commitment on Monday
			after a closed-door meeting with President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo at the Presidential Palace.
		The current chairman of green energy campaigner Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)	said that his party would support the Perppu,

	which he himself		issued in October, to annul the controversial Pilkada Law that revoked direct elections for regional heads.
		We	share a similar position (on the Perppu),
	"For me and Pak Jokowi, this.		is in line with public expectations and it is good for the sustainability of our democracy"
		Jokowi , backed by the Great Indonesia Coalition of political parties,	has opened the possibility for the Democratic Party, the country's fourth-largest political party, to join the ruling coalition.
	"In the meantime,	We	will deal with) the perppu.
		It	is possible to continue (the cooperation) later.
	Why not? At least	(this)	can be an entrance (for forming an alliance)," he said.
	Both leaders, however,		remained tight-lipped
			when asked about details of their meeting.
		"Only me and Pak SBY	know (each other's) commitment," Jokowi said, laughing.
	The Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), the country's largest political party and the leader of Jokowi's ruling coalition,		has lost several pivotal battles at the House to the Red-and -White Coalition, which is in the majority.
	The Pilkada Law		was one of those battles.
	The Democratic Party, declaring itself an independent caucus at the House,		is considering endings its alliance with coalition
	As the second largest political party at the House and the leader of the Red-and -White Coalition, Golkar's move		could jeopardize the survival of the Perppu.

Media Indonesia			
	The regulations in lieu of law on regional election		was Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's effort to return the direct regional election
	After		the house of representative revising and establishing the indirect regional election verdicts as it was called Regional house of representatives
	According to Yudhoyono, the support from both parties towards the direct regional election		fitted to people's aspiration
	And	It	is good for the continuity of our democracy
			"one hundred percent - agreed)," he said by smiling
		The President Joko Widodo	said that the agreement between his party and the general leader of the democrat party Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to make the success of the government's regulation is to replace the verdicts no 1/2004 on regional election directly as a starting step of the involvement of the mercy logo party in the Great Indonesian Coalition.
	"Ya, in this case the government's regulation		to replace the verdicts first.
		It	is easy to be forwarded.
			Why not?
	At least	It	can be the gate, the entrance, said Jokowi in front of the House, Jakarta, yesterday.
	In relation to the government's regulation to replace the verdicts,	SBY	stated previously that he deeply disappointed to the attitude of the Golkar Party after the national meeting in Bali in which it denied the agreement to support the government's regulation to replace the verdicts of the regional election
		SBY	, then directed the elite of democrat to negotiate the Great Indonesian Coalition
		The Vice President JK	urged that if the government's regulation to replace the verdicts succeeded to be the verdict,
		It	will lessen their influence in the parliamentary
	"If democrat and PAN parties joined, the strength		was 70%, moreover, Ical's Golkar (Abu Rizal Bakrie) sold the regional election, said JK

The main recurrent choice for Subject/Theme mostly the three important parts of the two headlines, they are the former Indonesia President, Mr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and the current Indonesia President Mr. Joko Widodo and government regulations in lieu of law (Perppu) on regional election. But to see the contrast of the Themes written in the Jakarta Post and Media Indonesia, most Themes in the Jakarta Post are marked Theme; Martin and Rose classify these Marked Themes as Themes that are not subject which have different effect. They are more prominent because they are atypical; they include circumstantial elements, such as times and places or even the participants that are not the subject of the clause. It indicates new phases in a discourse: a new setting in time, or a shift in major participants which function to scaffold discontinuity.

Conclusion

Theme as the point of departure of a clause found in this study that mostly contains clause complexes, the journalists used both marked themes and unmarked themes, as the researcher found that there are such cooperation in reporting the topics of the headlines among the journalist who wrote in the Jakarta Post and the one who wrote in Media Indonesia. So the choice of the Themes are almost similar as can be seen in the tables above. The differences are on the placing of the paragraphs that are put differently.

References

- Al-Jayrudy, Lubna Ideological Representations in English and Arabic News Reports:
A Thematic Structure Analysis , Heriot-Watt University ,School of Management and Languages September 2011
- Abdul Baseer, Sehrish, Naz Sofia, and Dildar Alvi. Political Language of Benazir Bhutto: A Transitivity Analysis of Her Speech 'Democratization in Pakistan', Institute of English and Modern Languages Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan, Lecturer in English, Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan, , Lecturer in English (Linguistics), Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan

- Dor, D. (2003). On newspaper headlines as relevance optimizers. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 35, 695-721.
- Egginz, Suzanne, An Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics. 1994. London. Pinter Publishers
- Halliday, M.A.K. Spoken and Written Language. 1985. Deakin University
- Martin and Rose, Working with Discourse. 2003. London: Continuum
- Martin, J.R., Matthiessen, Christian MIM et.al. Working with Functional Grammar.1997. Londn. St. Martin's Press, Inc.
- Media Indonesia, Selasa, 9 Desember 2014, SBY Temui Jokowi Teguhkan Sinyal ke KIH (Koalisi Indonesia Hebat)