AN ANALYSIS OF INTERPERSONAL FUNCTION IN MARIO TEGUH’S FACEBOOK STATUS

Melva Akmala*
Busmin Gurning**

ABSTRACT

The objectives of the study were to describe the types of interpersonal function and the dominant type of interpersonal function used in Mario Teguh’s Facebook Status. This study was in descriptive quantitative method. This study dealt with the analysis of interpersonal function in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status. The data were the statuses of Mario Teguh and Mario Teguh’s Facebook account was used to take the statuses of his. The statuses were analyzed and classified based on the Speech Function and Mood as part of the interpersonal function. There were 200 Speech Function and 196 Moods as part of the interpersonal function in the selected statuses. The findings indicate that both all types of Speech Function and Moods are used in Mario Teguh’s Facebook Status. They were Statement, Question, Command, and Offer for the Speech Function, and Declarative, Interrogative, and Imperative for the Moods. It was found that the most dominant type of Speech Function is Statement (69.5%) and the most dominant type of Moods is Declarative (71%). It was seen that Mario Teguh mostly used Speech Function of Statement and Declarative Moods to share his ideas to the readers.

Keywords: Speech Function, Moods.

*Graduate of Applied Linguistics Department
**Prof. Dr. Busmin Gurning, M.Pd. as a Supervisor of this thesis
INTRODUCTION

The Background of the Study

Studying about the meaning of the utterance is divided into two branches of linguistic. They are Semantics and Pragmatics. The study of the relation between linguistic forms and entities in the world, called Semantics; that is, how words literally connects to things. Semantic analysis also attempts to establish the relation between verbal description and state of affairs in the world as accurate (true) or not, regardless of who produces that description. (http://ifla.uni-stuttgart.de/institut/mitarbeiter/jilka/teaching/Pragmatics/p1_intro.pdf) In other case, a branch of linguistics concerned with the use of language in social in context and the ways in which people produce and comprehend meanings through language, called Pragmatics. It studies about the transmission of meaning depends not only on the linguistic knowledge of the speaker and listener, but also on the context of the utterance, knowledge, about the status of those involved, the inferred intent of the speaker. (http://www.princeton.edu/wiki100k/docs/Pragmatics.html) Pragmatics concerns with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or a writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). The advantage of studying language via pragmatics is that one can talk about people’s intended meanings, their assumptions, their purposes or goals, and the kinds of actions that they are performing when they speak.

The interpersonal function is an interesting phenomenon to be studied. It is used to uncover the speech functions and moods in a spoken or written language. It is the function of language to participate in communicative acts with another person, to take on the role and express and understand the feelings, attitudes and judgments. By knowing them, and seeing the dominant type which is used, we can take a conclusion
about how people exchange their experience, how people persuade each other, or how
people tell advices through spoken or written language, as those performed by Mario
Teguh.

As we all know, Mario Teguh is one of the well-known motivator in Indonesia.
He even has had his own talk show on one of the private television companies in
Indonesia. It could not be denied that Mario has a lot of fans and proved that he got the
award from MURI as Motivator who has many fans in the year 2010. The way he gave
words of motivation is very alluring, because he is always smiling, even joking once in
a while. His words were never implicated in any particular religion. Because of that,
there are many groups of people like Mario Teguh. He and his management team have
now also make use of social networking sites to get closer to the community. It can be
seen from his Facebook account that has thousands of friends and how many comments
and status "like" on every status created by him. In statuses that he had made in his
Facebook account, Mario Teguh also provides motivations and also his own
experiences. Of course, the occurring communication is one-way communication. But
still, in this case Mario Teguh, consciously or not, has been implementing interpersonal
function of language in his status on Facebook.

From the explanation above, the writer found it interesting to analyze the
Interpersonal Function in status of Mario Teguh because this study will be useful to
know whether Mario Teguh apply Interpersonal Function every time he made a status,
how Mario Teguh develops his point of view in written text through interpersonal
function, and how often he uses certain types of Interpersonal Function in status that he
has made. This research offers more understanding about the interpersonal function in
Mario Teguh’s statuses on Facebook and it is useful as the first step in analyzing interpersonal meaning in other writings.

**Research Questions**

Based on the explanation in the previous, the problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. What types of interpersonal functions are used in Mario Teguh’s statuses on Facebook?
2. What is the most dominant type of interpersonal function that consists in Mario Teguh’s statuses on Facebook?

This study limited on types of interpersonal functions in Mario Teguh’s statuses on Facebook shared in January to April 2013 as the representatives.

**A. Metafunction**

According to Systemic Functional Grammar, functional bases of grammatical phenomena are divided into three broad areas, called metafunctions: the *ideational*, the *interpersonal* and the *textual*. Written and spoken texts can be examined with respect to each of these metafunctions in analyses of a variety of a language used for a particular purpose or in a particular social setting.

Each metafunctions has a principal system in the networks for clauses, verbal group and nominal groups. Briefly we can infer that the ideational function is related with giving information, interpersonal function is related with expressing an opinion through the use of modality, and the last the textual function is realized through the word order of the sentences, through which the writer orders the message for the reader.
B. Interpersonal Function

When used as a general concept, “language” may refer to the cognitive ability to learn and use systems of complex communication, or to describe the set of rules that makes up these systems, or the set of utterances that can be produced from those rules. Language is simultaneously used as representation, exchange and organization of experience (Halliday, 1994: 68). As social beings, human kinds cannot live isolated; they need to interact with others in order to fulfill their needs. The use of language to interact is shown to perform interpersonal function.

We use language to enact our personal and social relationships (the interpersonal function). The interpersonal function is realized at two levels (namely at the level of the discourse) semantics and lexicogrammar which is termed mood. The mood carries the interpersonal functions of the clause and consists of subject+finite. At the level of semantics human being perform two roles namely GIVING and DEMANDING. The commodity exchanged may be either INFORMATION or GOOD and SERVICES. (Saragih, 2010: 18)

1. Speech Function

Language is used to interact. Speakers interact with language and use it to express interpersonal meaning. (Yuliati, 2012)

Basic limitations of theoretical linguistics of the past to the sentence as the largest unit of analysis and to referential meaning as the only relevant sort of meaning, and of analytical interest primarily in terms of “same or different,” can be overcome in part by taking a more inclusive view speech as a form of communication; by starting with an analysis of the “communicative act”. MAK Halliday (1985), states that there are only two basic interactive distinctions. The first distinction is between using language to
exchange information and using it to exchange goods and services. The second distinction is between demanding and giving.

The two interactive distinctions define the four main types of speech function as to form our communication in daily life. They include “accepting an offer, carrying out a command, acknowledging a statement and answering a question” (Halliday, 1995: 69). These four speech functions are usually used in our conversations. See the table below.

**Table 1**

**Speech Role and Commodity in Interaction Halliday (1994: 69)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROLES</th>
<th>COMMODITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INFORMATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giving</td>
<td>Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demanding</td>
<td>Question</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Speech function is more oriented to functional, interpretation, specifically to systemic functional one. When the roles and commodity are intersected or cross classified with reference to systemic functional linguistic theories, as developed by Halliday (1994).

- [giving/information] = statement
- [demand/information] = question
- [give/goods & services] = offer
- [demand/goods & services] = command

The speech function of statement, question, and command are realized by declarative, interrogative, and imperative. Statements are most naturally expressed by declarative clauses; questions by interrogative clause; and command by imperative
clauses. It’s different from “offer” which doesn’t have an unmarked representation of Mood.

Saragih (2010: 19) states that speech function is shown in the following table:

Table 2
Realization of Speech Function in Mood

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPEECH FUNCTION</th>
<th>REALIZED IN MOOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>Declarative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Interrogative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command</td>
<td>Imperative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Moods

The principal grammatical system here is the mood network, within which a choice between imperative and indicative. If indicative is chosen, there is a choice between declarative and interrogative. These choices are raised by manipulating the mood element. “For interpersonal communication and meaning, we can find the important of the subject and finite as they combine to make the mood of the clause.” (Butt, Fahey, Spinks and Yallop: 66).

Language is used to communicate with others. During communication we can analyze how people exchange their information through the basic speech functions of statement, question, offer and command. It is not difficult to find out that everyone is playing different roles in daily life, as we demand information from others and at the same time we give information to others. These interactions form our dialogues.

C. Facebook
Facebook is a social networking service launched in February 2004, owned and operated by Facebook, Inc. As of September 2012, Facebook has over one billion active users. Users must register before using the site, after which they may create a personal profile, add other users as friends, and exchange messages. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Facebook)

The creators of Facebook have done an impressive job focusing their social software on the college demographic. Graham says Facebook built an apparatus that allows developers to create external applications to empower Facebook users to interact with one another in new and exciting ways. (Graham, 2008: 1).

It is very easy to use Facebook since how the Facebook works simply is applied for the users. We just sign up first by filling some data available. Then we are advised to add some friends we have known to share. It is more complete we can join in groups, or activities attached by our friends. Veer explains that First, you type in your personal and professional information—as much or as little as you’re comfortable sharing. (Most folks add extras such as photos, videos, and audio clips.) Then, you establish connections with groups of Facebook members, like everybody who went to your alma mater, or everybody who works at your company. Finally, you add individual connections to other members, such as the guys on your soccer team, your next-door neighbor, and the two or three old flames you’re still speaking to. (Veer, 2010:2). Nowadays, most of people around the world use the social network as well as Facebook to interconnect or contact friends, family even other people from abroad in fast and simple way.

D. Mario Teguh’s Biography
Mario Teguh is a business consultant, a writer and a great motivator. His credibility is as the expert of Business Effectiveness Consultant. Mario Teguh is presented as the real motivator by his audiences because of his ability in digging in the listeners or the audiences universally in a talk show program television channel. He is famous for his motivations to the desperate, poor and unable people as in one of his sayings “leading what is possible to achieve what was impossible” (Teguh, 2009: 77). Mario Teguh is a moslem who has been a great motivator and business and personality consultant from Indonesia. His real name is Sis Maryono Teguh, but he prefers to use Mario Teguh in Public. He graduated from IKIP Malang. He was born in Makassar March 5th, 1956.

In 2010 he got an award from Indonesian Record Museum (MURI), as a motivator whose fans were the biggest in the world. In the early 2010, he was elected as one of the eight Change Icons 2009 in Republika newspaper version published in Jakarta. He had a show called Business Art on O’Channel. Then he becomes more famous when he takes a show called Mario Teguh Golden Ways on Metro TV. Nowadays, Mario Teguh is one of the most cost-expensive motivator in Indonesia.

He has got better and impressive education from English Department, Institut Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Malang (S-1) and from abroad like Architect New Trier West High Department in Chicago, USA, 1975; International Business Department; Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan: and Operations System Department, Indiana University, United States of America, 1983 (MBA).

One thing special from Mario Teguh is the way he thinks positively and simply, the most important thing is he always reminds his readers and audiences to be loyal and faithful to God. His special greeting is Salam Super which means we have to be great in
our surroundings. Along his life there are 4 his famous books published, they are: Becoming A Star (2006), One Million Second Chances (2006), Life Changer (2009), and Leaderships Golden Ways (2009). Nowadays his motivations have become new spirit for his fans, since what he says through his wise words and sayings are taken for reminders and advices to help people in facing their own problems.

**Conceptual Framework**

This study concerns with the using of Interpersonal Function in Mario Teguh’s Facebook Status. The theory that is used in this study is from Halliday’s point of view about the Interpersonal Function in Systemic Functional Grammar. It is found that in sharing his ideas Mario Teguh used a type of Interpersonal Function in his Facebook Statuses which is a Statement type. From this finding, the writer is interested to analyze what is the meaning of Interpersonal Function and how often does Mario Teguh use the Interpersonal Function in his Facebook statuses. The method that is used in this study is descriptive quantitative method, in which the writer analyzed the quantity of the Interpersonal Function used and then described the findings in later chapter in this study.

**Methodology**

*Research Design*

This study was conducted in descriptive design by applying quantitative research method. Mahsun (2005: 247) states that descriptive method is a method which contains the appropriate explanations are only done if there is the appropriate description as well. Doing the research really needs the method. Therefore, the research uses descriptive quantitative method in completing it because the research is to describe interpersonal
function in Mario Teguh’s Statuses on Facebook. In other words, this study did not concern with a new theory, but it concerned with theory of systemic functional linguistics to describe the interpersonal function in terms of metafunctions Mario Teguh’s Statuses on Facebook. Descriptive research attempts to determine, describe, or identify what the problem is. It uses description, classification, measurement, comparison to describe a situation. The main characteristic is that the researcher has no control over the variables. He only reports the situation as it is at the time. (http://wikieducator.org/Research) The source of data in this study is from Mario Teguh’s Facebook account. The data are Mario Teguh’s statuses updates which will be selected from May to August 2013.

The data were taken from Mario Teguh’s account on Facebook by gathering them and then selecting them all for four months and then they were conducted in descriptive quantitative research method. Then the data were analyzed based on the types of interpersonal functions in the systemic functional grammar.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Interpersonal Function has two main parts namely Speech Function and Moods. The types of Speech Function are Statements, Question, Command, and Offer. The following table will show the types of Speech Function used in Mario Teguh’s Facebook Status.
### Table 2

**Total Number and Percentage of Speech Functions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Speech Function</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Statement</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Question</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Command</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Offer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total of Speech Function</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shows the total Speech Function in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status. There are 139 total of Speech Function of Statement (69.5%), 15 total of Speech Function of Question (7.5%), 42 total of Speech Function of Command (21%), and 4 total of Speech Function of Offer (2%).

Speech Functions find their realization in Moods. Unlike Speech Function, there are only three types of Moods, namely Declarative, Interrogative, and Imperative. Speech Function of Offer has no realization in Moods. The following table shows the types of Moods in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status.

### Table 3

**Total Number and Percentage of Moods in Mario Teguh’s Facebook Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type of Moods</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Declarative</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Interrogative</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Imperative</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total of Moods</strong></td>
<td><strong>196</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3 shows there are 139 totals of Declarative Moods (71%), 15 totals of Interrogative Moods (7.7%), and 42 totals of Imperative Moods (21.4%) of 196 Moods in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status.

After analyzing the Speech Function and Moods used in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status in Facebook, the findings can be presented as follows:

1. All types of Speech Function and Moods were found in all selected Mario Teguh statuses. Speech Function of Statement was appeared in high percentage of all statuses, as well as the Declarative Moods. The percentages of the Speech Functions were 69.5% of Statement, 21% of Command, 7.5% Question and 2% of Offer. The percentages of Moods were 71% Declarative, 21.4% Imperative, and 7.7% Interrogative.

2. Mario Teguh mostly used the type of Statement in his statuses with the percentage of 69.5% and also Declarative with the percentage of 71%.

There was one status where the dominant Speech Function used was not Statement and the Moods dominantly used was not Declarative, but Command Speech Function and Imperative Moods. This indicated that Mario Teguh posted his statuses based on the context or situation when he wanted to post a status.

Discussion

Having analyzed the Interpersonal function of Speech Function and Moods in Mario Teguh’s Facebook statuses, it can be found that Speech Function of Statement and Declarative Moods are dominantly used. This shows that Mario Teguh believes that what he says is true. The main purpose of a Mario Teguh speaking in public is to motivate and mobilize readers to remain positive in life. Whereas the other types such
as Speech Function Question, Command and Offer are not used as often as the type of Statement. Sentences of this kind are typically used to interact with the listeners, or readers, in this study, thus, established the relationship between Mario and his listeners or readers, and so that the conversation does not feel monotonous. But the statuses were not always dominated by the statement and declarative, because the statuses were made naturally by what was in the mind of Mario at the time and also based on the context or situation that was happening in society. This is supported by Halliday’s statement that Systemic Functional Linguistics begins analyzing with social context of context of situation, through a systemic relationship between the social environments on the one hand and the functional organization of language on the other hand (1985:96). It can be seen in status number 14 in Table 6 that Command is dominantly used, and in Table 7 in the same status, Imperative is dominantly used.

Overall in the selected statuses Mario dominantly used Statement and Declarative in his statuses. It is clearly seen that Mario Teguh used his point of view in his statuses. He made statements which can provoke and raise the readers’ spirits and optimism in life.

According to Saragih (2010) Speech Functions find their realization in Moods. Because Moods are drawn from Speech Function, then the difference between the Speech Function and Moods is not too far. Declarative Moods are drawn from Speech Function Statement. Therefore this is the type of Mood that has most of its percentage number as Speech Function Statement does. Interrogative Moods are drawn from Speech Function Question. Therefore this type of Mood has a percentage value that is not much different from the Speech Function Question. Imperative Moods are drawn from Speech Function Command. So this type of mood is also directly proportional to
the type of Speech Function Imperative in its percentage. The significant difference between the Speech Function and Moods is that there are no types of Mood that can be realized from Speech Function Offer. This becomes the cause of different values in the percentage of each type of Speech Function and Moods.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

After analyzing all the collected data, conclusions are drawn as follows: both all types of Speech Function and Moods were used in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status. They are Statement, Question, Command, and Offer for the Speech Function, and Declarative, Interrogative, and Imperative for the Moods. Total number of Speech Function was 200, consisted of 139 Statement, 15 Question, 42 Command, and 4 Offer. Total number of Moods was 196, consisted of 139 Declarative, 15 Interrogative, and 42 Imperative. The percentage of each types of Speech Function found in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status are 69.5% Statement, 7.5% Question, 21% Command, and 2% Offer. The percentage of each types of Moods found in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status are 71% Declarative, 7.7% Interrogative, and 21.4% Imperative.

The most dominant type of Speech Function found in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status was Statement with the percentage of 69.5%, and the most dominant type of Moods found in Mario Teguh’s Facebook status was Declarative with the percentage of 71%.

Suggestions

In relation to conclusions above, some suggestions are staged as follows:
1. It is important to the students of English literature to understand the interpersonal functions in every medium of study, such as oral conversations and written text in order to get the meaning of the context.

2. Mario Teguh is a very good and fun motivator with a broad and vast mind. It is recommended to hear and apply his motivational speaking in order to dealt with problems in life.

3. For other researchers who want to make further research about the use of interpersonal function in spoken or written text, this research can be used as reference, but try to use other media for the research besides those presented in this research.

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Declaration

Except where appropriately acknowledged, this thesis is my own work, has been expressed in my own words and has not previously been submitted for assessment.

I understand that this thesis may be screened electronically or otherwise for plagiarism.

Author Biography

Nanda’s research used categorize and descriptive qualitative technique. She hold a S.S from State University of Medan. This Journal is partial fulfillment of the requirement for degree of Sarjana Sastra