MOOD REALIZED IN THE LETTER TO THE EDITOR BY NYTIMES.COM ON MARCH, 28th 2016

Putri Maharani Nur Shanjiwani[1], Agnes Widyaningrum, S.E. S.Pd M.Pd[2]
Jln. Tri Lomba Juang No. 1 Semarang
Telp. (024) 8311668
E-mail: putrimaharani 2812@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research paper is entitled **Mood realized in the letter to the editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016**. This research is focused to identify the mood types and speech function from letter to the editor rubric by Nytimes.com entitled 'Electronic Prescription'. This research uses descriptive qualitative method. The writers found 3 mood types namely declarative positive, imperative and exclamative and 2 types of speech functions namely command and statement. The declarative positive is used to give and deliver the information, then for imperative is used to persuade, to give advice, commands, etc and exclamative is used to express strong feelings. The speech functions command is used to ask someone to do anything while statement is used to give and deliver information by strengthening what the speaker really wants to utter the fact to the listener. In this research the dominant mood types is declarative positive (40%), and for speech function is statement (80%).

KEYWORDS

Mood, Mood Types, Speech Function, Clause, Text.

1. INTRODUCTION

People in a big society always spend most of their time and for their entire life to interact with other people from different background though. They deliver information, news, or just connect with one another. After they get the information, they continue it by giving a response to what they thought about processing, concluding, communicating, and expressing their ideas to get another response to complete the previous information. It goes time by time, and until now.

There are many media press publication, especially in English that have their own websites, the website contents also similar to the printed one. The websites really help people to get the latest information everywhere and everytime they want by using internet networks. This study literally used the internet media especially e-newspaper as an object to be concerned with one of many contents like e-newspaper, which is Letter to the Editor section by Nytimes.com e-newspaper website.

Nytimes.com provides news from all around the world, the news is divided into the following sections: News, Editorials/Opinions-Columns/Op-Ed, Sports, Business, Home, Arts, Travel, Science, and other features. Nytimes.com came from New York Times online edition. The object of this research came from Opinion-Columns section called 'Letter to the Editor' , the purposes of letter to the editor is to share people idea or opinion about the topic that bothers them or they just want to clear the problem. People who participate and would like to give their opinion usually sent the letter by e-mail then sent it to Nytimes.com. the writers analyzed the clause from the letter to the editor text.

Therefore, the problem statements of the current study include the following issues: (1) What are the Mood types realized in the Letter to The Editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016?; (2) What are the Speech functions realized in the Letter to The Editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016?

2.   THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical issues related to and discussed in this research include written language, text, letter to the editor, discourse, systemic functional grammar, interpersonal meaning, mood, mood element, finite element and subject element, predicator, complement, adjunct, mood type and speech function.

a.   WRITTEN LANGUAGE

Written language is a simple method to deliver some information more clearly by writing, we can process the language and the meaning more perfectly. Ager (2016) state that written language can communicate across time and spaces for as long as the particular language and writing system is still understood.

Written language is more effective to deliver the information because written language can be used for a long time as long as the language and writing system is still fit on those occasions. We also must remember that some contexts could change drastically from now on especially for written language.

b.   TEXT

Text is a written object that can be "read" or "interpreted" and it is made by the writer to the reader. Text is really a big deal with the set of the text function to deliver some kind of important message. Text contains main topic, and some paragraphs. The paragraph should have a main idea and sentences. "In a whole text, paragraphs play their own significant roles. Although the paragraphs have different ideas, the ideas themselves are actually discussing about one main topic which is called the topic of the text." (Wibawa, 2016).

Text helps them to understand the meaning of a spoken thing that is already converted or translated into a text by many paragraphs in order to help people to understand. By paid attention to the main topic and paragraph which is formulated by ideas, the meanings of the text could be delivered really well into the reader from the writer.

c.   LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The letter to the editor purpose is aimed to be published by responding it, shared the people's idea about topic that bothering them or they just want to clear the problem. People who participate and would like to give their opinion usually sent the letter by e-mail nowadays. Goodman (2001) stated that the chosen letter that is already decided by the editor would be publishing as a sample because there are many letters come to the publication company which responds to the same topic obviously.

d.   DISCOURSE

Discourse refers to a unit of language longer than a single sentence, more broadly, discourse is the use of spoken or written language in a social context and discourse completed by modality and the context itself (Nordquist, 2016)
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e.   SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) refers to the fact that when we practice the language and view it as language primarily to be a resource to exploring and understanding the meaning in discourse.

We can choose it from the sets of available options, and emphasize the Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) because it is one of the branch of linguistic study. Like Halliday (1994) said *"This is contrary to the common view of the grammar, which grammar as sets of rules."*

f.   INTERPERSONAL MEANING

The interpersonal meaning helps interact or change the point of view of others, and to express points of view about what should be delivered by establishing and maintaining certain relationships to improve. According to Halliday and Mathiessen (2004) they regard this function as one of an exchange option.

g. MOOD

Mood is the crucial point of the grammar exchange and the point itself has a function to strengthen and to construct the role of a clause as a grammar exchange, which usually works perfectly in grammar exchange. Mood itself also consists of Subject + Finite. Eggins (1994) states that *"The mood structure of the clause refers to the organization of the set of functional constituent, including constituent subject"*.

h. MOOD ELEMENT

The element of mood consists of two parts, there are subjects which realized by a nominal group as an operator. The subject uses to take the responsibility for the validity of the clause (Chong, 2016), when the finite is realized on the first of the verbal group. The rest of the verbal group becomes the Predicator, which is part of the residue.

i. FINITE ELEMENT

The finite element of the clause involves finite verbal operator, can be temporal or modal. The finite element is debatable by showing the crucial point. Finite as being the core that is handled about exchanges because it carries the validity of the proposition (Thompson, 2004). Finite itself could be different as temporal operators and modal operators

j. SUBJECT ELEMENT

The subject element can support the prescribed action to help for information exchange. Eggin and Slade (1997) state that the subject is the pivotal participant in the clause, the person or thing that the proposition is concerned with and without whose presence there can be negotiated.

k. PREDICATOR

In clauses and sentences, the head of a verb phrase is predicator. The predicator is sometimes called the principal verb (Nordquist, 2016). Predicator is really important for the mood analysis. Besides that, the verbs 'to be' and 'to have' also help predicator.

l. COMPLEMENT

A complement is a word or word group that completes the predicate in a sentence (Nordquist, 2016). In contrast to modifiers which are optional, complement are required to complete the meaning of a sentence or a part of a sentence.

m. ADJUNCT

Adjunct could work together with word, phrase, or clause or usually an adverb that is integrated within the structure of a sentence (unlike sentence adverb) and that can be used without making the sentence ungrammatical. Adjective: adjunctive or adjunctial (Nordquist, 2016).

n. MOOD TYPES

Mood is divided into two types: there are indicative mood and the imperative mood. For indicative mood it becomes wider, because there are Declarative and Interrogative. The Interrogative is also divided into two subs, namely polar and Wh- question. Gerot and Wignell (1995) assume that mood types itself is carried out by the positions in the clause of the subject and finite. By the clause and the subject support, the mood analysis becomes complete.

1.Declaratives

The purpose of declaratives is to make a statement, moreover the declarative sentences are the most common type of sentence that we usually use. Declarative sentences can be used to state a fact or just an opinion without excitement or strong emotion.

1.1 Declarative positive

Declarative sentences which have a positive meaning are called affirmative sentences. Affirmative sentence tell us what something has, does, or is. Here are the sentence examples of declarative positive:

❖ The dress is magnificent
❖ He is cooking
❖ The microwave is broken

1.2 Declarative negative

Declarative sentences which make a negative meaning are called negative sentences. Negative sentences are as opposed to affirmative sentences. Negative sentences say what something doesn't (does not) have, can't (cannot) do, or isn't (is not). Here are sentence examples of declarative negative:

❖ Devi was not here
❖ The baby koala isn't feeling well
❖ The bus is not come ontime

2.Interrogative

The purposes of interrogatives are to ask questions and to get any information. The interrogative always finished by a quotation mark (?). The term interrogative sentence itself is a different nickname for a question.

2.1 Polar Interrogative

A polar interrogative or simply called yes-no question is an interrogative construction that expects "yes" or "no" as an answer. In polar interrogative needs an auxiliary verb and the auxiliary verb always appear in front of the subject. Here are the sentence examples of polar interrogative:

❖ Are you ready?
❖ Should we go to the gas station?
❖ Are they Spanish?

2.2 Wh- Interrogative

A Wh- interrogative or the certain question' is created by an interrogative word (what, who, whom, whose, which, when, where, why, or how) and that demands a complex and direct answer other than "yes" or "no." Here are the sentence examples of wh- interogative:

❖ What is your name?
❖ Where do you live Lola?
❖ When the first flight arrive?

3. Imperative

The purposes of imperative are to give advice, commands, request something, warnings or suggests. However, if the command becomes forceful, it can be ended with an exclamation mark. Here are the sentence examples of imperative:

❖ We should wear coat outside (Advice)
❖ Be quiet class! (Command)
❖ Please close the door (Request)
❖ Let's go to the cinema (Suggestion)
❖ Wait for me! (Warning)

4. Exclamative

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The purpose of exclamative is to express strong feelings. Some people couldn't differ exclamative and declaratives because of the sentences that use represent strong feelings, but exclamative expresses many feelings like happiness, anger, disappointment, and surprise. Here are the sentence examples of exclamative:

- ❖ The Gelora Bung Karno is really huge!
- ❖ Look! The girl over there she is really pretty!
- ❖ Wati happy birthday to you!

o. SPEECH FUNCTION

Speech function or known as function of an action is performed in saying something. Speech function is the most important rules in communication. Speech function supports our everday communication, and we have to know the main speech function that we usually performs and here is Gerot and Wignell (1995) 4 types of speech functions that are really useful below:

1. Offer

The speaker gives the listener some services or goods and the listener inherently invites the hearer to receive those goods and services. We can say offer is how the speaker tries to persuade the listener. Here is the example of offer:

- Would you mind to close the door?
- If you have questions about the task, feel free to come by and ask me Linda
- Do you want *wedang* or *bajigur*?

2. Command

The speaker demands the listener some goods and services and the listener are thereby invited to give that service or provide the goods. We can say that command functions to ask someone to do something. Here is the example of command:

- See the facebook notification of private setting for more
- Go to your room now Nina
- Enter your password now

3. Statement

The speaker gives the listener some information and the speaker inherently is inviting the listener to receive that information. Here is the example of statement:

- I already change my account privacy on facebook
- My father started to quit smoking
- The distance between Indonesia and Japan is 8500 km

4. Question

The speaker demands the listener some information and the speaker inherently is inviting the listener to give that information. Question in short is how the speaker asks something to listener to get an answer from the listener. Here is the example of question:

- Are you sure about this decision?
- Have you submited the task?
- Did you take your vitamin mom?

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3. METHOD

The researcher considers using qualitative research to analyzing and explaining the events existed in the data of the research paper. It is supported by the statement of Bogdan & Biklen (1982), that qualitative relates data analysis as working with data, organizing it, breaking it into manageable unit, synthesizing it, searching for patterns, discovering what is important and what is to be learned, and deciding what you will tell to others. The unit of analysis in the study is clause. Therefore, the data were segmented into the clause based on Letter to The Editor by Nytimes.com entitled 'Electronic Prescription' on March, 28th 2016, Then categorized into segmented table under the theory of Tenor of Field. The study used computer and internet technologies as method of data gathering. There were steps that the researcher used to process: (1) reading the article; (2) segmenting the article into clauses; (3) identifying the mood types and speech function from every segmenting clause; (4) Classifying the mood types and speech function from every clauses which are already found; (5) tabulating the data to find out what elements have the major result and the minor result of the research.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

After the writers analyzed the text by following the steps such as reading the text, segmenting the text, identifying the clauses to find the mood types and speech function, then classifying the mood types which are already found according to the segmented text, then continues to tabulating the data to get the valid datas.

The mood types mostly found in the text are declarative positive and exclamative. There are 10 mood types, 4 for declarative positive, 1 for imperative and 5 for exclamative. The result could be seen below:

Table 1. Mood types realized in Letter to the Editor by Nytimes.com
on March, 28th 2016 entitled 'Electronic Prescription'

No.	MOOD TYPES											
	Dec				In				Imp		Exc	
	Dec. P		Dec. N		In. P		In. Wh					
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
2	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
7	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
10	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R	4	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	5	50

The following is an example of mood analysis:

Prices for prescription drugs have been rising steadily at an alarming rate. (C4)

Prices for prescription drugs	have been	rising	steadily at an alarming rate.

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Sbj	F	Pr	Rdn. Adj (steadily); Com
M			
R			

The subject of this clause is 'Prices for prescription drugs' which showed the focus participant of this clause, then continue with finite, the finite 'have been' is included as *finite + have* form. Then continue with 'rising' as predicator, and in this clause, adjunct go along with complement.

The adjunct itself is included in readiness adjunct which shown a state for being fully prepared or aware for something and it is shown by the adjective 'steadily'.

The speech functions mostly found in the text are declarative positive and exclamative. There are 10 mood types, 8 is categorized as statement and 2 is categorized as command. The result could be seen below:

Table 2. Speech functions realized in Letter to the Editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016 entitled 'Electronic Prescription'

	SPEECH FUNCTION							
No.	Offer		Command		Statement		Question	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
1	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
8	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0
10	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0
R	**0**	**0**	**2**	**20**	**8**	**80**	**0**	**0**

The following is explanation of how the clause is segmented and included in mood types:

Prices for prescription drugs have been rising steadily at an alarming rate (C4)

This clause is included in statement because the words 'have been' stating that this event has already happened and also causing something, which makes the prices of prescription drugs became more expensive than before.

From the result of the data analysis about Mood types and Speech function, the writers concluded that the most dominant Mood types used in the text is Exclamative (50%) which appears 5 times and the most dominant Speech Function is Statement (80%) which appears 8 times.

5. CONCLUSIONS

After conducting the research, analyzing the data, and interpreting the findings, the next step is drawing conclusions. To become more understandable, the conclusions also contains a brief of description of the findings.

1. The mood types and speech function realized in the text from the Letter to The Editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016 are the arrangement of the the clauses.
2. The mood types have mood (subject, finite) and Residue (predicator, complement, adjunct) element. There are three mood types found, namely declarative, imperative, and exclamative realized in the text (*Electronic Prescription)* and there are 10 clauses realized (100%) there. The most dominant Mood Types used in the text is Exclamative (50%) which appears 5 times, while the second place is Declarative positive (40%) which appears 4 times, and the last place is Imperative (10%) which only appear once. It indicates that the writer of the letter to the editor wants to express his / her feelings toward some concerned issues and share his / her opinion through these letter to the editor rubric.
3. There are two types of Speech Functions found namely command and statement in the text (*Electronic Prescription)/*. There are 10 clauses realized (100%) in the letter to the Editor by Nytimes.com on March, 28th 2016 which entitled 'Electronic Precription'.The most dominant Speech Function used in the text is Statement (80%) which appears 8 times, and the last place is Command (20%) which only appears twice. It indicates that the writer of the letter to the editor wants to give and deliver information by strengthening what he / she really wants to utter through these letter to the editor rubric.

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