

**THE FUNCTIONAL MEANING OF
Tony Abbott “Indonesia should reciprocate tsunami aid by sparing Bali Nine pair”**

**Titis Soegiyono
13020111130078**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY**

ABSTRACT

Artikel berita yang digunakan dalam penulisan ini adalah pidato oleh Perdana Menteri Australia Tony Abbot. Artikel ini menceritakan bagaimana Australia bereaksi terhadap Pemerintah Indonesia mengenai hukuman mati yang dijatuhkan kepada penyelundup obat-obatan terlarang asal Australia.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penulisan final project ini adalah deskriptif kualitatif yang sistemis, nyata dan akurat. Dalam pengumpulan data, penulis melakukan note taking, dalam artikel dari situs berita theguardian.com.

Tujuan dalam penulisan project ini adalah untuk menemukan arti fungsional dalam artikel tersebut. Arti fungsional akan membantu pembaca meng-intrepetasikan artikel ini dengan tepat. Untuk menemukan arti fungsional dari setiap klausa dalam artikel ini, penulis menggunakan teori metafunction. Teori metafunction dibagi menjadi tiga bagian yaitu Ideational Meaning, Interpersonal Meaning dan Textual Meaning.

Keywords: Tony Abbot, metafunction, Bali Nine Pair.

1. INTRODUCTION

We live in a world of language. We talk to our parents, our friends, our teacher and even our enemies. We talk to everyone with a language. When we know a language, we can speak and be understood by others who know the same language. Language is a communication device which is used for communication by human being. Language has two forms, that are written language and verbal language.

Written language is a language which is used for communication in written form and built with particular structures, so the reader can understand the meaning of written language. On the other side, verbal language is language that is spontaneously spoken by human. Verbal is not just spoken, but also written and sign language. In verbal communication, sometimes human use implicit meaning for particular purposes and reasons. One example of written language is news article. News article recounted an incident that has been occurred. The words which are used in the news articles is in the form of past tense. News article is included in one type of recount text. The aim of the recount text is to recount an event or events in order to inform or entertain the reader.

In this study, the writer will analyze a news article from a news website TheGuardian.com. This article entitled "Tony Abbott: Indonesia tsunami aid should reciprocate by sparing Bali Nine pair". This article was first posted on 18 February 2015, and contains the speech of Tony Abbot's (the prime minister of Australia) against the executions of Australian citizens who smuggled heroin into Indonesia.

In this study, the writer will examine the article using the theory of metafunction. The metafunction theory is used to find the functional meaning of each clause or sentence in the article. One of the linguistics studies that learn language from its function is *Systemic Functional Grammar* introduced by Halliday (1994). Functional grammar learns how the meanings are realized in a text. Functional grammar explains three metafunctions. Those are interpersonal, ideational, and textual. Ideational meaning related to how language is

used to represent or to understand the experiences and to express the perception of the world and our consciousness. Interpersonal meaning related to the use of language for setting up and maintaining the interaction between language users. Textual meaning relates to how language operates to create a discourse that is intact, sustainable, cohesive and coherent.

The purpose of this study is to examine the news article using metafunction theory in order to find the functional meaning of this article. The functional meaning will help the readers to interpret the meaning of each clause in this article, which has a great issue between Indonesian and Australian diplomacy.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In this study, the writer use the functional grammar theory that is introduced by Halliday (1994). According to Gerot and Wignell (1994: 6), Functional Grammar attempts to explain language in actual use and focus on text and its contexts. Functional grammar not only concerns about the structure but also how those structures construct meaning. In Functional grammar, clause, instead of sentence, is the most important unit.

In Functional Grammar, Halliday (1994) describes three metafunctions of language. Which are:

1. Ideational meaning or clause as representation.

Representational meaning means what the clause is about (Halliday and Mattiessen, 1994:309). This meaning is influenced by the field of discourse and realized through wording by Transitivity system. As said by Halliday "The field of discourse refers to what is happening, to the nature of the social action that is taking place: what is it that the participants are engaged in, in which the language figures as some essential component" (M.A.K Halliday and Hasan, 1985:12). From the explanation above it can be summarized that ideational meaning is the function which is used to explain or interpret the experience through transitivity. Halliday said "transitivity is not only a feature of the verbal group but that of the entire clause" (Halliday 1981:134). Analyzing the transitivity system means analyzing the three components, namely:

a.) *Process*

This process revealed by the verbal group. Process type explains the different events constructed by the author. Each process is realized by the verb used in each clause.

Process type is divided into six kinds: (1) Material process, the process of doing something physically, performed by a person (actor) against someone or something else (goal). (2) Behavioral process, describe the physiological and psychological habits, participant in this process is called behavior. (3) Mental processes, sensory processes, either through the senses directly or by way of feeling and thinking. Participant that play a role in this process is sener and phenomenon. (4) Verbal process, the process of the message verbally and usually characterized by expression symbol, for example say, conclude, argue and so forth. In the process there are receiver (object verbalization), verbiage/range (verbiatation itself), the target (the object of patients). (5) Relational process, the process of ownership. This process is classified by function, if it is shown to illustrate something called attributive (participant in the form of carrier and attributes), while if it indicates a quality of something called the identifying (participant in the form of tokens and value). (6) existential, a process that shows the existence of something, characterized by the use of the word pointer, for example, there is, that is, there are, and so forth.

b.) *Participant*

Participant in the transitivity system disclosed by the nominal group. Participant is specific names and represents one individual (Gerot and Wignell: 1994.18).

c.) *Circumstances:*

Circumstances can be revealed by the adverbial group and prepositional phrase. Gerot and Wignell (1994) describe the types of circumstance are divided into seven parts: (1) The circumstances of time tell about the time or when something happens, how long and how often. (2) Circumstances of place is information about where the events take place. (3) The circumstances of manner explain

about how someone does something. (4) Circumstances of cause explain the reason why the event happens and also provide information about the cause of the occurrence of an event. (5) Circumstances of accompaniment explain the participation of someone else or what else in an activities, (6) Circumstances of matter inform about the references which used in a text, (7) Circumstances of role tell the role of someone in doing something.

2. Interpersonal meaning or clause as exchange.

Interpersonal meaning is expressed by mood structures and modality. It deals with what the clause is doing as a verbal process between speaker/writer and audience (Halliday and Mattiessen, 1994:309). Interpersonal meaning is meaning which expresses speaker's attitudes and judgements. Modality and Mood are used to express the interpersonal function.

Mood shows what role the speaker selects in the speech situation and what role he assigns to the addressee. Mood system categorizes each sentence according to the type of sentence. There are three types of sentences, namely declarative, imperative and interrogative.

The mood analysis continued with determining the adjunct. There is three kind of adjunct to be analyzed, these are circumstantial adjunct, conjunctive adjunct and comment adjuncts. Circumstantial adjunct answer the question 'how', 'when', 'where', 'by whom'. Conjunctive adjunct include items such as 'for instance', 'anyway', 'moreover', 'meanwhile', 'therefore', 'nevertheless'. Comment adjunct express the speaker's comment on what he or she is saying, include such items as 'frankly', 'apparently', 'hopefully'.

Modality refers to a speaker's attitudes or opinion about the truth of a proposition expressed by a sentence. The modality can be known by its modal operator which reveal the speaker's certainty. Following table is the list of Modal Operator which may occur in a text.

	Low Politeness	Median Politeness	High Politeness
Positive	Can, may, could, might (dare)	Will, would, is to, was to	Must, ought to, need, has to, had to
Negative	Needn't, doesn't/didn't, need to, have to	Won't, wouldn't, shouldn't, isn't/wasn't to	Mustn't, oughtn't to, can't, couldn't, mayn't, mightn't, hasn't/hadn't to

3. Textual meaning or clause as message.

Textual meaning learns how the clause relates to the surrounding discourse and to the context of situation (Halliday and Mattiessen, 1994:309). Textual meaning is influenced by mode of discourse which contains psychological function. The textual function fulfils the requirement that language should be operationally relevant and having texture in a real context of situation that distinguishes a living passage from a mere entry in a grammar book or a dictionary.

Theme structure is used to find the textual function. There are three sections that pertained to the theme structure, these are topical (ideational), textual and interpersonal. For simplicity in analyzing the textual stage of this one is to know what the terms of topical theme, where topical is an important point in analyzing this. The topical theme is the subject of textual functions and have characteristics that appear at the beginning of a clause, occupying one function of transitivity (participant, process and circumstance, but it has characteristics such as something that is highlighted on the relevant clause).

From the explanation above, it can be summarized that the transitivity system, mood structures and theme structures are going to be used to examine and explain the functional meaning.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

In this research, the writer uses the descriptive qualitative research because it explains the data systematically and accurately. The writer describes the findings of Transitivity System, Mood system and Thematic system in order to explain the Ideational Meaning, Interpersonal Meaning and Textual Meaning correctly. In collecting the data, the writer taking a note from news article in The Guardian News Website, then the writer observes about the sentences and utterance.

3.2 Method of Collecting Data

In presenting the data, the writer uses non-participant observation (simak bebas libat cakap) techniques as the writer do not participate directly. Then will it be continued with documentation (catat) technique.

There are six types of methods to collecting the data. These are observation, interview, test questionnaire, scale, documentation, and upgrade. In this research, the writer uses the documentation method since the data are taken from the written article on The Guardian News Website. In documentation data, the writer collects the source from book and internet.

3.3 Method of Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data the writer uses “padan” method. Padan method is identified by finding the equivalent data outside the aspects studied. Sub-types of padan method used here is Referential method. Referential method is implemented by way of the reference referred to analyze. Besides that, the writer also uses the distributional method. In distributional method the writer uses the segmenting immediate constituents technique (teknik Bagi Unsur Langsung). In this technique, the writer divides the lingual unit of the data into some parts or elements.

4. DATA ANALYSIS

In this research, the writer will analyze the news article using metafunction theory. Metafunction theory is divided into three, those are Ideational, Interpersonal, and Textual.

4.1 Ideational Meaning

Ideational meaning is an analysis that examines the ongoing activities. Ideational meaning is identified through grammatical system called transitivity system. Transitivity system consists of three elements named participant, process type, and circumstances. Participant is specific names and represents one individual. Process type or predicative refers to the verb contained in either the text material, mental, verbal, behavioral, relational or existential process. The circumstances are such particulars place, time, manner and other things that can be placed at the beginning, middle, or end of a sentence.

The first stage in this ideational process is an analysis of the occurrence of participant whose take a role in the text. The following is the example of participant analysis:

- Tony Abbot has called on Indonesia to “reciprocate” for Australia’s \$1bn aid package.
- The prime minister strenghtened his public calss for clemency for Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran with a warning on Wednesday.

The underline words above is an example of participant in a text. The words plays arole as subject. Eventough the examples uses different words, it is still related to one participant, that is Tony Abbot.

The following table is a list of participant and their occurrence in the text:

No.	Participant	Occurrence	Percentage
1.	Tony Abbot (The Australian Prime Minister)	13	12,15%
2.	Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukmaran	10	9,34%

3.	Armantha Nasir (Indonesian Foreign Ministry Spokesman)	5	4,67%
4.	Retno Marsudi (Indonesian Foreign Minister)	2	1,86%
5.	Bali Nine Group	1	0,93%
6.	Julie Bishop (The Australian foreign affairs minister)	2	1,86%
7.	Bill Shorten (The opposition leader)	1	0,93%
8.	Indonesia	12	11,21%
9.	Australia	12	11,21%
10.	Reporters	1	0,93%
11.	Non Human	48	44,81%

Table 1

The table above show the number of participant occurred in the text. From the table above, it is clearly known that the occurrence of Tony Abbot is the highest compared to other participant (except the non human participant). Tony Abbot percentage reached 12,15%, indicating that Abbot is the main topic of the related text. Another thing that describe Abbot as the main topic of the text is clearly illustrated on the title and number of direct statements quoted from the Abbot's speech itself.

The second analysis phase in this transitivity theory is process type. This process is a central part occupying transitivity system. To analyse the process, we should determine what kind of verb used. The following is example how to determine what process that happens in a text.

- Retno Marsudi said the government understood Australia's position.

The verb which used in this text is "said", so it can be categorized as verbal process. Verbal process is a process of saying something.

- It gives us an opportunity to continue to engage on the best way forward.

The verb which used in this text is "gives", so it can be categorized as material process. Material process are process of doing something.

The result of process analysis obtained from the text type can be seen from the table below:

No	Process Type	Occurrence	Percentage
1.	Material Process	23	51,11%
2.	Behavioral Process	-	-
3.	Mental Process	3	6,67%
4.	Verbal Process	15	33,33%
5.	Relational Process	4	8,89%
6.	Existential Process	-	-
TOTAL		45	100%

Table 1.2

From the table above, it is known that the type of process which appears most is material process. Material process explain the action or actions undertaken by participant or existing participant. The verbal process also appears most of them. The number of verbal process showed, that many texts are taken from quoting directly from relevant participant in the text.

The third phase of this ideational is circumstances. Circumstances answer question such as when, where, why, how, how many and as what. The following is example of circumstances which appear in the text:

- Indonesian authorities announced on Tuesday that they were delaying the transfer

The underlined words above is circumstances of time because the words tell when the event happens.

- The Australian foreign affairs minister, Julie Bishop, welcomed the decision.

The underlined words above is circumstances of role because it tells what role of the participant is.

The occurrence of these kinds of circumstances can be seen from the table below:

No.	Circumstances	Occurrences	Percentage
1.	Circumstances of Time	8	27,58%
2.	Circumstances of Place	9	31,03%
3.	Circumstances of Manner	2	6,89%
4.	Circumstances of Accompaniment	1	3,44%
5.	Circumstances of Matter	1	3,44%
6.	Circumstances of Cause	2	6,89%
7.	Circumstances of Role	6	20,68%
	Total	29	100%

Table 1.3

From the table above, the emergence of circumstances of place occupied the scoring with a percentage of 31,03%. This indicates that the existing participant has a close connection with a place and a number of statements that require information such as a description. The use of circumstances of time reaches 27,58%, which indicates that much time information about the comments appear in the text, so that trace the events that there is a clear description of the time.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that in this text the emergence participant is Abbot. The most used process is material process. The circumstances of place is also the most used process in the text. It shows that the involvement of Abbot's comment is dominant in every event in the text.

4.2 Interpersonal Meaning

Interpersonal meanings are meaning which express a speaker's attitudes and judgements. These meaning are for acting upon and with others. The meanings are realised in wording is called Mood and Modality. The meanings of this kind are most centrally influenced by tenor of discourse. Tenor of discourse means who or what kind of person produced the text and for whom.

The first stage to find out the Interpersonal Meaning of the text is by analyzing the Mood system. In this text, the diversity in every sentence can be seen in the following table.

No.	The type of sentence	Occurrences	Percentage
1.	Declarative	20	100%
2.	Imperative	-	-
3.	Interogative	-	-

Tabel 2.1

This text has the overall mood declarative type because it has a percentage of 100% declarative. Declarative itself is the most important type. This is the most commonly used type in writing the text over the three other types of sentences. Declarative sentences state facts or arguments, which express ideas without asking for an answer or action from the readers. The example of declarative mood:

- "I hope this does not reflect, the statement made, the true colours of Australians."

The example above is declarative mood because this type of sentence is not giving orders, requests, or ask something. This type of sentence is the most easy and simple, as the subject and the predicate has a normal word order.

The analysis is continue with modality system. Modality refers to a speaker's attitudes towards opinion about the truth of a proposition expressed by a sentence. It also extends their attitude towards the situation or event described by a sentence. The example of modality which appears in the text:

- "I would say to the Indonesian people and the Indonesian government."

The word "would" is one of the modal operator. It included in median politeness.

The following table is the modal operator and its percentage which occur in the text

Total Words	Low Politeness		Median Politeness		High Politeness	
	No	Percentage	No	Percentage	No	Percentage
670	2	0,29%	7	1,04%	0	0

Table 2.2

According to the statistics, it is obvious that modal verbs are used to convey the addresser's attitudes and judgment with an average of 1,34% in the whole speeches. The high percentage of the use of modal verbs is appropriate to the speaking since the addresses are delivered in spoken form. Compared with other verbs, modal verbs are more easily identified, understood, and accepted because at the time of listening to the speeches, there is no time for the audience to reply.

After that, the analysis is continue with determining the tenses of each sentences. Tense is the time of a clause. The primary tense is past, present or future at the moment of speaking; it is the time relative to "now". The tenses analysis of the text can be seen in the table below.

No.	Tenses	Occurrences	Percentage
1.	Present Tense	4	20%
2.	Past Tense	12	60%
3.	Future Tense	4	20%

Table 2.3

The most type of tenses that are used in this text is the past tense. This illustrates that the genre of the text analyzed can be categorized into genre of report text. This text is a news article, that means the aim of this text is report an incident. This text reports various kinds of statements from each speaker.

The mood analysis is continue with determining the adjunct. These following table shows the use of adjunct in the text.

No.	Adjunct	Occurrence	Percentage
1.	Circumstantial Adjunct	20	83,33%
2.	Conjunctive Adjunct	-	-
3.	Comment Adjunct	4	16,66%

Table 2.4

Based on the analysis described above, it can be concluded that the text is categorized into genres report text. Report text has objective to report on an event. Modal finite past appear more than others modal finite. The types of mood used in this text is declarative mood. The text is taken from many direct quotes related participant. Then the type of adjunct which most used is circumstantial adjunct.

4.3. Textual Meaning

In the context of textual or thematic structure in which examines the theme and rhyme. In this text, it is known that textual team presented much as 13.68% while the topical team appeared more with the percentage of 86.32%. Emerging themes in the text indicates the paradigm of an author or speaker. The percentage of the types of themes that are contained in the text can be seen below:

No	Type of Themes	Occurrence	Percentage
1	Topical	71	81,6%
2	Interpersonal	-	-
3	Textual	16	18,39%
TOTAL		87	100%

Table 3.1

This case illustrates that the author aims to establish an effective sentence. Effective sentence itself is coherent sentence. The existence of a reciprocal relationship is good and clear between the elements (words or

groups of words) that make up the word. Each language has its own rules on how to sort the idea. There are parts of the sentence which has a closer relationship so it can't be separated. There is more tenuous position that could be placed anywhere, as long as not inserted between the words or groups of words tightly related. This text has a fairly high degree of coherence because:

- a). The word placing in a sentence is accordance with the sentence pattern.
- b). The accuracy using prepositions, conjunctions, and so on.
- c). The use of the word, both because linking two words whose meaning is no overlapping, or substantially contain contradictions.
- d). Correct in placing the aspect caption (already, it has., will, not, and so on) to the verb response.

CONCLUSION

The metafunction is used to find the functional meaning of each clause or sentence in the article. One of the linguistics studies that learn language from its function is Systemic Functional Grammar introduced by Halliday (1994). Functional grammar learns how the meanings are realized in a text. Functional grammar explains three metafunctions. Those are interpersonal, ideational, and textual. Ideational meaning related to how language is used to represent the experience, organize, understand and express the perception of the world and our consciousness. Interpersonal meaning related to the use of language for setting up and maintaining the interaction between language users. Whereas, textual meaning related to how language operates to create a discourse that is intact, sustainable, cohesive and coherent.

After analyzing the article *Tony Abbott: Indonesia should reciprocate tsunami aid by sparing Bali Nine pair*. The writer concludes that this article participant is Tony Abbot. The process is material process. The circumstances is circumstances of place. It shows that the involvement of Abbot's comment is dominant. The text can be categorized into genre of Report text. Modal finite past appears more than others modal finite. The types of mood used in this text is declarative mood. The text is taken from many direct quotes related participant. Next the type of adjunct the most used are the type of circumstantial adjunct. It can be concluded that the text has high coherence and cohesion level. In addition, the text is easily digested by the reader, so that the message contained in the text are well understood.

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