

ANECDOTE TEXT VS SPOOF TEXT

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ABSTRACT

It is often find understanding about the funny story in our society life. Every funny story is often defined as anecdote. In this term, anecdote is pointing to “cerita lelucon” or “konyol”. Most the story are funny because they have unpredictable funny things in the end. All those types of story are often socially called anecdote and they are going on. However, the unpredictable thing in the end of story which is often funny is called twist. This Twist, in term of text type, belongs to spoof. While in the generic structure of anecdote, we can not find the twist. So it might be the funny story which we often hear in our social life and defined as anecdote story is not the the anecdote text in term of text types we are learning. Commonly it is defined spoof and anecdote are similar, even both are same. Spoof and anecdote tend to be defined as text which relate to funny story and unusual incidents. It can be true as both bring the function mostly to entertain and share to readers. But, actually both are different.

Key Words: *Text, Anecdote and spoof*

DEFINITION OF ANECDOTE

Anecdote means a short story that illustrates a point. An anecdote may also mean just a short, interesting story. A person that share many anecdotes is usually considered a good public speaker. An anecdote is a short and amusing but serious account, which may depict a real/fake incident or character. Anecdotes can be as brief as the setting and provocation. An anecdote is always presented as based in a real incident involving actual persons, whether famous or not, usually in an identifiable place. However, over time, modification in reuse may convert a particular anecdote to a fictional piece, one that is retold but is "too good to be true".

Anecdote shows satire inside. Sometimes humorous, anecdotes are not [jokes](#), because their primary purpose is not simply to evoke laughter, but to reveal a truth more general than the brief tale itself, or to delineate a character trait in such a light that it strikes in a flash of insight to its very essence. An anecdote thus is closer to the tradition of the

[parable](#) than the patently invented [fable](#) with its animal characters and generic human figures but it is distinct from the parable in the historical specificity which it claims.

In communication studies, science communication, psycholinguistics and choice theory, anecdotal value refers to the primarily social and political value of an anecdote or anecdotal evidence in promoting understanding of a social, cultural, or economic phenomenon. While anecdotal evidence is typically unscientific, in the last several decades the evaluation of anecdotes has received sustained academic scrutiny from economists and scholars such as Ix Salmon S. G. Checkland (on David Ricardo), Steven Novella, R. Charleton, Hollis Robbins, Kwamena Kwansah-Aidoo, and others. These academics seek to quantify the value of the use of anecdotes, e.g. in promoting public awareness of a disease. More recently, economists studying choice models have begun assessing anecdotal value in the context of framing; Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky suggest that choice models

may be contingent on stories or anecdotes that frame or influence choice. As an example, consider Joseph Stalin's apocryphal quote: The death of one man is a tragedy, the death of millions is a statistic.

Anecdotal evidence is an informal account of [evidence](#) in the form of an anecdote. The term is often used in contrast to [scientific evidence](#), as evidence that cannot be investigated using the [scientific method](#). The problem with arguing based on anecdotal evidence is that anecdotal evidence is not necessarily typical; only statistical evidence can determine how typical something is. Misuse of anecdotal evidence is an [informal fallacy](#).

When used in [advertising](#) or promotion of a product, service, or idea, anecdotal evidence is often called a [testimonial](#) and is banned in some jurisdictions. The term is also sometimes used in a legal context to describe certain kinds of testimony. Psychologists have found that people are more likely to remember notable examples than the typical example.

The generic structures of anecdote are:

- Abstract : signals the retelling of unusual, uncommon or amusing incident
- Orientation : introduction or sets the scene
- Crisis : provides details of unusual, uncommon or amusing incident
- Incident : reaction to the CRISIS
- Coda : (OPTIONAL), a reflection or an evaluation of unusual, uncommon or amusing incident

The language features of anecdote text are:

- Using exclamation (e.g great!, what a bad day!, a very strange incident! etc)
- Using of rhetorical questions (e.g what do you like to do when you make wrong thing? , oh no, it is a stupid thing, isn't?)

- Using intensifiers (e.g very, so + adjective , much etc)
- Using material processes (e.g protected, employed, spoke etc)
- Using temporal conjunctions (e.g then, afterwards, ever since, while, before, after etc)

Notes:

Exclamations, rhetorical questions and intensifiers are used to point up the significant of the events or incidents. And Material processes and temporal conjunctions are used to tell what is going on or happened.

Material processes are verbs that show us what happened and what someone do or what is done.

Temporal conjunctions are conjunctions that show the time sequence of events.

A.Function of Anecdote

• To Bring Cheer

Sometimes telling a story just makes people laugh or brightens the mood. In the example about favorite recipes, the woman is sharing a tale with her friends or coworkers about a time that she experienced a disaster in the kitchen. Whether she tried to boil an egg without water or made fudge that turned as hard as a rock, the other people are sure to have a good laugh.

• To Reminisce

In several of these examples, such as the parents on Christmas morning and the elderly couple, people are talking about their pasts. They are looking back favorably on moments in their lives and sharing the joy of that time with others.

• To Caution

In the fire safety case, the speaker is trying to show the audience what can happen if they do not follow proper procedures. Sometimes just laying out rules for individuals is not effective, and

they need to hear frightening stories of dangers that can be avoided by following these regulations.

- **To Persuade or Inspire**

Returning to the examples about tutors and tutoring sessions, the speakers want the students to know they are there to help, and that they have faced similar struggles. They want the students to know that there is the possibility of a brighter future if they put the work in.

Of course, anecdotes do not have to serve such specific purposes all the time. They can just be part of a natural conversation with other people.

Anecdotes and humorous pieces are not only jokes, but exquisite literary devices as well. Their major purposes are to stir up laughter, to disclose a truth in a general way, or to describe a feature of a character in such a way that it becomes humorous and at the same time gives us a better understanding of the character.

Anecdotes may also serve as cautions. Writers tell their readers about the possibilities of future happenings in case they do not follow particular processes and techniques.

B. How to Write an Anecdote

Anecdotes are often used in speeches not only to entertain with a simple story but also to reveal a greater truth.

An anecdote is a narrated story that is biographical in nature and must be about a real person. Often called "modern-day parables," anecdotes are short narratives that make the listeners both laugh and think. As long as the story illustrates the point that the narrator is trying to make, it can be considered an anecdote. Many people use anecdotes in speeches, church sermons and wedding toasts, so learning how to write an anecdote will certainly come in handy over the course of a lifetime.

- **It must be true**

An anecdote must be a true story about someone. It might be you, and therefore the anecdote would be written in first person. If you witnessed the event, you would write the anecdote in third person. As with any good story or essay, an anecdote must relay the who, what, when, where, why and how of the "plot." While there's no need to go overboard in details, these essential elements frame the story.

- **It must be short**

An anecdote is simply a slice of life that illustrates a point, often with wit and humor. By connecting the point to a memorable story, narrators can ensure that listeners will be more likely to remember it. An anecdote should not contain any information that is not essential to the understanding of the story and, as the ultimate in short-story writing, every word counts. When writing an anecdote, reveal only the details that matter, and leave the rest behind.

- **Strong tie-in**

The anecdote must have a strong ending where the meaning of the story is clear. Don't rely on veiled references or hints at the outcome of the tale. The point should also tie into the rest of the story or speech if you are using it to lead into another thought. Many speechwriters or magazine articles use an anecdote to begin an exposition on a much longer and more detailed theme. No matter the purpose, an anecdote that doesn't deliver the point is not a successful one.

The Example Anecdote

Amusing Election Joke

The Vicar spoke to his curate. "I'm going away today, but I'll be back on Saturday evening in time to conduct matins on Sunday morning. Will you make sure the hymn numbers are put up on Saturday afternoon so that everything is ready when

the service begins? They're all written on this piece of paper apart from the first hymn."

"Yes, certainly Vicar, but what are you doing about the first hymn?" asked the curate.

"It depends", said the Vicar. "It's Polling Day for the General Election on Thursday. The first hymn will depend on the result. If the Conservatives have a sufficient majority to form a government, it'll be 283, "Now thank we all our God. However, if labour has most seats and are going to form the next government, then put up number 578, "Go labour on, spend and be spent."

"Yes, right", said the curate. I'll see you on Sunday morning.

"Oh, there's just one thing," said the curate. Suppose the Liberal Democrats have the majority, what number would you want me to put up in that circumstance?"

"Oh, in that circumstance, it'll be 482, "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

The example of anecdote in the speech
[Best Stephen Colbert Quotes Ever](#)
 Tuesday May 13, 2014

"Contraception leads to more babies being born out of wedlock, the exact same way that fire extinguishers cause fires." Said Stephen Colbert

"If this is going to be a Christian nation that doesn't help the poor, either we have to pretend that Jesus was just as selfish as we are, or we've got to acknowledge that He commanded us to love the poor and serve the needy without condition and then admit that we just don't want to do it." Said Stephen Colbert

"If you ignore something long enough, it will go away. Just look at Sarah Palin." Said Stephen Colbert

"Why would we go to war on women? They don't have any oil." Said Stephen Colbert

"Agnostics are just atheists without balls." Said Stephen Colbert

"Contrary to what people may say, there's no upper limit to stupidity." Said Stephen Colbert

"The 'truthiness' is, anyone can read the news to you. I promise to feel the news...at you." Said Stephen Colbert.

C. Anecdotal Pictures

Pictures or caricatures also can be developed to write anecdote. Here are some possible pictures





**Halo semua.....!
Piye, masih penak
jamanku tho...?**



**Menjalin Persatuan
dan Kesatuan**

DEFINITION OF SPOOF

Spoof is a text which tells story, happened in the past time with unpredictable and funny ending. Its social function is to entertain and share the story. Commonly we define [spoof](#) and [anecdote](#) are similar, even both are same. Spoof and anecdote tend to be defined as text which relate to funny story and unusual incidents. Well it can be true as both bring the function mostly to entertain and share to readers. However, is spoof text like anecdote? If not, then what is the difference between spoof text and anecdote? Actually [what is spoof text?](#) The points of the comments are asking what the difference between spoof and anecdote text is, or how to differ spoof from anecdote.

We often find understanding about the funny story in our society life. Every funny story is often defined as anecdote. In this term, anecdote is pointing to “cerita lelucon” or “konyol”. Most the story are funny because they have unpredictable funny things in the end. All those types of story are often socially called anecdote and they are going on. However, the unpredictable thing in the end of story which is often funny is called twist. This Twist, in term of text type, belongs to spoof. While in the generic structure of anecdote, we cannot find the twist. So it might be the funny story which we often hear in our social life and defined as anecdote story is not the anecdote text in term of text types we are learning. In text types discussion, [Anecdote text](#) has generic structure on how it is composed and the generic structures of anecdote are abstract, orientation, crisis, reaction and coda. While we know that the [generic structure of spoof text](#) is orientation, events, and twist. So the point is there are different generic structures between spoof text and anecdote text. Spoof ends with twist while anecdote is accomplished by coda.

Generic Structure of Spoof

- Orientation
- Events
- Twist

Language Feature of Spoof:

- Focusing on people, animals or certain things
- Using action verb; ate, ran, etc
- Using adverb of time and place
- Told in chronological order

Language Feature Analysis:

- Focusing on certain certain participants: He, penguin, policeman
- Using action verb: carry, walk up
- Using adverb of time and place: once, in the park
- Told in chronological order: chronological order by days, the next day

Example of Spoof:

Example 1

Penguin in the Park

Once a man was walking in a park when he across a penguin. He took it to a policeman and said; "What should I do?" The policeman replied; "Take it to the zoo!". The next day, the policeman saw the man in the same park. The man was still carrying the penguin. The policeman was rather surprised and walked up to the man and asked; "Why

are you still carrying the penguin? Didn't you take it to the zoo?" The man replied; "I certainly did. And it was a great idea because the penguin really enjoyed it. So, today I am taking it to the movie".

Generic Structure Analysis:

Orientation : Introducing participants:

"He" and Penguin. They were in the park.

Event 1 : The man tended to take the penguin to the park.

Event 2 : The following day, the man was still carrying the penguin.

Twist : Even, finally the man would take the penguin to the movies.

taken from: understandingtext.blogspot.com

Example 2

Saved by Stilts

The king wanted to test Abu Nawas' smartness. So he invited Abu Nawas to the palace. "You want me, your Majesty?" greeted Abu Nawas. "Yes, you have fooled me three times and that's too much. I want you to leave the country. Otherwise you will have to go to jail" said the king. "If that is what you want, I will do what you said" said Abu Nawas sadly. Then "Remember, from tomorrow you may not step on the ground of this country anymore" the king said seriously. Then Abu nawas left the king palace sadly.

The following morning the king ordered his two guards to go to Abu Nawas' house. The guards were very surprised found Abu Nawas still in his house. He had not left the country yet. Instead leaving the country, Abu Nawas was swimming in small pool in front of his house. "Hey Abu Nawas, why haven't you left this country yet? The king ordered you not to step on the ground of this country anymore, didn't he?" said the guards. "Sure he did" answered Abu Nawas calmly. "But look at me! Do I step on the ground of this country? No, I do not step on the ground. I am swimming on the water" continued Abu Nawas.

The guards were not able to argue with Abu Nawas so they left Abu Nawas' house and went back to the palace. The guards reported what they had seen to the king. The king was curious on Abu Nawas' excuse not to leave the country. Therefore the king ordered his guard to call Abu Nawas to come to the palace.

Abu Nawas came to the palace on stilts. The king wondered and said "Abu, I will surely punish you because you haven't done what I have said. You have not left this country". The King continued "And now, look at you. You walk on stilts like a child. Are you crazy? The king pretended to be furious.

"I remember exactly what you said, Your Majesty" Abu Nawas answered calmly. "This morning I took a bath in the small pool in my house so that I had not to step on the ground. And since yesterday, I have been walking on this stilts. So you see, Your Majesty, I do not

step on the ground of this country”. The king was not able to say anything.
(Adapted from S. Harianto’s Abu Nawas and King Aaron)

Generic Structure Analysis:

- Orientation** : Introducing Abu Nawas
and the King on the counteracts about leaving and staying in the country
- Event 1** : Abu Nawas was
swimming on the pool
- Event 2** : Abu Nawas was walking
on the stilts
- Twist** : Abu Nawas explained
that swimming in the pool and walking on the stilts meant not stepping on
the ground of the country

taken from: understandingtext.blogspot.com

CONCLUSIONS

Anecdote is one of the texts which retells an unusual incident. Communicative purpose of this text is to retell an unusual and funny incident to entertain the readers. Like other texts, anecdote also has the generic structure. Abstract, orientation, crisis, reaction and coda. The first is abstract, here the writer starts to introduce an unusual incident that will be told briefly. Then, in orientation part, the writer will tell who, when and where that incident was happened. Next, in crisis part, the writer tells the incidents more detail. The part of reaction is where the writer will tell how the characters solve the problem and usually the readers or listeners get the funny way to solve the problem. The last part is, coda. This is an optional part. Sometimes it appears, sometimes not. In this part, the readers usually laugh louder. Anecdote and spoof tell us a funny incident, but they still different. In anecdote text, an unusual incident contains of funny elements, while, in spoof text, a normal incident changes into funny when in the twist part.

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